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Infantry

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Title: 21st Infantry Battalion

May 1918 Appendices 61-71



AWM4-23/38/33PART3

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters
10th May, 1918.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE

6 p.m. 9. 5. 18 to 6 a.m. 10. 5. 18

OUR OPERATIONS. 6th A.I.Bde. relieved the 10th A.I.Bde. in the line
Left on the night 9th/10th. The relief was completed by 1
a.m.

Artillery. Carried out organised shoots at various intervals during the
night. especially on VILLE - SUR - ANCRE. Our Heavies fired
on enemy's back areas.

M.G.'s. Only occasional bursts were fired.

Patrols. Standing patrols covered our front during the relief. Our
patrols were active all night, but nothing of importance was
observed. M.G.'s were quiet, flares were normal. It was
noticed that bursts of M.G. fire were always preceded by a
flare fired from the vicinity of the M.G.

Aircraft. Our Machines have been particularly active patrolling over
enemy lines. They were always engaged by enemy A.A. & M.G.
fire. At 4.30 p.m. bombs were dropped at approx. K.1.d. &
K.7.b.

ENEMY OPERATIONS

Artillery Was fairly active during the night. Intermittent shelling
along Railway E.25.a. by 10.5 cm. TRUX and MARRETT WOOD
were shelled occasionally also VALLEY J.11.a. & BUIRE mostly
with 10.5 cm. & 15 cm.

M.G.'s Very quiet except for occasional bursts particularly on D.30.
c.&d. They were very active from vicinity of CRUCIFIX
K.1.a. also from CROSS ROADS in K.1.a.4.2. Others were
located at E.26.a.2.6., E.25.c.2.6.

Aircraft. A hostile plane over NEILLY at 4.35 a.m. was driven back by
our M.G. and A.A. fire. At 5.50 a.m. four bombs were dropped
in the field in D.28.d.

Flares. No special flares were used and the usual WHITE ones were
normal and appeared to be some good distance away from our
Outpost Lines. A flare post was located at D.30.d.9.0.

Movement. Very little movement was observed though individuals were seen
at approx. K.7.a.5.1. At 3.55 a.m. a working party about 60
strong reported to us by Brigade on our Right in K.7.a.7.2.
were promptly engaged by our Artillery. The results were
unknown.

Miscellaneous. The visibility which was fair throughout the morning
improved considerably during the afternoon.

[Signature]
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

Brigade Headquarters
11th May, 1918.SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE

6 a.m. 10. 5. 18 to 6 a.m. 11. 5. 18

71

OUR OPERATIONS. Nos. 6 & 7 Posts in J.6.d. were pushed forward and No. 6 Post is now at J.6.d.90.05. No. 7 Post at J.6.d.70.40. No. 8 Post is now at J.6.d.60.65. having been moved slightly South. This has considerably straightened our Outpost line.

Artillery. Between 9.30 & 9.45 p.m. heavy artillery fire was heard on our extreme right. During the day our 18 pdrs. put usual harassing fire on enemy system. Only occasional bursts were used.

M.G.'s. Patrols Our patrols were active on the whole front during the night. Very little of the enemy was seen. A patrol of 1 Off. & 10 O.R.'s with L.G. moved out to CROSS ROADS on J.6.b.8.2. On account of apparent nearness of enemy posts patrol leader left his L.G. & 6 men lining the bank of the Road running N.E. to CRUCIFIX and pushed forward with the remainder to approx. K.1.a.1.2. Whilst lying here an enemy patrol approached our party. They were halted and on showing signs of fight our patrol attacked them capturing 3 huns (2 wounded). The remainder of the patrol made off and it could not be ascertained if the bombs which were thrown after them were effective. We suffered no casualties. M.G.'s fired on our patrols from approx. K.1.a.4.0. & K.1.a.35.20. Movement was observed by our patrol near the Cemetery in E.20.b.0.3.

Sniping. Snipers Posts were established at K.7.a.2.2., J.12.b.9.7. & E.19.d.2.2.

Aircraft. Our planes were very active all day especially when they patrolled over enemy lines. They were always engaged by M.G. & A.A. fire. At 5 p.m. an unidentified plane fell in flames in enemy lines opposite our Left Bn. Sector.

ENEMY OPERATIONS

Artillery. 10.30 a.m. a few 10.5 cm. fell on approx. J.2.a. Between 6 & 6.30 p.m. approx. 100- 10.5 cm. fell along ANCRE VALLEY J.3.c.&d. U.2.d. Apparently many of these were duds. At 11 p.m. 12 gas shells fell on E.19.c. both Phosgene & Yellow Cross were used. 80 H.E. & Gas shells (Green Cross) fell on J.11.a. at 11.20 p.m. At 3.20 p.m. a 10 minutes heavy bombardment on D.28.b.&d., D.29.a.&c. with Gas & H.E. (Green Cross 2).

T.M.'s 20 rds of L.M.W. were fired in the vicinity of our posts J.6.b. &d. Direction of Mortar unknown.

M.G.'s A few bursts were fired on our patrols.

Identification Three prisoners captured by our patrol identifications normal. 357th I.R. 199th Div.

Aircraft. At 3 p.m. an enemy machine patrolled over our line at a very low altitude. It was fired on by our L.G.'s. At 5 p.m. an enemy plane was forced to descend in his own lines opposite our Left Bn. front.

Flares The usual WHITE flares were used but when enemy artillery fell short GOLDEN CLUSTERS were used.

Movement. Was extremely limited. On the left sector no enemy were seen at all. On the right only isolated cases.

Miscellaneous. Visibility was poor throughout the day except for short periods in the afternoon.

John R. [Signature]
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADEBrigade Headquarters
12th May, 1916.SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE6 a.m. 11. 5. 16 to 6 a.m. 12. 5. 16OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. 8.45 to 9.20 p.m. a heavy bombardment was heard on our extreme Right. During the day our artillery was quiet but at 12.30 & 4.50 a.m. our Heavies fired Gas etc. into SUNKEN RD. in K.1. It is reported that this was well placed though no definite results could be seen.

M.G.'s. 8,000 rds. were fired on SUNKEN RD. in K.1.a. during the night.
T.M.'s. Our L.T.M.'s fired 20 rds. on E.G. position in E.20.a.99.29. Our M.T.M.'s fired 10 rds. in to SUNKEN RD. K.1.a.&c.

Aircraft. Our aircraft were active all day especially during the evening.
Patrols. Patrols were extremely active all along the front but were hampered on Right Sector by our Gas shelling in K.1. On the Left Sector touch was gained with the enemy. At 9.15 p.m. a party of bombers moved to E.25.b.0.2. and placed L.G. at E.25.b.2.8. Another L.G. at E.25.a.9.4. to cover the bridgehead. Whilst these parties were proceeding to their positions 12 huns passed in single file along the opposite bank of the River. Seven bombs were thrown and groans were afterwards heard. Immediately enemy M.G.'s opened out in direction of our patrols. Our L.G.'s also traversed along enemy position causing much noise & movement. It is thought that many casualties were inflicted but owing to M.G. fire it was considered advisable not to cross the River. to gain identification. At 11.45 p.m. a patrol proceeded to E.20.c.2.2. where an enemy trench was located and on which a large party of enemy were working. 3 huns walked towards our patrol who fired on them and only one enemy was seen to get away. M.G. fire and bombs prevented our men from investigating this spot for identification.

SHIPPING 5 HITS CLAIMED

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. A gun flash was taken 105° from D.22.c.55.85. Between noon and 2 p.m. 100 10.5 cm. & 15 cm. were used on D.25.c.2.d. and D.30. central. Between 4.15 & 4.45 p.m. approx. 100 cm. shells fell along ANCHOR VALLEY J.3.c.&d. & J.2.d. Many of these did not explode. 9 p.m. to 9.20 p.m. enemy shelled TRUX also BUINE with 77 mm. & 15 cm. At 10.45 to 11 p.m. a little gas shelling in the vicinity of MEMICOURT, Green & Blue Cross mixed with H.E. 11.15 to 11.35 p.m. vicinity of NIBEMONT was shelled with 77 mm. & 10.5 cm. & Green & Blue Cross Gas shells.

M.G.'s. M.G.'s were active during the night from the following positions W.25.c.2.6., E.25.b.8.3., E.25.b.3.1., E.20.a.50., K.1.c.5.5., K.1.a.5.8., K.1.a.55.25., K.1.b.30.95.

T.M.'s. 10 M.W.'s fell on E.19.c. from approx. E.20.b.86.99.

Aircraft. Enemy planes were fairly active during the day. At 5.40 p.m. one plane flew low over Left Sn. Sector and dropped three bombs. Our h.G.'s were active against E.A.

Enemy Defences. Digging was in progress in K.1.c.5.7. approx. Wire was located in front of trench in K.1.a.3.0. - K.1.a.1.3.

Sniping. 3 shots were fired by enemy from K.7.a.8.8. on to K.7.a.2.6.
Flares. Flares were above normal during the night and it is considered that enemy were nervous. During our bombardments WHITE CLUSTERS were fired. At one time during the night when enemy shells were falling short WHITE Clusters repeated in back areas with two GREENS was the sign to lengthen range. A flare post located at K.1.a.5.5.

Movement. The enemy movement before dusk rather points to the fact that he occupies advanced posts during the night only. Throughout the day considerable movement by individuals was seen around SUNKEN RD. from K.1.c.2.6. to K.1.a.7.5. and trench in front. Our snipers engaged this movement. Six men were seen on rise in E.25.d.



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Miscellaneous. Visibility was poor all day. 9.15 p.m. transport was heard on the roads in the vicinity of DENNACOURT. 5.30 a.m. a cart drove up to E.25.a.8.3. and took away the body of a dead Hun who was killed in an encounter on previous night. An enemy working party opposite in E.20.c.25.30., E.25.b.95.95. was reported to Artillery. Result of shelling was unknown. Three Huns were found opposite Left Bn. Sector they had been dead for some time, papers etc. forwarded to D.M.Q.

John H. [unclear]
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADEBrigade Headquarters
13th May, 1918.SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE6 a.m. 13. 5. 18 to 6 a.m. 13. 6. 18OUR OPERATIONS.

- Artillery. Our Artillery was active at all times during the day. Heavies fired on back areas. At 5.30 p.m. a concentrated shoot on the SUNKEN RD. in K.l.b.&d. shells were well placed.
- M.G.'s. Our M.G.'s only fired short bursts at intervals during the night.
- T.M.'s. M.G.M.'s fired in co-operation with the Artillery on K.l.b.&d. at 5.30 p.m. Our L.T.M.'s fired 20 rds. on M.G. post in E.20. a.9.9. This M.G. has not since fired.
- Aircraft. Our planes were very active and between 11.30 p.m. & 12.15 a.m. they dropped bombs on enemy lines.
- Patrols. Were active all along the whole front during the night and report M.G.'s at K.l.a.9.2., K.l.a.central, K.l.a.5.6., K.l.a. 3.5. A patrol of Left. Sq. report that an enemy Dressing Station is located at E.25.c.1.3. When this patrol was returning party of six huns was encountered in D.30.d.90.55. Fire was opened on both sides, one of the enemy dropped. Our patrol had to return along road as M.G. fire was rather severe. We had no casualties. Enemy post was located at E.25.a.2.3.
- Sniping. Our snipers fired 15 shots and claim two hits.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

- Artillery. Extremely active on certain points but did not retaliate on to our shelling on K.l.b.&d. at 5.30 p.m. During the afternoon approx. 250 shells fell in the vicinity of SUGAR FACTORY and GROSS ROADS in D.27.central, 6.9 & 8" shells being used. 9.20 a.m. approx. 120 rds. of 10.5 cm. & 15 cm. fell in J.4.d. 4.9. Between 12.45 p.m. & 1 p.m. a few 10" shells in MERICOURT coming from a Southerly direction. Otherwise only light area shoots were indulged in. Between 10 p.m. & 3 a.m. a few Gas shells fell in S.W. corner of MARETT WOOD (unidentified).
- M.G.'s. M.G.'s at E.25.c.1.3., E.25.c.3.6., E.25.a.2.1. were rather active.
- T.M.'s. Suspected positions are at K.l.a.3.8., K.l.b.0.4., E.20.b.5.9. 47 Pineapples fell on E.25.a.7.7. from E.25.c.9.3.
- Aircraft. 4.15 a.m. bombs were dropped on J.9.a.c.&d. in retaliation to our bombs.
- Balloons. Enemy balloons on T.M.'s from J.3.c.20.25. 55° - 58° - 77° 124° - 68°.
- Movement. Individual movement was observed in K.15.a., K.14.b., K.15.c. (suspected D.F.) K.9.b. During our shelling of VILLE-SUR-ANCRE a number of men doubled from the village along road in E.25.c.
- Enemy Defences. Considerable fresh earth can be seen near CRUCIFIX and SUNKEN RD. in K.l.a.
- Flares. Enemy flares were fired more frequently than on previous occasions. When enemy artillery fell short GOLDEN CLUSTERS signified lengthen range. RED flares brought artillery fire.
- Miscellaneous. Visibility was poor all day. A nose cap was found near D.27.central which is considered by Artillery to be British 6".
- Searchlights Searchlights on T.M. from E.20.c.3.2. 54° - 57° - 63° 64° - 71°.

John R. ...
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade



5th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

SECRET

Brigade Headquarters
13th May, 1918.

MUNICIPAL INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

8 a.m. 13. 5. 18 to 5 p.m. 13. 5. 18

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. has been quiet shelling only enemy back areas.

Aircraft. Owing to weather conditions active patrolling has been impossible.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Not above normal. Intermittent shelling J.7.b., J.1.d. with 18 cm. at 9 a.m. Between 11 and 12.30 p.m. heavy shelling of CROSS ROADS D.27.b. with 18 cm. At times 10 shells fall in a minute. At 1.50 p.m. J.8.central and D.13. received attention with 12.5 cm. and 77 mm. from a position on T.2. 100th (SOUND) from D.22.e.25.25. 3 p.m. a few 12.5 cm. shells in RIBEMONT.

Aircraft. Early this morning two enemy planes dropped several bombs E. of RIBEMONT.

Miscellaneous. Visibility has been poor all day.

John H. Jones
Brig.-General,
Commanding 5th Aust. Infantry Brigade

6TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters
14th May, 1918.MOBING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY8 p.m. 13. 5. 18 to 4 a.m. 14. 5. 18OUR OPERATIONSArtillery. At 8 p.m. 18 pdr's and 4.5 Hows. fired on SUSSEX RD in K.l.b.d.d. They were fairly active all day. Heavies also fired on rear roads and tracks.T.M.'s. Our L.T.M.'s fired 80 rds. as follows--
18 rds. on K.l.a.8.8.
10 " " K.l.a.8.7.
25 " " H.W.d.central to H.20.a.7.9.Aircraft. Our aeroplanes were quiet.Patrols. Our patrols found old rifle, equipment and part of H.S. belt at H.18.b.8.0. A M.H. fired from approx. H.20.b.11.30. Enemy posts at H.25.b.25.50. were investigated and found to be unoccupied.Digging. A Hun was seen walking in K.l.a.4.0. and was shot.Identifications. Prisoner by Night No. 337 H.l.a. 199th Div. (Normal.)ENEMY OPERATIONSArtillery. Hostile artillery was rather less than usual during the night. From 9 p.m. to 12 midnight MOINE & S.29. was shelled at intervals with 10.5 and 15 cm. At 2.30 a.m. intermittent shelling of MILLY with 15 c.m. No definite points were shelled. The fire was scattered. 3.30 a.m. to 4 a.m. 200 gas shells fell on RIBEMONT (Green cross) 4 a.m. a light bombardment J.l.S.a. with 10.5 cm.M.H.'s. Were quiet till about 3 a.m. when long bursts were fired on Road D.20.c.8.8. and WOOD in S.30.d. D.20.b. & H.25.a. from direction of MERRANBOURNE. This was indirect fire. M.H.'s were located at H.25.c.1.3., K.l.c.18-40., K.l.c.2.3. The following were again active H.25.c.5.5., K.l.a.30-35., K.l.c.central.L.M.H. was located at K.l.a.8.7. Shooting from this mortar was very inaccurate.Aircraft. Were quiet. One flew over our lines at 6.30 a.m. and was engaged by A.A. & M.H. fire.Balloons Balloons on T.M.'s from J.3.c.20-25. 24° - 67° - 87° - 78°
117° - 141° - 70°Movement. Very little movement was seen. Six men walking along Road in K.l.b. carrying boxes. Our artillery dispersed these men. Two men carrying packs appeared in H.27.d. Three men on horse back on Road in H.25.a.Flares. Were normal until midnight when the activity increased. Coloured flares were fired, no apparent action followed. WHITE Clusters always signified lengthen range. This was noticed particularly before dawn.Enemy Defences. Standing patrol was located at D.20.d.8.5. Digging was in progress during the day at K.l.c.3.0.Sniping. Sniper was located at K.l.c.2.4.Miscellaneous. Visibility was good early in the day but poor towards evening. 11.15 p.m. a fire was observed apparently a dump on a T.M. 110° from D.25.c.25.25. Our artillery caused a fire in MERRANBOURNE.

 Brig.-General,
 Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

SECRET

No. 33

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADEBrigade Headquarters
14th May, 1918.EVENING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY6 a.m. 14. 5. 18 to 5 p.m. 14. 5. 18OUR OPERATIONS: An extremely quiet day.Artillery. Our artillery has not been active. A few intermittent bursts from our Heavies is all that can be recorded.Aircraft. Fairly active during the afternoon. On the Right one of our Balloons caught alight and was destroyed, the airmen descending in their parachutes.ENEMY OPERATIONS.Artillery. Very little shelling during the morning. Only light area shoots. From 10a.m. to 10.30 a.m. a few 15 cm. on Railway D.29.b. At 2.5 a.m. some 15 cm. were scattered in the vicinity of HILLLY also MARKET WOOD J.6.c. & K.12.a. 3.10 p.m. a few rounds of 77 mm. on D.30.c.4.2. A few 15 cm's. scattered along ANTHEM VALLEY J.5.c., J.2.c.2.d., J.1.d. No gas shelling during the day.Aircraft. Enemy planes have been fairly active during the period.Miscellaneous Visibility has been fair throughout the day.

J. W. H.
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

SECRET6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADEBrigade Headquarters
15th May, 1918.MORNING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY5 p.m. 14. 5. 18 to 6 a.m. 15. 5. 18

OUR OPERATIONS. 21st Bn. relieved the 23rd Bn. in the Line Right on the night 14th/15th. Relief was complete by 11.30 p.m.

Artillery. Normally active. Harassing fire was maintained on enemy forward posts and approaches, VILLE and SUNKEN RD. in K.l.e receiving particular attention.

M.G.'s. At 2 a.m. our M.G.'s fired into a small hostile party approx. J.7.a. central dispersing them. Bombs were also used. 2,000 rds. were fired on targets in VILLE.

T.M.'s. 16 rds. were fired on M.G. position in K.l.a.50.40.

Aircraft. Our planes were active throughout the day and night. Several bombs were dropped about midnight.

Patrols. Our patrols report M.G.'s at K.l.c.3.3. & K.l.a.4.5. extremely active. A new one was located at E.20.c.1.1. Patrol of Left Bn. report sound of enemy limbers and carts on Roads in E.28. Presence of gas in NO MAN'S LAND made patrolling difficult. No contact with the enemy was gained and front was extremely quiet.

Sniping. Snipers report not yet to hand.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. At 10 p.m. some 10.5 cm. fell in the vicinity of Railway Stn. MERICOURT, a few tear shells were mixed with these. At 10.45 p.m. the enemy shelled on a line J.5.d., J.6.c., J.11.b., J.12.a. with 10.5 cm. 6.15 enemy shelled J.16.b.3.c. with 10.5 cm. 1.30 a.m. 20 rds. 10.5 cm. fell on D.29.b. 5 a.m. 6 rds. of YELLOW Cross Gas fell on D.30.central. 2 a.m. - 3.30 a.m. 60 77 mm. mixed with BLUE Cross Gas shells fell on D.30.a.2.b.

M.G.'s. Were fairly active at all times during the night especially from K.l.

T.M.'s. At 5.45 a.m. L.M.W. fired on J.8.c. from VILLE.

Aircraft. 8.30 a.m. enemy planes dropped six bombs on J.5.c. Hostile planes were active during the period. At 12.15 a.m. four triplanes crossed our lines, our A.A. & M.G. fire drove these back.

Enemy Defences. Posts can be seen at K.l.a.4.4. New post at E.19.d.3.0.

Movement. More movement during the period was seen than previously but mostly in back areas. At frequent intervals during the day individual movement was observed in E.27.c., slight movement in K.l.c.3.3., K.l.a.6.2. (Forward posts) also K.4., K.7.d. (20 men) Three men appeared to lay a telephone wire from trenches in K.16. and disappeared over skyline K.16.b. A great deal of movement was seen in E.28. Men coming and going especially in E.28.d.0.7. This may be a Hdqrs. as men were seen coming too and fro with papers.

Flares. When our planes crossed enemy lines WHITE strings of flares were fired. On Left sector WHITES breaking into two REDS were fired but no action followed.

Miscellaneous. At 1 a.m. the presence of gas (presumably the back wash of our own) necessitated wearing of B.B.R. by fatigue party for 15 minutes on Right Bn. front.

J. J. J.
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

No. 53

SECRET6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

71

Brigade Headquarters
15th May, 1918.EVENING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY6 a.m. 15. 5. 18 to 3 p.m. 15. 5. 18OUR OPERATIONS.

- Artillery. Our artillery has been quiet. A few heavies were active on back areas.
- M.G.'s. Active against aircraft.
- Aircraft. Our planes have been active. A duel occurred over Right Brigade Sector and plane was brought down (unidentified).
- Sniping. Our snipers claim 2 hits K.7.a.6.3., K.1.a.4.0.

ENEMY OPERATIONS

- Artillery. 9 a.m. scattered shelling in vicinity of HEILLY and ANCRE VALLEY J.1.c.&d. 9.30 a.m. a few gas shells (unidentified) fell on J.11.a. 9.30 a.m. enemy shelling with 77 mm & 10.5 cm. on J.6.a. & J.12.a. 2.30 a.m. 5 gas shells (unknown) fell on J.5.a.central.
- Aircraft. Enemy planes active all day.
- Miscellaneous. Visibility good.

J. H. B. Jones
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

8th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADEBrigade Headquarters
16th May, 1918.MORNING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY5 p.m. 15. 5. 18 to 6 a.m. 16. 5. 18

OUR OPERATIONS 33rd Bn. relieved the 24th Bn. in the Line Left on night 15th/16th May. The relief was complete by 11.30 p.m.

Artillery. Was not above normal and the usual harassing fire was indulged in. At dusk 130 rds. of 4.5 were fired on suspected H.G. position in K.l.a.65.80. It was too dark for definite observation.

M.G's. At 7.50 p.m. our M.G's on immediate left were active. 2,000 rds. were fired ~~in the~~ on targets in the vicinity of VILLE.

T.M's. 20 rds. were fired mostly to verify the range of our guns.

Aircraft. Planes were extremely active, patrolling, reconnoitring and bombing enemy positions. At 6 p.m. a bombing flight of 14 of our planes when crossing over our lines dropped two bombs in Copse J.6.c. No damage was done.

Sniping. Our snipers claim two hits K.l.c.7.3.

Patrols. Patrols were active along the whole front but owing to the heavy mist very little could be seen and great caution had to be used. No contact with the enemy was gained except on the Left at approx. E.19.b.0.8. from where a bomb was thrown on our patrol who returned the compliment. At 9.50 p.m. patrol of the Right Bn. saw 20 huns leave Sunken Rd. in K.l.a. They were lost sight of at the cemetery.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. A 15 cm. fired on Cross Rds. J.6.b.80.55. from a T.B. 125° from J.6.a.80.35. At 5.15 a.m. 8 rds. of heavy shells fell into J.12.a. they gave off dense clouds of smoke which drifted down the Valley. A few gas shells unidentified fell in J.11.a. at odd intervals during the period. 10 p.m. a few heavies fired on BUIRE, occasional shells on E.12.u. (10.5 cm.) During the whole period his shelling was not above normal.

ENEMY M.G's. Were extremely active sweeping NO MAN'S LAND during the night from positions previously located. New ones were active at K.7.a.4.8., K.l.c.2.3., E.25.c.30.15.

T.M's. On Right Sector L.M.W's were rather more active than usual, J.6.b. & J.12.b. receiving attention from a position not located.

Aircraft. A marked increase in hostile aerial activity was apparent. They came over our lines several times during the day reconnoitring and Bombing planes were heard at night. They were actively engaged by our A.A. & M.G's.

Balloons. On T.B's 100° - 130° - 90° from D.22.c.55.65.

Sniping. Enemy sniper was active from approx. K.7.a.2.8. He wounded one of our snipers.

Flares. A flare post was located at approx. K.7.a.4.8.

Movement. Although the observation was good during the latter part of the day very little movement was seen as the Hun shows himself but little. At 1.50 a runner left K.9.d.2.8. and entered MORLANCOURT. He returned a few minutes later.

Miscellaneous. Visibility was poor during the morning, but considerably improved during the day. At 10.50 p.m. on K.l.a.65.80. brilliant light of various colours were observed. This may have been a flare dump as our artillery were shelling in the vicinity. At 9 p.m. an enemy plane dropped a propaganda balloon on J.6.a.2.1. No papers were attached. This balloon was slightly different from those secured on previous occasions as it had a small pocket battery inside, it was marked "German Balloon to be destroyed". Battery has been forwarded to D.M.C.

[Signature]
Brig.-General,
Commanding 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade

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No. 35SECRET
716th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADEBrigade Headquarters
16th May, 1918.EVENING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY8 a.m. 16. 5. 18 to 3 p.m. 16. 5. 18OUR OPERATIONSArtillery Has not been above normal.M.G's Fired at enemy planes only.Aircraft. The weather conditions have been favourable and our planes have been active at all times during the day.ENEMY OPERATIONS.Artillery. Has been extremely quiet. 11.25 a.m. a few 10.5 cm. & 15 cm. on J.9. & J.10.c. from approx. E.17. A little 77 mm & 10.5 cm. scattered on Right Bn. Sector. A little sneezing gas in vicinity of Bde. H.Q. at 6.30 p.m.Aircraft. A duel occurred in direction of CORBIE in which one German plane was brought down. It was marked FOKKER and numbered 1175 H.Miscellaneous. Visibility good. No movement observed in forward areas.
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADEBrigade Headquarters
17th May, 1918.MORNING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY3 p.m. 16. 5. 18 to 6 a.m. 17. 5. 18OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Quite ^{quiet} except for slight activity between 10 & 11 p.m. 11.40 p.m. a few 18 pdrs. dropped short in Gully E. of MARETT WOOD from direction of RIBEMONT.

M.G.'s. 2,000 rds. fired on vicinity of VILLE. Our L.M.'s adopted a successful offensive attitude against M.G.'s and Flare Posts by firing bursts into them on every sign of action.

T.M.'s. 6" Newtons registered on Sunken Road in Cemetery K.1. also suspected M.G. in K.1.a.85.80. L.T.M.'s fired 20 rds. on suspected M.G. positions.

Aircraft. Planes were extremely active by day and night patrolling and bombing enemy territory. Bombs dropped on MORLANCOURT 11.30 p.m. - 11.50 p.m. - 2.30 a.m. - 4.20 a.m. and between 12 and 1 a.m. on VILLE.

Sniping. 3 definite hits claimed.

Patrols. Our patrols active along whole Bde. front but no contact with enemy gained. Activity of his M.G.'s made patrolling difficult. A post at E.20.b.0.3. was unoccupied but German bombs found in it. The dead body of an English soldier found here-discs have been forwarded.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Not above normal but very consistent on back areas using 10.5 and 15 cm. chiefly. The following batteries were active.-
On grid bearings from J.6.c.2.2.-
77 mm. 79° - 111° - 95° approx
10.5 cm. 131° - 95° - 94° "

M.G.'s. Active firing across NO MAN'S LAND at frequent intervals during night. Enemy gun crews very alert. M.G. posts at K.1.c.2.2. K.1.c.35.90., E.25.c.20.15., E.25.b.0.2., were again active.

T.M.'s. H.M.W.'s from VILLE approx. E.25.d.10.05. active.

Aircraft. Active all day. A few low flying planes were engaged by A.A. & M.G. fire.

Defences New work and new posts can be seen running South from K.1.c.2.2.

Sniping. A few shots fired from K.1.b.

Flares. Were active. At one time 10.5 cm. fired short - GOLDEN Clusters was the signal for the artillery to lengthen range. Flare post at K.1.a.15.90. It was noticed that many of his flares were duds.

Movement In forward areas very limited but much individual movement seen in K.15.c.

Miscellaneous. Visibility good all day. Old trucks on railway in E.27.c. shelled by our 4.5's during afternoon.

J. H. H. H.
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade



No. 37.

8th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

SECRET.

Brigade Headquarters,
17th May, 1918.EVENING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.9 a. m. 17. 5. 18 to 5 p. m. 17. 5. 18.OUR OPERATIONS.Artillery.

Has been very quiet during the day. At 3.50 p.m. our Heavies fired on SOMMER ROAD in K.1. 18 pdrs. have been active at intervals.

Aircraft.

Planes have been active all day as weather conditions were most favourable. Reconnoitring and patrolling enemy lines was indulged in without any serious interference from hostile A.A. or M.G. fire.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.Artillery.

Extremely quiet especially in the forward areas. A few rounds in the morning in the vicinity of WHILLY 10.5 cm. and 15 cm. A little harassing fire, also registration fire, immediately East of HANBIT WOOD, otherwise there is nothing to report.

Aircraft.

A few enemy planes have been seen but owing to activity of our airmen they have not ventured far over our lines.

Miscellaneous.

Visibility has been good throughout the period, but very little movement has been seen, nothing in forward areas and only individuals in back areas. A CYLINDRICAL STICK BOMB was secured on Right Sq. sector last night. It is peculiar in the following respects :- The whole bomb is metal, handle and all, and has a number of wire bands around the handle to support it. Instead of the wooden beads on the string in the handle it has a leaden weight which gives a much better grip. In all other parts it is identical with his old bomb.

J. M. H.
Brig. General.
Commanding 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters
13th May, 1918.

MORNING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

6 a.m.

8 p.m. 17. 5. 18 to 18. 5. 18.

