

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/56/25 PART 1

**Title:** 39th Infantry Battalion

May 1918 Appendices



AWM4-23/56/25PART1



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Original

War Diary

Summary of Events of Information

of  
39th Batt. A.I.F.  
for the month of  
May 1918.

Remarks and references to Appendix

Walter A. Shaw Lt.  
39th Batt. A.I.F.

C. G. Peterson  
Lt. Col.  
Comd. 39th Batt. A.I.F.



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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39<sup>th</sup> Batt. A.I.F.

Army Form C. 2118.

May 1918.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>Moencourt L'abbé. (Map Ref FRANCE 62°NE.)</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> May</p>		<p><u>Batt Strength.</u> <span style="float: right;"><u>May Day.</u></span>                      45 offrs 106 NCO. 670 men                      2 men at the Divisional Wing taken on strength.                      Lieut Fryer evacuated sick.                      Batt occupying the Support Batt. Line Dispositions front to left. D.C.A. + B.                      Headquarters in Chateau opp. church in Moencourt L'abbé.                      Weather good altho signs of wet weather.                      Lt Col Bruce in the absence of Lt Col Davies at present Bde Anti Aircraft Lewis Gun officer, carries on the duties of Batt. L.G.O.                      Lt Col McDonald in charge of operations.                      During the evening whilst inspecting new works being carried out in trenches to the rear of Abbey Capt Richards was hit in the arm by a stray bullet and evacuated.                      Lt Mitchell from 6 Coy took over the duties as Coy commander of 6 Coy.                      During the evening work was carried out in forward area by this batt; construction of an outpost line. Strength of parties etc shown in the appendix.</p>	
<p>Moencourt L'abbé.</p>	<p>2<sup>nd</sup> May</p>		<p><u>Batt Strength</u> 44 off 106 NCO. 674 men                      4 men on strength. Capt Richards evacuated wounded.                      Weather fairly good. The enemy shelled batteries in T9 to some time as on last evening on forward area.                      Other base very quiet. Similar work carried out on forward area.</p>	



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37th Batt a.i.f.  
May 1918

Army Form C. 2118.

Remarks and references to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Mearns L'Abbe.	20 May		<p>Lt Mitchell as CO of Left flank Coy got touch with a Coy of the Queens of the 45th Division. Coy commander of said Coy made his way to the Batt. HQs where he picked up a runner who took him up to B Coy where he met Lt Mitchell, who after a mutual understanding of the situation directed him to his HQs.</p>	
Mearns L'Abbe.	20 May		<p>Batt Strength 44 off. 106 u.s. Coy 2 men evacuated wounded. Lt Lelman returned from Gas School. Weather still holds. One of our planes fell in flames in front of A Coy sector. Both pilot and observer killed. Their names were Lt Brown + Dovich of the R.F.C. The personal effects were sent to Bde. Bodies removed by members of the R.F.C. During the day Col Peterson Capt Allsop Rtdo Lt James + Shaw visited Lt Mitchell at B Coy then went to interview the CO of the Queens, who treated us with the utmost courtesy. The other batts are Surrey + Buff. During the evening the usual forward area was supplied as shown in the appendix.</p>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Mourcoint Labbé.	May 4 <sup>th</sup>		<p><u>Batt Strength</u> 44 offrs 106 NCOs 670 men            1 NCO 5 men taken on strength. 2 men transferred off strength.            4 men evacuated sick. 1 NCO reverted to Pte.            2 illegal absentees struck off strength.            Weather fairly good. Coy commandets visited forward area            reference the relief on night of 4/5<sup>th</sup> nothing further to note            The actual relief by 37<sup>th</sup> by 39<sup>th</sup> went off with little trouble            altho a slight hitch occurred in the support <sup>line</sup> which            delayed the relief somewhat.            During the day the usual aerial activity and battery drapes.            Pte W. McDonald in charge of Rations.            Throughout the evening a counter preparation stunt was            carried out</p>	
Mourcoint Labbé.	May 5 <sup>th</sup>		<p><u>Batt Strength</u> 44 offrs 105 NCOs 668 men            1 NCO taken on strength            1 Dunstan struck off sick</p>	

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39th Batt A.I.F.  
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Mareuil L'Abbe'	May 5th		<p>In occupation of the Mareuil Wood Sector.                      Weather dull owing to rain. During the early part of morning several instances of shot shooting occurred. Artillery notified. Hostile Operations very inactive during the morning. During the day our trench mortars were active in KIA 4030. Very good shooting observed.                      In the afternoon the weather cleared, a rifle thus enabling our planes to operate altho enemy planes did not put in an appearance. Observers reported limited and normal movement. At 11.45 pm the 9th Bde on our pt. attacked German trenches on a front of 1500 yards. To conform with the new line and protect the flank of the 9th Bde a special patrol <del>is</del> under Lt Miles with 2 Lewis Guns pushed out from our right flank. On obtaining touch with the 9th Bde new posts were constructed at T1769010 + T1767545. By dawn these posts were well down.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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May 1918.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Marricourt L'abbé.	May 5th		<p>The 9th Bde attack was a great success and resulted in the taking of objectives and prisoners to the extent of 2 officers and 165 OR.                      During the actual attack very little retaliation resulted as the Germans really thought it was only a raid.                      For particulars see appendix.                      Lieut J. M. Prentice acted as Liaison with the 35th Bn.</p>	
Marricourt L'abbé	May 6th		<p><u>Batt Strength</u> 44 offrs 105 NCOs 664 men                      1 man evacuated wounded. 3 men evac. sick.                      During the early hours our artillery very active on enemy forward area.                      At break of dawn our artillery planes became active. At 7am one of the Australian RE8 machines was attacked by 4 enemy triplanes and driven down in flames. Both pilot and observer (Lt J. D. Buckland) killed.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">J.S.</p>