OUR OPERATIONS

Two bridges were thrown across the ANCRE by parties under our Engineers and are located at E.25.a.10.43. & E.25.a.25.30., and posts have been established at E.25.a.1.3. & E.25.a.30.45. to cover these.

Artillery

Has been normally active all day. In the morning light shelling was placed on K.1.b., E.27.c., & K.13.b.

M.G.'s.

L.S.'s engaged hostile M.G.'s & Flare posts considerably neutralizing their activity. M.G.'s fired 3,000 rds. in the vicinity of VILLE.

T.M.'s.

No rounds were fired during the night but two guns were detailed to cover the bridging party while they worked but action was not necessary.

Aircraft.

Planes were active VILLE was bombed. The enemy was greatly harassed by our bombs which were dropped on their forward positions.

Sniping.

Four hits were claimed.

Patrols.

Patrols were active but all report on the quietness of the front. A good deal of talking was heard by one of our patrols from K.19.b.0.8., after our Artillery had been shelling enemy trenches in this sector.

ENEMY OPERATIONS

Artillery

Very quiet during the period, only occasional shelling. 9.30 p.m. 10 gas shells (Lacarmatory) fell in BUIRE.

M.G.'s.

Approx. location of enemy M.G. E.19.b.4.9. others again active from K.1.c.2.5., K.1.c.35.30., K.1.c.2.5., K.1.c.4.2.

T.M.'s.

A light M.G. was active at approx. E.23.d.8.4. This mortar is usually active at dusk and dawn.

Aircraft.

Were active. Our A.A. fire was accurate and effective for the most part in confining the enemy to his own country.

Balloons

BUIRE was bombed at 8.45 p.m.

Sniping.

Enemy balloons on T.S. from E.24.b.8.7. 135° - 100° - 135°

Defences.

4 shots were fired from approx. K.1.c.30.15.

Movement.

New posts S. of the bank in K.1.c. is very apparent, K.1.c.5.0. & K.1.c.8.0.

Flares.

Only movement in back areas was seen. the absence of flares was noticed until 2 a.m. when they again became normal.

Miscellaneous.

What appeared to be a dump in K.13.b.8.7. was set alight. Visibility was good throughout the day but slight ground mist rose early in the evening.

J. Owen
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

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APPENDIX 61



No. 33

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

SECRET

Brigade Headquarters
18th May, 1918.

DAILY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

6 a.m. 18. 5. 18 to 3 p.m. 18. 5. 18

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. A quiet day. Our artillery has been almost silent and only a few rounds from the heavies is all that can be reported.

Aircraft. Were active during the morning and until 3.30 p.m. when the weather conditions changed and made active patrolling useless.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery Very quiet and only a few shells have fallen on the back areas all day.

Aircraft. Very few planes were observed and none over our lines.

Miscellaneous. Visibility was good until the afternoon when the rain made observation difficult.

Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters
19th May, 1918.

MORNING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

3 p.m. 18. 5. 18 to 6 a.m. 19. 5. 18

OUR OPERATIONS. At 2 a.m. our Infantry behind a creeping barrage attacked positions N. and S. of VILLE-SUR-ANCHE. The Southern ^{OBJECTIVE} was from K.7.b.1.0. on a line K.1.b.6.6. A defensive flank facing N. was to be formed from K.1.b.6.6. through CRUCIFIX to J.4.b.5.5. The Northern objective was on a line from E.29.c.9.9., E.25.b.7.4. to E.25.b.6.7. Success signals or reports had been received from everywhere by 3.25 a.m. It was then decided to mop up Village, VILLE-SUR-ANCHE, and at 4.15 a.m. our efforts commenced. On the Western outskirts of the village little resistance was met and 20 prisoners & 3 M.G.'s were captured immediately, but on the Southern edge there was heavy fighting. Our men overcame this and report was received at 5.2 a.m. that many enemy were being captured. The village was cleared at 7.30 a.m., but it was found impossible to establish posts in front of it owing to the M.G. fire from the high ground on the East. The total number of prisoners is 10 Offrs. & 210 O.R.'s who all agree that the slaughter from our opening barrage and also from the attacking infantry was great. The attack on the Left though not on such an extensive front as the Right was over marshy ground and bridges had to be thrown over the ANCHE. This was done and a successful crossing was accomplished. Our casualties are not yet to hand but are not considered heavy.

Artillery. Was extremely quiet until 2 a.m. when the attack on VILLE commenced. The creeping barrage was splendid and all report on its efficiency.

M.G.'s. Our M.G.'s also co-operated in the attack and greatly assisted in dispersing the movement which was reported in his back areas.

T.M.'s. These too ^{were} most active in the attack especially on N.S. positions and in clearing up of VILLE.

Aircraft. Planes were over during the night and 4.45 a.m. reported position of the RED ground flares which were lit in answer to their signals. At daybreak they were again active.

Sniping. Snipers took up positions after the objectives had been taken, but their report is not yet to hand.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Has been extremely quiet and during the attack very little shelling was done, the back areas received only a few and these were scattered and far between.

M.G.'s. These were most active at first during the attack but were effectively silenced by our Artillery except for those on the hill East of VILLE. which continued to fire on our men consolidating in front of the village.

Aircraft. Has not been active except for one plane early this morning which patrolled our lines at a low altitude. L.S.'s engaged this plane.

Movement. It was reported by observers that large numbers of enemy were coming along each side of the road in K.10.c. at 6.10 a.m. and also road in E.26.d. These were engaged by our artillery & M.G.'s and dispersed.

Flares. His flares were not as active as would be expected under our barrage, and this may account for the lack of retaliation.

Identifications. By prisoners 82nd R.I.R. 107th Div., 124th I.R. 183rd Div. 215th P.A.R.

Miscellaneous. Enemy shell set a stack of straw alight at the SUGAR FACTORY at D.27.b. This blazed for a considerable time.

John R. Jones
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

No. 406th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADESECRETBrigade Headquarters
19th May, 1918.EVENING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY6 a.m. 19. 5. 18 to 3 p.m. 19. 5. 18OUR OPERATIONS.--

The total number of prisoners captured in this morning's action is now 8 Offrs. 234 O.R's, 15 M.G's and 3 M.W's. Maps, documents etc. have been forwarded to D.H.Q.

Artillery. Quiet except when engaging movement in back areas.

Aircraft. Active as the weather conditions invited active patrolling.

Enemy Operations

Artillery. Was quiet and only scattered shelling is reported. The SUNKEN RD. in K.l.b.&d. was shelled at 3 p.m.

Aircraft. Fairly active. At 10.30 a.m. our observers report an enemy plane driven down by one of ours, on our extreme right.

Movement Movement in his back areas has been noticed and our artillery notified at all times, K.15.b., K.9.c., K.9.d.central. Men with full packs at E.27.d.0.0., E.27.d.7.4., K.5.b.3.3.

Miscellaneous. Visibility good.

J. Oliver
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADEBrigade Headquarters
20th May, 1918.MORNING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY3 p.m. 19. 5. 18 to 6 a.m. 20. 5. 18OUR OPERATIONS.

- Artillery. Our artillery was active at intervals during the day maintaining harassing fire on movement in the enemy back areas, also likely places of assembly. At 11.50 p.m. & 2.15 a.m. concentrated fire was put over on enemy forward system. It is reported that our heavies did not take full advantage of the movement in back areas.
- M.G.'s. 6,000 rds. were fired on movement and known targets during the period.
- Aircraft. Our planes were active all day and during the night.
- Patrols. Liaison patrols maintained touch with the flanks during the night. The whole front was also patrolled but nothing of importance was seen.
- Defences. Our line was consolidated with out hindrance and sketch showing location of our approx. line is being forwarded herewith.
- Sniping. During the operations and throughout the day our snipers fired 346 rds. and claim 42 definite hits from ranges from 600 yds. While taking up their positions yesterday morning our snipers nopped up an enemy post capturing garrison & M.G.
- Identifications. By prisoner captured opposite Centre Bn. 184th I.R. 183rd Division.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

- Artillery. In response to our bombardment the enemy put down a fairly heavy barrage on a line in rear of CATHERPILLAN, K.l.c.&d. with 10.5 & 15 cm. also a little 77 mm. This was kept up for 20 minutes. Otherwise only scattered fire is reported, QUARRY J.S.d., Edge of MARKET WOOD J.S.c., Cross Roads J.l2.a. 10.5 cm. on a T.B. of 105°, 15 cm. on T.B. 139° (SOUND) from J.S.d.9.4. Occasional gas shells (unidentified) in J.S.b.&d. throughout the night. BUIRE CHURCH was shelled and badly damaged by enemy artillery.
- M.G.'s. Quiet during the day and only moderately active at night.
- Aircraft. From 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. enemy planes were fairly active occasionally flying low over our lines. They were engaged by our M.G.'s and turned back.
- Balloons. On a T.B. 115° from D.22.c.55.65.
- Movement Movement was observed in K.9.d.central. Considerably over 50 Germans were seen entering MORLANCOURT via track K.9.c.8.9.
- Defences. Our patrol reports that enemy has established a line of posts at approx. K.2.a.2.7., K.26.c.5.5.
- Flares. Were very quiet on our direct front, but normally active opposite the flank Brigades.
- Miscellaneous. Visibility was good throughout the day and all enemy movement as observed was reported to artillery.

John R. H.
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

A D D E N D U M

Our total number now of prisoners is 8 Offrs. 269 O.R's, 50 M.G.'s and 1 T.M.

DEFENCES. Our line now runs on an approx. line of consolidated posts from K.7.central, to K.l.d.6.4., K.l.b.6.3., K.l.b.50.55. K.l.b.8.6. to E.26.c.05.50., E.25.d.9.5., E.25.b.9.5., E.19.d.8.0., E.19.d.9.3., E.19.d.8.8.

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No. 42

SECRET

6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters
20th May, 1918.

EVENING INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

6 a.m. 20. 5. 18 to 5 p.m. 20. 5. 18

OUR OPERATIONS

Artillery. Has been fairly quiet only a few bursts by Heavies on rear areas.

Aircraft. Has been fairly active patrolling over enemy lines.

Identifications. By wounded prisoner found in VILLE-SUR-ANCRE 184th I.R. 183rd Division.

Enemy Operations

Artillery Has also been quiet and nothing to report. No gas shells have fallen during the period.

Aircraft. Fairly active but few have ventured over our lines.

Movement. Visibility has been good though very little movement could be seen. Little individual movement on Ridge E.27.c. & K.S.a.

John R.
Brig.-General,
Commanding 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No 120.

From 6 a.m. 10th to 6 a.m. 11th May, 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. No report has yet been received from the artillery.(b) Machine Guns. Only short bursts fired during the night.(c) Infantry. The left Bde. advanced No 6 and 7 posts in J.6.d. to J.6.d.90.05, and J.8.d.70.40. respectively. No 8 post was pushed forward to J.6.d.60.65., thus straightening out the outpost line.(d) Patrols. A patrol from the Left Bn of the Div. reported enemy digging along a line K.7.d.10.50.- K.7.d.20.10.- K.13.b.40.80. Lewis gun fire was directed into this post throughout the night. Right Bde. patrols were active during the night. Very little was seen of the enemy.

A patrol of 1 off. and 10 o.rs. with Lewis gun moved out to Cross Roads at J.6.b.8.2., and pushed forward with 4 o.rs less L.G. to approx. K.1.a.1.2., where an encounter ensued with an enemy patrol, in which 3 Germans were captured, two being wounded. The remainder ran away; bombs were thrown after them but the patrol were unable to see with what result, and returned without casualties.

M.Gs fired on our patrols from approx. K.1.a.4.0. and K.1.a.35.20. Movement was detected near the Cemetery in E.20.b.0.3.

1 off. and 5 o.rs proceeded during the early morning from E.25.b.1.4. to within 30 yds. of the river. They saw two small parties of the enemy withdrawing from posts which patrol was unable to locate. The officer and 2 o.rs who pushed ahead opened fire on the enemy and several were seen to fall.

1 off. and 2 o.rs went out on reconnaissance along the river to approx. E.20.c.55.90. and saw a party of about 20 of the enemy, whereupon they withdrew and directed our artillery on to the target, with what result is not known.

(e) Aircraft. Our ^{planes} were active throughout the period, particularly in the evening. At 5 p.m. an unidentified plane fell in flames opposite our left Bn.

. IDENTIFICATIONS.

4th Coy. 357th I.R. 199th Div. (prisoners)

. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS.

Prisoner captured by our left Bde. this morning belonged to 4th Coy. 357th I.R., 199th Division. He was out on patrol with a Sgt. and a L/Cpl, when they were surprised by our patrol and captured.

Disposition of 357th I.R. 1 Bn. (4 Coys & M.G. Coy) Front System.

11 Bn. in Reserve.

111 Bn. in billets at NURLU.

. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Normal, with slight increase in gas shelling. At 10.30 a.m. a few 10.5.cm shells fell in J.2.a. Between 6 and 6.30 p.m. approx 100 10.5.cm shells fell along the ANCRE valley in J.3.c & d. There were several 'duds'. From 8.30 p.m. to midnight J.7 & 8 were lightly shelled with Yellow Cross from direction of GRESSAIRE WOOD. At 10.30 p.m. J.18. was lightly shelled with gas (nature unknown). At 11 p.m. 12 gas shells fell on E.19.c. (Phosgene and Yellow Cross). 80 H.E. and gas shells (Green Cross) fell in J.11.a. At 3.30 a.m. a ten minutes heavy bombardment was directed on D.28. b & c, and D.29 a & c., with gas (Green Cross 3) and H.E.. A light barrage was placed on the area J.21.c., and also barrage fire with H.E. and gas from 10.5 cm Hows. in J.18. At 11 p.m. a light barrage was placed in J.21.c. with 10.5 cm H.E. This area was shelled again by 10.5. cm from 4 a.m to 4.30 a.m.

P.F.O.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Trench Mortars. 20 rds. L.M.W. were fired in the vicinity of our posts in J.S.B. and d. The mortar was not located.

(b) Machine guns. Occasional bursts of fire along the whole front during the night.

8. MOVEMENT. Very little movement was observed.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

The prisoner captured by our patrol on the morning of the 11th instant belonged to 1919 class and had only recently arrived on the front. He stated that his Company had had no casualties in the front line. He expected a relief on the night of the 13th instant.

M.S. Denning
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

PRISONERS.

The total number of prisoners captured by the Fourth Army from April 16th to 30th is 20 Officers and 944 Other Ranks, of whom 18 Officers and 833 Other Ranks can be regarded as the result of the action in and around VILLERS BRETONNEUX on April 24th and 25th. The above numbers include wounded.

Drafts.

One of the prisoners of the 357th I.R. taken on May 4th belongs to the 1919 Class. In December, 1917 he was sent to a Recruit Depot at CHABLONI near WARSAW. The whole of this depot, consisting of three Bns. each 2300 strong, was transferred to the Western Front during last month, detraining at CAMBRAI about 20th April. Prisoner states that these 7500 men were distributed among men of the II and IV Corps, but it is not clear what he means by this. 750 of them were allotted to the 199th Division, in addition to a draft of machine gunners from ERUGES.

Prisoner's draft joined the 357th I.R. at NURLU on April 20th and after some days marched with the regiment to BRAY.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ENEMY'S FORCES.

Two fresh divisions, withdrawn from the LAON Sector and CHAMPAGNE respectively, have come into line on the SOMME battle front between the Rivers SOMME and LUCE. Another division, withdrawn from this battle front, has relieved a division on the VERDUN front.

Of the 206 German infantry divisions on the Western Theatre, 147 have been engaged since the 21st March, and 18 are of poor quality.

There are 15 fresh divisions in reserve, and in addition, there are 26 fresh divisions in line which have not yet been drawn into the battle.

DISTRIBUTION OF ENEMY'S FORCES.

183rd Division. 418th I.R. in W.21 by prisoner 9/10th May. Prisoner states order of battle from north to south is, 184th I.R., 418th I.R. - 440th R.I.R.

General. An entry in a captured diary dated 6/7th May states that touch was established with 107 R.I.R., 24th Res. Div. on the left of the 114th I.R., 199th Div. This indicates that the 199th Div. relieved both the 50th Res. Div. and the 18th Div.

The 31st I.R. having been identified on 8/9th May west of MORLANCOURS suggests that elements of the 18th Div. were reinforcing the 199th Div., owing to our operations in this sector. The same diary confirms the left boundary of the 23rd Corps to be on the SOMME.

- 3 -

ORGANISATION.

- (a) Headquarters. Regimental H.Q. of 114th I.R. was at R Rue Voltaire, BRAY, on April 30th. (Doc.).
- (b) Transport. Second line transport of 114th I.R. was at CUELU on April 30th. First line transport and Company Orderly Rooms were at BRAY on the same date. (Doc.).
- (c) Rations. To be fetched from LE TRANSLOY. (Doc.).

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ENEMY'S FORCES.
Fourth Army front.

31st I.R. ... 18th Division.
South-west of MORLANCOURT. May 9. Prisoner.

The 31st I.R. relieved the 257th R.I.R. 199th Div. on the morning of May 9th. The co-operation between these two divisions is thus continuing.

108th Division.
265th R.I.R. } .. VALRE Wood sector ... May 9. Document. (Normal).
97th I.R. }
137th I.R. }

BRIDGES ACROSS THE ANCRE.

Photographs show that between ALBERT and DERNANCOURT there are 54 bridges across the ANCRE.

West of DERNANCOURT to the point where the enemy line crosses the river there are 8.

Of the bridges between DERNANCOURT and ALBERT only 6 are traffic bridges, two at least of which appear to be fit for light traffic only.

Thus in the event of an attack in this sector, the facilities for moving infantry across the river appear to be adequate, but the facilities for moving transport very poor. Most of the transport would probably have to come through ALBERT.

All these bridges probably existed on April 27th, but a clear photograph of the area south of VIVIER Mill was not obtained until May 3rd. There is little evidence to show when exactly they were constructed.

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 121.

From 6 a.m. 11th to 6 a.m. 12th May, 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Our batteries were normally active on Sunken Roads and activity areas. 18-pdrs. engaged hostile batteries in K.27.b. and K.7.d. between 10 p.m. and 12 midnight. During the night 400 rds. gas were fired on cross roads in K.1.b. and d., and 150 rds. gas on enemy bivouacs in E.25.c. At 2.5 a.m. a medium M.W. was engaged and silenced. During an observed shoot of 50 rds. on Cemetery and enemy works in K.1.a. 5.8. a small explosion was caused. Effective fire was reported on a T.M. at K.14.c.30.40.

(b) Machine Guns. On the Left Bde. sector 2,000 rds. were fired on the sunken road in K.1.a. during the night.

(c) Trench Mortars. M.T.M's. fired 10 rds. in Sunken road K.1.a. and c. L.T.Ms. fired 20 rds. on M.G. position at E.20.a.99.29.

(d) Aircraft. Our aircraft were active all day especially during the evening.

(e) Patrols. The front was actively patrolled throughout the night. A patrol leaving J.24.d.9.4. located a post at approx. K.19.b.1.5. The patrol from the Left Bn., Right Bde., heard working parties at K.7.d.10.30. Another patrol from the same battalion located small enemy posts at approx. K.13.b.4.3., which showed no recent signs of occupation. A line of posts was found running from K.13.d.20.65. to K.13.d.6.6. They were in good condition, but did not appear to have been used recently. A patrol sent to locate the Left Bn. post of the Right Bde. at K.7.a.25.20. (?) came across an enemy post at K.7.a.48.25., which was unoccupied. A light M.G. mounted for firing was found here and brought back to our lines.

(f) Sniping. Our snipers were active along the Div. front. Several hits were observed.

IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Shows slight increase. At 7.15 a.m. the road junction J.17.c. was shelled with 5 rds. 10.5 cm. from the direction of GRESSAIRE WOOD. At 8.15 a.m. 9 rds. 10.5 cm. H.E. were fired on J.12.d. At 8.45 a.m. 8 rds. 10.5 cm. were fired on road junction J.20.b. From 9 a.m. to 9.15 a.m. 12 rds. were fired on J.18.a. From 9.15 to 9.50 a.m. 30 rds. 10.5 cm. were fired on J.13.a. and c., 24 rds. on J.22.a. and b., 10 rds. on J.12.d.1.5. At 10 a.m. J.22.a. was shelled with 15 cm. from 171° T.B. from J.21.d.6.2. MARETT WOOD was shelled during the morning with 10.5 cm., 15 cm. and 21 cm. from 171° T.B. from J.21.d.6.2., J.12.c. was also shelled with 8 rds. 10.5 cm. and 45 rds. 15 cm. J.17.a. and c., J.18.c., J.24.a., J.13.a. and b., J.17.b. and J.18.b. also received attention during the morning with 10.5 cm. and 15 cm. Between noon and 2 p.m. 100 - 10.5 cm and 15 cm shells were fired on D.23.c & d, and D.30.cent. During the afternoon J.18.a. & b. were fired on by 9 rds 15 cm and 52 rds 10.5 cm. Between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. 5 rds 10.5 cm were fired on J.11.d., and 10 rds on J.12.d. MERICOURT was heavily shelled by 10.5 cm and 15 cm at 4 p.m., and again by 150 rds 15 cm at 6 p.m. MARETT WOOD was shelled during the evening by 77 mm, 10.5 cm, and 15 cm. J.28. was shelled by 77 mm from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. During the night J.17., J.13., J.14., J.11.d., & J.17.b. were shelled by 10.5 cm and 15 cm. Between 4.15. and 4.45 p.m. approx. 100 shells fell along the ANCRE Valley in J.3.c & d and J.2.d. Many of these did not explode. From 9 p.m. to 9.20 p.m. the enemy shelled TREUX and BUIRE with 77 mm and 15 cm. From 10.45 to 11 p.m. Green and Blue Cross shells and H.E. fell in the vicinity of MERICOURT. From 11.15 to 11.35 p.m. the neighbourhood of RIBEMONT was shelled with 77 mm and 10.5 cm H.E., and also Green and Blue Cross gas shells.

(b) Trench Mortars.P.T.O.

(b) Trench Mortars. 10 M.W. shells fell on E.19.c. from approx. E.20.b.50.99. During the day a L.T.M. fired on Right Bn., Right Bde. from approx. K.14.c.5.0. A L.M.W. was located by a patrol as firing from approx. K.14.a.3.7. Mortars were active at K.1.d.15.25. and K.14.a.8.7.(?) A T.M. position is suspected at K.7.d.9.4.

(c) Machine Guns. Hostile M.Gs were active throughout the night, firing from K.7.d.9.4., K.1.b.30.95., K.1.a.35.25., K.1.a.3.8., K.1.c.5.5., E.20.a.3.0., E.25.b.3.1., E.25.b.8.3., W.25.c.2.6.

(d) Sniping. Fairly active on the Right Bde. Sector, but quiet on the left. The activity of our snipers appeared to have a quietening effect.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. The enemy appeared nervous, as the number of flares fired along the Divisional front was above normal.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Digging was reported at approx. K.1.c.3.7. Wire was located in front of the trench in K.1.a.3.0. - K.1.a.1.3. The posts in K.7.d. are not connected. A post can be seen at K.7.a.48.25. An M.G. position is plainly visible at K.7.d.9.4. A sniper was located at K.7.d.1.4. T.M. positions are reported at K.1.d.15.25., K.14.a.30.70. and K.20.b.6.9. There are a number of positions dug into the bank in K.1.d. These positions are covered with waterproof sheets, and can be enfiladed by our snipers, who claim two hits. A light T.M. in the bank at K.1.d.15.25. is covered with bushes. After sniping a man at this point, another was seen to take his place.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Enemy 'planes were fairly active during the day. At 5.40.p.m. a low flying 'plane dropped three bombs in the left Bn. sector. Our Lewis guns retaliated vigorously.

8. MOVEMENT & ORGANISATION BEHIND THE ENEMY'S LINES. During the morning small parties of the enemy were seen moving about opposite the right Bn. of the Right Bde. They were fired on. Men, in full marching order, were seen ^{moving} during the day in K.13.b. and K.3.b.4.1. Several stretcher bearers were observed in K.13.b. and at K.2.d.9.4. Throughout the day men crossed the Railway Embankment in K.3.c. and moved towards MORLANCOURT. By the light of enemy flares, 10 Germans were seen leaving K.18.c., which was being shelled by our Heavies. The Left Bde. report that the enemy movements at dusk point to the fact that his advanced posts are only held during the night. Considerable movement of individuals was observed round the Sunken Road ^{from} K.1.c.2.6 to K.1.a.7.3., and the trench in front. Enemy working parties in E.20.c.25.30. and E.25.b.95.95. were reported to our artillery.

10. MISCELLANEOUS. A letter captured from a member of the 4th Coy. 357th I.R., 199th Div., on the night 10/11th inst., indicates a relief in this sector on the night of the 14th.

Visibility - Poor.

H. S. Dering
Lieut Colonel.
for General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

Page 3. follows.

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- 5 -
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

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APPENDIX 62
I.S.
No 121

ENEMY LOSSES.

18th Division (holding a divisional front with the 199th Div). In a letter dated May 5th a man of this division states: "Our Company has suffered heavy gas casualties."

CHANGE IN ARMY BOUNDARY.

There are indications that the Northern boundary of the Second German Army has been moved about 5 miles South from BEAUMONT HAMEL to just North of ALBERT and that the 3rd Naval Division, in line North of ALBERT, is no longer in the Second Army.

Prisoners from different units captured recently in the ALBERT - SOMME Sector, have mentioned rumours of the arrival of a new Army on this front. As the insertion of a new Army would be a definite indication of offensive intentions on this front, confirmation of these rumours is urgently required.

BRIDGES ACROSS THE ANCRE.

Three of the light foot bridges crossing the ANCRE between ALBERT and DERNANCOURT have disappeared since May 3rd.

INCREASE IN ENEMY AERODROMES.

It is of importance to note the increase in accommodation at the enemy aerodromes at -

FOUCAUCOURT	(increase of 15 hangers since April 27th).
SUZANNE	do. 2 "
CHUIGNIES	do. 10 "

DETRAINING POINTS.

Ground observers report that troops detrain south of FRICOURT on the BRAY light railway; considerable activity has been seen on the roads in this area.

GENERAL.

The organisation of supply south of the SOMME is being energetically pushed forward. North of the River, however, it does not appear to be in so advanced a state. This may delay the expected offensive North of ALBERT.

2nd Aust. D.H.Q.
12/5/18.

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No 122.

From 6 a.m. 12th to 3 p.m. 13th May 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. WILLE-sur-ANCRE, Cross Roads, and tracks, were subjected to harassing fire from 18 pdr. and 4.5."Hows.

Between 9.50 p.m. and 11.20 p.m. 120 rds. gas were expended on roads and dugouts in and around MORLAINGOURT, and 40 rds. BMC on Cross Roads in K.21.a. Between 5 p.m. and 5.30 p.m. a shoot was carried out on the Sunken Roads in K.1.a, b, and c - 800 rds. being fired. 180 rds. gas were later fired on the same area.

(b) Machine Guns. Our M.Gs fired short bursts at intervals during the night.

(c) Trench Mortars. T.Ms fired in co-operation with the artillery on K.1.b and d at 5.30 p.m. Our Left Bde. T.Ms fired 20 rds. on M.G. post in E.20.a.9.9., which has not fired since.

(d) Aircraft. Our 'planes were active.

(e) Patrols. Right Bde. A patrol which went out from K.13.a.7.3. to K.13.b.2.3. found four old M.W. positions, which apparently had not been used for some days. At K.13.d.4.4. three shallow "V" shaped positions were found which appeared to have been dug within the last 3 days. A party of enemy were seen moving E at about K.20.a.1.0.

A patrol of 1 off. 14 c.rs. located an enemy listening post at approx. K.7.c.9.5., which was evacuated as soon as our patrol approached. The occupants went to a post at approx. K.7.d.00.50. From the latter post 8 men were seen to go to a post at approx. K.7.c.8.8. Our scouts moved forward and saw 10 Germans at K.7.d.00.60. This party came to within 15 yds. of our scouts when they were fired on by Lewis guns; 6 men were seen to fall, of whom 2 crawled back to the post. Four M.Gs opened on our patrol necessitating their withdrawal.

Left Bde. Patrols were active throughout the night, and reported the locations of several M.Gs. (see under Hostile M.Gs).

A patrol of the Left Bn. reported an enemy dressing station at E.25.c.1.3.. On its return the same patrol encountered 6 of the enemy at D.30.90.55. Fire was opened on both sides and one of the enemy dropped. Heavy M.G fire necessitated the withdrawal of our patrol which was accomplished without casualties. An enemy post was located at E.25.a.8.3.

(f) Sniping. Snipers of the Left Bde. claim two hits.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Hostile artillery was active, No retaliation resulted from our shoot at 5.30 p.m. The Right Bde. report heavy shelling of MERICOURT (420 rds. 15 cm H.E.) from 8.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., and RIBEMONT during the morning and afternoon of the 12th. MARETT WOOD was also shelled at intervals during the day by 10.5. cm and 15 cm. J.18.a. central was shelled with 50 rds. 'snoozing' gas. J.12., J.13. cent., J.23. cent., J.18.c., J.15.a. and c., J.17., J.21., J.23., J.16.b., J.22. were also shelled during the day. 250 shells (15 cm and 21 cm) fell in the vicinity of the SUGAR FACTORY and Cross Roads in D.27. cent. 100 rds. 10.5. and 15 cm, fell in J.4.d.4.9. From 12.45 p.m. to 1 p.m. a few 28 cm shells fell in MERICOURT. A few gas shells (nature unknown) fell in S.W. corner of MARETT WOOD. At 11.20 a.m. (13th) the Cross Roads in D.27.b. were heavily shelled with 15 cm Hows. at the rate of 10 rds. per minute. J.8.b. was heavily shelled during the morning and afternoon. MERICOURT and HEILLY were also shelled during the morning of the 13th. J.17.a & b., J.11.c & d., were lightly shelled at 2 p.m. (13th). A high velocity gun shelled the vicinity of BAVELINCOURT and BEHENCOURT at 2 p.m. (13th) at the rate of 1 round per minute.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Machine Guns. Hostile M.Gs were active throughout the night. Machine guns are reported at - K.7.d.0.5., K.7.c.9.5., K.7.d.95.38. K.1.a.9.2., K.1.a. cent., K.1.a.5.6., K.1.a.3.3., E.25.c.1.3., E.25.c.3.6., E.25.a.8.1.

P.T.O.

ENEMY DEFENCES (Contd).

(b) French Mortars. Hostile T.Bs fired a few rounds on the Right Bn. of the Right Dde. from approx E.14.c.5.0. Mortars at K.8.c.3.5. and K.8.c.3.7. were active throughout the period firing on the Left Bn of the Right Dde. 47 "pineapples" fell on E.25.a.7.7. from E.25.c.9.3. Positions are suspected at K.1.a.8.8., K.1.b.0.6., E.20.b.5.9.

(c) Defences. Considerable fresh earth can be seen near CRUCIFIX and Sunkon Road in K.1.a. A new trench has appeared from K.7.d.00.30. to K.13.b.15.80.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. - Active

At 4.15 a.m. bombs were dropped on J.9.a.c & d. In the evening 8 planes patrolled our lines.

Balloons were seen on T.Bs of 156°, 176°, 177°, from J.21.d.6.2. and 53°, 58°, 77°, 124°, and 65° from J.6.c.20.25.

8. MOVEMENT & ORGANISATION BEHIND THE ENEMY'S LINES.

Seven men in full marching order were seen to get into a trench in the vicinity of K.19.central. During the day men were seen observing from here. Movement of single men was noticed at K.20.b.2.9. and K.20.b.1.9. A man was seen in the new trench at K.13.b. Several men were seen at K.10.b.3.1. At 4.p.m. about 60 horses were seen grazing in the open ground in L.2.c. and L.8.a., with mounted men looking after them. From 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. movement was continuous around K.26.c. and L.2.a., where several bull tents have been pitched. At 7.30 p.m. 30 men, carrying white bundles, appeared at K.10.b.2.4. and moved down the slope. At 8.25 p.m. 25 men were seen moving down the slope from K.10.b.2.4. From 4 to 8 p.m. motor and horse transport were seen on the BRAY-MAULTE Road moving in both directions at the rate of 5 per minute. At 7.45 p.m. 3 parties of about 45 in all came from the direction of husmets in E.28. across country and disappeared behind MORLANCOURT. Our Left Dde. observe individual movement in K.15.a., K.14.b., K.15.c. (suspected O.P) and K.9. During our shelling of VILLE-sur-ANCRE a number of men doubled from the village along the road in E.26.c. At 6.30 p.m. a train was observed in L.2.a & b.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

A fire and several explosions were observed in VIVIER MILL, E.16.a. The air service also reports a large fire smouldering in E.16.central. Smoke from a stationary engine was observed at F.26.d.8.7. At 8 p.m. a signal lamp was seen flashing at J.36.c.8.2. No message was read. A nose cap was found near D.27.central which has been identified by the artillery as that of a British 6" shell.

Flares. RED flares brought artillery fire, also a succession of YELLOW clusters followed by two REDS. White flares were fired frequently along the Divisional front.

Searchlights. Were observed on T.Bs. of 54°, 57°, 63°, 64°, 71°, from D.30.c.8.9.

Visibility. Poor during the day (12th) but improved during the evening. Good during the early morning (13th) Poor during the day.

J. J. Law
Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. (Follows on Page 3)

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INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

ENEMY AERODROMES.

The following developments are reported in enemy aerodromes.
An increase at GAPPY Aerodrome.
A decrease of 6 hangars at ROZIERES Aerodrome.
An increase of 20 hangars between SUZANNE and VAUVILLERS since 3rd May.

ACTIVITY AT ENEMY DUMPS.

The activity at VAUVILLERS Dump continues.
A second ammunition dump is visible N of FOULAUCOURT.
Dumps are shown S.E. of LONGUEVAL and N of BAZENTIN, and on the MEZIERES-10 QUESNEL Road.
A great deal of activity is visible in the small valleys S and E of ALBERT. Many tracks are shown and the enemy is apparently storing ammunition in this area.

HOSPITALS.

Two new hospitals have appeared at CHAUMES. and N of HARBONNIERES.

SECOND GERMAN ARMY.

There are further indications that the Northern boundary of the Second German Army runs N of ALBERT, and includes the 183rd Div. (see 2nd Aust. Div. Int. Summary No. 121 - Information from Other Sources)

GENERAL.

It is of importance to note the above increases of aerodromes and dumps in enemy back areas.

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. No. 123.

From 3 p.m. 13th to 3 p.m. 14th May 1918.

NOTE Not to be taken into the front line trenches.OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. 18 pdrs. and 4.5" Hows. maintained harassing fire on roads and centres of enemy activity, particular attention being paid to Sunken Roads in K.1. At 10.30 p.m. 30 rds. B.N.C. were fired on to Hostile Battery Position K.21.a.10.40. This shoot was repeated at 11.15 p.m. Cross roads K.21.b. and fork roads J.21.c. were also subjected to B.N.C. shelling. 120 rounds B.N.C. were fired between 1 a.m. and 4 a.m. on sunken roads in K.1.b and d. From 3 a.m. to 3.5 a.m. 4.5" hows. fired 75 rounds on enemy defences at K.19.central. Suspected O.P. at E.27.d.70.75 was engaged. At 6.20 a.m. (14/5/18) at request of infantry Right Group fired on S.O.S. lines for 15 minutes.

(b) Trench Mortars. The following targets were successfully engaged: K.1.a.5.2, K.1.a.6.7, E.19.d.5.5 to E.20.c.7.9.

(c) Our Patrols were active along the whole front but encountered no enemy posts or patrols. A M.W. was located firing from approx E.20.b.11.30. Enemy posts at E.19.b.8.0 and E.25.b.65.50 were investigated and found to be unoccupied.

(d) Sniping. Our snipers were active along the whole front and claim one sure hit at K.1.c.4.2.

(e) Infantry. About 4 a.m. (14th) the enemy attacked our front line from approximately K.19.central to K.13.a.9.5. At K.19.central the enemy succeeded in penetrating portion of our line, elsewhere he was driven off. A subsequent counter-attack preceded and supported by a Stokes Mortar barrage not only completely restored our line in the vicinity of K.19.central but enabled us to improve our original position there. 57 prisoners were captured by us as a result of this operation. The enemy losses were very heavy.

(f) Identifications. (a) Prisoner of 237th R.I.R. 199th Div. wandered into our lines. (b) 48 prisoners 1st 3rd and 4th Coys. 31st I.R. 18th Div. as a result of counter-attack this morning. (c) 3 prisoners 114th I.R.

2. ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(a) Infantry. As reported in para. (e) above.

(b) Artillery. Between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. 200 rounds 15 cm fell in J.3.d. and J.4.c. During the night hostile artillery was rather less active than usual. MERICOURT, RIBEMONT, BUIRE and HEILLY were subjected to light intermittent shelling from 10.5 cm and 15 cm. At 10 p.m. 20 rounds 77 mm phosgene gas shell fell in K.17.c. Between 3.30 a.m. and 4 a.m. 200 rounds green cross gas fell in RIBEMONT. From 4 a.m. to 5.30 a.m. J.12.a. and front line and supports of right bde. were bombarded by M.W's., 77 mm and 10.5 cm. This area was kept under a fairly heavy fire up till about 11 a.m. when hostile fire eased off considerably. The following areas were shelled with 15 cm during morning and early afternoon J.15., J.21.a and b., MARETT WOOD, J.6.c, K.12.a and D.29.b.

(c) Machine Guns. Hostile machine guns were quiet till about 3 a.m. when road at D.30.c.8.8 and wood in D.30.b. and E.25.a. were subjected to long bursts of indirect fire from the direction of DERNANCOURT. Hostile machine guns were located at E.25.c.1.3, K.1.c.15.40., K.1.c.2.2., E.25.c.2.6., K.1.a.30.35., K.1.c.5.5 and K.7.d.6.0.

(d) Trench Mortars. M.W. were located at E.20.b.11.30 and K.1.a.8.7. The fire from this latter mortar was extremely inaccurate.

(e) Aircraft. Aircraft were active over our lines about 6 a.m. and 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

(f) Balloons. On T.B's. of 54 deg. 57 deg. 67 deg. 70 deg. 78 deg. 117 deg. and 141 deg. were observed from J.6.c.20.25.

(g) Movement/

(g)
3. MOVEMENT.

Very little movement was seen. 6 men were seen on the road in K.13.b. carrying boxes. 2 men carrying packs in E.27.d. Three mounted men on road at E.27.a. and seven men at P.11.d. .1.

Train movement was observed on light railway at Q.15.d.3.2. at 11 a.m. and again at 11.30 p.m.

4. Hostile Digging.

A hostile post was located at D.30.d.1.5. Digging was in progress during the 15th inst. at K.1.c.8.0.

After his unsuccessful attack this morning the enemy has been attempting to dig in on the line K.7.d.15.35. - K.7.d.3.0. - Cross Roads K.13.b. - K.13.b.15.30. - K.13.d.6.5.

5. DISBURSMENTS.

During the night our artillery fire caused fire to break out in NORTHWOOD.

Flares. Were normal until midnight, after which time the activity increased on our Left side front, but no apparent action followed from observation it appears that on our Left side front the enemy "Lengthen Range" signal for artillery is WHITE cluster flares.

J. J. M. Callaghan
Lieut Colonel.
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

ANNEX E.

The accompanying translation of an order found by a patrol of our right side night 12/13th, throws light on the method of inter-battalion reliefs in the 199th Div. and confirms several H.Q. locations given on a map which was found with the order.

The 237th R.I.A. is still in the line (Prisoner captured by our Left side night 13/14th inst).

237-R.I.A.

BATTALION OPERATIONS ORDER.

May 5th 1918.

- The Battalion will be relieved on the night 7/8th May by the 1st Battalion and will move into Support.
The 3rd (e) Coy. will relieve the 9th Coy.
" 4th (f) " " " " 10th " "
" 1st (g) " " " " 11th " "
" 2nd (h) " " " " 12th " "
- After the issue of rations on the night 6/7th Coys. will send advance parties of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men to their respective Support Coys.
- The 9th and 10th Coys will each detail two men from the sections working tonight who will satisfy themselves as to the exact dispositions of the 3rd and 4th Coys. and who will act as Coy. guides on relief. The advance parties of the 11th and 12th Coys. will set the whereabouts of the 1st and 2nd Coys. from Battalion H.Q. at the Cross Roads 500 metres W of TAILLEE WOOD.
- One man each of the advance parties of the 11th and 12th Coys. will wait for their Coys. at En H.Q. on the night of the 7/8th inst.
- The Runner Relay Posts between Forward and Rear En. H.Q. 4 men strong will be supplied. -

No 1 Post by 12th Coy. No. 2 Post by 11th Coy.
No 3 " " 10th " " 4 " " 9th "

The relieving Runner Relays will report first to Advanced En. H.Q. where they will receive instructions. The Relays will be rationed by their Coys.

D.T.O.

6. Coys. will report completion of relief at once to Forward Bn. H.Q.
7. The 12th Coy. will, on arrival in its new sector, send two men at once to the Divisional Report Centre, 500 metres N of the Regimental Engineer Park.
8. 12th Coy. will ration 1 Sgt. Major and 3 o.r. from the Regimental Dump near the Regimental Engineer Park.
9. In the event of a thick ^{mist}, a flare signal station will be set up on the Sunken Road, which runs from the S.W. exit of MORLAUCOURT in a S.W. direction to the TREUX - BRAY - CORBIE Road. The location of this station will be made known by a sign-board.

(Signature).

The following information concerning the dispositions of the 237th R.I.R., 199th Div. holding the Centre Regimental Sector, has been obtained from a map found by our Right Bde. patrols.

Regimental boundary of the 237th R.I.R. (Ref Map. 62D N.E.).

Northern: K.1.c.20.20., K.2.c.0.0., K.8.b.25.90., K.9.a.00.90.
K.3.c.7.0., K.4.c.0.2., K.5.c.0.1., K.12.a.0.9., K.12.b.0.8.
L.7.a.0.8., L.7.a.4.6.,

Southern; K.13.d.82.42., K.14.d. 3.4., K.16.d.1.5., following N of the road to Cross Roads in L.16.central.

Headquarters.

Regimental. K.18.a.4.5.
Battalion. Just W of Cross Roads K.17.central.
(Note - this is confirmed by a captured order.)
Forward Bn. K.9.c.4.5.
Dressing Station. K.9.c.15.55.

Dispositions.

Front Line dispositions are out of date, owing to our recent advance. Units, (whether platoons or companies is not stated) are shown:

- i. Along the road K.14.b.42.78. to K.14.b.25.42.
- ii. From K.15.a.90.22. to K.15.c.90.90.
- iii. In wood in area K.12.a.20.55. K.12.a.20.30. K.12.a.48.58.
K.12.a.48.28.
- iv. Along road from K.12.c.80.35. to K.12.c.70.52.
- v. An Engineer Park is shown in the area K.18.b.75.10. K.18.b.60.10. K.18.d.75.92. K.18.d.62.92.
- vi. A Regimental Dump near the Engineer Park.

Divisional Report Centre is shown by a captured order of the rd III Bn. 237th R.I.R. to be 500 metres N of the Regimental Engineer Park. Regimental Dump is at the Regimental Engineer Park (see above).

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 124.

From 3 p.m. 14th to 3 p.m. 15th May, 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Roads, tracks, activity centres, as well as VILLE-sur-ANCRE, were subjected to harassing fire by 18-pdrs., and 4.5" Hows. during the night.

(b) gas. At midnight, and again at 2 a.m., 100 rds. ^{gas} were fired on sunken road K.l.d.10.25. to K.l.b.10.35. E.25.c. and d. received 200 rds. gas between midnight and 2 a.m. A hostile battery at K.27.b.50 30. received 60 rds. gas at 8.30 p.m. and also at 2.45 a.m. At 8.40 p.m. and 3 a.m., 60 rds. gas were fired on hostile battery at K.27.c.51.15.

Enemy working parties at K.7.d.15.35., K.7.d.3.0., K.13.b. and d., and K.19.b. were dispersed.

(c) Trench Mortars. 15 rds. were fired on M.G. position in K.l.a.30.40. 80 rds. Stokes were fired along roads in vicinity of K.13.b.3.7. Good bursts were observed.

(d) Machine Guns. At about 4 a.m. on 14th instant 1,000 rds. were fired on enemy attack on our right brigade. Some casualties were seen to be inflicted.

During the night 14th/15th the following targets were engaged:-
1,500 rds. along Valley in K.7.b. 1,500 rds. K.20.b.1.9.
2,000 rds. K.25.b. (Road). 2,000 rds. Exits from VILLE-sur-ANCRE in E.25.b. and K.16.

(e) Aircraft. Our 'planes were active throughout the day. During the morning (15th inst.) an aerial combat took place over our Right Ede. front, which resulted in one 'plane (unidentified) being driven down out of control.

(f) Patrols.

Right Ede. The front was actively patrolled throughout the night. A patrol going out from K.7.c.6.3. located an M.G. firing from K.7.c.8.6. A patrol which went out at 1 a.m., reports that enemy listening post at K.7.a.60.35. appears to have been extended towards our line.

A third patrol located the enemy digging at about K.13.b.1.6. and it was reported that this digging extended some distance to N. and S. of this point. L.G. fire was brought to bear on the digging party.

Left Brigade. The front was quiet. Gas in No-man's-land made patrolling difficult. M.Gs. were reported at K.l.c.2.3., K.l.a.4.5. and a new one at E.20.c.1.1. Enemy limbers were heard moving on roads in E.26.

A counter-attack by our Right Ede. at 10 a.m. on the 14th instant restored to us our original line, and brought the total of prisoners up to 52.

(g) Sniping. Was active throughout the period. Right Ede. snipers claim a number of hits.

IDENTIFICATIONS.

31 I.R., 114 I.R. Prisoners. (See Annexe).

HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Active on the Right Ede. front; comparatively quiet on Left Ede. Sector. J.21.c. was heavily shelled at 4.30 p.m. on 14th instant. Enemy aircraft observed shoots on J.23.d. and J.23.b. J.22.a. and b., J.27.b., J.17.a., b., c. and d. and J.11.c. were also lightly shelled at intervals with 10.5 cm. and 5.9 cm. and 77 mm. At 3.35 a.m. on 15th a light barrage was placed on the support line of the Right Ede. From 3.35 a.m. to 4 a.m. there was scattered shelling of the whole sector. Between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. 250 rds. 15 cm. fell on J.13.b. and d., 150 rds. 15 cm. on J.9.c. and 100 rds. 15 cm. on D.26.b. RIBEMONT, J 3.b. and D.27.c. received slight harassing fire during the night. At 8 p.m. 20 rds. Phosgene (77 mm.) fell in MARETT WOOD. During the morning of 15th instant there was scattered shelling of HEILLY and along the ANCRE Valley.

P.T.O.

APPENDIX 62

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6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

- (a) French Mortars. A T.M. fired several rounds from K.14.a.38.
- (b) Machine Guns. Increased activity was shown all along the divisional front. The whole of the front line and immediate back areas were swept almost continuously, rendering movement overland almost impossible.
- (c) Aircraft. Hostile aircraft was very active. At 2.30 a.m. bombs were dropped on J.3.c. Three triplanes, which crossed our lines, at 12.15 a.m., were driven back by our A.A. fire. At 12.35 a.m. bombs were dropped close to trench at J.17.o.7. At 12.35 a.m. and 3.45 a.m. 'planes fired on our support positions with machine guns. Several hostile balloons were observed to be up, one at a T.E of 108° from J.21.d.6.2.
- (d) Defences. Fresh French wire was noticed in front of trench K.13.b.3.7. Posts were seen at K.1.a.4.4.

8. MOVEMENT. A considerable increase in movement was noted. At 3.15 p.m. and 8 p.m. 14th instant, trains were seen shunting up and down a line in F.22.b. and d. At 4.30 p.m. what appeared to be steam tractors were seen moving along the road in K.3.l.a. and b. At 5.10 p.m. 10 mounted men rode towards MEALTE, then were seen on top of trench, and also digging in K.13.b.3.7. Individual movement was observed in E.27.c., K.1.c.2.2., K.1.a.6.2., K.4., K.7.d. Three men appeared to lay a telephone wire from trenches in K.14 and disappeared over the skyline in K.16.b. Men were seen coming and going from E.28.d.0.7., where a headquarters is suspected. A great deal of movement was seen in E.26.

Flares. A WHITE flare followed by 3 REDS, dropped by an aeroplane at 3.30 p.m., brought a light barrage on the valley in J.24.c. When our 'planes crossed enemy lines WHITE strings of flares were fired.

10. MISCELLANEOUS. Enemy searchlights were active all night. At 1 a.m. what appeared to be our Gas drifting back, necessitated the wearing of S.B.R. on the Right En. front of the Left Bde.

M. S. Denington Lieut-Colonel,
for General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

The arrival of a division from the Eastern Theatre increases the estimated number of German Inf Divisions in the Western Theatre to 207. Of these 152 have been engaged since 21st March, and 18 are of poor quality.

There are 12 fresh divisions in reserve, and, in addition, there are 25 fresh divisions in line, which have not yet been drawn into the battle.

ANNEXE TO SECOND AUST. DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 124.
=====ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE.

Prisoners from the 237 R.I.R., 199 Div.
 114 I.R., 199 Div.
 31 I.R., 18 Div.
 give the order of battle from North to South as -
 357 I.R.
 237 R.I.R.
 31 I.R.
 114 I.R.

The 31st I.R. has evidently taken over a sector of the line to strengthen the 199 Div., which is of poor quality, and of which the 237 R.I.R. in particular has had considerable losses.

The 85th and 86th Regts. of the 18th Div., are universally believed by prisoners to be in rest in a back area.

 Report on Prisoner 5th Coy., 237 R.I.R., 199 Div., captured by 6th A.I.Bde. on night 13th/14th May.

CATEGORY. - 1899.

METHOD OF CAPTURE. - Prisoner left his post to see a friend and walked into our line.

PERSONAL. - Trained near COLOGNE: joined his Regt. on 16th April.

ORDER OF BATTLE. - Not known.

DISPOSITIONS. - The 5th Coy. relieved the 8th Coy. on the 9th May.
 The 2nd Coy. was on the left: 6 and 7 Coys. in rest.

Reliefs. - Prisoner states 237 R.I.R. ^{should} be relieved ^{on} -night 14/15 inst.

COMPANY STRENGTH. - 1 Officer, 120 O.R.

MACHINE GUNS. - 3 Light machine guns per Company.

MORAL. - Poor. Prisoner was glad to be captured.

LOSSES. - Few. There had been 6 wounded and 1 gassed during their stay in the line.

MISCELLANEOUS. Tanks.

Prisoner stated he had seen 30 - 40 English tanks and 30 German tanks near VILLERS FAUCON. This information lacks confirmation and appears unlikely.

Prisoner stated they had done very little digging in the front line. There were no dug-outs.

Report on prisoners of the 31 I.R. captured by 5th A.I.Bde. during morning of 14th May, 1918.

 Prisoners state that they were brought up for attack on the night of the 13th instant, from a rest camp in a wood East of BRAY. They were told that British position astride of the BRAY - CORBIE road, which enfiladed their line, was to be taken and held, and that after consolidating, they were to be relieved on the night of the 14th instant. The position they were to take was stated to have been lost by the 107 I.R. several days before.

The attacking force, according to the prisoners, appears to have consisted of 2 Officers (2nd Lieutenants) and 200 O.R.'s, comprising the 4th Coy., 2 Sections of the 3rd Coy., and one section of the 1st Coy., and 3 or 4 light machine guns. Prisoners state that the heavy M.Gs. were to move forward when the position was reported taken, but that they did not do so.

Of the two

ANNEXE (Continued).

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Of the two Officers, one was wounded in the arm and chest, but is said to have got back. Nothing was seen of the other Officer.

CATEGORY. The greater number of the prisoners were of the 1897, 1898 and 1899 classes, and came from SLESWIE HULSTEIN, where they had also been trained.

PERSONAL. One prisoner, aged 20, stated that he had been called up on 1st February, 1918, had only joined his Company half-an-hour before the attack and was almost immediately captured.

DISPOSITIONS. 3rd Coy., 31st I.R., was stated to be on the right of the attacking Company.
6th Coy., 114 I.R. appears to have been on the Left.

INTENTIONS. Nothing was known of enemy intentions, though many stated that an immediate general attack in this sector was not contemplated, as there were no preparations indicating it.

MORAL. The moral of the prisoners appeared poor. All of them expressed a lively satisfaction that they would now be unable to take any further part in the war.

UNITS SEEN. An N.C.O. stated he had seen elements of the 75th, 76th and 89th Regts., while he was in rest behind BRAY.

GAS. All the prisoners denied having heard of any gas casualties.

COMMANDERS. G.O.C., 18th Div., Maj-Gen. V. MASSENBACH.
36th Brigade Commander, Colonel JONAS.

LOSSES. All prisoners agreed that the losses of the attacking Coy. were considerable, both in killed and wounded.

FOOD. Most of the prisoners said they did not get enough to eat.

DRAFTS. The 31 I.R. appears to have received considerable drafts in the past three weeks. These consist largely of 1899 class, with a fair percentage of returned wounded. One prisoner stated that a draft of 1000 had come from BENZBURG, in HOLSTEIN, about three weeks ago.

An N.C.O. of the 4th Coy., stated that his Coy. had shortly before received 80 reinforcements, mostly youths of 19 and 20.

MISCELLANEOUS. Light signals were stated to be:

RED = Barrage.

GREEN = Annihilating fire.

YELLOW = Lengthen Range.

Several prisoners stated they had seen English Tanks behind BRAY. Many prisoners did not know that Australians were opposite them, though others had heard rumours that this was so.

Battalion Transport was stated to be in MARICOURT.

The three prisoners of the 6th Coy., 114 I.R. 199 Div. were of poor intelligence. They stated that they had taken no part in the attack on the 14th instant.

COMPANY STRENGTH. - 1 Officer, 60 O.R.

LIGHT MACHINE GUNS. - 4 or 5.

RELIEFS. The 6th Coy. took over on the night of the 13th/14th from another battalion of their Regt., stated to be the IIIrd.

DISPOSITIONS. - Unknown, but the 31st I.R. was certainly on their right flank.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS WEEKLY SUMMARY
OF MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE
FOR THE WEEK ENDING 15th MAY, 1918.

(All items, unless expressly stated, are taken from Fourth Army Intelligence Summary).

1. COMPOSITION OF THE JAGER DIVISION.

The following information supersedes that previously given :-

(a) Commanders. BIEBERACH'S REGT. (13th). Major von BIEBERACH is away at present and Major FREDERICI of the 20th Reserve Jager Bn., is in command.

20th RESERVE JAGER BN. During the present tour in the line Capt. SCHILLING has taken Major FREDERICI'S place. Capt. SCHILLING belongs to the 8th Reserve Jager Bn.

(b) Units.

In PAPPERITZ' Regt. the 2nd Jager Bn. should be substituted for the 2nd Reserve JAGER Bn. and the 7th JAGER Bn. for the 7th Reserve JAGER Bn.

2. LOSSES.

108th Division.

A prisoner of the 97th I.R. states that our artillery fire has been particularly effective against the support Bn. and the ration carriers of his regiment. The ration parties are formed from elderly men and come up from HARBONNIERES. They suffered casualties every night and eventually refused to continue.

199th Division.

114th I.R.

A Sgt.-Major who is an officer candidate states under special examination that since March 25th his Coy. (11th) has lost 50%. Many of the troops billeted in BRAY have had to camp outside the town owing to the heavy losses caused by bombing. Many horses were also killed which could be replaced and transport difficulties were acute.

Owing to heavy losses and lack of rest the moral of the division has been considerably lowered.

3. COMMAND.

A captured order, dated 23rd April, shows that the 9th Bav. Res. Div., which was holding the sector just south of VILLERS BRETONNEUX on that date, was under the orders of the XI Corps Staff.

From this order and another order previously captured, it appears that the front from the SOMME to south of MAILLY-RAINEVAL is held by three Corps, instead of two, as previously supposed. The XIV Corps holds the front from the SOMME to VILLERS BRETONNEUX, inclusive, while the XI Corps holds from south of VILLERS BRETONNEUX to just south of the LUCE. Another Corps Staff, probably that of the XIII Corps, holds the front from south of the LUCE to south of MAILLY - RAINEVAL.

4. BOUNDARIES OF DIVISIONS HOLDING THE MORLANCOURT and SAILLY-le-SEC SECTOR.

A captured German map shows that the northern boundary of the 199th Division runs due E. and W. through E.25 central (immediately south of MORLANCOURT), and its southern boundary runs along the

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Between this grid line and the SOMME the 18th Division hold the line with one regiment only, which according to a document is under the orders of the 199th Division.

5. CATEGORIES OF PRISONERS BELONGING TO 199TH DIVISION.

Analysis of German prisoners of the 237th R.I.R., 199th Divn. captured on the 5th May, 1918.

Attention is called to the very large percentage of men belonging to the 1919 Class as shown below. This is by far the highest percentage up to date.

<u>Classes.</u>	<u>No. of Prisoners.</u>	<u>Percentage.</u>
1919	62	41.94
1918	9	7.26
1917	2	1.61
1916	5	4.04
1915	6	4.84
1914	8	4.84
1913	5	4.03
1912	2	1.61
Reservist 1905/1911.	8	6.45
Landwehr 2 Ban 1898-1901	2	1.61
Ersatz Reserve	11	8.87
Landsturm 1898-1900.	2	1.61
" 1901-1903-1905	3	2.42
" 1907-1909-1910	10	8.06
" 1911	1	0.81
Total.	124	100.00%

6. CHANGE IN ARMY BOUNDARY.

There are indications that the northern boundary of the Second German Army has been moved about 5 miles south, from BEAUFONT HAMEL to just north of ALBERT, and that the 3rd Naval Division, in line north of ALBERT, is no longer in the Second Army.

Prisoners from different units, captured recently in the ALBERT - SOMME Sector, have mentioned rumours of the arrival of a new Army on this front. As the insertion of a new Army would be a definite indication of offensive intentions on this front, it is of the utmost importance to obtain definite information on this point from prisoners and documents.

7. MOSAIC SECTIONS (REIHENBILDZUGE) AND ARMY RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS.

A prisoner confirms previous reports to the effect that one mosaic section is attached to the H.Q. of each Army, and states that in addition a few sections work directly under H.H.Q. The units are numbered in an independent series, from 1 upwards, and do not take the number of the Army to which they are attached. The fact that the 6th Mosaic Section works with the Sixth Army is a coincidence.

A section is equipped with 6 Rumpler (Maybach engine) two-seaters with cinematograph cameras.

Army long-distance reconnaissance flights (A.O.K. Abteilungen) of which there are one, or sometimes two, in each Army, are equipped with 9 machines of the same type as above; 3 of these are fitted with cinematograph cameras, and have only recently been added to the establishment of a flight.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 125.

From 3 p.m. 15th to 3 p.m. 16th May, 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Roads, tracks and trenches opposite the Divisional front were kept under harassing fire during the night, 200 rounds 4.5" How. being expended on the sunken road in K.1.b and d. At 7.45 a.m.

The Left Group carried out calibration shoots. Machine guns at K.1.c.3.7 and suspected O.P. E.27.d.8.2 were engaged. An active heavy M.W. at K.1.a.65.80 was silenced. The wind being favourable 200 rounds gas were fired into the western outskirts of VILLE-sur-ANCRE between midnight and 2 a.m. From 2.57 a.m. to 3.5 a.m. two-minute bursts of gas were directed on hostile battery area in K.21.c.7.1 and Cross Roads at K.21.b.

(b) Aircraft. Our aircraft were extremely active. Between 6 p.m. and 6.15 p.m. one of our own planes is reported by Machine Gunners and our Left Bde. to have dropped two bombs near TREUX in J.6.c. No damage was done.

(c) Machine Guns. During the night the following targets were engaged at irregular intervals :-

K.25 and 26	- Exits from VILLE-sur-ANCRE	- 2000 rounds.
K.7.b	- Valley and Road	- 1500 "
K.20.b.1.9	- Road junction	- 1500 "
K.25.b	- Valley and Road	- 2000 "

(d) Snipers. Left Bde. snipers claim two hits at K.1.c.7.5.

(e) Trench Mortars. 20 rounds were fired for ranging purposes.

(f) Patrols. Right Bde. A patrol going our from K.13.c.8.9. at 10.15 p.m. heard transport East and South of MORLANCOURT. Numerous flares were fired by the enemy, which rendered movement difficult. Two M.Gs were located by a second patrol, about 50 yds. apart, in the vicinity of K.7.d.0.4.