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39th Batt A.I.F.  
May 1918.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Monsieur Lasse.	May 6th		<p>At 6 am heavy hostile barrage consisting of instantaneous 4.2° + 5.9° by J6d + K1C. Some direct hits were obtained on our posts but when he dropped his own line in the Dunker road in K1B + K1C the occupants immediately sent up Golden Rain Rockets until barrage ceased.</p> <p>Thro out the day our planes were very active.</p> <p>Hostile artillery very active on J6c J6d Tra Morett Wood In a Truse &amp; support batt. Line.</p> <p>Enemy planes inactive and movement normal.</p> <p>During the evening Lt August Lt Stanley and Lt Boles assisted by a fighting patrol under the latter officer and a working party of the 39th Bn under Lt Dentice 39th attempted to push out of post in K7a but owing to the heavy hostile MG fire and the extreme darkness of the night nothing was done. For report see appendix.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Mercoourt L'abbé.	May 7th		<p><u>Batt Strength</u> 44 officers 105 NCOs 662 men 1 man killed in action; 1 man was wounded.</p> <p>Morning very dark with heavy rain. Between 9.30am &amp; 4am faint preparation of artillery. During the day our batteries only fired retaliation fire. When the weather cleared up our plans became active. Hostile shelling became heavy over forward area especially the post line. Shelled Gunken road in KIC occupants sending up Golden Rain Rockets. Very little enemy movement. At 10pm a minor enterprise was carried out with the assistance of artillery and thus enabled us to place 4 posts as follows No 1 K792520 (3) K792064 No 2 K792542 (4) K790095</p>	

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3rd Batt A.I.F.  
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Moucron L'Abbe'	May 7th		Lt W. Wells was unfortunately killed by a shell during the operation. Report of operation attached as an appendix.	
Moucron L'Abbe'	May 8th		<p>Along to Lt W. Wells being evacuated wounded. Lt A. E. Bruce carried on his duties as O.C. Rations or Supplies. Lt L. McKenzie was wounded during operations.</p> <p><u>Batt Strength</u></p> <p>49 Off to 107 N.O. 668 men 2 N.O. + 8 men taken on strength 1 Officer Lt L. McKenzie + 2 men evacuated wounded</p> <p>Weather fine. Air planes active all day. Artillery normally active on both sides. Movement only normal. Planes on both sides busy between 7 pm + 8 pm. About 8 pm, 6" Newtons put 100 rds into sunken road in H.I.B. Good shooting excellent results, verified by prisoners. 3 taken during the night, belonging to 237th Infantry Regt. 1 of 199th Provisional also verified by occupants of No 4 post.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Maricourt L'abbé.	May 8th		<p>For information see appendix (Intell Summary).</p> <p>Very little hostile shelling during the evening.</p> <p>At 9.30 pm a special patrol under Lt Gratton DCM. and Oberon operated on left of Sector towards Velle sur Inere in conjunction with 40th Bn patrols operating on north of the village, object being to thoroughly reconnoitre the village with a view to finding out how held. 40th Bn patrol ran up against heavy opposition whilst our patrol got to the works, but owing to the lack of cooperation the patrol had to return altho they brought back very useful information concerning how the enemy held the village. The proposed capturing of the village had to be abandoned.</p> <p>See attached appendix</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Mercoirt L'abbé.	May 9 <sup>th</sup>		<p><u>Batt Strength</u> 40 officers 105 NCOs 665 men</p> <p>10 off Lt Noble killed in action                  1 off Lt Mac? Wounded Lt McDonald.                  1 NCO transferred Off strength                  1 NCO Lt Mac? Sick wounded                  1 man " " Sick                  2 men " " Sick</p> <p>Lt Bruce evacuated wounded</p> <p>Weather fine. Artillery on both sides normally active                  When Lt A &amp; Bruce had finished the Superintending                  of the delivery of rations he left P. 30 at about P. 30 am                  with the intention of returning to Mercoirt; as he                  got near the support on line a stray shell burst near                  him badly wounding him in the lung &amp; leg. He                  subsequently died at the 665 at Querrin.</p> <p>Planes on both sides active all day. very little ground                  movement noticed.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Maremont L'Abbé.	May 9 <sup>th</sup> .		<p>On the previous evening advance parties of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Batt A.I.F. due to relieve the 3<sup>rd</sup> on the evening of 9/10<sup>th</sup> May. came into the line.</p> <p>The actual relief was carried out under the cover of heavy hostile artillery fire on forward and back areas. Fortunately very few casualties occurred. Maremont Wood came in for its fair share of shrapnel.</p> <p>This shrapnel made the relief late.</p>	