Left Bde. A heavy mist hindered effective observation on the part of our Left Bde. patrols. At approx. E.19.b.0.8., a bomb was thrown at one of our patrols, who also threw bombs at the enemy. At 9.50 p.m. a patrol saw 20 of the enemy leave the Sunken Road in K.1.a., and disappear near the CEMETERY.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

More quiet than during the previous 24 hours. From 2.25 to 3.55 pm J.15.b was heavily shelled with 180 rds. 15 cm. It was again lightly shelled at 5.30 p.m. J.17.c. received light shelling at intervals, including Blue Cross Gas. J.5.c., J.16.b.c and d., J.11.b and c., J.17.a.c and d., J.22.b.c and d., and J.24.c., were also lightly shelled the latter with Phosgene and Sneezing Gas. The Cross Road at J.6.b. 80.35., were fired on by 15 cm on a T.B. of 125° from J.6.a.20.35. At 5.15. a.m. 8 rds. of heavy calibre fell into J.12.a., giving off dense clouds of smoke which drifted down the valley. A few unidentified gas shells fell in J.11.a. E.19.d., received light shelling from 10.5.cm. At 10 p.m. BUINE was shelled by heavies. Areas in J.2.c., K.17.a and c., and J.25.b., received harassing fire. A few rounds of Phosgene fell in MERICOURT at 11 p.m., and throughout the night a few rounds of Phosgene were scattered over the Right Group Battery areas. During the morning the area in J.16. received some attention from 10.5. and 15 cm., also J.14.b and d., and J.17.a.2.4. A 15 cm How. fired on J.24.a. from a T.B. of 113° from J.23.d.3.3.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Trench Mortars. Were active throughout the period along the whole front. A mortar is reported at approx. K.14.a.3.7.

P.T.O.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES. (Contd).

(b) Machine Guns. Were extremely active throughout the night along the Divisional front. New locations were reported at K.7.a.4.8., K.1.c.2.3., E.25.c.30.15.

(c) Sniping. An enemy sniper was active at approx. K.7.a.4.8.

(d) Posts. A flare post was located at approx. K.7.a.4.8.

(e) Batteries. Sound bearings as follows were taken on active hostile batteries - From D.21.d.70.80., 88° T.P., 10.5. on Battery. 130° T.P. 15 cm and 10.5 cm batteries. From J.5.b.30.70., 97° T.P. 15 cm batteries.

Flashes were observed on T.Bs of 58°, 61°, 86°, 119° from K.17.a.20.40.

(f) Camouflage. 50 yds. of new camouflage, hanging on poles, has been observed at about K.21.a.7.7.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Hostile aircraft was active throughout the period. At 5.15 p.m. a 'plane, reported to be an enemy one, was brought down behind the enemy's lines. At 10 p.m. a few bombs were dropped on HEILLY.

Balloons were observed on the following T.Bs from D.22.c.55.85. - 100°, 130°, 90°

At 9 p.m. an enemy 'plane dropped a propaganda balloon on J.6.a.2.1. No papers were attached. The balloon contained a small pocket battery inside, but no bulb.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Our Left Ede. report very little movement. Individual movement was reported by our Left Ede. at K.17.central, K.4.c.5.5., K.16.c.9.5. At intervals during the day men were seen marching towards the rear in full marching order. Throughout the day men moved to and fro from what appeared to be a dugout at K.4.a.85.45. An enemy working party at K.19.b.3.4. was dispersed by our artillery. Men were seen digging and improving their line in K.19.c. Considerable traffic was noticed during the afternoon of the 15th inst. along the road in F.27.d.; it consisted of limbers, lorries, a motor car, and several mounted men.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Flares. Enemy flares were above normal.

Visibility. Was good throughout the day.

Fires. A fire was observed at approx. F.27.a.0.0. at 4 p.m.

At 10.30 p.m. brilliant lights of various colours were observed at K.1.a.65.80. It is thought that this was an enemy flare dump fired by our artillery.

H. E. Dwyer

Lieut. Colonel.

General Staff.

Second Australian Division.

GORRIE LIDA.

Ref. 2nd Aust. Div. Int. Summary No 124.

Under "MOVEMENT" para 8. fifth line. After the word MEAULTE -
for "then were seen on top of trench &c."
read "Men were seen on top of trench &c."

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Movement. Ground observers reported abnormal movement yesterday at FRICOURT, where troops were seen detraining and entraining. Troops were also seen debussing at LA BOISSELLE.

Railway movement this morning (15th) between 3.30 a.m. and 7.30 a.m. was normal on the MARCOING - ROISEL - PERONNE line, and below normal on the MARCOING - BAPAUME - ACHIET line. Rail movement was distinctly above normal in a south-easterly direction on the PERONNE - CHAULNES - NESLE line. (4th Army I.S. No 148.)

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. No. 126.

From 3 p.m. 16th to 3 p.m. 17th May, 1918.

NOTE - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Throughout the night approaches opposite the Divisional front were kept under harassing fire by 18 pdrs. 4.5" Hows. fired 350 rounds on Sunken Roads in K.1.b and d., and approaches in MORLANCOURT area. Calibrations were carried out by batteries of the Left Group. At 3.30 p.m. M.G. emplacement at K.1.a.65.80. and at 6.30 p.m. a M.G. at K.1.c.30.90. were engaged, direct hits being observed in both cases. Suspected Headquarters in K.9.c. and K.15.a. were harassed. At 7.20 p.m. enemy personnel were dispersed in K.15.b.

(b) Trench Mortars. 6" Newtons were registered on Sunken Road in CEMETERY K.1., also suspected M.G. at K.1.a.65.80. L.T.Ms fired 20 rounds on suspected M.G. positions.

(c) Machine Guns. At irregular intervals during the night fire was brought to bear on - K.8.c. central to K.14.a.1.0., valley tracks, 2000 rounds; K.14.a.5.0. to K.20.a.5.1., tracks, 2000 rounds; K.20.a.5.0. to K.26.a.0.0., tracks, 2000 rounds; E.25. and K.1., exits from VILLE-sur-ANCRE, 2000 rounds.

(d) Aircraft. Our 'planes were very active throughout the period. A considerable amount of bombing was done.

(e) Patrols. Right Bde. Two standing patrols were established. No contact was obtained, and patrols had nothing to report.

Left Bde. Patrols were active along the front, but no contact was gained. The activity of hostile M.Gs rendered patrolling difficult. A post at E.20.b.0.3. was unoccupied, except for a dead English soldier whose identifications have been forwarded.

(f) Sniping. Sniping was active along the front, a number of hits being claimed. The Left Bde. reports three definite hits.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Below normal. Chief attention was paid to back areas. HEILLY, MARETT WOOD, and MERICOURT received attention at intervals, also J.24. a and c., J.22.c and d., J.15.b., J.21., J.17.c. At 9 p.m. J.15.b. was lightly shelled with gas, and again at 1 a.m. J.22. was also lightly shelled with gas. Between 9 and 10 p.m. the valley in J.9.d. was shelled with about 50 rounds Phosgene. During the afternoon of the 16th inst. H.9., H.15. and H.17., were shelled with a few rounds from an H.V. gun.

Batteries were active from:- 173° T.B. from J.23.d.3.3.; 107° T.B. from J.23.d.3.3.; 127° from (T.B.) J.17.a.1.7.; 167°, 92°, 82°, and 100° T.B. from J.23.d.3.3.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. - Quiet.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Trench Mortars. A L.M.W. from approx. E.25.d.10.05. was active. A M.M.W. at approx. K.14.c.7.0. was also active on K.19.c. A few rifle grenades were fired during the day.

(b) Machine Guns. Were active on the Right Bde. from approx. K.19. central., K.20.b.4.5. and from positions not located from T.5a, 124° 71° and 59° from J.23.d.3.3. On the Left Bde. front hostile M.Gs swept No Man's Land at intervals during the night. M.G. posts at K.1.c.2.2., K.1.c.35.90., E.25.c.20.15., E.25.b.0.2., were again active.

(c) Snipers.

P.T.O.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES. (Contd).

(c) Snipers. Were active at dusk, but soon moderated their activity under our Lewis gun fire and sniping.

(d) Trenches and wire. New wire is visible at K.13.b.35.60. What appears to be a loopholed O.P. is situated on road at K.10.b.3.3. New work and new posts can be seen running South from K.1.c.2.2.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Active throughout the day. Low flying E.A. were engaged by N.G. fire. About 10.30.p.m. approx. 12 bombs were dropped in D.15.c., D.19.a, and c. A propaganda balloon landed in I.12.d., but contained no propaganda.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Movement of men in pairs was seen in K.14.a.8.4., K.17.central., and at approx K.13.b.35.60. Two wounded men were seen to leave MORLANCOURT and cross the ridge in K.11.b. About 100 horses were seen grazing in F.29.d. and L.5.a and b. Traffic was seen on road in F.29.c. and F.25.b and d. At 7.25.p.m. a train was observed in F.26.a. Fresh earth was seen in K.1.c.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

Visibility. Good.

Flares. Normal. At 9.30.p.m. enemy orange cluster flares were sent up in the direction of immediate left of DERNANCOURT. This brought 5 minutes artillery fire on this spot.

L. B. Bowcher Major

Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.ENEMY REAR ORGANISATIONS.

Activity. Great activity is shown at BRAY, S.E. of MORCOURT, and between MORCOURT and LAMICOURT. Activity at CAIX which had recently become noticeably less has again revived. (4th Army I.S.No 149.)

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ENEMY'S FORCES.

Reports indicate the transfer of four Divisions, probably withdrawn from the LYS battle front, to the front between the OISE and the Swiss frontier, between the 27th April and the 10th May: one Division has been withdrawn from the SOMME battle front to refit in the CHIMAY area; one Division has relieved a Division in line near REIMS, and a third division has relieved a division in LORRAINE.

The arrival of a division from the Eastern Theatre increases the estimated number of German Infantry Divisions in the Western Theatre to 208. Of these 152 have been engaged since the 21st March, and 18 are of poor quality.

There are 15 fresh divisions in reserve, and, in addition, there are 23 fresh divisions in line which have not yet been brought into the battle. (4th Army I.S.No 149.)

NEW GERMAN SHELL.

The enemy is known to have introduced new patterns of shell for the 7.7 cm field guns and for his 10.5 cm, 15 cm, and 21 cm howitzers.

According to a captured document dated 20/3/18, the field gun shell is designated K.Gr.K. = Kanonen-Granate 1916, or 1916 pattern shell.

The designations of the 10.5 cm and 15 cm howitzer shell are unknown but the 21 cm howitzer shell is referred to in a captured order of the Sixth German Army, dated 6/5/18 as 21 cm Gr.17. or 1917 pattern shell.

Specimens of these new shells are required for examination.

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. No. 127.

From 3 p.m. 17th to 3 p.m. 18th May 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. The usual harassing of enemy activity areas, roads, tracks and trenches, was maintained during the period. At request of infantry 4.5" Hows. fired on supposed barbed wire at K.1.a.10.30 to K.1.c.30.80. Registration shoots were carried out. (K.1.a.30.00. to)

(b) Trench Mortars. 6" Newtons fired 14 rounds registration on Church in VILLE-sur-ANCRE, direct hits being obtained.

(c) Machine Guns. The following targets were engaged during the period: Valley from K.8.c.5.5. to K.14.a.1.0., K.14.a.5.0. to K.20.a.5.1., Spur from K.26.a.0.0. to K.20.a.5.0., and VILLE-sur-ANCRE.

(d) Sniping. Snipers of our Right Bde. claim 5 hits, and snipers of our Left Bde. 4 hits during the 24 hours.

(e) Patrols. Patrols from both Bdes. were active and report on the quietness of the night. An enemy working party 20 strong seen wiring at K.19.c.6.5., was dispersed with Lewis gun fire and rifle grenades. A good deal of talking was heard by one of our patrols from E.19.b.0.8., after our artillery had been shelling enemy trench in this sector.

(f) Infantry. At 10.30 a.m. enemy post at K.7.c.6.9. was rushed. The garrison of post, 1 officer and 22 men, who were all asleep, were captured, together with a machine gun.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 1 Aspirant Officer and 22 o.rs. 52nd R.I.R., 107th Div. captured at K.7.c.6.9. this morning.

1. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Hostile artillery activity has been below normal during the last 24 hours. During the afternoon 15 cm fired in bursts on J.14.c and d., and throughout the day D.15.b. was subjected to intermittent 15 cm shelling - approx. 300 rounds. Between 10.30 p.m. and 11.30 p.m. area J.8. received 250 rds. 10.5. cm from a S.E. direction. At 9.30 p.m. 10 gas shells (lachrymatory) fell in BUIRE. At 2.40 a.m. 8/ 10.5.cm gas shells fell in J.22.b.

3. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Trench Mortars. Front line in K.19.c., and J.24.b. was fired on with pineapple bombs at 6 p.m. and 12 midnight. A mortar at approx. K.20.b.2.9. fired on front line in K.13.a. A L.M.W. usually active at dawn and at dusk has been located at E.25.d.5.4.

(b) Machine Guns. Enemy M.Gs were located firing from K.19.central., K.20.b.4.5., K.7.d.25.38., E.19.b.4.9., K.1.c.2.3., K.1.c.35.90., K.1.c.2.5., and K.1.c.4.2.

(c) Sniping. Right Bde. reports a considerable increase in enemy sniping activity.

(c) Works. Between K.13.b.25.80. and K.7.d.2.2. a lot of freshly dug earth is visible. Protruding from newly dug trench at K.13.b.35.60. is a square sheet of iron. 2 men were seen digging here at dawn. New posts south of the bank in K.1.c. are plainly visible at K.1.c. 5.0. and 8.0.

4. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Enemy aircraft were active throughout the day over our forward areas. During the night bombs were dropped in QUERIEU and BUIRE.

P.T.O

APPENDIX 62

MOVEMENT.

Throughout the day men were seen coming over sky line in E.28.a. Movement was noticed at K.3.b., K.4.a., K.5.a., and in trench at K.3.b.6.5. 6 men were seen digging in K.16.a. Between 4 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. 20 limbers and 4 cars were observed on the MARICOURT-BRAY Road in F.29.c. Dust caused by motor traffic near MARICOURT was noticeable nearly all the afternoon. At 5.30 p.m. smoke was observed from train moving up and down line in F.28.a.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

What appeared to be a dump at K.13.b.3.7. was set alight. Flares. On our Left Bde. front no flares were sent up till 2 a.m. when they became normal again. GOLDEN CLUSTERS were fired at 10 p.m., upon which enemy artillery, which was then firing short, ceased.

J. H. ... Capt
Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.

Second Australian Division.

A N N E X E .

Report on 1 Aspirant Officer and 22 other ranks, 11th Coy. 52nd R.I.R. 107th Div. captured at K.7.c.6.9. at 10.50 am. 18th May 1918.

Prisoners formed the garrison of a post, and, with the exception of one sentry, were all asleep. Our men approached the post unobserved and captured the whole garrison without a shot being fired.

The 52nd R.I.R. came into the line on night 16/17th May. Previous to coming into the line here they had been in rest at CAMBRAI, expecting to be sent either to FLANDERS or to ITALY.

Order of Battle. 3rd Bn. 52nd R.I.R. N to S. 12th Coy. 9th Coy. 11th Coy. 10th Coy.

11th Coy. is only 50 strong, and their orders were to hold the line defensively and not to stir up trouble for themselves.

There is general talk among the prisoners of the coming German offensive which is expected to commence in a few days time,

Moral of the 52nd R.I.R. is very poor.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. No. 128.

From 3 p.m. 18th to 3 p.m. 19th May, 1918.
-----NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Infantry. At 2 a.m. the Left Bn. of the Right Bde., and the Left Bde., advanced their line with the object of capturing VILLE-sur-ANGRE. The attack was entirely successful and our line now runs as follows : - K.13.a.6.3., K.13.b.1.7., K.7.d.20.15., K.7.d.1.5., K.7.b.2.2., K.7.b.1.3., K.7.b.1.5., K.7.b.3.6., K.7.b.1.7., K.7.b.2.8., K.1.d.6.5., K.1.d.5.8., K.1.d.6.9., K.1.b.3.4., K.1.a.9.9., along edge of village to E.25.d.7.5. North of village - E.25.c.6.9., thence E.25.a.3.2., E.25.b.1.3., E.25.b.4.4., E.25.b.7.5., E.25.b.9.5., E.25.b.3.9., E.19.d.8.1., thence along original line.

The attack was made under a barrage from artillery covering Divisional front, assisted by artillery of Div. on our left. Heavy artillery engaged selected targets and hostile batteries. Medium Trench Mortars also co-operated. Vickers machine guns were employed on barrage work, and six guns moved forward with attacking infantry.

The mopping up of VILLE-sur-ANGRE was commenced at 4.15 a.m. and village was cleared of enemy by 7.15 a.m.

Captures so far counted amount to : - Prisoners, 9 officers and 315 other ranks; machine guns 20 (possibly 28); Minenwerfers 2. Our casualties were not unduly heavy.

No enemy counter-attacks have so far been made, any likely concentrations of hostile infantry being promptly engaged by the artillery.

(b) Artillery. The usual harassing of enemy forward and rear defences, roads, tracks, and activity areas, was carried out during the day. At intervals hostile M.W. at E.25.d.40.50. was fired on by our 18 pdrs.

(c) Trench Mortars. Fired on selected targets during operation, otherwise quiet during period.

(d) Machine Guns. At irregular intervals during the night 2,000 rounds were fired along valley from road junction in K.8.c. to K.14.a.1.0., 2,000 rounds from K.14.a.5.0. to K.20.a.5.1., and 2000 rounds along spur from K.26.a.0.0. to K.20.a.5.0.

(e) Sniping. Our snipers took up selected positions after objectives of this morning's operation had been reached.

(f) Aircraft. Our 'planes acted as contact and counter-attack patrols from daylight until 8.30 a.m. Flares were called for and the position of forward infantry established, messages and maps being dropped by 'planes at D.H.Q.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS.

The following identifications were obtained from prisoners captured in operation : - 52nd R.I.R., 107th Div.; 184th I.R., 183rd Div.; 213th F.A.R.; 199th Medium M.W.Coy.; 107th Medium M.W.Coy.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Hostile artillery activity was normal during period prior to operation, and during operation enemy fire was not particularly heavy. Between 9 p.m. and 11 p.m., 100 rds. of 15 cm. fell in D.15.central, and at 11.30 p.m. 20 rds. of 15 cm and 10.5 cm. H.E. and gas were fired on D.9.c and d. At 9.50 p.m. area J.10. was shelled with 100 rds. of 4.2" H.E. From midnight to 2 a.m. area D.22.a & c. received 170 rds. 15 cm and 10.5 cm H.E. and gas. RIBEMONT and J.2.b. were lightly shelled before 2 a.m.

P.T.O.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. (Contd).

J.10. and J.16. were shelled with 120 rds. 77 mm gas about 1 a.m. On the opening of our bombardment at 2 a.m. the enemy placed a light barrage along the BRESLE Valley.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. - Quiet prior to the operation.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Trench Mortars. Unlocated mortar fired 8 bombs on Left En. sector of Right Bde.

(b) Machine Guns. During night enemy M.Gs at K.19.central., K.13. D. 20.15., and K.20.b.4.5., were active on our front line and communication trenches, also roads and tracks. After operation guns on hill East of VILLE-sur-ANCRE continued firing on our men consolidating in front of village.

(c) Work5. A trench sytem 200 yards long can be seen running from K.4.a.1.2., to K.4.a.5.1. What appears to be a continuous trench runs from Railway at K.3.b.8.4., to Road at K.9.b.3.9., thence to K.9.b.2.2.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Enemy planes were active over our Right Bde. forward area during day. From 2 am to 4.30 a.m. bombs were dropped in vicinity of our battery positions, and near QUERRIEU.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. (at dawn)

An enemy working party seen at K.19.b.2.3. was dispersed by M.G. fire, and two of enemy are believed to have been killed. Two men were seen to repair telephone wire at K.3.b.7.3. Movement was noticed IN trench at K.3.b.5.5., and at points in K.11. Observers reported large numbers of enemy moving along each side of road in K.10.c. at 6.10 a.m., and also along road in E.26.d. These parties were disperse by our artillery fire.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

Camouflage has been erected along BRAY-CORBIE Road at K.20.b.3.9. Enemy shelling set a stack of straw alight at the SUGAR FACTORY at D.27.b., which burned for a considerable time.

GOLDEN CLUSTERS fired early in night by enemy were not followed by any apparent enemy action. At 2 a.m. a RED flare was followed by enemy artillery fire.

Visibility - Poor.

A. P. Bourche Major
for

Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. (ARMY I.S. No 151)

AIRCRAFT. There were 48 combats in the air. 12 enemy machines were brought down out of control, 9 of which were destroyed. One of our machines is missing.

Bombs were dropped on CHAULNES JUNCTION, CAPPY, BRAY, ROSIERES, MARICOURT, HARBONNIERES, and GUILLAUCOURT. A large fire was observed at CHAULNES, and large explosions at MARICOURT and GUILLAUCOURT.

ENEMY REAR ORGANISATIONS.

Railways. The enemy is continuing his railway construction S.E. of ROSIERES, and is adding sidings to the new railway already reported. (Air photo 48.V.4383). The railway running S.W. from ROSIERES Station has also been continued.

(Continued).

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INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES (Contd).ENEMY DEFENCES.

Photographs of 15th and 16th show that the enemy is making a new line by joining up chains of rifle-pits south-west of MORLANCOURT. There is now a continuous front line from K.7.c.9.4. to K.13.d.1.5., and a support line from K.13.b.6.8. to K.13.d.6.5. (photo A.3.AEA.356). Part of a new C.T. towards this line is visible in K.14.d. (photo A.3.AEA.369).

ENEMY'S INTENTIONS.

An Officer-Pilot belonging to the RICHTHOFEN Squadron, occupying an aerodrome near PERONNE (probably CAPPY) states his Flight leaves the SOMME area to-day (18th) for the MONTDIDIER area. He believes that a feint attack will take place near MONTDIDIER, possibly about the 25th inst. This attack will immediately precede a big attack which will be launched from ALBERT northwards and will be pushed in the direction of ARRAS. His Squadron expects to return to the ALBERT area as soon as the feint attack at MONTDIDIER is well launched.

It is considered that this officer is speaking the truth as far as he knows it.

Sketch showing the front line before, and after, the operation of this morning, is issued herewith.



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. No. 129.

From 3 p.m. 19th to 3 p.m. 20th May 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. A great deal of enemy movement in E.27., K.2., K.3., and K.9., noticed during the day was effectively dealt with by 18 pdrs. and 4.5" Hows., and much movement being observed on roads leading to MORLANCOURT concentrations were placed on the village at 8.45 p.m., 9.45 p.m. and 12 midnight. Heavy artillery co-operated in these shoots. 4.5" Hows. obtained direct hits on dugouts at E.27.c.5.5. At 11.15 p.m. and 2.15 a.m. Counter Preparation Phase 1.B. was put down on Zones C and D, fire continuing for half an hour each time. An additional 100 rounds 18 pdr. harassing fire were expended on banks in E.27.c., and K.2.a.& c.

(b) Machine Guns. Targets in K.8.c., K.14.c., K.20.a., K.20. and K.26.c & d. were engaged.

(c) Patrols. Liason patrols maintained touch along the Div. front and with the flanks throughout the night. No enemy patrols or posts were encountered.

(d) Sniping. Right Bde. snipers claim 9 hits. Left Bde. snipers fired 348 rounds and claim 42 definite hits. While moving into forward positions on morning of 19th inst. the Left Bde. snipers mopped up an enemy post, capturing the garrison and a machine gun.

(e) Prisoners. The total number of prisoners captured as a result of operations on the 19th inst. is: -

8 Officers. 251 other ranks unwounded.

1 Officer. 71 do wounded.

9 Officers. 322 Other ranks.

(f) Material Captured.

Right Bde. 10 machine guns. 1 Lewis gun.

Left Bde. 30 do 2 minenwerfer.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

10.5 cm batteries in the MEAULTE area fired intermittently during the afternoon and night on J.3.c & d., also D.27.d. Between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m., 15 cm fired 55 rounds on D.29. and J.5. 10.5. cm and 15 cm batteries in the vicinity of the valley in Q.13.c. enfiladed J.10.b. and J.4.d. During the early morning J.6.c & d. were harassed by 10.5 cm and 15 cm at irregular intervals and at times the fire was heavy. In response to our bombardment the enemy put down a fairly heavy barrage on a line in rear of CATERPILLAR-K.1.c.& d. with 10.5 and 15 cm., also a little 77 mm. This was kept up for 20 minutes. Areas J.17.c & d., and J.23. were also heavily shelled with 15 cm at 4 p.m. and at 6 p.m.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Machine Guns. Hostile M.Gs were quiet during the day, and only moderately active at night. An active M.G. was located at K.20.b.4.5.

(b) Works. Enemy has established a line of posts from K.2.a.2.7. to E.26.c.5.5.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

E.A. were active over our new positions throughout the day.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Track at K.9.c.8.4., is used continuously by the enemy. At 6 p.m. a party of 30 men, in single file, came down railway to K.3.b.0.5., where they disappeared.

P.T.O.

-2-

MOVEMENT & C (Contd.)

At 7.30 p.m. 10 men came down line in K.3.b. and disappeared at K.3.b.0.5. Movement was also observed in E.26.d., E.27.a.c & d., K.3., and K.9.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Enemy Patrol. At 2 a.m. one of the enemy crawled up and threw several bombs into our post at K.19.c.60.95. He succeeded in getting back to his own lines again though our snipers claim to have wounded him.

Flares. Single RED, and double GREENS brought light artillery fire on to support lines of our Right Bde. GOLDEN CLUSTERS fired from positions N and S of MORLANCOURT brought no apparent enemy action.

[Signature]
Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. (4th Army I.S. No.153)ENEMY INTENTIONS.

From the examination of the large number of officers, N.C.Os and men captured yesterday, it is apparent that little is known of the enemy's real intentions. Statements were generally contradictory, but prisoners were practically unanimous in the belief that a big offensive was to take place very shortly. The date of the attack varied from almost at once to the end of the month. A considerable number of prisoners belonging to the 183rd and 107th Divs. believed that the main attack would be made astride the SOMME, but it is considered that the enemy has purposely spread this rumour among the troops.

The most reliable evidence obtained points to the main attack taking place further north, and one officer seemed fairly confident that it would be made against both sides of the VIMY RIDGE, on the 25th.

Rumours that MACKENSEN'S Army is in the CAMBRAI Area are rife, and that this Army is to make the big attack, and will pass through the divisions now holding the line. It is also rumoured that Von MACKENSEN'S Staff is to relieve the 2nd Army Staff.

The usual reports are current that much yellow gas is to be used, while it is interesting to note that a prisoner captured by the 3rd Army yesterday, E of COLINCAMPS, states that his Div. is to attack, and that a large amount of cavalry is to be used, thus strengthening similar statements made by officer pilots of the Flying Corps captured by ourselves and the French.

Prisoners state that much gas shell has been brought up, and is now scattered over the country in little heaps, (this is confirmed by air photos), while a big gas shell depot has been formed in AVELUY.

To sum up, it is apparent that the big offensive will not be long delayed. Sufficient data has not yet been obtained to give the precise date, and in this respect it is considered that the statement made in yesterday's Summary that the attack would commence on the 21st inst. was probably premature. It should be noted that the moon is full on the 25th inst. The flanks of the main attack cannot yet be given, but would appear to be between ALBERT and ARRAS, with feint attacks astride the SOMME and S of the LUCE, possibly reaching as far as RHEIMS.

NEXT follows (page 3)

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ANNEXE to 2nd AUST. DIV. I.S. No. 129.

Information supplied by Prisoners and Documents captured during the operations on 19th and 20th May, 1918.

PRISONERS.

The total of prisoners captured on the 20th inst. now amounts to 9 officers and 322 other ranks.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

The 199th Div. has been relieved by the 107th Div. and a portion of 183rd Div. (184 I.R.). The Order of Battle from N of the River ANCRE to the SOMME is apparently - 247th I.R. (54th Res. Div.); 184th I.R. (183rd Div.); 52nd I.R. (107th Div.); ? 227th I.R. ? 232 I.R. presence in the line uncertain.

The 418th (Saxon) I.R. and 440th R.I.R. are apparently well back in Reserve.

IDENTIFICATIONS.

As a result of the operations of the 20th inst. the following identifications were established. -

184th I.R., 183rd Div.; 52nd R.I.R., 107th Div.; 213th F.A.R.; 199th Medium M.W. Coy.; 107th Medium M.W. Coy.

CATEGORIES.

A large proportion of the prisoners were youths of the 1896 to 1899 classes.

RELIEFS.

The 107th Div. came from RUSSIA in November 1917, and suffered heavy losses in prisoners at CAMBRAI in April 1918. This Div. was in line near AVELUY WOOD and was withdrawn into rest at the beginning of May, moving into line again on the 16/17th inst.

The 183rd Div. was previously North of the 54th Res. Div., but was withdrawn a few days ago, and the 184th I.R. apparently relieved the 357th I.R. (199th Div.) on the 16/17th inst.

The 199th Div. Medium M.W. Coy. was to be relieved by the 107th Medium M.W. Coy. on the night 18/19th inst. Both were surprised by the attack before the relief had been completed.

DISPOSITIONS.

The 52nd I.R. on the morning of the 19th inst. had four Coys. 3rd Bn, and one Coy. 2nd Bn., in line. The other three Coys of 2nd Bn. were in MORLANCOURT, while the 1st Bn. was in the Wood in K. 18.b.

The 184th I.R. had the 2nd Bn. in line in front of VILLE-sur-ANCRE; One Coy. and one M.G. Coy. in the village; three Coys. on the heights further back; and the 3rd Bn. in BRAY.

ENEMY INTENTIONS.

All prisoners speak of an offensive against AMIENS commencing very shortly.

LOSSES.

All prisoners agree that the casualties suffered from our barrage, which they speak of as appalling, being very heavy.

MORAL.

All the men captured appeared to be of very poor moral. Officers and N.C.Os spoke contemptuously of the poor quality of the men under their command. One N.C.O. stated that two nights previously, on hearing some Australians approaching, the whole of his Light M.G. crew ran away leaving him alone.

STRENGTHS.