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39<sup>th</sup> Batt A.I.F.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bardouette Meap Ret. France br. N.W.	May 10 <sup>th</sup>		<p>nevertheless the billets for men were fairly good. The remainder of the day was given over to rest.</p> <p>"B" Echelon people joined up with the batt.</p> <p>A meeting of all officers of Batt. was held at which the Co. (Col Paterson) expressed his appreciation for the hearty cooperation of all ranks during the long spell in the line. Circular of appreciation attached.</p>	
Bardouette	May 11 <sup>th</sup>		<p><u>Batt Strength</u> 40 Offrs 105 NCO's 665 men 1 NCO + 9 men taken on strength.</p> <p>Day very fine given over to the tidying up of equipment and to bathing. An 8 Shower bath installed at Méricourt supplied hot water sufficient to enable the whole batt. to be bathed in one day.</p> <p>Col Paterson + Capt Beauchamp visited the Querrien sector of the defences, and reconnoitred same.</p> <p>The Band plays on the Square during the afternoon; excellent music reflects great credit on Sgt Rowell, the bandmaster.</p> <p>The evening being fine the area was visited by enemy bombing machines.</p>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Gardouette	May 17th		<p>Pass strength 42 off 105 No. 665 men</p> <p>Weather fine. Aircraft activity very noticeable.</p> <p>At 9 am the batt moved to the Aerodrome camp Alterville to a combined Pde church Parade and divisional medal &amp; ribbon presentation by General Sir W.K. Birdwood Corps Commander.</p> <p>After a short service at which Bishop Long of Bathurst NSW preached a short sermon mainly calling upon the lads to keep their spirits up &amp; their trust in the home people who sent them all their best and earnest wishes for a safe and speedy return. Major W. Hoop 37th assisted.</p> <p>The General then presented medals &amp; ribbons to those who had won them.</p> <p>The recipients of medals were: Military medals                  233 Sgt G. Mc Stoddart                  6055 Lt Col J. McMahon                  4595 Pte W. Partridge                  914 Sgt W. Hume                  2703 Lt Col R. E. Parrish                  10 Pte E. E. Anderson</p> <p>Recipients of military medal ribbon                  270 Pte A. Scrivener</p>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices	
Bandoneon	May 17th		<p>4530 Lt Col R Luggan          622 ✓ Cpl J White          7618 Lt Col M Olsen          1394 Lt Col M Sheridan          1357 Pte G M Mann          3007 " J A Bideto          1196 Sgt G R Frencham          1026 Pte L R G Smith          42 " J Brown          246 " J Watson          462 ✓ Sgt R Geddes Bar to M.M.</p>	<p>2368 Pte J Sheehan          2142 " M J Scott          1287 Lt Col J Folkes.</p>	
			<p>Received Ribbons          Capt A Murray Military Cross          " G R Cumming Belgian Croix de Guerre.          Capt Lumble Bde Major &amp; Capt Cumming visited B HQ.          Band played on the square during the afternoon; and was appreciated by all.          Usual bombing activity in the vicinity of Amiens during the evening.</p>		











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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cardonette	May 15th		<p>Lt Shaw attended a conference of Intelligence Officers of Division. The general situation and past experiences were discussed. Major Genl. Sir Monash lectured on Messages + Reports.</p> <p>Football team chosen to play against 39th Batt in the Bde competition. All games to be played on the Allonville Aerodrome ground.</p>	
Cardonette	May 16th		<p>Batt strength 41 off 110 NCO + 663 men</p> <p>1 NCO + 3 men evacuated sick</p> <p>3 men promoted NCO. Lt Le Fevre to Lewis Gun School at Le Toquet.</p> <p>Batt s.o Lt J. Gration</p> <p>Weather still fine. During the morning Lt Shaw visited 10th Co Coy Eng<sup>s</sup> to interview Major McCormack with respect to a Bandman.</p> <p>Training as per syllabus was undertaken.</p> <p>In the afternoon 39th played 37th a football match on the Allonville ground. The game throughout was well contested but the system of the 37th prevailed over the individuality of the 39th with the result that 37th ran out winners by 6 goals.</p>	<p>18</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																																												
Bardonecche	May 16th		<p>Usual bombing of the Amiens area at night.</p> <p><u>Promotions</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1194</td> <td>1951</td> <td>193</td> <td>1040</td> <td>2300</td> <td>2423</td> <td></td> <td>2352</td> <td>91</td> <td>2055</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Sgt</td> <td>7 Cpl</td> <td>6 Cpl</td> <td>4 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Pte</td> <td>1 Pte</td> <td>1 Pte</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Sgt</td> <td>1 Sgt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Cpl</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> <td>1 Lt</td> </tr> </table> <p>Bathing Parade with Lt J. Prantice in charge. Adjutant Lt M. Lavin is Pte Lt L. G. O. Lt W. Overton carries out the duties of En L. G. O.</p>	1194	1951	193	1040	2300	2423		2352	91	2055	1 Sgt	7 Cpl	6 Cpl	4 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Pte	1 Pte	1 Pte	1 Lt	1 Sgt	1 Sgt	1 Lt	1 Cpl	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	
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1 Sgt	7 Cpl	6 Cpl	4 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Lt	1 Pte	1 Pte	1 Pte																																																							
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Bardonecche	May 17th		<p>40 offrs 110 NCOs 669 men 1 NCO &amp; 3 men on strength. 10 off (Lt Fidler) transferred to 10th ALTM Battalion. 1 man struck off strength.</p>	<p>Hal</p>																																																												

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WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
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Cardanette

May 17th

Batt on Lt. H. Rusbrook

Weather very fine but hot.

During the morning a rehearsal of a review was held on the ground at the Allonsville Aerodrome.

The Batt of the Bde with the exception of the 40th were marched to the ground and together with transport were formed up in mass formation the boundaries staked off. When this was done to the satisfaction of the Brig. Genl the batt<sup>s</sup> marched past in column of platoons. On the completion of this from mass formation a sort of hollow square was formed. After this the batt marched home to dinner.

At 1.15 pm. the batt moved off in the order A B C + D Regts being divided up among the Coys. On being formed up in mass formation the officers taking part in review order the General Salute heralded the approach of Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig K.T. G.C.B. G.C.V.O. K.C.I.E. Commander in Chief of the British Armies in France. He was attended by Major Genl Sir J. Monash and staff. On the completion of the inspection the troops marched past in column of platoons, the C-in-C taking the salute. On the batt<sup>s</sup> marching past the Coys fell out & were interviewed.

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cardonetto	May 17th		<p>When the C-in-C. had gone Brig Gen. W. Mc Nicol formed up the parade in a hollow square &amp; told the troops that the C-in-C had expressed his surprise at the wonderful turnout and marching which would have done credit to a Regt which had never been in the line let alone one which had just gone thro' such hard fighting and severe strains. He also said that he was not satisfied with the situation until he knew that the Australians were in position at the head of the German advance.</p> <p>Brig Gen. Mc Nicol also <del>praised</del> complimented the troops on the turnout, and marching which he said had never been better. The batt then moved to billets, and on taking off equipment marched to the baths where hot showers were available.</p>	
Cardonetto	May 18th		<p>Batt Strength 40 off 110 NCO 667 men 1 NCO evacuated.</p> <p>Weather still fine. Training as per syllabus during the morning with the exception that it was suspended for those who desired to attend the Transport Review &amp; Competitions. Many availed themselves of the opportunity.</p>	

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39th Batt a.i.f. Army Form C. 2118.

May 1918.

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Cardonette

May 18th

38th Batt won the 1st Prize rather easily during the afternoon, which was extremely hot, the 37th Bn + 40th Bn contested a foot ball match. 40th won by 6 pts. At 6pm the officers of 39th assisted by 5 ORs played the 10th Field ambulance and after a hard, strenuous & well contested game were beaten by 8 goals & behinds to 8 goals & behinds.

Cardonette

May 19th

Batt strength 40 officers 109 NCO. 667 men 1 NCO transferred to O.T. Batt. Batt O.O. Lieut A Senior. Weather fine. Church parade was held at 9am in the grounds of the Chateau at Allenville. An excellent spot was chosen under the trees. Communion was taken by all those who so desired. Capt Beachamp proceeded to Blangy Trouville area to inspect proposed positions for the relief of the 4th Division by the 3rd Division. Lt Shaw & Brayford visited the area & received instructions re advance party on the morrow.

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May 1918.

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WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.  
(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>Cardonette</u>	May 19.		Band played on the square near the church & was much appreciated by all. 40th Bn & 38th Bn played the final football match. Won by the 38th who thus won the competition Usual evening bombing of the Amiens area.	
<u>Cardonette</u>	May 20th		<p><u>Batt Strength.</u> 40 offrs 109 NCOs 666 men 1 man struck off strength.</p> <p><u>Batt O.O</u> Lieut Fryer. Good location, wife warm. An advance party of Lt Shaw 6 scouts &amp; 6 pioneers moved from Cardonette at 1pm, arriving at Blangy Nonville at 3pm. Saw the town major and arranged near 7900 at 6 &amp; 7 Mill Avenue. The party went for a swim in the Somme River. During the day at Cardonette the batt proceeded with the usual training &amp; in the afternoon a football match between Blangy &amp; Rest of Batt was played on the aerodrome ground at Allenville. Blangy won easily. Batt preparing for a shift on 22nd.</p>	

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WAR DIARY  
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39th Batt A.I.F.  
May 1918.

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>Cardanette</u>	May 21 <sup>st</sup>		<p><u>Batt Strength</u> 40 officers 189 NCOs 664 men 2 men evacuated sick Lt Price returned from School.</p> <p><u>Batt S.O</u> Lieut L Gross.</p> <p>Weather very fine but hot + dusty. Lt Shaw and his party reconnoitring position to be taken up at Blangy Ironville by the Batt. on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. System of trenches inspected and 16<sup>th</sup> Batt interviewed reference same. Headquarters was chosen on bank in N 23a just east of the Pioneer camp but towards evening it was found out that the 40<sup>th</sup> Batt. had already booked this spot so a place on the embankment at N 23 Central was chosen with a view to starting work on the morning of 22<sup>nd</sup>. Towards evening a party of 4 officers + 16 ORs together with the office staff of B 762 reported to Lt Shaw at Blangy Ironville. Quarters were allotted at No. 6 + 7 Hill Avenue and the parties reconnoitred the trenches. Operation order for the move of the Batt on 22<sup>nd</sup> issued.</p>	

(A7092) W.P. 12839/M1293-750,000-1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms C. 2118/14



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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39th Batt a 98

Army Form C. 2118.