Both the 184th I.R. and the 52nd R.I.R. were very weak, no Coys. apparently having a greater fighting strength than 2 officers and 60 other ranks, with 3 or 4 L.M.Gs.

P.T.O.

HEADQUARTERS.

A Battalion H.Q. was situated in VILLE-sur-ANCRE prior to the attack. The Officers escaped, but the Signal section was captured. A captured order shows the 2nd line transport and Orderly Rooms at SUZANNE. Prisoners state that the 418th I.R. and the 440th R.I.R. are also situated there.

MISCELLANEOUS.

All the prisoners stated that they had been warned on the night 18th that an attack was to be expected. Captured orders show that the enemy expected an attack by us opposite ALBERT, of which a captured officer stated that he thought the attack on VILLE-sur-ANCRE was only a small part. Increased vigilance, reinforcement of forward Coys., the pushing forward of Reserves, and bringing up of further supplies of S.A.A. were also ordered. In spite of these precautions, the resistance of the enemy was poor. Prisoners explain this by saying that our barrage was so intense that action of any sort was impossible.

The following is an extract from a captured order of the 184th I.R. relating to the relief of the 357th I.R. (199th Div.) which took place on the 16/17th inst. -

RELIEF ORDER.

The Regiment will begin the relief of the 357th I.R. on the night 16/17th inst. The following dispositions are ordered. -

- I Bn. as fighting Bn. in the front line.
- II Bn. as support Bn.
- III Bn. as Rest Bn.

The II Bn 184th I.R. will relieve the Reserve Bn. of the 357th I.R. on the night 17/18th inst. and the front line Bn. on the night 18/19th inst.

2nd Aust. D.H.Q.
20/5/18.
I.S.No. 129.

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 130.

From 3 p.m. 20th to 3 p.m. 21st May 1918.

NOTE - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. At 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. Counter-Preparation Phase 1.B. was carried out on Zones C and D, fire continuing in the first shoot for half an hour, and in the second for one hour. During the night 18 pdrs. and 4.5" Hows. kept the following areas under harassing fire. Banks and Roads in E.27.c., K.3., K.2.c., and Tracks in E.20., K.3.c., K.8.a.p & d, and trench in K.2.b. A party of a few men in K.4.a. was engaged and dispersed.

(b) French Mortars. Were inactive.

(c) Machine Guns. During the night 3,000 rds. were fired at irregular intervals on K.8.c. and K.14.a., and 1500 rds. on K.14.c., and K.20.a. M.Gs and Lewis guns were active against E.A. during the day.

(d) Aircraft. Our 'planes were extremely active throughout the period. Many bombs were dropped. At 6 p.m. one of our machines made a forced landing behind MORLANCOURT.

(e) Patrols. Right Bde. A patrol which went out from K.13.a.95.70. at 10.50 p.m. located an enemy party, about 200 strong, digging approx. along the line K.7.d.5.2. - K.13.b.6.8. The patrol engaged the enemy with L.G.fire, whereupon cries were heard and the party were seen to scatter. On returning to their post the patrol opened fire on this spot with Lewis guns and No.36 rifle grenades.

A second patrol went out from K.7.d.0.8. and heard the enemy working at K.8.a.25.70. Lewis gun fire was brought to bear on this point.

A third patrol reconnoitred the enemy advanced post at K.19.c.80.95. and found it wired and part of a strongly held system.

Left Bde. Only protective and liason patrols were posted during the night.

(f) Sniping. Our snipers were active throughout the day.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. - Nil.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Normal. RIBEMONT and BUIRE received attention during the night. 50 rds. 15 cm fell in J.4 & 5. during the early morning, and 100 rds. 77 mm on our front systems K.1. 77 mm and 10.5 cm also fired on J.14.c. and J.3.b. D.28. received attention during the night. 100 rds. 10.5 cm H.E. fell between BUIRE and MARETE WOOD during the night. During the morning J.22., J.23. and J.24., were persistently shelled by 10.5 and 15 cm at a slow rate. J.17.a. also received some attention. LAHOUSOYE was shelled by a 15 cm gun.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet. General activity below normal.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) French Mortars. A L.T.M. was active at K.19.c.8.3.

(b) Machine Guns. Activity below normal. Guns at K.19.c.80.95. and K.19.central were active during the night. M.Gs are reported at K.7.d.30.55., K.13.b.30.10. and K.8.a.30.45.

(c) Works. No further new works are reported.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Active through the period. E.A. were forced to maintain a high altitude over our line owing to A.A.fire. During the night bombs were dropped in the neighbourhood of QUERRIEU. At 4 am. an E.A. flew over our lines firing tracer bullets; a Lewis gun opened on it whereupon the engine stopped and the 'plane was seen to volplane down and disappear behind the enemy lines.

P.T.O.

a. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

At 4 p.m. 10 men moving about in the crops near K.7.d.5.0. were engaged by Lewis guns. From 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. continuous movement was noticed in the trench at E.23.d.1.2. At 6.30 p.m. 10 men left the trench in K.4.b. and walked across to the derelict 'plane, returning to the trench in five minutes. A lot of talking was heard in this trench; it ceased however when our artillery opened fire. Slight movement was noticed during the day on the railway line in K.4.d., and also on the road in K.4.a.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

Enemy night flying 'planes going to our back areas dropped red flares.

Visibility. - Good at close ranges, poor at long distances owing to mist. Ground.

The total number of prisoners captured during the operations of the 19th inst. now amount to - 9 officers, 323 other ranks., with 41 machine guns and 1 minenwerfer.

M. S. Dunnington
Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

ANNEXE follows.

ANNEXE to 2nd AUST. DIV. INT. SUMMARY No. 130.

21-5-18.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. - (Corps I.S. No 137 of 20/5/18.)ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

(a) Posts. The enemy has established a line of posts from K.2.a. 2.7, to E.26.c.5.5.

(b) Work. The enemy is working by day on his trenches in P.4.d. and P.10.b.

ARTILLERY. - 213th F.A.R.

The 213th F.A.R., 107th Div. has at least two batteries in the line at present. The 2nd battery is 100 metres N of the BRAY-CORBIE road on the western edge of the wood in K.17. Three 77 mm guns are in position here, the fourth is advanced to some point unknown for anti-tank work. Two guns fire in one direction, the other in another. The wagon lines and light ammunition columns are in a wood on the eastern side of the MARICOURT - SUZANNE road. Batteries have two independent reliefs, which do four days with the guns alternately, such a relief will take place in the 2nd battery tonight.

The battery has about 1,000 rounds at the gun positions, but very little gas shell. The ammunition is stored in holes in the wood in K.17. and is brought up at irregular intervals by the limbers or light ammunition column wagons -- lorries never come up to battery positions.

The battery is for barrage purposes only and has only fired 2 rounds since it came in. Apparently it is the policy in cases where there are no emplacements or the battery position is under observation, for one gun to be taken forward for registration, while the battery remains silent and the position is thus not disclosed.

ORGANISATION.

(a) Rations. The cooks of the 8th Coy., 184th I.R. are stationed beside the Church at SUZANNE. One group from the Coy. went daily to meet the cooks at some point N of ALBERT, probably in L.8., returning to the front line about midnight. (P.S.)

(b) The 357th I.R. probably took over the billets of the 184th I.R. in SUZANNE after relief, an advance party for the former Regiment having been seen by prisoners. (P.S.)

(c) Light Signals. On the night 18/19th May: Red - barrage; Green = Annihilating Fire; Yellow - Lengthen range. (not used) A white light breaking into stars, repeated back to artillery, was used in March for "Cease Fire". Similarly a yellow rocket was used as a "Tank" alarm. (P.S.)

DRAFTS & CLASSES.

Translation of a letter written to a private of the 184th I.R., 6th Coy. born 1899 from BARLEBEN in the Province of SAXONY.

"Again many men from BARLEBEN have lost their lives. The men born in 1900 have already received orders, here as well as in HENDAL. Have just heard that the men fit for garrison duty of the 1920 class are to leave BARLEBEN on the 11th inst., but the men fit for general service have not received any orders." (Dated 7/5/18)

MISCELLANEOUS.

Prisoner of 213th F.A.R. states that there are no large dumps of gas shell in this neighbourhood. Gas shell would be brought up just before the offensive began, and is not kept in any quantity beforehand.

The German artillery began shelling their own trenches in the MORLANCOURT sector with gas on the night May 18/19th. (P.S.)

Every battery has two machine guns for anti-aircraft work, one remains with the guns, the other with the wagon lines. (P.S.)

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APPENDIX. 63



SECRET.

21st AUSTRALIAN BATTALION SPECIAL ORDER.

COPY No. A

APPENDIX No. 63.

Ref. Map Sheet - 62D.1/40,000.

24th May 1918

1. In the event of a successful attack by the enemy North of ABBERT the Battalion may have to take up a position forming a defensive flank facing North East.
2. On the order to move, Companies will take up the following positions independently.-

"D"Company.	Right.	Posts between D.23.a.8.2. & D.16.d.3.5.
"A"Company.	Centre.	Posts between D.16.a.9.2. & D.9.d.1.6.
"B"Company.	Left.	Posts between D.9.a.6.4. & D.1.b.5.1.
"C"Company.	will be in Supports in dugouts at QUARRY in D.21.c.	
Bn Hqrs.	will also be in QUARRY in D.21.c.	
3. Dress.- Fighting Order, without Blankets. 220 Rounds S.A.A., & 2 Bombs.
4. Each Company will draw a Bicycle before moving off. 2 Cyclist Orderlies will be kept at Bn Hqrs. Sig. Officer to arrange.
5. When in position Companies will immediately report to Bn Hqrs, giving Map Reference of Company Headquarters.
6. Regimental Aid Post at Bn Hqrs.

A C K N O W L E D G E.

- Copies to.-
- 1/2 War Diary.
 3. File.
 - 4/7 Companies.
 8. Hqrs.
 9. Brigade.
 10. Q.M. & T.O.
 11. C.O.

Issued by Runner at p.m. 24.5.18.

(Signed.) J.L. WATT,
Lieutenant and Adjutant,
21st Battalion A.I.F.

SECRET.

Appendix No.64.

COPY No. 2

21st AUSTRALIAN BATTALION MOVE ORDER No.146.

Ref. Map Sheets 62D.1/40,000. 62D.N.E.1/20,000.

31st May 1918.

1. The 21st Battalion will relieve the 25th Aust. Battalion in the Right Brigade Sub-Sector on the night of 31st May / 1st June.
2. The Dispositions will be.-
 Line Right. "D" Company.
 Line Left. "C" Company.
 Support. "A" Company.
 Reserve. "B" Company.
3. Arrangements for guides will be notified later.
4. Order of March - Hqrs, "D", "C", "A", & "B" Companies.
5. Move off from Starting Point - FRANVILLERS CROSS ROADS - at 8.30 p.m. 31.5.18.
6. Dress - Fighting Order, without Blankets. 220 Rounds S.A.A. & 2 Bombs per man.
7. A Limber will accompany each Company as far as the tank at J.6.a.7.4. for conveyance of L.G.'s & Sig. Gear.
8. Cookers will be in Bank - D.27.a.3.4. Ration arrangements as per last time in the line.
9. Bn Hqrs at - J.11.a.5.9. R.A.P. at - J.5.d.8.5.
10. Completion of relief will be wired by priority to Bn Hqrs by using Company Commanders' Names.
11. Signalling Officer will make all arrangements reference Bicycles.
12. Transport Officer will arrange for all packs and shovels above the Battalion echelon to be returned to the Brigade Transport Officer.
13. Packs and Valises will be dumped at Company Headquarters at once.
14. Blankets will not be taken forward. They will be dumped with packs under Company arrangements. (Rolled and marked as usual).

Distribution.-

Issued by Runner at 12.15 a.m. 31.5.18. (Signed.) J.L. WATT,

Copies to.-

1. File.
- 2/3. War Diary.
- 4/7. Companies.
8. Q.M.
9. T.O.
10. C.O.
11. Hqrs.

Lieutenant and Adjutant,
 21st Battalion A.I.F.



Appendix No.64a.

A U S T R A L I A N I M P E R I A L F O R C E .
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SECRET.

21st Battalion Hqrs,
30th May 1918.

The O.C.,
" "Company.

It is possible that the 6th Brigade will go into the line to relieve the 7th Brigade tomorrow night. *the 7th Bn will be right Bn.*

If this relief takes place dispositions will be as follows..

- Line Right "D"Coy.
- Left "C"Coy.
- Support "A"Coy.
- Reserve "B"Coy.

During the tour in the line Major A.E.Reed will be in command. Should the proposed relief take place it is probable that your Infantry Tasks for morning of 31st inst.will be cancelled. You will receive further instructions later.

(Signed.) J.L.WATT,
Lieutenant and Adjutant,
21st Battalion A.I.F.

Copies to.-

- 1 File. 9.T.O.
- 2/3 War Diary. 10.Q.M.
- 4/7 Coys. 11.C.O.
- 8 Hqrs 12.Second in Command.

Operation Order No 49

Map Reference Sheet 62, IVF 1/20000

Copy No. 6
Date 31.5.18

1. The 6th A.I. B'ade will relieve the 7th A.I. B'ade on night May 31st/June 1st 1918.
On Relief the 7th A.I. B'ade will move into Reserve B'ade Area
2. Aeroplane photographs, trench maps, defence schemes, works policy, information regarding the front, trench stores, will be handed over to incoming unit. Copies of receipts given and taken will be forwarded in duplicate to Br. H.Q. by noon June 1st
3. Guides at the rate of one per post from B. & C. Coys. and one per platoon from B and D Coys will be detailed to report at J 5 d. 6.9. (Cross Roads) at 10pm. O.C. A Coy will detail Lieut. NORTON SMITH to take charge of all guides and see they meet their respective parties.
4. Completion of Relief will be wired to Br. H.Q. by B.P. Beale
5. The 25th B. who relieved will move to former position when Brigade was in Reserve area at J. 13. C. 4. 9
6. Transport lines & L.M. stores will remain at their present location. T.O. will arrange to have Cookers moved to new area by 9pm
7. Guides will meet Coys on MERICOURT - BONNAY Road at J. 13. C. 7. 6 and take them to their respective positions. Lieut. Templeman will take charge of this party
8. Each man must carry out 100 rounds S.A.A. in bandoliers and 2 bombs. This is in addition to his 120 rds. in pouches
9. Usual listening posts and standing patrols will be posted and well formed covering party during relief
10. Br. H.Q. will move on relief to J 13. C. 4. 9.

11. Acknowledge.

Issued at 8pm by runner

- Distribution
- Copy No. 1. A. Coy.
 - No. 2. B. "
 - No. 3. C. "
 - No. 4. D. "
 - No. 5. 7th A.I. B'ade
 - No. 6. 25th A.I. Bn
 - No. 7. Staff Mess

Robert Hunt
Adjutant 25th A.I. Bn

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A U S T R A L I A N I M P E R I A L F O R C E.
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21st Battalion Hqrs,
31st May 1918.

COMMANDING OFFICER'S REPORT FOR MONTH OF MAY 1918.

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Early in the month the Battalion moved to QUERRIEU there to have a few days to recuperate after the strenuous month of April. The rest was thoroughly enjoyed and bathing and fresh underwear were greatly appreciated by the men.

Ribbands for rewards gained during the previous month were presented by the Corps Commander, and the third anniversary of the Battalion leaving the home land was celebrated on 8th May.

The troops under my command were in good fettle after the week's spell, and moved forward on 9th inst.

As the weather was fairly good and enemy activity quiet the men were in the best of condition for the attack on 19th May.

The attack was successful and casualties light, which facts are gratifying to all concerned.

Reinforcements received during the month are of a good stamp although training in the use of the Lewis Gun and Small Box Respirator still requires more attention at the Base and Training Camps. Amongst these reinforcements are a few from the "Sportsmans' Thousand", and a number of intended bandsmen who will be a distinct acquisition.

Absentees. A number of men were guilty of the crime of absence without leave during the month and were punished by Field General Court Martial. As the sentences were severe (viz- 60 Days F.P.No.2. to 15 Years Penal Servitude., but not too much so judging the relative merits of each case), there is every chance of the Unit getting rid of these old offenders who cause so much trouble in an Infantry Battalion.

Swimming. This pastime has been indulged in on warm days with success.

Canteen. Although stores are difficult to obtain, the canteen has been able to maintain a fair supply of necessaries for the troops.

Promotions and Appointments. These have been numerous for the month and the new Non-Commissioned Officers are already doing great work.

Health. The health of the troops is good, although a number have been exempt duty through inoculation. Sick evacuations have been below the average which is accounted for by the clement weather.

Recommendations. A number of Officers and Other Ranks have been brought before my notice for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during the month, which is very gratifying and gives me every confidence in the Officers and men under my command.

B Duggan
Lieut.-Colonel,
Commanding 21st Battalion A.I.F.

Appendix No. 66.

A U S T R A L I A N I M P E R I A L F O R C E .

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21st Battalion Hqrs,
1st June 1918.

QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT FOR MONTH OF MAY 1918.

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1st May. The Battalion moved out of the Lavieville sector on the night of the 1st, and marched to WARLOY, arriving there at 3 a.m. A hot meal was awaiting their arrival, the Cookers having been moved from their previous positions beforehand. The Y.M.C.A., who had a canteen established at HENENCOURT CHATEAU, also provided the troops with hot cocoa and milk (gratis) on the road out.

End May. During the morning the R.Q.M. Store moved from Billets at MONTIGNY to QUERRIEU and everything was prepared for the issue of rations by the time the Bn had taken over their new billets.

3rd to 7th May. During this period the Companies were closely inspected. Shortages of kit were taken and necessary indents to replace same were furnished to D.A.D.O.S. The Packs were collected from the Kit Store at VAUX and distributed to the Companies. Packs of casualties were dealt with in accordance with A.I.F. Orders 156 & 967. Clothing which had been indented for and received in anticipation was issued. All partly worn out clothing was put in good order by the Battalion Tailor. The Bootmaker Sgt and his assistants were also kept very busy attending to the repair, and re-issue of footwear.

8th May. Being the anniversary of the day the Bn left Australia three years ago, rations were heavily supplemented from Battalion Funds, and every possible effort was made to give the men a good time in commemoration of the event. Owing to the shortage of supplies this, however, was not as successful, as it would have been under normal conditions.

A certain emulation and commendable rivalry was stirred between Coy Cooks during this period of rest. Inter-Company contests were held, and the appearance of the various cookers much improved. After 30 days in the open subject to inclement weather, they were now thoroughly renovated and freshly painted, and looked as good as new, despite their two years service in France.

9th May. On the Bn moving to RIBEMONT, a hot meal was served in the gully North of FRANVILLERS - the cookers having been moved in advance under the charge of the Sgt Cook. The R.Q.M. Store also moved in the morning to TANK WOOD on the left of FRANVILLERS-BEHENCOURT ROAD. Here improvised shelters were made with trench covers and salvaged material of various kinds. The Cookers were in position with the Unit forward in a bank close to Coy Hqrs near RIBEMONT.

10th to 14th May. Rations were delivered by 1st line transport direct to Bn & Coy Hqrs.

14th May. On Bn going into the line cookers were moved close together and wet rations were delivered to them. The Bn remained in the line till night of 21st May. During this period the troops in line received 2 hot meals every 24 hours. The first meal went forward from cookers to Coy Hqrs at 9.30 p.m. the second left cookers at 2 a.m. and arrived at Companies in time for breakfast, immediately after "Stand To". The first hot meal consisted of stew and tea, taken forward in petrol tins, and carried in the asbestos chambers in fore part of cookers. A half limber attached to this fore part carried the Coy's dry rations. Dry rations were put up in sand bags - 8 rations to a bag. This method of delivery prevents any confusion or mistake in the sorting of rations on arrival at Coy Hqrs. Each Company had its own limber for wet & dry rations.

21st May. Blankets, Packs, and Officers' Valises were drawn from Bde Kit Store QUERRIEU and placed in Coy Dumps at LA HOUSOYE SWITCH LINE ready for the Bn on relief. During the attack on VILLE SUR ANCRE rations were delivered to the troops in the above mentioned manner both on the morning of the 19th & again 20 hours later, at the first objective. Though an audacious use of horse transport it proved highly successful, as it saved the troops a long carry forward after the fatigue of battle.

21st to 31st May. During this period the ordinary routine work of a rest

- 2 -

period was carried out. Rations were delivered by 2nd line transport to Q.M. Store and from thence to Bn by 1st Line transport.

BATHS.- Baths were improvised during the month at RIBEMONT and the men received a clean change of clothing.

SALVAGE.- A large number of Jam Cartons, considerable quantities of paper & cardboard, etc. were collected and despatched through the usual A.S.C. channels.

WATER.- Owing to 2 wells being destroyed by shell fire at RIBEMONT difficulty was experienced in drawing water. This was overcome by attaching three men to Water Cart and water being chlorinated in cart after being filled direct from stream.

WAR TROPHIES.- 11 captures German Machine Guns, 1 Trench Mortar, (with spare parts & box), 1 Heliograph, 1 Pineapple Grenade Thrower, 2 German Rifles, 1 German Sniper's Rifle and other trophies of war captured by the Unit were despatched through D.A.D.O.S. to the Aust. War Museums Collecting Depot.

FAT RETURNS. - Eleven drums (660 Lbs) of first class fat was despatched for the month by this Unit through the A.S.C. to railhead.

VEGETABLES.- Green vegetables, which were issued during the latter part of the month, proved an agreeable addition to the usual ration.

INSPECTION.- The Divisional Cookery ~~Inspector~~ Inspector visited the Unit on the 26th inst. He rendered a first class report on Cooks, cookers, and the system of rationing, prevailing in this Battalion.

In conclusion it is suggested that good uses could be made of a periodical issue of flour in lieu of the biscuit portion of the bread ration.

31st May 1918.

(Signed.) L.E. Brookes, Lieutenant,
Quartermaster, 21st Battalion.

A U S T R A L I A N I M P E R I A L F O R C E .

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21st Battalion Hqrs,
31st May 1918.TRANSPORT OFFICER'S REPORT FOR MONTH
OF MAY 1918.

----- cOo ----- cOo -----

- 1st May. Transport Lines situated at MONTIGNY.
Cookers moved from LAVIEVILLE to WARLOY at noon. At 4 p.m. rations were taken to Cookers in new positions and at midnight 3 Limbers met the Unit at Cross Roads forward of LAVIEVILLE and picked up Lewis Gun gear. Limbers remained with Battalion at WARLOY, returning to Lines at 5 a.m. on 2.5.18.
2 Officers' Rides and 2 Mules were drawn during the day.
- 2nd May. Transport moved to new Lines at QUERRIEU at 1 p.m. (less 5 Limbers, 1 Water Cart, & 3 Cookers) arriving at destination at 2.30 p.m.
5 Limbers with Water Cart and Cookers left WARLOY with Unit at 10 a.m. and arrived at QUERRIEU at 3 p.m. when they reported back to Transport Lines.
- 3rd May. Rations were drawn at Church and conveyed to R.Q.M. Store.
to 4 Limbers were engaged on local work (Canteen, Ordnance, S.A.A. Etc.).
- 5th May.
- 6th May. Rations drawn at Church and conveyed to R.Q.M. Store. 4 Limbers engaged on local work (as above). 2 Limbers proceeded to Nucleus Battalion with Rations, Blankets, Etc for men included in the Nucleus Change Over. 80 Boxes of Bombs and 9,000 Rounds S.A.A. drawn to complete.
- 7th & Procedure as for period 3rd to 5th May.
- 8th May.
- 9th May. Transport moved to new Lines in WOOD at C.20.C.&d. (62D.) leaving QUERRIEU at 1 p.m. and reaching their destination at 2.30 p.m.
4 Limbers, Maltese Cart, and 1 Water Cart left with Battalion at 4 p.m. arriving at given point at 6.30 p.m. where the Battalion waited until dusk before taking up new positions. Cookers left at noon and had a hot meal in waiting for the Battalion when they arrived at this point.
At 9 p.m. cookers moved to new positions, limbers were unloaded, and reported to new lines.
At midnight the Maltese Cart and 1 Limber proceeded forward to RIBEMONT.
- 10th May. The day was spent by the Transport Section in arranging their new lines and in making shelters for the men. Rations went forward to Cookers, near RIBEMONT, at 3 p.m. returning at 6 p.m. to Lines.
- 11th & Salvage was brought back from RIBEMONT and 2 Limbers then conveyed this
12th May. to the French Mission, commencing, 12th inst., 1 Limber left Lines nightly
& 13th with Engineers' material for Dump at TREUX. This continued until 20th inst
May. 3 Teams of horses were sent forward to Cookers where they remained to enable the cookers to be withdrawn in case of emergency.
- 14th Battalion moved forward to Line. Limbers brought Bn Blankets back to
May. R.Q.M. Store, 1 Limber proceeding to Bn Hqrs at 7 p.m.
From this date three pack horses were sent forward to pack Trench Mortar Ammunition to Forward Gun Positions. This continued until 19th inst.
From 14th to 19th inst. 1 Limber left Cookers at 3 a.m. daily to carry hot food and drink to troops in line. Ration Limbers went to Company dumps forward of RIBEMONT.

- 2 -

15th to Routine Work carried out as per previous details.

18th May.

19th May. Rations were sent forward to Company Dumps, which were formed on the objectives of the morning's attack. One horse was wounded and evacuated to Mobile. Vet. Section next morning. Limbers brought back 8 captured enemy Machine Guns and various other battle trophies.

20th May. In the morning Limbers brought Valises and Blankets to the new position to be occupied by the Battalion in LA HOUSOYE SWITCH LINE. Rations were taken to same position in the afternoon.

4 Limbers proceeded forward to Company Dumps, arriving there at midnight, and were here loaded with L.G. & Signallers' gear. The horses for Cookers were sent forward and all forward transport left for rear at 3 a.m. on morning of 21st inst.

21st May. In the morning 5 Limbers left Lines for Pack Store at 9 a.m. to bring the men's packs to the Unit. Rations were transported to Unit in the afternoon and the usual limbers for local work were employed.

22nd to

31st May. Routine Work as above whilst the Battalion was billeted at LA HOUSOYE SWITCH LINE.

Since arriving in forward area three limbers, with teams, have been stationed forward continually as part of a Brigade Dump, carrying S.A.A. and Bombs for emergency purposes.

From the 5th to 9th May transport lines were isolated from a suspected contagious disease which proved to be negative.

The horses have had plenty of grazing recently, and are now beginning to show the benefit derived from this.

On the whole the Transport Section has had a heavy month's work.

(Signed.) C.H. MILLER, Lieutenant,
Transport Officer,
21st Battalion A.I.F.

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APPENDIX No.68.

A U S T R A L I A N I M P E R I A L F O R C E.

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1st BATTALION A.I.F.

31st MAY 1918.

WEEKLY EFFECTIVE STRENGTH OF UNIT.

----- oOo -----

5.5.18.-

Effective Strength.-	41 Officers	874 Other Ranks.
Attached.-	1	1
Detached.-	8	171

11.5.18.-

Effective Strength.-	42 Officers	872 Other Ranks.
Attached.-	1	1
Detached.-	10	171

18.5.18.-

Effective Strength.-	40 Officers	892 Other Ranks.
Attached.-	1	1
Detached.-	9	191

25.5.18.-

Effective Strength.-	32 Officers	804 Other Ranks.
Attached.-	1	1
Detached.-	7	192

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. No 131.

From 3 p.m. 21-5-18 to 3 p.m. 22-5-18.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Phase 1.B. of Counter-Preparation was again carried out on Zones C and D, fire from 18 pdrs. and 4.5" Hows. being maintained from 9.30 p.m. to 10 p.m. and from 2 a.m. to 3 a.m. Other shoots during the night consisted of harassing fire on MORANNCOURT, and on roads, tracks, and dugouts opposite the Divisional front, and the hostile battery position in K.3.b & d. At 3.55 p.m. 18 pdrs. dispersed a working party at K.3.d.1.5. At 5.30 p.m. men were seen to run into dugouts when 4.5" How. fire was brought to bear on movement at E.27.c.5.3. Between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. 4.5" Hows. kept trenches in K.3.a. under intermittent fire, movement having been noticed here. At 4 a.m. 18 pdrs. fired on enemy activity from E.20.c.3.0. to E.20.c.3.7.

(b) Trench Mortars. At 3 a.m. a M.G. position at K.19.central was engaged by 6" Newtons. Results unknown.

(c) Machine Guns. Harassing fire was kept up throughout the night. 1500 rds. were fired on enemy trenches and suspected M.G. positions from K.8.c.2.4. to K.14.a.0.9. 1509 rds. were fired into K.8.c and K.14.a. during the night. 1500 rds. were fired on K.20.a. An enemy party moving in E.19.d. was dispersed.

(d) Patrols. Right Bde. A patrol of 3 o.rs went along the sap leading to the enemy line at K.19.central. and found signs of recent occupation. Two organised shell holes were found about 40 yds. out. A second patrol found the post at K.13.b8.7. which is about 50 yds. long and lightly wired, to be strongly held. Machine guns were active from here. A post at K.13.b.4.1. was found to be in process of lengthening. M.Gs were observed firing from K.13.d.central.

Left Bde. A patrol working along the banks of the ANCRE reported that the enemy was digging himself in 200 yds. east of our line. A digging party was heard at K.2.c.3.0.; on the approach of our patrol what appeared to be a covering party opened fire.

Moonlight hindered patrol activity.

(e) Aircraft. Our aircraft were active patrolling our line and bombing enemy areas.

(f) Sniping. Right Bde. snipers were active and claim a number of hits.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 7th Coy. 184th R.I.R. (Prisoner buried for 2 days in cellar in VILLE-sur-ANCRE).

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Fairly active throughout the period. J.15.central was heavily shelled (150 rds. 10.5 cm) at 6 p.m. D.25.a & b. were also heavily shelled (120 rds. 10.5 cm) at 9 p.m. Some gas shells (unidentified) fell in D.30. at 5.50 p.m. K.7.a & b., D.16.b., J.12.b., E.19.c & d., D.23. and D.10. received some attention. MARETT WOOD, J.22.b & d., J.24.b., J.15.central., J.16.central., J.23.a., J.17.a., J.23.d., J.29.b.(gas) J.11.b & d., the road in J.17. c & d., and the right front line Bn. were also shelled, mainly with 10.5 cm and 15 cm. VILLE-sur-ANCRE was shelled during the morning. 100 rds. 15 cm fell in RIBEMONT at 10 a.m. J.15., J.16., and J.19. were shelled during the morning. A 15 cm How. shelled D.17. at 10.50 am. Approx. 15-10.5 cm Yellow Cross shells fell in BUIRE before daylight.