May 1918.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cardonette	May 21st		Usual training was undertaken by the batt at Cardonette Lt Garrard several men to Hoop with Influenza.	
Cardonette	May 22nd		<p>Batt. Strength  37 officers 109 NCOs 660 men  4 men evacuated sick. Lt Garrard evacuated sick</p> <p>Day very warm. Advance party under Lt Shaw very busy taking over from 16th Batt. of area called the left flank of the Blangy Ironville system situated in N23C thro N29 etc.</p> <p>Lt Shaw met the batt. at church in Blangy Ironville + set guides took various Coy to their allotted positions. Headquarters situated along the embankment at N23 central (Map Ref France 62° 5W). Camp under construction by the batt pioneers.</p> <p>The following are billeted at No 912:- Col Peterson Capt Beauchamp Capt Allsop Lieut James Lieut Prance Lieut Shaw, Signaller, Rumors R.S. Mc Gray and Able Letgil. Rear Hqs at No 6 Will Avenue, Blangy Ironville. Billeted there are Lieut Wilson, Lieut [unclear] and the Orderly room Staff.</p>	

(A709a) Wt. W12839/M1293 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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3rd Batt A.I.F

Army Form C. 2118.

May 1918

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
-------	------	------	-----------------------------------	--------------------------------------

Blangy  
 Honville  
 Map Ref  
 Hana  
 62° S.W.

May  
 27<sup>nd</sup>

Besides these the canteen and the Post Office.  
 Lt Shaw obtained an order for 200 sandbags from 10th 7<sup>th</sup> Coy  
 Engineers.

Col Paterson and Lt Shaw, after tea went forward to get in  
 touch with the 9<sup>th</sup> Bde. Visited 9<sup>th</sup> Bde HQ situated in N 25 C  
 where they are dug into the Southern railway embankment.  
 Met Col Goddard Acting Brig Gen. & from his Intelligence  
 Officer got the dispositions of forward area. One batt in line  
 one in support one in Reserve. After this visited & receive  
 Batt HQ in O.27.6.9.7 and met Col Grant of the 3rd Bn  
 Returned by shortest route to our HQ completing a walk  
 of 6 miles.

A.M. Store and Transport and B Echelon are billeted near  
 Lannette in a wood.

O.C boys Capt Booth Capt Wilson Holmes Capt Murray  
 and Lt Ware.  
 Major Dalton Capt Stewart Capt Smith and several other  
 officers to B Echelon.

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39th Batt AIF.  
May 1918

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WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Blangy Tranville	May 29 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Batt Strengths 39 Offrs 111 NCOs 663 men            2 NCOs &amp; 7 men taken on strength. 4 men evacuated wounded.            Weather fine altho. inclined to be showery. Lt Shew visited the boys to get their dispositions and along with Capt Lynch 38<sup>th</sup> Bns fixed the boundary of the two batts which is N. 29. a. 6. 6. During the afternoon Col Paterson reconnoitred the actual front line east of Villers Bretonneux to get dispositions and situation in case of counter attack.            Capt Allsop R.M.S. down with influenza, which is fairly prevalent at present. Several men have been evacuated with same.</p>	
Blangy Tranville	May 29 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Batt Strengths 39 Offrs 110 NCOs 660 men            2 men transferred off strength            1 NCO evacuated Sick            2 men " "            1 man on strength.</p>	<p><i>[Signature]</i></p>



39th Battalion

Army Form C. 2118.

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May 1918.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Blangy Honnville.	May 24th		<p>Anniversary of Campai (Laf.) weather excellent; similar in many respects to Australian weather. Towards evening the weather became very dull. Continuum. W.P. of 18 men supplied for the construction of Bde 79th at Blisy.</p> <p>Capt Allsop still down with influenza. This complaint is still very active with the troops otherwise the health and spirits are good.</p> <p>Bombing machines active on both sides during the evening.</p> <p>Capt Beauchamp in bed with influenza.</p>	
Blangy Honnville.	May 25th		<p>Batt strength 39 offro 111 NCO. 659 men one man promoted NCO.</p> <p>W.P. of 18 men still supplied. Reconnaissance of forward area being undertaken by officers &amp; NCO. of Batt.</p> <p>Usual bombing of back areas by German machines</p> <p>Hostile shelling of forward areas rather severe thro'out the day.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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37th Batt A.I.F.

Army Form C. 2118.

May 1918.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Blangy Tronville	May 26 <sup>th</sup>		<p><u>Batt Strength.</u> 39 offro 111 N60. 659 men</p> <p>Weather still fine. Capt Lantier Btl &amp; Capt Bowther S. Pl. visited B.H.Q. Issuing the order of the day.</p> <p>Continuons W.P. 18 men still being supplied for Glisy.</p> <p>During the afternoon our band from B Echelon played many selections outside Batt Hqrs.</p> <p>Lieut Davidson brought forward some reinforcements from B Echelon.</p> <p>Bombing during the evening of areas in the vicinity of our Trench line. One bomb dropped very close to B Hqrs probably in the vicinity of the Somme River.</p> <p>The valley behind Villers Bretonneuse heavily shelled thro' out the day.</p> <p>At 9pm 37th Batt. moved up to Reneval Switch, in O 16d to act as support to 9th Bde; relieved at dawn 27.5.18.</p>	
Blangy Tronville	May 27 <sup>th</sup>		<p><u>Batt Strength</u> 39 offro 106 N60. 611 men</p> <p>4 N60. + 18 men evacuated sick</p> <p>1 N60 transferred off strength.</p>	

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*[Handwritten signature]*



39th Buss a.i.f

Army Form C. 2118.

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May 1918.

WAR DIARY  
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and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages  
will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Blangy Honville	May 27 <sup>th</sup>		<p>2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the departure of 39<sup>th</sup> from Australia. Weather excellent. Col Paterson Capt Beauchamp Lieut Shaw reconnoitred the forward area in the vicinity of O 21 a.t. <u>Map of France 6<sup>o</sup> SW.</u> (Pioneer switch). With a view to occupying same should the 9<sup>th</sup> Bde so desire. Meeting of Coy Commanders held at 11<sup>30</sup> during the afternoon at which the Co. gave the D.C. Corp the copies and dispositions of the proposed occupation of Pioneer Switch, so that they could reconnoitre forward positions which would be taken up from left to Pt.</p> <p>L.A. &amp; A. Coys Capt Booth O.C. Coy dined at 11<sup>30</sup> during the evening. There was a presentation of medals by General Sir Col Birdwood this being his final appearance as Corps Commander.</p> <p>Recipients of medals were: 2368 Pte J. Stephen Military Medal 2102 " Co J. Scott 1787 L/Cpl J. Jones</p> <p>General Birdwood takes up the command of the 5<sup>th</sup> Army.</p>	

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*[Signature]*



39th Bde A.I.F.  
May 1918.

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and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages  
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WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.  
(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Blangy Tronville.	May 27th		38th Bde moved at 9pm to Pioneer Switch in O16d to act as support to 9th Bde. Relieved at dawn 28.5.18.	
Blangy Tronville	May 28th		<p><u>Bde Strength.</u></p> <p>40 officers 106 NCOs 600 men</p> <p>1 officer Lt W. McDonald and 6 men taken on strength.</p> <p>Lieut Le Fevre returned from Lewis Gun School at Le Troquet.</p> <p>Weather still fine. Col Paterson Capt Beauchamp and Capt Allsop visited the 38th Ugrs with a view to gaining information concerning the occupation of forward trenches in case of necessity. Capts Beauchamp &amp; Booth went for swim in the Doune River. Lieut Brocksopp had tea with Ugrs Officers. Lieut Ludgans &amp; Gray had visited Ugrs. Lieut James Sig Officer &amp; Lieut Pentice Bombing Officer reconnoitred the forward area in the vicinity of Reserve area of the 9th Bde.</p> <p>This night was dark until about 10pm when bombing planes became active on both sides.</p>	

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May, 1918.

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WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Blangy. Ironville	May. 28th		<p>During the morning 1st platoon under Lt Price competed with 3 platoons from 40th Batt for the honour of being the best platoon in the Bde. This represented the final of Competition commenced at Bayenghem. Owing to a slight misunderstanding the platoon didnt do very well in the musketry with the result that they took 4th place.</p> <p>About teatime an aerial fight between 10 Hostile and 10 of our planes. Manoeuvring and fighting lasted about 20 minutes. Nothing resulted.</p> <p>Usual visit from bombing machines.</p>	
Blangy Ironville	May 29th		<p>Batt Strength 40 offrs 106 NCOs 626 men 1 man evacuated sick.</p> <p>Morning fine. Capt Beauchamp to Division for Rev. General Sir Monash took leave of Division prior to his taking over duties as Corps Commander. Brig Gen Bellibrand took up duties as Provisional Commander.</p>	

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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39th Batt. a.i.f.  
May 1918.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Langry Brookville	May 29th		<p>Pay distributed at 2pm. Swimming indulged in by several members of the Headquarters Staff. Up to noon shelling by our areas not very severe. Aeroplanes busy altho clouds low. Lieut O'Donnell Lt. Col. G.O. visited B.H.Q.s.</p> <p>During the afternoon aerial activity below normal. Very little hostile shelling.</p> <p>During the evening the usual counter preparation by Artillery. Bombing only very intermittent thro' out the night.</p>	
Langry Brookville	May 30th		<p><u>Batt Strength</u></p> <p>40 off. 106 N.O. 652 men 8 men taken on strength. 2 men evacuated sick.</p> <p>Weather very fine. Capt Beauchamp visited Transport Lines &amp; A.M. Store &amp; landed out a few min temporarily attached.</p> <p>Capt Beauchamp Capt Murray Capt Allsop Lieut Wilson Lt. Brase Rushbrook Edwards Prentice went for a swim the same during the afternoon.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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3rd Batt. A.I.F.  
May, 1918.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Blangy Ironville	May 30th		<p>Capt Lamb &amp; Capt Leumming visited P.O.s. on their way back from Villers Bretonneux.</p> <p>Lieut Edwards received orders re transfer to 9th T.B. vice Lieut McArthur returning.</p> <p>Corp band changed over with exception of B Coy where Lt Mitchell still assists Capt Wolsenholme.</p> <p>M Coy Capt Poole replaced by Lt Le Sueur</p> <p>B Coy —</p> <p>C Coy Capt McMoray replaced by Capt Smith.</p> <p>D Coy Lieut Ware by Capt Stewart</p> <p>Usual bombing at night</p>	
Blangy Ironville	May 31st		<p>Batt Strength: 39 officers 104 NCOs 650 men</p> <p>Lieut Edwards awarded to 9th I.B. Torant.</p> <p>1 NCO transferred to 9th I.B. " Longridge Levrill</p>	MS.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Blangy Ironville	May 31st		<p>1 man to the Live Ligs. Coy 1 evacuated injured.</p> <p>Day very fine weather being suitable for swimming which is appreciated by all.</p> <p>Great aerial activity; several air fights; one german plane brought down with both planes blown off.</p> <p>Lieut Plutice attended 40th Batt. HQs as Prisoner Friend for 3 men being tried for desertion.</p> <p>Lieut Edwards went to England this day.</p> <p>Lieut Mitchell returned to B Echelon</p> <p>Lieut M.S. Stanley 10th G. Engrs awarded the Military Cross for operations of May 7th/8th</p> <p>Usual bombing at night, which was entirely suitable for such operations.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">A. J. Bellera Lt Col.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Condg 39th Br A.I.F.</p>	

2/6/18

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W. H. Shaw Lt  
39th Br.