P.T.O.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. - Quiet.

Enemy Intentions. A private of the 184th I.R., 7th Coy., who was wounded in the head during the operations of the 19th inst., and who had been in a collar without food until captured early this morning, stated that the offensive was expected to come off on the 20th, but did not know where.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

During the afternoon of the 21st inst. a flight of 6 'planes patrolled our lines at a high altitude. At 8.10 p.m. 2 reconnaissance 'planes were driven off by A.A. fire.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Trench Mortars. A L.M.W. at K.20.a.4.4.

(b) Machine Guns. Guns at K.19 central., K.19.c.85.95., K.13.d.3.1., K.13.d.8.7., K.13.d.5.5., and K.19.b., were fairly active. Harassing fire was directed on our support areas in J.12.b. and around HARETT WOOD.

(c) Snipers. Were inactive.

(d) Works. No further new defensive works are reported. Tracks through the crops are noticeable in K.2.b and c.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Several small enemy parties of 3 or 4 were seen moving to the rear from MORLAN-COURT at about 3.15 p.m. The artillery was notified. There was much movement throughout the day in the trenches in K.3. Movement was noticed in trenches at K.5.a.8.5., K.2.b.9.0. and K.5.a.2.1. Green camouflage has been erected at K.2.d.6.4. to K.2.d.5.2., and K.3.c.2.3. to K.3.c.1.1.10. MISCELLANEOUS.

Flares. At 3.15 p.m. a GOLDEN CLUSTER fired opposite our Right Bde. was followed by one hours artillery fire. At 4.10 p.m. a succession of REDS were fired, whereupon the enemy ceased fire. A large flare bursting into a brilliant RED cluster produced no apparent result.

Dumps were blown up at Grid bearings of 143° and 85° from D.23.c.3.8.

At 9.15 p.m. a 10.5 cm Battery which was shelling in K.2.c. and K.1.d., dropped 3 rounds in K.2.c.4.8. When 3 orange clusters were fired the range was lengthened.

M. S. Denington
Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

ANNEXE follows.

ANNEXE to 2nd Aust. Div Int. Summary No. 131.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. (Army I.S.No. 154.)

ACTIVITY OF ENEMY ARTILLERY opposite the Army on our Right, from 1st to 15th May.

During the period under report, the strength of the enemy's artillery opposite the southern portion of the Army front has been constant: opposite the northern portion there has been a marked increase. This increase has not been revealed through any increase in hostile shelling; the fire of hostile batteries has been uniformly slight and much below the extreme limit of their capacity. The number of long range guns which have recently reinforced this sector, taken in conjunction with the greater frequency of registration, indicates that opposite the northern flank of the Army the enemy's artillery is in such a position, that it could pass rapidly to the offensive.

AIRCRAFT.

The activity of enemy aircraft was normal and centred mainly in the SOMME Valley. There were 62 combats in the air; 14 enemy machines were driven down out of control, 7 of which were destroyed. 2 of our machines are missing.

During the night 20/21st bombs were dropped in the neighbourhood of QUERRIEU. Hostile artillery aeroplanes were very active. There was an increase in activity north of the ANCRE, but the heaviest concentrations are still between KAMEL and the BOIS-de-HANGARD.

Bombs were successfully dropped on CHAULNES Junction, BRAY, HARBONNIERES, MARICOURT Dump and BAYONVILLERS.

Balloons. Twelve balloons were observed yesterday between ALBERT and the LUOE. This represents an increase of 4 over the normal number.

RECRUITING.1920 Class.

(a) VII Corps District. - According to a report from a reliable source, the 1920 class is to be called up as follows in the area of DUISBURG: -

Boys born between the 1st Jan'y 1900 and 1st July 1900 - During May '18.
 " " " " 1st July " " 31st Dec " - " Sept. "

The VII Corps district was one of the first districts in which the 1920 class was mustered, the mustering taking place at the end of February.

(b) VIII Corps District. A man from the Ersatz Bn. 161st Inf. Regt., at DUREN, states that on 11th May the Recruit Company of this Battalion contained only men of the 1919 class, but that recruits of the 1920 class were expected at the end of May.

NOTE. - It was stated in G.H.Q. Summary No 462 of 7th April, that the 1920 Class would probably be called up throughout Germany in May and June 1918. Definite evidence as to the calling up of this class is required.

MINENWERFER.

The 199th M.W. Coy. had either 4 or 2 of the normal pattern medium M.W. Two of these were to have been taken over by 107th M.W. Coy. with the dump of bombs in VILLE-sur-ANCRE. The latter Coy. had 4 "I.K.O" Minenwerfer, a new type which has a range of 2,300 metres. This is distinct from the new flat trajectory light M.W. which can be used as a gun. (P.S.)

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 3 p.m. 22nd to 3 p.m. 23rd May, 1918.

No. 132.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Movement in enemy forward area was effectively dealt with by 18 pdrs. and 4.5" Hows. During the night, and particularly from 11 p.m. to 11.30 p.m., and 12.30 a.m. to 1.30 a.m., vigorous harassing fire was maintained on enemy roads, tracks and dugouts, and battery areas in K.15.c., and K.21.a.

(b) Trench Mortars. 6" Newtons fired 10 rds. on K.8.b.25.45. At 2.30 a.m. Stokes mortars fired 60 rds. on M.G. position and strong point at K.13.b.3.1., and from K.13.b.3.0. to 0.3. Good bursts were observed and enemy sniping was quietened.

(c) Machine Guns. During the night fire was brought to bear on the following targets at irregular intervals: - K.8.c.0.5. to K.14.c.0.5., tracks - 1500 rds.; K.8.a.2.7. Converging point, 1500 rds.; K.19.d.0.4. to K.25.d.0.6., Tracks, 1500 rds.

(d) Aircraft. Active throughout the day.

(e) Patrols. Right Bde. The front was actively patrolled. No contact was obtained.

Left Bde. An active M.G. post at E.26.a.1.4. was effectively bombed and silenced by an officer's patrol.

A second patrol of 1 off. and 5 o.rs., on approaching an enemy post at E.20.c.40.45., was fired on by an enemy sentry, who was immediately shot by the officer. A lively encounter ensued between the garrison and the patrol, without definite result.

A third patrol located a suspected M.G. post at K.2.c.2.4. Flares were sent up from K.2.c.2.9., and the Cross Roads at E.26.c.5.1.

(f) Sniping. Active during the day. 4 hits were claimed by the Left Bn. No 36 grenades were used with effect against the enemy advanced posts.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 2nd M.G.K., 184th I.R. (One slightly wounded prisoner from VILLE-sur-ANCRE.) This identification dates from the 19th inst., as the prisoner had been in hiding behind our line since then.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

A marked increase has been shown. During the afternoon 15 cm fired approx. 100 rds. into the Valley in J.15.b., and a few scattered rounds in RIBEMONT, J.8., and J.1.b. At 10.10 p.m. a 10.5 cm battery harassed J.12.c., and at 10.30 p.m. MARETT WOOD was lightly shelled with Phosgene. Between 12.30 a.m. and 4.30 a.m. a continuous area shoot was fired on the ANCRE Valley - J.3.d., J.4.c., RIBEMONT, J.7., J.8., J.9.b., and J.10.a., receiving attention. Between 1000 and 1500 rounds 21 cm, 15 cm, 10.5 cm, and 7.7 cm, including a very large proportion of Blue, Green, and Yellow Cross Gas, were fired. At times this shooting became very intense. Two small fires were caused in MERICOURT. During the morning. EUIRE, RIBEMONT and MERICOURT received further shelling this morning with gas.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. - Increased artillery activity, particularly in gas shelling.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work. A new trench has been dug across the road at K.9.b.20.25.

(b) Machine Guns. Quiet, owing to the alertness of our Lewis gunners. M.G. activity was reported at K.2.c.2.4. and E.26.c.2.9.

(c) Trench Mortars. A few "pineapples" were fired into K.1.a. & c.

(d) Sniping. Inactive.

(e) Flares. Normal. Single REDS resulted in range being lengthened.

P.T.O.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

7. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Two low flying machines penetrated our lines during the afternoon of the 22nd, but were soon driven back by our A.A. fire. Four bombs were dropped on VILLE-sur-ANCRE, and four on trenches in D.29.a. Bombs were also dropped on MERICOURT. During the night QUERRIEU also received attention. At 8 a.m. ten 'planes flew along our lines coming from the direction of ALBERT. They were turned back by our A.A.fire. HEILLY and vicinity were bombed during the night.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Several small parties were seen moving about the trenches in K.15.d., entering them at K.15.d.4.2. An O.P. is suspected here. A party of 10 men were seen working amongst the trees at K.14.central. Movement was noticed at K.21.b.50.95.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

Visibility. Fair to Good.

General. It is of importance at this stage to note the sudden increase of gas shelling which is reported today along the ANCRE Valley, also the types of gas shell used.

A.S. Denning for.

Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

ANNEXE (Information from Other Sources) follows.

Handwritten notes and calculations:
1 20
256 11 10
2 11 4

258 3 2

-3-

ANNEXE to 2nd AUST. DIV. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 132.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. (I.S.No. 155)ENEMY ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

North of the ANCRE the activity of the enemy's artillery was rather above normal. Early yesterday morning a small concentration of gas shell was fired into BUIRE, MILLENCOURT and LAVIEVILLE were intermittently engaged throughout the period under report, and batteries in the vicinity of these villages were included in area shoots. Two cases of deliberate counter-battery work were reported. Scattered shelling increased, and what was apparently registration was observed west and south-west of ALBERT. Sound rangers report a few new locations in this sector, mostly from single guns; some of these locations fall further forward than usual.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ENEMY'S FORCES.

A division from the LYS front has come into line south of the SCARPE. This is the first division, withdrawn from the LYS battle front, which has been transferred to the SOMME front.

A division, which was already considered to have arrived in the Western Theatre from RUMANIA, has been located near ANTWERP.

Of the 208 German Infantry divisions in the Western Theatre, 152 have been engaged since the 21st March, and 18 are of poor quality.

There are 14 fresh divisions in reserve, and, in addition, there are 24 fresh divisions in line which have not yet been drawn into the battle.

SIGNAL (NACHRICHTEN) Coy., 184th I.R., (183rd Div.). (P. 5.)

The Signal Coy. is divided into 4 platoons, one for each battalion in the regiment, and one for Regtl. H.Q.

The Regimental Signal Platoon is the smallest, about 18 strong. Each Battalion has a Platoon 37 strong, composed as follows:-

2 Telephone Detachments.	-	4 men each	-	<u>Total.</u>
3 Repair detachments.	-	3 or 4 men each	-	8
		(for laying and repairing wires).		say 11
2 Light. (BLINKER). Sig. Dets.		1 N.C.O. and		
		6 men each	-	14
1 Messenger Dog Det.	-	1 each	-	2
Orderlies.	-	-	-	2
				<u>37</u>

In addition to the above there is a carrier-pigeon detachment, concerning which prisoner is unable to give details, as they remain in rear. The whole Regimental Signal Coy. is commanded by a Lieutenant.

Lieut. SCHROTH commands the 184th Nachrichten Coy.

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. No. 133.From 3 p.m. 23rd to 3 p.m. 24th May, 1918.NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Harassing fire was carried out intermittently throughout the night on roads and tracks, embankments and battery areas, special attention being paid to enemy ammunition dumps. Between 5.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. movement which was reported in K.9.b. & d., was engaged by 18 pdrs. of both Groups. At 1.15 a.m. and again at 1.29 a.m. 132 rds. gas were fired on MORLANCOURT. At 4 p.m. a suspected O.P. at K.2.d.80.50, was fired on by 4.5" Hows. Calibrations were checked.

(b) Trench Mortars. 10 rds. (6") were fired on enemy M.G. position at K.8.c.23.43.

(c) Machine Guns. Harassing fire was maintained on enemy's front posts in K.2.b., during the night on the left sector, 800 rds. being expended. On the Right, fire was brought to bear at irregular intervals on K.8.c.05. to K.14.a.0.5. - 1500 rds.; K.8.e.2.7., track crossing, - 1500 rds.; K.19.d.0.4. to K.25.d.0.6. - 1500 rds.

(d) Aircraft. Our 'planes were active throughout the period, much patrolling and bombing being done.

(e) Patrols. The front was actively patrolled throughout the period. A patrol going out through K.10.c.2.2., reported two enemy posts at about K.19.c.5.2. unoccupied. Between these posts and the enemy front line was a system of barbed concertina wire strongly picketed.

A patrol going out from K.1.b.75.80, moved S.E. for about 200 yds. when it was fired on by a M.G. from K.2.c.2.9, where a post is reported strongly held. On its way back this patrol was fired on from K.2.c.2.4. by a M.G. and rifles. A patrol going out from E.19.d.8.0. did not establish contact. A third patrol going out from E.25.d.8.0. at 10.45. p.m. moved northwards across the swamp. Finding no trace of the enemy it returned and a standing patrol was established at E.26.c.25.40. Two Germans who, from the subsequent statements of one of them, had been sent out to establish a listening post, were seen digging just in front of this point. When our patrol appeared one of the enemy ran away, and was seen to drop when fired on; the other surrendered. The German outpost line is reported as lying along the road running N and S through E.26.c.35.80.

(f) Sniping. Our snipers were active. The Right Bde. claims 6 hits, and the Left Bde. one.

(g) Rifle Grenades. A M.G. post at about K.19.c.95.40. was fired on with 4 No 36 rifle grenades, and silenced.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 7th Coy. 2nd Bn. 84th I.R. 54th Div. (From prisoner captured as stated above - Patrols, 2nd last line)3. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS.

The 84th I.R. relieved the 184th I.R. which lost heavily during our operations on the 19th inst, on the night 22/23rd May. It is not established whether this Div. has 3 Regts. in line and has relieved the greater portion, if not all of the 107th Div., or whether only 1 Regt. is in line, as was the case with the 183rd Div.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

P.F.O.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Shows a marked decrease. At 3 p.m. on 27th inst. 100 rds. 15 cm were fired on D.21.c. At 4 p.m. 40 rds. 10.5 cm fell in J.5.d. From 3.30 to 4 p.m. 50 rds. 15 cm fell in J.21.c. J.23., J.23., and J.24. also received slight attention. Gas shelling is reported as follows - 50 rds. yellow Cross/10.5 cm in D.30.central. 40 rds Yellow Cross and L. chrymatory (10.5 and 7.7 cm) in D.28.d.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

A marked decrease in activity, artillery, machine gun and trench mortar, has been shown during the past 24 hours. Enemy Intentions. The prisoner captured today had no further knowledge of the enemy's intentions, other than the general rumours prevailing amongst the German rank and file that an offensive may begin at any moment.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Works. With the exception of the activity mentioned by patrols there is nothing to report.
 (b) Machine Guns. Showed decreased activity. Short bursts were fired along our parapets. One of our parties was fired on from approx E.20.c.3.7. Shots are reported at L.26.c.4.5., and E.26.a.4.7. Other positions are suspected at K.2.b.9.9., K.2.a.8.4., E.26.c.8.1. and E.20.a.9.4.
 (c) Trench Mortars. Hostile T.M.s were inactive.
 (d) Flares. An unusual number of GOLDEN clusters were fired during the night without any action ensuing. Two orange spray flares fired over the road in J.23.d. and road in J.18.d. The second flare was followed by 2 rounds shrapnel.

7. HOSTILE AIRBORNE ACTIVITY.

Also showed decreased activity, mainly no doubt owing to the weather. During the night bombs were dropped on RIEBENT and BRISLE. Hostile machines attempting to patrol our lines were driven back by our A.A.fire.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

The movement reported during the past 24 hours suggests that the relief by the 54th Div. was still in progress yesterday and last night. Confirmation is required.

There was continuous movement in twos and threes from MORLANCOURT to the rear from 5 p.m. till dusk. This was engaged by our artillery. From 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. 17 limbers and 3 G.S. wagons moved in a northerly direction along the MARICOURT-BRAY Road (E.29.c.). 42 limbers, 2 cars and 1 lorry were also seen moving in the opposite direction along the same road. A Headquarters is suspected at K.9.b.3.7.

Trains were seen on F.27.d. and F.26.b.
 50 horses were seen grazing at L.4.b.9.6. Two stretcher cases were taken from MORLANCOURT to GRESSAIRE WOOD. About 1200 men, in Coy 5th limbers, 9 G.S. wagons, 1 motor car, and 8 mounted men, moved South towards BRAY by road in F.29.c. from 6.7 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. A column of horse transport a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile long moved towards BRAY by the road in F.29.c. at 7.50 p.m. From 7.55 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. a continuous stream of men, in column of route, and horse transport, passed a fixed point in F.29.c., going towards BRAY. Movement was observed throughout the day at K.15.d.3.3.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

German Commanders. The present Divisional Commander of 54th Div. is stated to be Von KASISCH.; the 108th Inf. Bde. Commander Colonel WECK.

Company strength of 7th Coy, II Bn. 84th I.R. 3 officers. 115/120 other ranks, and 5 or 6 L.L.Gs.

General. The 54th Div. has been in rest near CAMBRAI for some time. According to prisoner's statement it took no active part in the offensive of March/April.

J. R. Dennis for Lt. Colonel
2nd Div.

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APPENDIX

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ANNEXE TO SECOND LUST. DIV. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 133.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. (I.S. 156).

ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY.

The activity of enemy aircraft was normal along the whole front. Early yesterday morning high-flying R.E.A. were reported over St. SAUVEUR, CONRAY, BEAUCOURT and FRANVILLERS. The activity of enemy artillery aeroplanes was very marked; 16 ranging flights and 11 observed shoots of over 1 hour's duration were reported. There were 13 combats in the air. Five enemy machines were shot down out of control, three of which were destroyed. We had no casualties.

ORDER OF BATTLE OF GERMAN CORPS NORTH OF THE SOMME.

A number of captured maps, collected from the battle-field of VILLE-sur-ANCRE on the 19th instant establish the Order of Battle in so far as it affects the German Corps North of the SOMME.

The Order of Battle from North to South was as under on April 13th and 14th, and there is no reason to suppose that any subsequent changes have been made.

- North of
BEAUMONT HAMEL. - XIV Res. Corps.
- BEAUMONT HAMEL -
MARTINSART. - XXXIX Res. Corps, with appar-
ently 2 Divs. in line and
1 in reserve.
- MARTINSART - half-way
through ALBERT - XIII Corps, with apparently
2 Divs. in line.
- Half-way through
ALBERT - SOMME. - XXIII Res. Corps, with 2 Divs,
and 1 Regt. of a third Div.
in the line.

From a study of these maps, it seems extremely probable that the Southern boundary of the 17th German Army coincides with the Southern boundary of the XXXIX Res. Corps.

With regard to the above order of battle, it was not previously known that the XIII Corps was commanding a section of the line between the XXXIX Res. Corps and the XXIII Res. Corps.

The paragraph in yesterday's summary dealing with this subject must be amended with regard to those points where it differs from the above.

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 134.

From 3 p.m. 24th to 3 p.m. 25th May, 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Harassing fire was carried out intermittently throughout the night on roads and tracks, suspected ammunition dumps, battery areas, and centres of activity, with special concentrations from 10.45 p.m. to 11.15 p.m., and 2.15 a.m. to 3.15 a.m. At 7 p.m. a Trench mortar at K.2.d.4.3. was engaged and silenced. A hostile wiring party was engaged by our 18-pdrs. during the afternoon.

(b) Trench mortars. 15 rounds from L.T.M. were fired on E.19.b.7.2. with good effect.

(c) Machine Guns. Fire was directed on the following targets during the night:- K.19.d., road, 1500 rounds; K.14.c.1.1. to K.20.a.7.9., road, 1500 rounds; K.8.a.2.5., converging point of tracks, 2,000 rounds; K.2.d.0.3., Crucifix at MORLANCOURT, 500 rounds.

(d) Aircraft. Activity was slight owing to weather conditions.

(e) Patrols.

Right Brigade. A patrol moved along the enemy wire running in front of a post which goes North from K.19.c.5.2. to K.19.c.6.5. An enemy listening post was located very near the wire on the enemy side.

Concertina and barbed wire appeared to be intact along the whole line of posts, but the high crops hampered investigation.

A second patrol located an enemy party of about 30 wiring at about 100 y-rds east of K.13.a.50.15. Artillery and L.G. fire were brought to bear on the enemy with good results.

A third patrol was fired on by a sniper at approx. K.7.d.8.4.

Left Brigade. A patrol of one N.C.O. and 9 men left K.1.d.7.3. in order to mop up an enemy post at K.2.c.0.0. After making a detour to approach the post from the rear, it was found to be empty, though it showed signs of recent occupation. On the way back the patrol was fired on by M.Gs. from MORLANCOURT and K.2.c.2.4.

A second patrol left E.25.d.8.0. and discovered an enemy listening post of two men at E.26.e.1.3., both of whom ran away when approached. One was killed by our fire, the other escaped. The dead body furnished no identifications.

A third patrol covered the ground thoroughly between the railway and river. Except for the post at E.26.a.2.8., no other enemy defences were located.

(f) Sniping. Right Brigade Snipers claim 4 hits. The Left Brigade accounted for two of the enemy at the cross roads in E.26.e.50.10.

IDENTIFICATIONS. - Nil.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Below normal. MARETT WOOD, J.17.a., c., and d., HAILLY, J.21., J.22. and J.23., E.25.d. and BUIRE were lightly shelled during the period. Thirty 10.5 cm. YELLOW Cross gas shells were fired on D.30.a. during the night.

ENEMY ATTITUDE. - Quiet.ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Machine Guns. Activity below normal. Bursts were fired from posts at E.20.a.4.0., E.26.a.35.60. and K.2.c.2.4.

(b) Trench mortars. An emplacement is suspected at K.2.d.35.12. A L.T.M. fired from K.2.d.4.3.

(c) Defences. The bank in K.14.b.1.2. is reported to contain dugouts.

(d) Flares. below normal.

(e) Batteries. A captured German map shows hostile batteries:-

(i) From K.11.d.85.40. to K.11.d.90.70. (ii) From K.11.a.73.40. to K.11.a.70.70. (iii) From K.11.a.60.96. to K.5.c.56.30. (iv) From K.5.d.90.51. to K.5.d.92.82.

P.T.O.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Activity was slight owing to the weather.
8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION BEHIND ENEMY LINES. A party of 8 were seen digging at K.15.d.5.4. Another party came to this point from K.9.c.8.7. later and also began digging. Artillery fire was brought to bear on the parties. A party of 10 men carrying something were seen proceeding from K.25.a. along a track to K.19.central.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

An enemy signal lamp showing a GREEN light was seen on T.B. of 860 from D.23.c.3.8.

Documents found in VILLE-sur-ANGRE on the night 24th/25th instant include a patrol report written during the early morning of the 19th by an Officer or N.C.O., who was evidently sent forward shortly after our attack commenced in order to clear up the situation forward. This he does not appear to have been able to do, and reports that on reaching the German second line he found it empty, nor was the M.G. on the Right flank manned. The document is evidence of the confusion which was caused by our barrage and attack, and also of the fact that no information seems to have reached the rear from the German front line after our attack commenced.

Visibility - poor.

M. S. Denning
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff
Second Australian Division

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. (I.S.157.)

ENEMY ACTIVITY. - Roads.

The ALBERT-BAPAUME Road was in constant use. Between 6.30 and 8 p.m. 50 M.T. in groups of 4 or 5, were seen going West along the BRAY-CORBIE Road; these halted near BOIS-de-TAILLES and then returned to BRAY. This movement was probably in connection with the relief of the 183rd Division by the newly arrived 54th Division.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ENEMY'S FORCES. - 54th Division.

84th I.R. ... near VILLE-sur-ANGRE... May 24th... (P)

The 54th Div. has been twice engaged and was last in line in the THIERRES sector where it was relieved on the 21st April. According to prisoner's statements the 84 I.R. relieved the 184 I.R. (183 Division) on the night 22/23rd May. He believed, but was not certain, that the whole of the 54th Div. was in line. It seems probable that the 54th Div. has relieved the elements of the 183rd Div. that were in line, and that this latter Div. has gone to rest. The sector between VILLE-sur-ANGRE and the SOLLE appears now held by parts of both 54th and 107th Divisions. The 54th Div. had been resting in the CAMERAI area.

A Division, withdrawn from the LYS battle front, has been transferred to the WOEVRE and relieved a fresh division in line.

There are now 15 fresh divisions in reserve, and, in addition, there are 23 fresh divisions in line which have not yet been drawn into the battle.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.From 3 p.m. 25th to 3 p.m. 26th May, 1918.No. 135.NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the afternoon 18-pdrs. dispersed small parties of Germans in K.8. and E.27.d. and movement in the vicinity of the road and banks at K.10.c.00.70., and trench at E.28.c.40.80. was engaged. 50 rounds 18-pdr. were expended on a suspected emplacement at K.2.c.70.50., several direct hits being obtained. At the request of the infantry 4.5" Hows. carried out a shoot on the trench at E.27.c.10.70. This was reported as effective. What appears to be new work at K.3.a.70.60. was engaged by 18-pdrs. An active M.W. at E.26.c.70.10. was silenced by 4.5" Hows. The nightly harassing fire was continued, special shoots being put down from 10.30 p.m. to 11 p.m. and 2.30 a.m. to 3.30 a.m., and between 3.30 a.m. and 4 a.m. a concentration was fired in the vicinity of DERNANCOURT from the railway to the River ANCRE. 220 rounds gas were fired at intervals during the night on the trench in K.14.d. and K.20.b.80.70. to K.21.c.3.5.

(b) Trench Mortars. 6" Newtons obtained direct hits on a trench at K.19.c.80.95., a number of the enemy being seen to run from this post. 55 rounds Stokes were fired into the house and trench at E.20.a.95.30., and 50 rounds into enemy posts at E.20.a.1.4. The shoot was reported accurate.

(c) Machine Guns. The following targets were engaged during the night:- K.19.d.46. to K.25.a.8.5., road, 1,500 rounds; K.14.a., tracks, 750 rounds; K.8.c., trench, 500 rounds; K.14.a.10.90, post, 500 rounds; K.8.a.20.20, track, 1,500 rounds; K.2.d.70.30. exit from MORLANCOURT, 1,500 rounds.

(d) Patrols.

Right Bde. The front was actively patrolled. A patrol which went out from K.13.d.0.4. at 10.30 p.m. failed to establish contact with the enemy. A second patrol moving out from K.19.a.50.25. found the enemy post at K.19.a.65.30. unoccupied, with the exception of two decomposed German bodies. Another post 60 yards to the south of this was also found to be unoccupied, but that at K.19.a.70.05. was seen to be held.

Another patrol going out from K.7.d.05.80. saw flares being fired from near the trees at K.8.c.1.4. No trace of the enemy was found, though several dead were seen lying about.

Left Bde. A patrol going out from E.25.d.65.80. found an unoccupied enemy post at E.26.c.2.5. with 8 or 9 packs in it. These were searched and the documents brought back showing that the post had been held by the 184 I.R. The patrol then proceeded to the spot where one of the enemy was shot on the night 24th/25th instant and obtained his shoulder straps, which gave the identification of the 84 I.R. Standing patrols were also out during the night.

(e) Aircraft. Our aircraft was active in spite of the weather. Several reconnaissances were carried out. Bombs were dropped on MORLANCOURT.

(f) Sniping. The Right Brigade claim two hits. A sniper of the Left Bde. shot one of the enemy at K.2.c.3.4.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 84 I.R. (Shoulder straps of German killed on night 24th/25th instant).

P.T.O.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Very quiet during the day, but more active during the night, though not above normal. About 50 rounds Gas (unidentified) fell in D.30. A. 10.30 p.m. 100 rounds H.E. and gas fell on J.23. J.17., J.18., J.21., J.27., J.28., D.22., D.20. and D.23. were also lightly shelled by 10.5 and 15 cm. Some of the gas with which the right Ede. of the Div. on our left had been shelled drifted over our area. At 3.40 p.m. 26th instant, a 21 cm. How. shelled HEILLY - direction T.B.94° from J.27.b.5.8.

ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

- (a) Works. Trenches: Overhead cover has been put up at K.15.d.2.4.
 (b) Trench Mortars. An unlocated L.M.W. fired 20 rounds on the Right Battalion of the Right Brigade.
 (c) Machine Guns. Except for short bursts during the night there was no marked activity.
 (d) Sniping. A Sniper at E.25.c.2.4. is being engaged.

HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

5 planes attempted to cross our lines on two occasions between 6 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. but were driven away by our fighting machines. At 5 a.m. an enemy plane patrolled our lines dropping flares. No enemy action resulted.

9. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Very little movement was observed owing to the poor visibility. A small party was seen digging at K.15.d.

10. MISCELLANEOUS. During the afternoon of the 25th instant 2 horses marked 54 cantered down the road from MORLANCOURT to VILLE-sur-ANCRE into our lines. They were fired on by the enemy but were taken unhurt and led to the rear. The 54 probably denotes the 54th Division which is holding this sector.

H. G. Dunning
 Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 Second Australian Division.

ANNEXE attached.

ANNEXE TO SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 135.

The following messages are of interest as having been written by the II Battalion, 184 I.R. during our operations of 19:5:18:-

TRANSLATION.

To "Regtl. H.Q."

"At 3 a.m. (German time) sharp, very heavy English Artillery fire on our front system."

To "Regtl. H.Q."

"The enemy has forced an entry on the 7th Coy. front (Cemetery). The first Coy. has been detailed for counterattack. According to a message from the 5th Coy. the enemy fruitlessly attacked the N.O.O's. post 3 times. Further information will be sent when the situation has been cleared up."

To "3rd Coy."

"The enemy has forced an entry in the front line in the 7th Coy. Sector. The Company is to hold its position under all circumstances, and at daybreak will regain the old line."

The following translation of a document is interesting as showing the keen observation maintained on our lines by the enemy.

TRANSLATION.

To "Battalion H.Q."

"Between 5.30 and 5.45 p.m. (German time) the enemy relieved on the sector opposite the 6th Coy. About 40 or 50 men came in sections of 2 or 3 over the horizon, walking upright and without haste to the trench (Map Reference). They were wearing packs, and in about every fourth section a man carried a machine gun on his shoulder (there were 6 to 8 M.G's. in all). When each section had been in the trench a few minutes another section came out of it and went to the rear. Our artillery did not open on these men and the range was too great for our T.Ms. or M.Gs. to open fire."