# Appendices

39th Bn  
A.I.F.

War of Liberty  
for May 1918.

No	Description	Date
1	Working Party Returns	1.5.18 - 9.5.18
2	Intelligence Summaries	4.5.18 - 9.5.18
3	Operation Order	3.5.18
4	Memoir Operation	5.5.18
5	"	5.5.18
6	"	6.5.18
7	"	7/8.5.18
8	Operation Order	9.5.18
9	Circular of appreciation by Lt Col Peterson.	
10	Artillery for the Posts (37th)	30/11/18 May 1918
11	"	39th 7/8 May 1918
12	"	39th 6/7 May 1918
13	Artillery time table Gunter preparation 6/7 May 1918	
14	Extract from London Times	30th April 1918
15	Artillery programme for night	5/6 May 1918
16	Artillery for the night of	9.5.18
17	Operation order No 70 of 35th Batt.	dated 5.5.18
18	Memoir Enterprise of	7/8 May 1918
19	Disposition Map of	22.4.18. A Batt.
20	"	Support Batt. June
21	"	A Batt. 20.5.18
22	39th Batt Order No 44	dated 13.5.18
23	Routine Order No 182	
24	"	" 183
25	"	" 184
26	"	" 185
27	"	" 186
28	"	" 188
29	"	" 189
30	"	" 191
31	Syllabus of Training for week ending	19th May 1918
32	Disposition Map A Batt.	4.5.18
33	39th Batt. Routine Order No 46	21.5.18
34	Honours & Awards of	12.5.18 + 27.5.18
35	Identifications 3rd Division for period	27th March 1918
36	- 11th May 1918	
37	Extract from 2nd Div's summary re attack at Morlan-court.	
	Disposition Map A Batt. towards end of April.	

A. J. Peterson Lt Col

Frank McShaw Lt  
39th Bn.

Comd 39th Batt. A.I.F.



Headquarters

39th Bn. A.I.F.

Appendix 1. 1-5-1918

Headquarters from 1.5.18 to 9.5.18  
10th A.I. Bde.

The following is  
the scheme of work for night  
12th<sup>2nd</sup> May '18.

"A" Bay. 60 men.

Deepening existing  
trench system in support line  
D 28 and D 29.

"B" Bay. 70 men.

Deepening existing  
trench line in support.  
I. R. 3. caud.

"C" Bay. 60 men.

Constructing new system  
of posts forward of present  
front line system. I. R. 4 + d.

"D" Bay. 55 men.

cutting gaps in wire and  
connecting up posts with night  
battalions. I. R. 4 + d.

C. V. W. J. [unclear]

CO. 39th Bn. A.I.F. 1. 12. COL.





working		Between - 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> May - 10.	
Men Employed	Location	Details of work done	Hours Worked.
60	D29a	Deepening of trenches to depth of 5' in support line.	5
40	D29a	60' trench dug 4' wide & deep in support line.	5
60	J6.013. J12.0.2.8.	Digging two Platoon Posts, 50' x 3' x 5'.	4
60	J10.011	cleaning up trenches and improving dugouts.	2

D. G. Patterson

1/2 LT COL.

CO. 39<sup>th</sup> Bn. A.I.F.

R. 5. 18





Headquarters  
29th Bn. A.I.F.  
2nd May 18.

To Headquarters  
10th A.I. Bde.

Following is proposed  
scheme of work for tonight.

"A" Coy. 55 men. Deepening  
trenches in support line D28 & 29.

"B" Coy. 65 men. Deepening  
existing trench, in support line  
D23 etc.

"C" Coy. 78 men. Working  
on Platoon Post forward of  
main front line system.

"D" Coy. Cutting gaps in  
wire and connecting up  
posts with right Battalion.

10 d. 65 men.

O. J. Allen

T/Lt. Col.  
60. 89th Battalion A.I.F.

Headquarters  
29th Bn. A.I.F.  
2nd May 18

OC Clay

You will please  
supply the following working  
for tonight 2nd May 18.

2 officers and 78 other  
ranked; work. Erecting wire  
in front of new system of Posts.

The party is to be divided  
into three, as follows, 30 men,  
24 men, 24 men. to work in  
front of Right, Centre and  
Left Company Posts respectively.

Wire will be erected  
continuously along the  
Battalion front, according  
to sketch.

Wire  wire.

Parties are to report  
to PINE DUMP T.S. d. 20.80. at  
12.30 am. where they will  
pick up as much wiring  
material, as is possible  
for them to carry. They  
will be met at Pine Dump  
by two Guides from front.



Line Company, who will  
guide them to site of work.  
"D" Coy. 37<sup>th</sup> Bn. will  
keep up supply of wiring  
material for working parties.  
Under no circumstances  
will the road south of MARETT  
Wood, be used by carrying  
on working parties.  
Squad officers of the  
37<sup>th</sup> Bn. is responsible that  
covering parties, are out  
to guard against surprise.  
Acknowledg'd.

R. R. Beauchamp, Capt.  
Adjutant, 37<sup>th</sup> Bn. A.I.F.

e

Headquarters  
37<sup>th</sup> Bn. A.I.F.  
2<sup>nd</sup> May '18.