(Signed) HOPPMAMM, Lt. and Co. Cmdr.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

Situation. East of VILLERS BRETONNEUX, our line was advanced, during the night, by a series of posts pushed out, to O.36.b.5.2. - P.31.a.6.8. - P.25.c.7.0. Gas was projected into BOIS-de-VAIRE at midnight.

Hostile shelling was considerable throughout the night, on VILLERS BRETONNEUX and the BOIS d'AQUENNE.

Distribution of the Enemy's Forces. The following identifications have been established:-

54th Division. 10th Coy., 90th R.I.R. - E. of SAILLY-LE-SEC. - May 24th/25th. - Prisoner. - (K.25.a.)

This is the second regt. belonging to the division which has been identified by contact. The whole Div. appears to be in line.

It now appears probable that the 24th Res. Div., together with the 54th Div., has relieved the 107th Div. and 183rd Div. between the ANCRE and the SOMME. It was, however, identified by document yesterday, in HAMEL; hence, either this identification was false, in which case the 77th Res. Div. must still be considered to be holding the HAMEL sector, or, the 24th Res. Div. is astride the SOMME. The former alternative is considered the more probable. The order of battle, however, requires clearing up.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 3 p.m. 26th to 3 p.m. 27th May, 1918.

No. 136.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Enemy working parties at E.28.c.0.8., K.3.b.4.8. and E.27.c. were, during the afternoon, engaged with good results. At intervals during the day, other movement in E.28.c. was fired on by 18-pdrs. and 4.5" Hows., and men were seen to run for cover in a trench at E.28.c.7.6. The hostile machine gun in the sunken road at K.2.c.2.4. was engaged. Throughout the night, and particularly between 10 p.m. and 10.30 p.m., and 2 a.m. to 3 a.m., harassing fire was carried out on areas opposite the Divisional front.

(b) Trench Mortars. At midday (26th) 6" Newtons fired 12 rounds on the bank at E.26.b.4.1. and the sunken road at K.2.central. At 4.30 p.m. 7 rounds were fired on a machine gun at K.19.b.2.8., and at 10 p.m. 10 additional rounds on the same target, silencing the gun.

(c) Machine Guns. The following targets were engaged:-

Road: K.8.c.8.7. to K.8.c.3.5.: 1,500 rounds.

Road: K.8.d.4.6. to K.25.h.9.9.: 1,500 rounds.

(19) K.8.a.2.7. - - 1,500 rounds.

Tracks: K.2.s. - - 2,250 rounds.

Lewis guns were active in dispersing enemy working parties during the night.

(d) Aircraft. Our planes were active during the evening. Heavy A.A. fire was encountered.

(e) Patrols.

Right Brigade. A patrol going out from K.7.d.05.80. at 10.30 p.m. located an enemy wiring party at about K.8.c.5.5.

A second patrol went out at 1 a.m. from K.13.c.8.5. They were fired on by a machine gun from about E.13.d.0.5. On proceeding to the line of enemy posts running approx. from K.13.d.1.6. to K.13.b.2.6. an enemy patrol of 4 men was observed moving from post to post. A well-beaten track runs from the post at K.13.b.2.6. through the crop to the edge of our wire at K.13.b.0.6. Enemy listening posts appear to have made use of this. The patrol was fired on from approx. K.13.b.2.6.

Left Brigade. A patrol saw machine guns firing from K.2.c.25.35. Another patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 8 men left E.19.d.9.6., and moved South to approx. 150 yards from our front line. Owing to the height of the crops, the patrol came unexpectedly across an enemy post at approx. E.26.a.2.8., and was heavily fired on with rifles and hand grenades. The patrol replied vigorously with bombs, but owing to the proximity of other enemy posts, they did not attempt to press forward. The post is stated to have contained about 8 men. Two other patrols also went out from this Brigade, but did not establish contact.

(f) Sniping. Right Brigade Snipers claim six certain hits.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 9th Coy., 84 I.R. (prisoner) normal.

3. ENEMY DISPOSITIONS. It appears that both the II and III Battalions of the 84 I.R. are in the line, as a man from the 7th Coy. was captured a few days ago, and the prisoner from the 9th Coy. states that his battalion has been in five days.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Slightly below normal. J.9.a. and b. and J.10.a. and b. were the most heavily shelled areas during the period. At 10.30 p.m., D.30.central was shelled with about 30 YELLOW CROSS shells. J.16., J.21., J.22., J.27. and J.28. also received slight attention.

P.T.O.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE AND INTENTIONS.

General attitude quiet. The prisoner captured this morning, who was of low mentality, knew nothing of an offensive except for the rumours mentioned by previous prisoners who have been captured, namely, that an offensive would take place somewhere shortly.

Coy. Strengths. Throughout the Battalion appear to average 3 Officers, 100 - 120 other ranks, and 3 or 4 light M.Gs.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES. No other works than those mentioned above have been reported.

(a) Trench Mortars. A L.M.W. fired at intervals throughout the period from approx. K.2.d.4.2. in reply to our sniping activity. Artillery fire was brought to bear on this T.M. position.

(b) Machine Guns. M.Gs. were active firing from K.14.a.3.5., K.13.d.0.5., K.13.b.2.6., K.2.a.1.4., K.2.o.1.8., K.2.c.90.65., K.2.c.9.5., K.2.c.25.35. Hostile M.Gs. were very active on A.A. work.

(c) Snipers. Were inactive.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Fairly active during the evening of the 26th and afternoon of the 27th instant. An enemy machine crashed in flames in J.4.a.central at about noon on the 27th. One of the occupants was burnt out of all recognition or identification, the other jumped from the machine when several hundred feet from the ground. No trace has as yet been found of him. Bombs were dropped on HELLY, FRECHENCOURT, FRANVILLERS, and on D.21, D.22. and D.24.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Men were seen observing from K.19.d.2.9., K.19.d.3.6., K.19.c.9.1. and K.2.d.4.2. during the day. Men, who appeared to be wearing white bands on their caps, were seen in a trench in K.19.o. At 5.15 p.m. smoke from a train was seen on the line in F.26.d. At 1.5 p.m. a double engined train was also seen on this line.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

At 12.10 a.m. and 1.10 a.m. what appeared to be ammunition dumps were blown up on a grid bearing of 120° and 193° from J.23.d.3.3. Visibility. Poor during the early afternoon; good in the evening; poor again on the morning of the 27th, improving during the day.

M. S. Denning
Lieut Colonel.
for General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

ANNEXE attached.

27-5-18.

ANNEXE to 2nd AUST. DIV. I.S. No. 136.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES (I.S. No. 159).

SITUATION. - Army Front.

Yesterday, hostile shelling increased against VILLERS-BRETONNEUX and the vicinity. From 7 to 11 p.m., and intermittently since 3 a.m., the BOIS d'AQUENNE and the outskirts of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX were heavily shelled with mustard gas. Our front system of trenches between BERNANCOURT and the AMIENS - ALBERT road was also heavily shelled during the night.

The enemy attempted a raid south-east of SAILLY-le-Sec. The attempt failed, and none of our men are missing. A German Bn. runner was cleverly waylaid and captured by an Australian patrol, thereby securing a valuable identification.

The situation astride the SOMME has now been cleared up. A poor division is holding both the SAILLY-le-SEC and HAMEL sectors.

Normal identifications were secured in the ALBERT and MARCEL-CAVE sectors.

An albatross scout has been brought down near SENLIS, and the pilot has been captured by the Corps on our left.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

A captured map, dated 10:5:18, gives the Order of Battle between ALBERT and the SOMME, from North to South, as follows:-

54th Res. Div.	} (199th Div.).
357th I.R.	
237th R.I.R.	

31st I.R.	} (18th Div.).
114th I.R.	

24th Res. Div.

The sector held by the 199th Div. and elements of the 18th Div. is now held by the 54th Div.

STRENGTH, DRAFTS AND LOSSES.

(a) 84th I.R. (54th Div.). According to prisoners' statements:-

Fighting strength, 7th Coy., is - 115 - 120.

On leaving MOREUIL sector, it was only 20 strong: very shortly after, 20 sick returned to the Coy. On returning into line at MOREUIL, the Coy. was 120 strong. This increase was due to 3 drafts, each of about 25 - 30 men, which the Coy. received whilst resting at WALINCOURT. A third of these drafts was composed of 1919 Class: the remainder returned wounded, etc.

(b) 184th I.R. (183rd Div.).

Fighting strength 1st Coy. - 120. Losses up to 18th May - about 30 men

Fighting strength 6th Coy. - 110. Losses up to 18th May - about 30.

This Coy. suffered extremely heavy casualties in killed and prisoners, on the 19th instant, and must now be very weak indeed.

The 1st Coy. received only one draft of 12 men about the middle of April.

The 6th Coy. received two drafts, each about 15 strong about the same date as the 1st Coy. Half of these were 1919 Class.

P.T.O

The 9th Coy. received two drafts about April 10th, making a total of 25 men, one at ALBERT and one at FRICOURT. One of these drafts came from the Recruit Depot of the 183rd Div., the other direct from Ersatz Bn., 184th I.R., at BLANKENBURG. Of these two drafts, 10 were 1919 Class, and the remainder returned wounded.

GENERAL.

Shelling considerably increased, both north and south of the SOMME, during the night, but no infantry action followed.

From captured maps in VILLE-sur-ANCRE, it is now definitely established that the Germans have withdrawn one Corps Staff between ALBERT and the SOMME. The withdrawal took place early this month. This indicates a defensive policy, on the part of the enemy, in this sector.

FOLLOWING FROM FOURTH ARMY, TIMED 3pm. 27:5:18.

Following from G.H.Q. timed 10.40 a.m. About 3.30 a.m. today enemy attacked on wide front between RHEIMS and SOISSONS after an intense bombardment of French and British positions. He is reported to have penetrated our forward positions on the 9th Corps front and on front of French formations on either flank. Heavy fighting taking place. Enemy attacked with tanks. Enemy also attacked French early this morning on LOCRE VOOR MEZEELE front and is reported to have made small progress in places. Considerable hostile artillery and T.M. activity on greater part of British front, gas shelling being used freely. Hostile raids repulsed opposite BEAUMONT HAMEL and ABLAINZEVILLE where we captured 2 prisoners. We captured 3 prisoners in LAMOTTE sector and one in FLETRE sector.

FROM AUST. CORPS, TIMED 2.50 p.m., 27:5:18.

Following from G.H.Q. noon begins:- French South of CHEMIN DES DAMES. British on line JUMIGNY - PONTAVERT - GERNICOURT.

 2nd Aust. Div., H.Q.,
 27th May, 1918.

On leaving MORVILLE sector, the 9th Coy. returned to the 9th Corps area on 27th May. The 9th Coy. was 130 strong. This leaves the 9th Coy. with 20 men, which is the 1919 Class. A third draft of 1919 Class returned wounded etc.

(b) 184th I.R. (Ersatz Div.)

Fighting strength 1st Coy. - 130. Losses up to 18th May - about 20 men.

Fighting strength 2nd Coy. - 130. Losses up to 18th May - about 20 men.

This Coy. suffered extremely heavy casualties in killed and prisoners, on the 18th instant, and must now be very weak indeed.

The 1st Coy. received only one draft of 19 men about the middle of April.

The 2nd Coy. received two drafts, each about 18 strong about the same date as the 1st Coy. Half of these were 1919 Class.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.From 5 p.m. 27th to 3 p.m. 28th May, 1918.No. 137.NOTE. Not to be taken into the front line trenches.1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Movement in E.28.a. was fired on with good effect by 4.5" Hows. At 5.30 p.m. an active Hostile M.W. in the bank at K.2.a.7.7. was engaged. Activity centres, embankments and roads were subjected to vigorous harassing fire during the night, concentrations being put down on selected areas between 10 p.m. and 10.30 p.m., and from 12.15 a.m. to 1.15 a.m. a Machine gun at K.2.c.20.40. was harassed with 70 rounds 18-pdr. and 30 rounds 4.5" How. at 11.15 p.m.

(b) Trench Mortars. 71 rounds 6" were expended on the following targets: Machine gun at K.19.b.20.60., L.M.W. at K.8.c.25.40. (the latter has not been active since), road and embankment in E.26.b. and d., and the quarry at K.2.a.85.70., where casualties are known to have been inflicted.

(c) Machine Guns. The following targets were engaged:-
 K.2.d.4.2. T.M. emplacement. 1,500 rounds.
 K.20.a.95.90. to K.20.a.50.95. Road, 1,500 rounds.
 K.19.b.1.3. }
 K.19.b.1.8. } Road, 1,500 rounds.
 K.2.d. Track area 500 rounds.

1,000 rounds were also used on A.A. fire.

(d) Aircraft. Our aircraft were active throughout the period

(e) Patrols.

Right Brigade. A patrol of 1 Officer and 12 Other Ranks, on going out from K.19.c.2.2. at 10 p.m., saw a party of the enemy about 80 strong at about K.19.c.4.2. This party disappeared behind a crop. A second patrol located an enemy post at K.13.d.00.60. It is about 50 yards long and appears to be strongly held. Another post was located at about K.13.a.8.2. M.G's. were active at both posts. A working party was dispersed by the L.G. of this patrol. A third patrol reported movement in the trench at K.8.c.25.40. and the existence of a post at K.8.c.00.40.

Left Brigade. A patrol of 1 Officer and 12 Other Ranks located an enemy working party digging at approx. K.2.a.4.2. A second patrol, going out from K.1.d.7.4., saw movement in the enemy post at K.2.c.2.4., and a sniper was active at K.2.c.3.5. A third patrol, proceeding to E.26.c.1.7., was fired upon from a post at E.26.c.2.7., in which three men were seen, while a fourth was seen to go to another post on the flank. Owing to the swampy nature of the ground, this post was not mopped up, and the patrol proceeded along the river.

2 N.C.O's. and 8 men left E.19.d.7.0. at 11 p.m. to locate enemy posts in E.20.c. They were fired on from enemy post at E.26.a.2.8. to which they replied with bombs, silencing the fire. On moving to a flank, our men heard rifle fire and bombs near our wire in rear of them; it therefore returned to our lines to obtain the assistance of an officer, and moved out again from E.19.d.7.0. Making a flanking movement with the object of surrounding the enemy party, our men were heavily fired on from E.26.a.7.8. where there appeared to be about 20 men, with rifles and bombs. Three men being wounded, returned to our lines; the enemy on seeing this jumped from the post and attacked the remainder of our patrol, who retaliated with such effect that the enemy dispersed, several of them being wounded. On its way back, the patrol was fired on from approx. E.26.a.3.3.

(f) Sniping. Left Brigade Snipers claim two certain hits at K.2.a.2.8. and K.2.c.1.9.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. - Nil.

P.T.O.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Normal, except for gas shelling. About 500 gas shells - BLUE, YELLOW and GREEN Cross - fell in MARETT WOOD, TREUX and MERICOURT. 40 gas shells also fell in D.29.c. J.21.a. received 12 rounds gas. J.17. and J.21.a. also received some gas. Other shelling was slighter, places lightly shelled including HEILLY, J.11., J.16.d., J.17., J.22. and J.28. LA HOUSOYE and FRANVILLERS were shelled by an H.V. gun from the direction of HAMEL.
5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Very quiet.
6. ENEMY DEFENCES.
- (a) Works. See patrol reports.
 - (b) Trench Mortars. Our positions in D.19.c. received a few L.M.W. shells. The battery was not located. L.M.Ws at K.8.c.8.5. and K.2.d.4.2. were active.
 - (c) Machine Guns. Showed very much less activity than during the previous 24 hours.
 - (d) Snipers. Were also inactive.
 - (e) Flares. White flares were below normal. A succession of double and single reds during the night brought no action. At 9.40 p.m. a rocket which burst into two REDS was fired from the front system, followed by another rocket further East bursting into one RED, whereupon a six How. 10.5 cm battery opened fire on our front.
7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.
Showed increased activity throughout the period. An enemy plane crashed in flames in J.4.a., both occupants being killed. Another was seen to be driven down behind the German lines at 6 p.m. E.A. were over our lines throughout the day, being energetically engaged by our A.A. fire. Eight small bombs were dropped in HEILLY. Back areas were also bombed.
8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.
Two men, in full marching order, were seen in K.10.d.8.3. 30 men were seen to move singly into MORLANCOURT from the S.E. from 7.30 p.m. until dark. Six men, in full marching order, were seen moving to the rear from K.15.a.3.5. Five men, in full marching order, were seen leaving road in K.15.a.9.4., and walking back to MORLANCOURT at 7.50 p.m. At 8 p.m. 2 men, also in full marching order, went back to MORLANCOURT from road in K.15.a. Two other small parties, similarly equipped, were also seen moving back to MORLANCOURT from K.15.b.7.6. From these movements, and from the fact that the prisoner of the 9th Coy. 84 I.R. stated that his Battalion had been 5 days in line, it appears probable that a relief took place in this sector on the night 27/28th. The artillery was notified accordingly.
10. MISCELLANEOUS.
At 1 a.m. phosphorous bombs were dropped on our front line in E.19.d.
Visibility. Fair to Good.

M. S. Darling Lt.
for
Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.From 3 p.m. 28th to 3 p.m. 29th May, 1918.No. 138.NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Harassing fire was carried out on centres of activity, Dumps, sunken roads and tracks, etc., throughout the night with special concentrations of fire on selected points between 10.30 p.m. and 11 p.m., and 12.45 a.m. to 1.45 a.m.

At 3.10 p.m. an "N.F. Call" was answered with fire on E.20.b.80.20. 3.45 p.m. 30 rounds were fired on suspected T.M. at E.20.b.80.20.

At 4.5 p.m. a machine gun at K.2.c.90.60. was silenced, direct hits being obtained on the emplacement. Calibrations were checked by Batteries during the day. At 7.30 p.m. 10 rounds were fired on suspected O.P. at E.27.c.80.30.

(b) Trench Mortars. At 7 p.m. 10 rounds were fired on K.19.c.80.95. and 5 rounds on enemy wiring party at K.8.c. At 3.15 a.m. 10 rounds were fired on post at K.13.b.80.60.

Right Brigade Trench Mortars were active. 30 rounds were fired on M.G. at K.2.c.1.7. by Left Brigade, direct hits being registered.

(c) Machine Guns. Fire was brought to bear on the following targets during the night:-

K.2.d.4.2.	T. M. emplacement.	1500 rounds.
K.20.a.95.90. to K.20.a.50.95.	Road.	1500 rounds.
K.19.b.1.3. to K.19.b.1.8.	Road.	1500 rounds.
K.2.d.	Track areas.	500 rounds.

1,000 rounds were used on A.A. fire against low flying E.A.

(d) Patrols.Right Brigade.

A patrol of 1 Officer and 20 O.Rs. with L.G. reconnoitred 5 posts running from K.19.c.5.2. to K.19.c.5.4. A number of rifles, flares, helmets, Lewis gun panniers and a periscope were found. Some of the posts showed signs of recent occupation. Some concertina wire was seen at approx. K.19.c.5.3. No contact was established. A second patrol found a line of rifle pits running parallel to our line at K.7.d.7.4. They showed no signs of recent occupation. A third patrol located posts at K.13.d.1.6. (2 active M.Gs.), K.13.b.15.05. (1 M.G.) and at K.13.b.25.50. (2 M.Gs.). A post at K.13.b.40.65. was found to be unoccupied.

Left Brigade. A patrol of 1 Officer and 15 O.Rs. with a Lewis gun, left E.26.c.0.1. at 10 p.m. to attack the enemy post at E.26.c.1.7. When within 20 yards, a salvo of bombs was thrown, and after a burst had been fired from the Lewis gun, the post was rushed, but was found to be unoccupied. There were signs of recent occupation, and it is suspected that this post is used as an alternative one to others in close proximity. After replenishing the supply of bombs the patrol moved out to investigate the post at E.26.c.4.5. and got within 20 yards when the enemy opened fire with rifles, bombs and M. G. Owing to the brightness of the night, the patrol did not attempt to rush the post.

(e) Sniping. An enemy sniper was shot at approx. K.2.a.4.9. Two other Germans were shot at K.2.a.2.8. and K.2.c.0.0.

(f) Aircraft. Our 'planes were active throughout the period. A number of photographs were taken.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. - Nil.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Normal. About 200 rounds 77 mm. YELLOW Cross gas fell on J.12.c., J.18.a., J.11.c. and d., J.17.b. and d., and 100 rounds on the same area from 3 a.m. to 4.45 a.m. From 1 a.m. to 2 a.m. 150 rounds di-phosgene and lachrymator fell in D.30.b. At 5.15 a.m. HEILLY was shelled with 10.5 cm. J.10., J.11., J.16., J.22.d., J.23., D.30.b. and J.6.c. were also lightly shelled during the period apart from gas shelling above-mentioned.

P.T.O.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. - Quiet.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

- (a) Works. A post is suspected at K.2.a.4.9.
- (b) Machine Guns. Active at K.13.d.50.05. and from unlocated positions on T.Bs of 71° and 114° from J.23.d.35.20.
- (c) Trench Mortars. L.M.Ws at K.8.a.3.4., K.2.d.4.2. and K.8.c.1.4. were active throughout the period. Mortars were active at K.8.c.3.8. and K.8.a.9.8. They were silenced by our artillery.
- (d) Flares. Large flares, which burst into a golden fan, are used by the enemy to illuminate No Man's Land. They are very effective.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Fairly active. Bombs were dropped on HEILLY during the night. Enemy machines attempting to cross our lines were driven back by our A.A. fire.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Movement of individuals was seen on the high ground E of MORLANCOURT. Men with packs were seen moving along the DERNANCOURT/MEAULTE Road. Officers and men have been noticed moving to and from K.4.b.30.75 where a Headquarters is suspected. A considerable amount of movement was noticed at K.16.d.2.5. and K.16.c.80.35. At 4.10 pm two stationary trains were seen on the line in F.22.d. and F.26.b. At 4.30 p.m. a train with 6 covered wagons moved East along the line in F.26.b. Considerable movement was noticed in K.15.c and d.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

A searchlight was observed on a T.B. of 132° from J.23.d.35.20.

M. S. Dainton
for

Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

ANNEXE attached.

ANNEXE TO 2ND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 138.

=====

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES (I.S.161).

Situation.

Up to the present 13 Divisions have been identified on the Southern battle front, but it seems probable that at least 20 divisions attacked in the front line, including both divisions of the 3rd BRANDENBURG Corps and a Guard division.

NOTES ON AIR PHOTOGRAPHS.

A new series of photos taken on the 28th instant are now available. A number of these show our front systems clearly, and will enable maps to be checked accordingly.

A3AEA.474 (62.D., J.24.d. and K.19, 25, 26.a). A large amount of enemy activity is clearly shown in K.19.b. and d., including improvement of the C.T., the running out of a sap from the front line, and great activity to and from a large number of what are in many cases apparently artificial shell hole positions in rear of the front line. There are a number of clearly defined and frequently used trenches.

A3AEA.471 also shows a large amount of activity, with a number of well used tracks.

A3AEA.470 shows positions astride of the BRAY - CORBIE road. Development of shell hole positions are again noticeable here behind the enemy lines.

A3AEA.458 shows enemy positions north of the river ANCRE to the railway.

A3AEA.467 shows the cross roads at E.26.c.75.10. from where M.G. and T.M. activity have been reported. A shell hole line is also shown to the east of these cross roads.

A3AEA. shows considerable movement across country from E.28.d. to the rifle pits, behind the railway in E.27.c., also at E.27.c.52.45.

A3AEA.468 shows activity and a large amount of work south of the cross roads at K.8.d.75.30. *Just*

A3AEA.469 shows a great deal of work on a new communication trench.

Close observation of these points should produce good results, ARMY REPORTS. and possibly favourable targets,

French Morning report: 1st American Division attacked village of CANTIGNY, 5000 metres N.W. of MONTDIDIER. Assisted by French tanks, they captured the village. 142 prisoners taken to date.

APPROX. LINE "RHEIMS - SOISSONS" BATTLE FRONT.

ERIMONT, LOIVRE, VILLERS - FRANQUEUX, ROUILLON, CHENAY - MUIZON, COURCELLES - SAPIECOURT, SAVIGNY-sur-ARDRE, ARCIS, DRAVEGNY, MAREUIL-en-DOLE, LOUPEIGNE, BRANGES, MAAST-ET-VIOLAINE, NAMPTEUIL-sous-MURET, CHABRISE-AMBRIEF, BILLY-sur-AISNE, VILLENEUVE - ST.GERMAIN, CROUY, BAAYE, VUILLERY, TERNY-SORNY, LEUILLY.

The enemy claims to have captured 15,000 prisoners.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS WEEKLY SUMMARY
OF MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE
FOR THE WEEK ENDING 29th MAY, 1918.

(All items, unless expressly stated, are taken from the Army Intelligence Summary).

1. ANALYSIS OF CLASSES OF 264 PRISONERS
CAPTURED ON 19-5-18.

<u>CLASSES.</u>	<u>NUMBER.</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE.</u>
1920 (Volunteer).	1	0.38.
1919	47	17.80.
1918	28	10.60.
1917	33	12.50.
1916	14	5.30.
1915	15	5.68.
1914	13	4.93.
1913	10	3.79.
1912	7	2.65.
Landsturm 1895/1900	7	2.65.
" 1901/1905	12	4.55.
" 1906/1910	16	6.06.
" 1911	3	1.14.
Ersatz Reserve.	18	6.82.
Reservists 1905/1911	18	6.82.
Landwehr 1897/1900	5	1.89.
" 1901/1905	14	5.30.
" 1906/1907	3	1.14.
<u>Total.</u>	<u>264</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

2. RECRUIT DEPOT.

The Recruit Depot of the 18th Div. is at BOUISCOT. It consisted of four companies, of which three had an approximate strength of 300 - 350 men each, mostly returned wounded, and the 4th Coy. (1919 Class only) 600 strong.

3. GERMAN CORPS AND ARMY BOUNDARIES.

A map found in VILLE-sur-ANCRE of a later date than those previously captured, shows that the 17th German Army side slipped southwards between the 15th April and the 15th May. The exact date is now known, but it is probably May 4th, on which date, according to a document, the 3rd Naval Division was transferred from the 2nd Army to the 17th Army.

The southern boundary of the 17th Army now runs from a point north-east of BOUZINCOURT, in W.8.a. to W.15.a., thence east, including AVELUY village. It cuts the BAPAUME - ALBERT road in X.14.a., and thence runs parallel to, and north of, the LA BOISELLE - CONTALMAISON road.

The same map shows that, between April 15th and May 15th, a re-organisation of the order of battle between the Army boundary mentioned above, and the SOMME, took place. The XXIII Reserve, which, according to German maps, dated the 14th April, was holding the front from half way through ALBERT to the SOMME, has been withdrawn, and replaced by the extension southwards of the XIII Corps (2nd Army), which now holds from the southern boundary of the 17th German Army, to a line drawn east and west through SALLY-le-SEC. South of this line, the front is held by one regiment of the 24th Reserve Division, which is astride the SOMME, and, presumably, belongs to the XIV Corps.

The Germans, therefore, have weakened their front by the withdrawal of a Corps Staff north of the SOMME since, probably, May 4th.

4. ARTILLERY ALLOTTED TO A DIVISION.

A document found in GRIVESNES and dated the 9th May, gave the following allotment of artillery to the 76th Reserve Division.

The total number of batteries was 28, divided into 7 groups (Abteilungen) of 3 batteries each; 21 of these were field gun batteries and 7 heavy batteries. Taking into account that the division was holding a front of 3 km. 500m. this allotment is below normal as far as the heavy artillery is concerned; the normal density of artillery laid down for a defensive sector is 11 batteries per kilometre (6 Field gun batteries and 5 heavy batteries).

5. FIELD MARSHAL VON MACKENSEN.

According to a German official report the military administration in Rumania is to be dissolved; the remaining official posts have been put under the command of Mackenson.

1. 1st	1	1st	1st
2. 2nd	2	2nd	2nd
3. 3rd	3	3rd	3rd
4. 4th	4	4th	4th
5. 5th	5	5th	5th
6. 6th	6	6th	6th
7. 7th	7	7th	7th

8. 8th	8	8th	8th
9. 9th	9	9th	9th
10. 10th	10	10th	10th
11. 11th	11	11th	11th
12. 12th	12	12th	12th
13. 13th	13	13th	13th
14. 14th	14	14th	14th
15. 15th	15	15th	15th
16. 16th	16	16th	16th
17. 17th	17	17th	17th
18. 18th	18	18th	18th
19. 19th	19	19th	19th
20. 20th	20	20th	20th
21. 21st	21	21st	21st
22. 22nd	22	22nd	22nd
23. 23rd	23	23rd	23rd
24. 24th	24	24th	24th
25. 25th	25	25th	25th
26. 26th	26	26th	26th
27. 27th	27	27th	27th
28. 28th	28	28th	28th

The 17th Army... it consisted of... of which three had an approximate strength of 300... and the 4th Coy. (1919 Class) only 200 strong.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 3 p.m. 29th to 3 p.m. 30th May, 1918.

No. 139.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.* OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the afternoon a working party at E.27.d. 95.75., and movement at K.10.c.00.60., K.10.b. and K.2.b. were effectively dealt with by 4.5" Hows. and 18-pdrs. Trenches in E.28.c., and suspected H.Q. at E.26.c.70.15. were bombarded. At 10.15 p.m. and 2.30 a.m. our Field guns concentrated fire on selected targets, shooting in each instance continuing for one hour. Direct hits are reported on M.W. at J.8.c.10.40. and E.28.b.70.70. and the crew of a M.W. at K.3.c.80.80. was dispersed.

(b) Trench Mortars. At 3 a.m. 6" Newton T.Ms. carried out a minor operation, 96 rounds being expended on the following points:- K.2.c.25.40., K.2.c.10.60., K.2.c.90.50., K.2.c.90.85., K.2.a.80.40., K.2.a.75.75., E.26.d.25.75., E.26.d.10.60. There was no retaliation to this shoot.

The Right Brigade fired 50 rounds 3" Stokes on enemy posts at K.13.b.4.6. and K.13.b.4.7. Good bursts were observed on the targets. The Left Brigade fired 155 rounds on enemy front posts and M.G. positions at intervals during the night.

(c) Machine Guns. The following targets were engaged during the night:- K.14.a.1.9. to K.8.c.1., enemy trenches, 1500 rounds; K.2.d.4.2., trench mortars, 1500 rounds; K.19.d.0.0. to K.19.d.1.2., road, 1500 rounds; K.2.c. and d., tracks, 2,500 rounds.

750 rounds were expended on A.A. fire.

(d) Aircraft. Our planes were very active, crossing our lines in large formations during the day and night. Patrolling was also carried out under heavy A.A. fire. 3 indecisive combats took place during the evening. On the morning of the 30th a Sopwith plane forced a German PFALZ DIII to land in I.5.c.

(e) Patrols.

Right Brigade. At 10.30 p.m. a patrol occupied the line of rifle pits from K.19.c.5.2. to K.19.c.5.4. No contact was established. The patrol returned at 3 a.m.

A patrol of 2 O.Rs. found 5 low trip wires at K.19.c.8.8. An enemy working party was seen moving about at K.19.c.85.80. A M.G. was seen firing from approx. K.19.central.

A patrol going out from K.13.c.80.35. moved 150 yards east then 500 yards north. No contact was obtained.

A third patrol observed an enemy working party at K.8.c.3.8., which was dispersed by our artillery.

Left Brigade. A patrol located two active M.G. posts at K.2.c.1.8. and K.2.a.1.5. 1 Officer and 9 O.Rs. left K.7.b.1.2. and proceeded along the valley to K.7.a., where the enemy was seen digging at approx. K.8.a.7.9. The patrol then became aware that another party of the enemy was moving in their rear. This party was attacked with rifle and rifle grenade fire. Our patrol then withdrew. It is not known whether casualties were caused.

1 Officer and 20 O.Rs. with a L.G. established themselves at E.26.c.1.7. in order to attack any enemy patrols. Nothing was seen of the enemy, and the patrol withdrew after waiting 1 1/2 hours.

Other parties patrolled the front but did not establish contact.

(f) Sniping. Right Brigade Snipers claim 4 hits. 3 of the enemy were accounted for at K.2.a.2.9. and K.2.a.1.5. At the latter post 2 rifles and a M.G. were observed on the parapet. These were fired on by our snipers, who smashed one of the rifles and hit the M.G. several times.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 77th Pursuit Flight (prisoner captured 30:5:18).

P.T.O.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Below normal, with a marked decrease in gas shelling. Battery areas in J.15. and J.16.a. were lightly shelled. About 20 rds. 10.5 cm fell on our front posts. There was light shelling of the ANCRE Valley, including HEILLY and MERICOURT, and J.15. 16. 17. 22 and 24. During the afternoon of the 30 inst. FRECHENCOURT was shelled with 3 rds. from a 15 cm H.V.gun.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. - Quiet.

Enemy Intentions. An Aspirant Officer of the 77th Pursuit Squadron, captured this morning, stated that he thought a number of the best Divisions in reserve on this front had gone down to the CHAMPAGNE, and that there would be no activity on the SOMME front. These statements are without confirmation.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Works. About 50 yds. of newly dug trench has been observed at K.2.b.4.0. This is partially camouflaged. A new post is suspected at E.14.d.5.1.

(b) Machine Guns. Guns were active at K.19.c.9.2., K.19.b.2.0., K.19.b.6.7., K.19.central., and K.13.b.50.35.

(c) Trench Mortars. - Inactive.

(d) Snipers. - Inactive.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Hostile aircraft was active, though there was a decrease in bombing activity. A PFALZ DIII, single seater, of the 77th Pursuit Flight was forced to land. The pilot - an Aspirant Officer - was captured uninjured.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Fairly continuous movement was observed at K.15.d.3.4. Smoke from engines was observed on two occasions on the line in F.26. About 100 horses were seen grazing in F.29., and L.5.a. Two engines drawing trucks were also seen going Eastwards in F.26. Continuous movement of transports was observed along the road in F.29.c. Most of the traffic was going south.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

The Left Bn. of our Right Bde. succeeded in intercepting a code message which was flashed from the rear of MORLANCOURT.

11. TYPES OF 'PLANES. The 77th Pursuit Flight appears to have the following types of 'planes. :- PFALZ DIII. FOKKER. DV. ALBATROS DIII. ALBATROS DV.

12. AERODROMES. There is a flying school at VALENCIENNES.(doc). An Aerodrome is mentioned at NEUVILLE. (doc).

13. FLIGHTS. The RICHTHOFEN Circus is stated to be on the CHAMPAGNE front.

The 77th Pursuit Flight has been in the 2nd German Army area for some time. (P.S.) Prisoner was very anxious to assure his captors that he was a Bavarian, and not a Prussian, and on being questioned as to the moral of certain troops, replied that it was poor, but that was because they were Prussians. This was the second flight undertaken by the prisoner, who was escorting a photographic machine in company with other 'planes from his Flight. On being attacked by Sopwiths, the photographic machine flew back and the prisoner became separated from his Flight. He stated that a bullet from one of our 'planes must have pierced his tank, as his petrol supply gave out. He lost his sense of direction while trying to avoid our 'planes and landed behind our lines under heavy A.A.fire.

Prisoner stated that a brother of V.RICHTHOFEN was seriously injured in a collision a short time ago.

ANNEXE attached.

W. J. G. G. G.
Lieut. Colonel.
General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

ANNEXE to 2nd AUST.DIV. I.S. No. 139.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. (I.S.No. 162.)

ATTACK ON THE AISNE BATTLE FRONT.

The artillery preparation for the attack on the AISNE, on the morning of the 27th, consisted of an intense bombardment of three hours duration along the whole front between VAUXAILLON and BRIMONT. The bombardment followed a period of marked calm. The forward system, battery positions and rear areas up to a depth of 12 km. were all engaged. Gas shells were largely used, particularly against valleys, roads and communication trenches. Tanks are reported to have been used at CRAONNE and VILLE-aux-BOIS on the front held by the British troops.

On this battle front, 21 divisions, of which 3 were fresh and 18 were withdrawn from the SOMME front, have been identified.

SHORTAGE OF HORSES.

A prisoner of the 241st F.A. Regt., states that, in his Regt., the gun teams consist of only 4 horses and wagon teams of 2. From an examination of a large number of prisoners, it appears that the Germans are finding considerable difficulty in obtaining light draught horses. On the other hand, they have a fairly large number of Belgian horses for their heavy artillery: Russian horses are used for the transport of infantry companies, and to draw machine gun vehicles.

The horses are, as a rule, in poor condition and underfed. Further information with regard to the shortage of draught horses is required and prisoners, particularly artillery prisoners, should be examined on this point.

AUSTRIAN ARTILLERY.

Reports have been received that shrapnel fired at our aircraft were observed to burst with a pinkish colour.

A pink burst is typical of AUSTRIAN anti-aircraft and field gun shrapnel. This fact may assist in the detection and identification of AUSTRIAN artillery units, and should be brought to the notice of all observers.

Specimens are required of the enemy's anti-aircraft H.E. shell and shrapnel, particularly from areas where pink bursts have been observed.

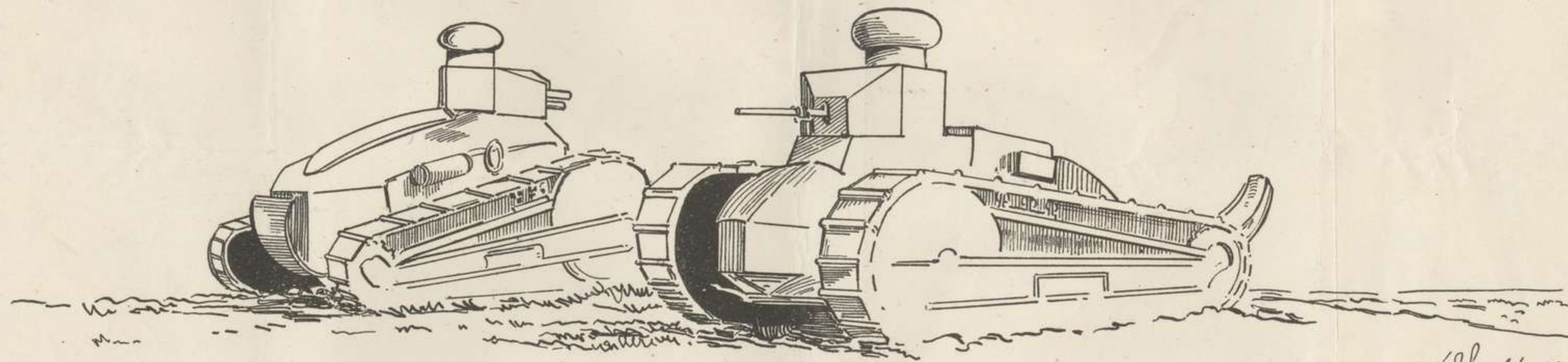
GERMAN AMMUNITION TANKS.

Prisoners captured by the French state having seen, towards the end of April, 3 "caterpillars," known as TANKAUTOS, which are used for the transport of heavy artillery ammunition across broken country. According to the prisoner's description, their dimensions are:- length, 25 - 26'; height, 10'; width, 8'.

This tank is driven by "caterpillars," stated to be completely covered in. As in the German fighting tank, the engine is placed in the centre, the officer and the 2 drivers sitting above it. From the driver's seat, a good, all round view is said to be obtained.

In front of, and behind the engine are the ammunition compartments. No armament is carried, nor is the tank protected by armour. The body is of wood.

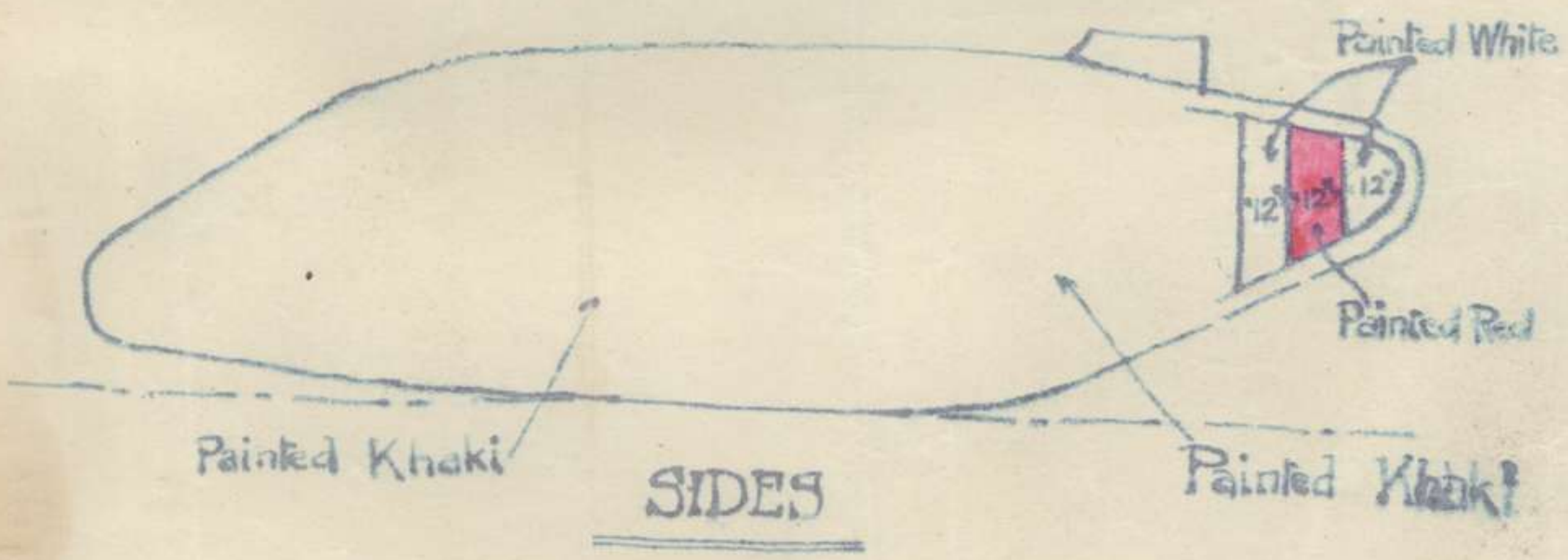
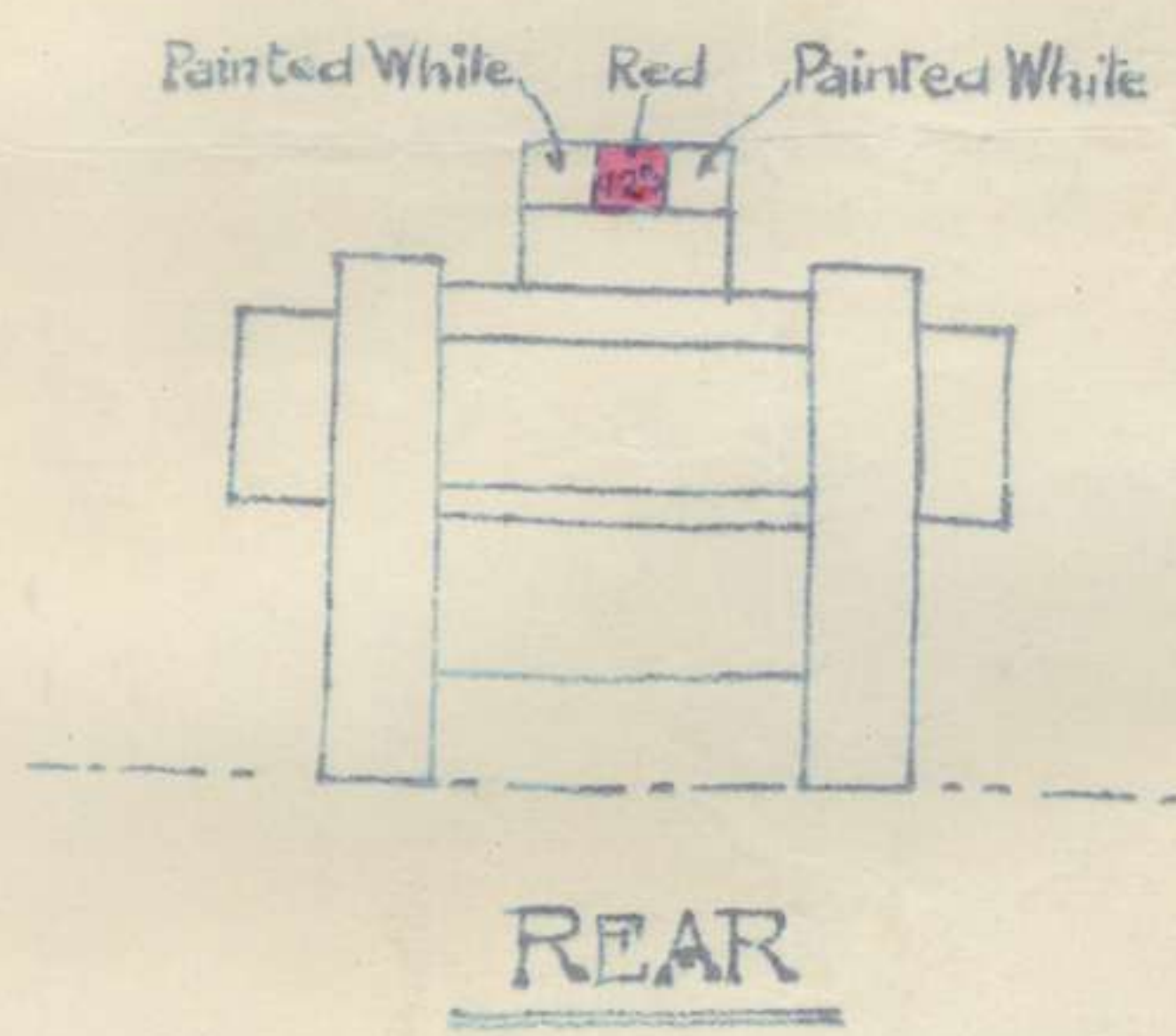
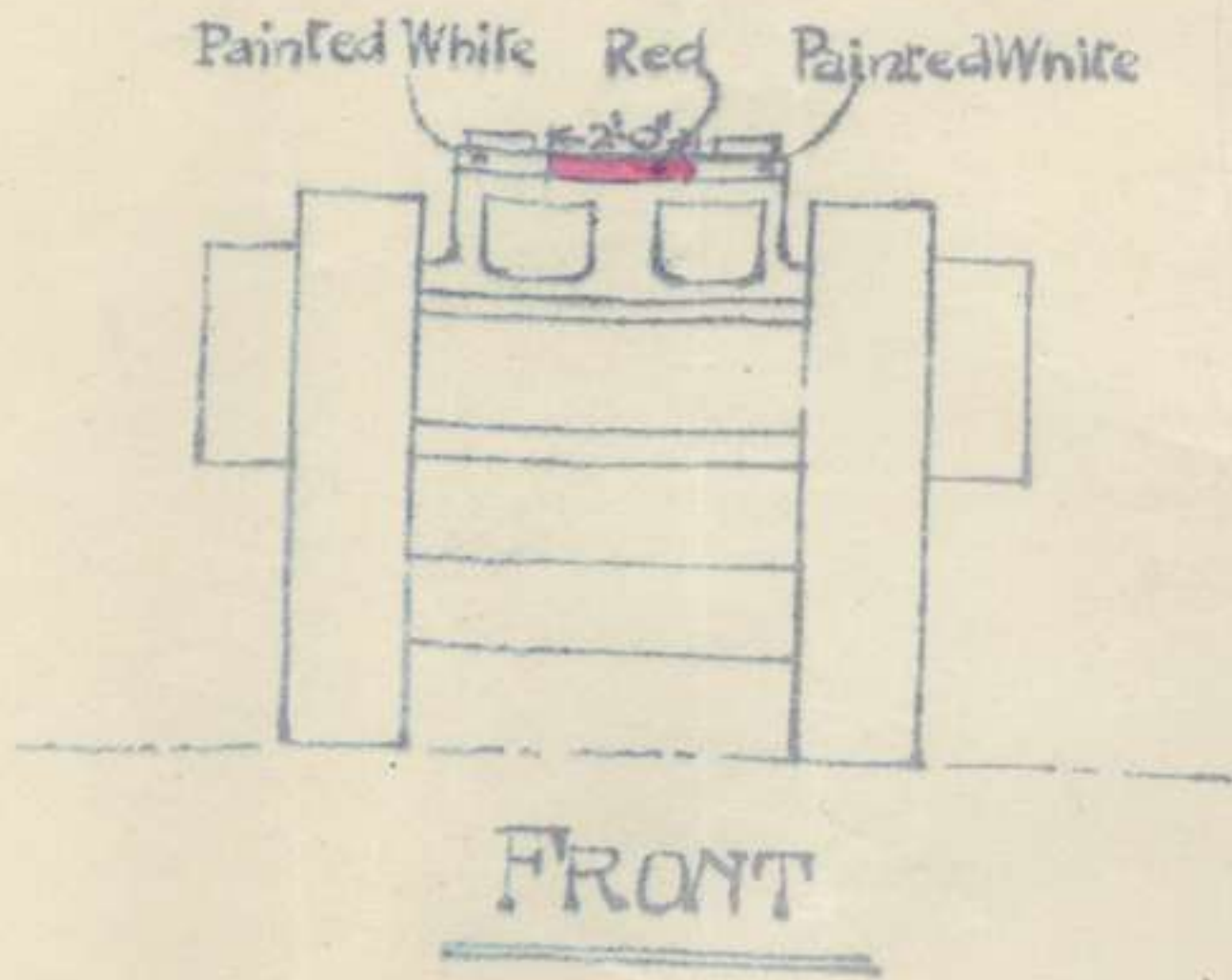
ROUGH SKETCH OF A FRENCH LIGHT TANK (RENAULT)



Lt. Genl. Leath Baron

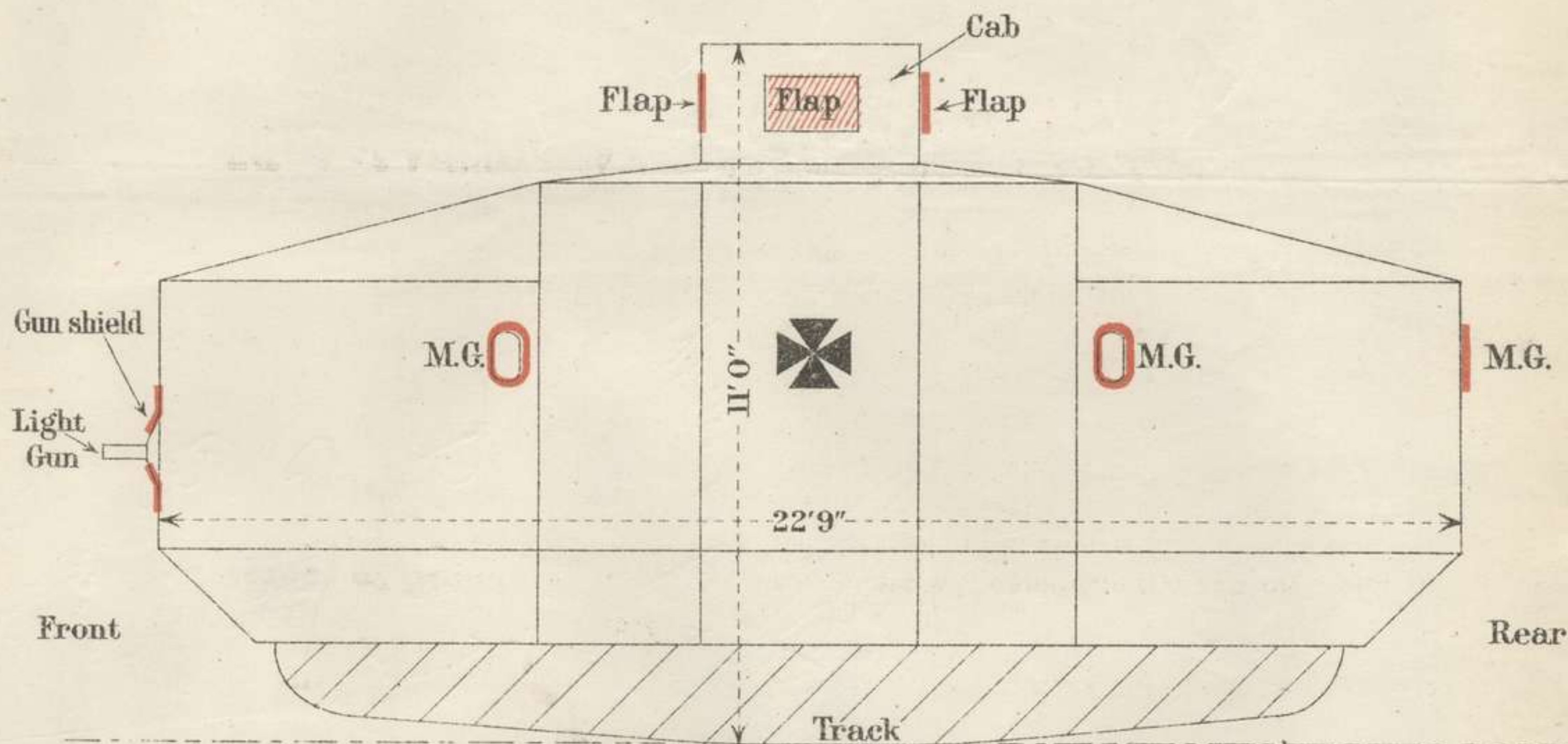
Height = 2 Metres.
Length = 4 Metres.
Weight = 6 Tons.

DISTINGUISHING MARKS of BRITISH TANKS



GERMAN TANK

SKETCH OF TANK USED AT VILLERS-BRETONNEUX
ON 24TH APRIL, 1918.



Extreme Width 9'6"

Side View

NOTES.

Vulnerable Points.—The points most vulnerable to rifle and machine gun bullets are shown thus:— —

Effect of Bullets.—Armour-piercing bullets will penetrate the cab on top of the tank. This and the flaps of all the apertures shown above are vulnerable against the "splash" of ordinary bullets, that is to say, small particles of molten metal, formed on the impact of the bullet, splash through the joints of the flap and wound the crew.

There is a space between the gun shield and the front of the tank through which bullets can pass.

It is known that, during the Villers-Bretonneux attack, our machine gun and rifle fire wounded some of the German machine gunners and effectively kept down their fire.

Effect of Artillery.—A direct hit will put the tank out of action.

Capabilities.—The tank cannot cross a wide trench (8 feet wide or over) or large shell holes.

Marking.—The German tank is marked with a black Maltese cross, similar to that used on German aeroplanes.

General Staff (Intelligence),
General Headquarters.

5th May, 1918.

Issued down to battalions.

A B
B M
C M
D A

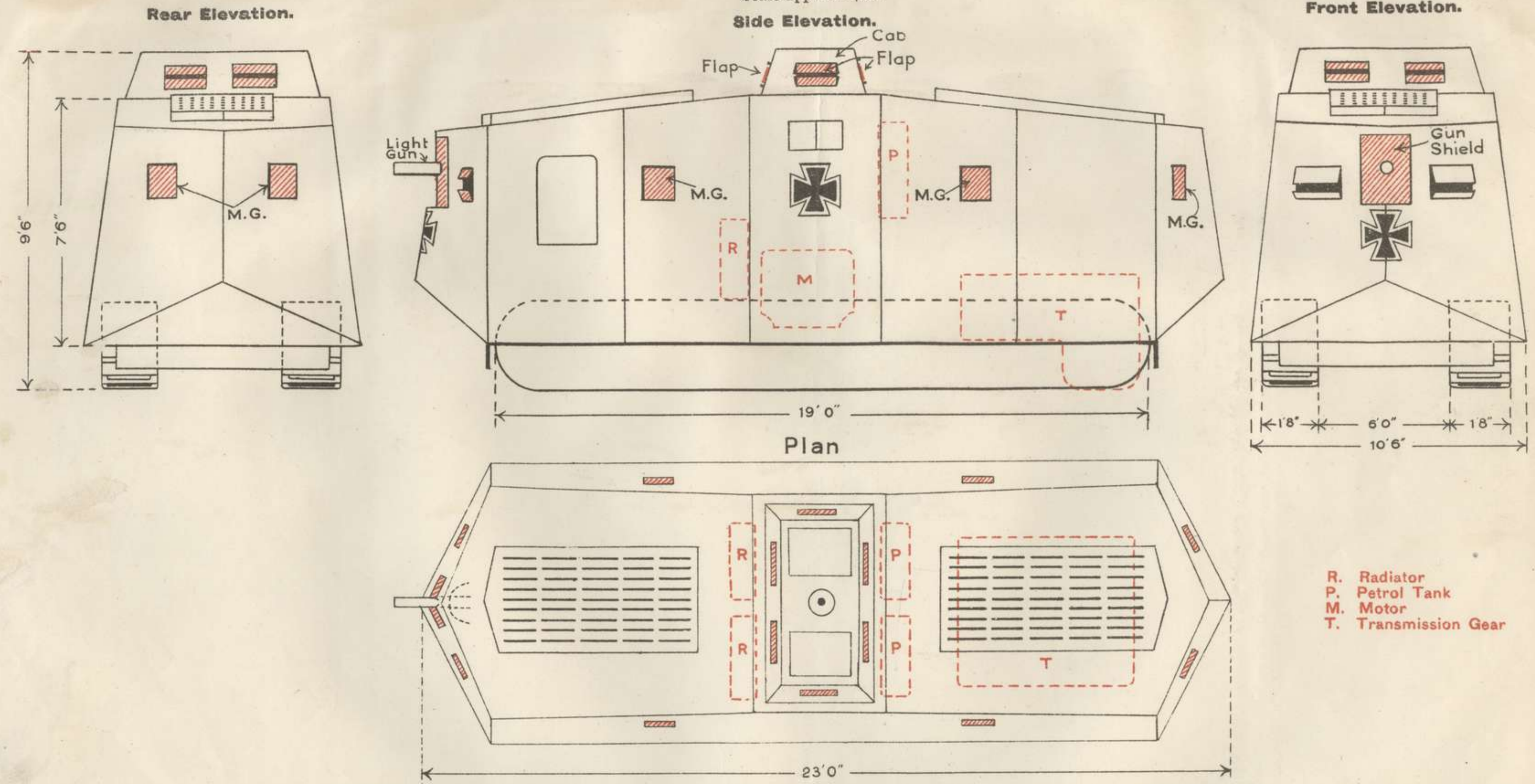
Please note & pass

J. B. [unclear]

SKETCH OF A GERMAN TANK CAPTURED ON APRIL 24th, SOUTH OF VILLERS-BRETTONNEUX.

91

Scale approx. 1/50.



R. Radiator
P. Petrol Tank
M. Motor
T. Transmission Gear

NOTES.

Points most vulnerable to Rifle and Machine Gun bullets shown hatched in red. French A.P. bullets have penetrated the cab. Ordinary bullets pass through apertures if flap is open, and through space between Gun Shield and front of Tank. The "splash" of ordinary bullets is effective against cab, and against Machine Gun emplacements. Armour Plate is of poor quality, and there is no protection against the "splash" of an ordinary bullet. This Tank cannot cross a large trench (8 feet or over) or large shell holes.

FIELD SURVEY CO., R.E. (3582) 10.5.18

ARTILLERY.

A direct hit will put this Tank out of action. The most favourable moment for firing at the Tank is when in crossing an obstacle, it exposes its under-carriage. This is undoubtedly its most vulnerable part.

Above Drawings are made from direct measurements of an actual Tank and from Photographs of same.

APPENDIX 91
250

91

251 91

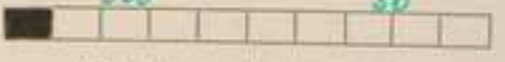
251



Monsieu, 12th May, 1918.
Sector **DERNACOURT to BRAY-CORBIE** Road.

(Photos taken between 3rd and 9th May, 1918.)

Scale: 1000 yards divided into 100 yards.



Grid Lines only approximate.

----- Approximate British Front Line.

257 91

91

APPT-101A

252
APPENDIX



A.3. AE. A. 358.
62 P.E. 25. C. D. 26. C. K. I. 2. A. C.
16. 5. 18. 12.

+

+

A. 3. AE. A. 354.
62° D. 29. d. 30. c. d. J. 5. b. d. 6.
16. 5. 18. 12. 12. 2. b.



Appenau
854

Map - missing

Map with
H. Clarke 12-10-20