Tooc "D" Coy.

Please detail  
14 men to reports to oc. C. Coy.  
at 11:30 pm tonight.  
These men are required  
to complete complement  
of C. Coy. working party.  
50% of picks and 50%  
shovels to be carried.

R. R. Beauchamp Capt.  
Adjutant, 37<sup>th</sup> Bn. A.I.F.

APPENDIX 1



Working Party Returns - 89th Bn A.I.F. 3.5.18

Men Employed	Location	Details of Work Done.	Hours Worked.
60	D.28 a+ R.29 a.	Deepening trench and camouflaging chalk. All support line in this area has been sufficiently deepened, and chalky soil has been covered with dark earth.	5
50	D.23 c+d.	40' of trench excavated to depth of 3'.	3
10.	J.6 a.	150' single apron was erected with short pickets.	2
	J.13 a.	100' double apron wire erected	2
	J.6 b.	150' single apron wire erected	2
	J.10 b +	cutting gaps in wire at intervals	3.
6	J.11 a.	of 150' in support line.	
26	do	Improvement of trenches. Leveling parapets and camouflaging chalk.	6.
6	do	Digging new Coy. Headquarters.	6.

*A. V. [Signature]*  
 3.5.18. Co 89th Bn. A.I.F. T. COL.





Headquarters  
39th Div. A.I.F.  
3. 5. 18

Loc. C. Coy.

Please detail  
14 men to report to O.C.D.  
Coy at 11.45 pm. tonight.  
50% of Picks + shovels  
to be carried.

L. L. Bean Dump Capt.  
Adj. 39th Div. A.I.F.

Headquarters  
39th Div. A.I.F.  
3. 5. 18

O.C.D. Coy.

You will please supply  
the following Working Party  
for tonight.

2 officers and 48 other ranks  
plus 100% sufficient for  
supervision. O.C. Coy. has  
been detailed to supply you  
with 14 men to report at  
your camp at 11.45 pm  
carrying picks + shovels.

The party is to be  
divided into three 30 men,  
24 men, 24 men. to work in  
front of Right, Centre + left  
Coy. respectively. Half of  
each party, to carry pick  
and shovels, 50% of each.

Parties are to report  
at Pine Dump, 7.5.18 20.50 at  
11.30 am. where they will be  
met by Guides who will  
guide them to site of work.

Under no circumstances  
will the road, south of Manseth  
Wood be used by carrying  
parties or working parties.



Scout Officer of 37th Bn. is  
 responsible that covering  
 parties are out to guard  
 against surprise.

Acknowledged.

R. R. Beauchamp Capt.  
 Adjt. 37th Bn. A.I.F.





Working Party Report. 39th Bn. A.I.F.

Men Employed	Location	Details of Work Done	Hours Worked
60	D.P. 9. a D.R. 8. d.	Deepening & camouflaging trenches with dark earth. All necessary work in this company sector has now been completed. Trenches sufficiently deepened, ample support to accommodate one company and camouflaging complete.	5
50	D.P. 3. d.	150' trenching 4' x 3' wide.	3
20	J. 4. c.	Improving 120' trench and covering parapet.	3
12	do.	Improving 50' trench, covering parapet.	2
18	do.	Deepening 20' trench to 2 1/2'. covering parapet, improving supports.	3
20	J. 10. b.	Connecting up Post. covering parapet, cleaning wire, etc.	6
		Support lines. Constructing new Coy. Headquarters in support.	3.

304

Erecting 230' hinge across wire in front of outposts on right Battalion sector.

3.

40

Deepening, improving and connecting up outpost line on right Battalion sector.

3.

*(Signature)*

4.5.18

Co. 39th Bn. A.I.F. 7th Col.



Working Party Report - 39th Bn. A.I.F.

Men Employed	Location	Details of Work Done	Hours Worked
6	J. 13. a. 48.	Improving supports in left Post.	1
20	J. 6. d.	Deepening advanced Post.	4.

5.4.18. <sup>Cpt</sup> R. R. Bunchup <sup>1/1</sup> LT COL. A.I.F.  
60. 39th Bn. A.I.F.

Working Party Report - 39th Bn. A.I.F.

Men Employed	Location	Details of Work Done	Hours Worked
16	J. 6. a.	Deepening trenches in existing outpost line.	2
43	J. 13. b.	Wiring in front of Post 4 + 5.	4
12	J. 6. b.	Improving and deepening trenches Constructing dugouts in outpost line.	4
25	J. 12. b. 9. 1.	Construction of Post to connect up with left flank right Bn.	3 1/2.
14	J. 12. b. 7. 3. 1. 5.	Constructing new post to conform to the left flank 9th Bde. and connect up with 39th Bn.	3 1/2.

6.5.18.  
60. 39th Bn. A.I.F. <sup>1/1</sup> LT COL.

*[Signature]*

60. 39th Bn. A.I.F. <sup>1/1</sup> LT COL.



### Working Report 37th A.I.F

Men employed	Location	Details Work done	Hours
15	T6 d.	Carrying 3 coils barbed wire for posts	3 1/2 ✓
30	T6 d	Cleaning up & deepening existing posts + putting in latrines	3 1/2 ✓
44	T6 d.	Strengthening & improving wire around of posts	5 1/2 ✓
12	"	Improving posts 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	5 1/2 ✓

Going to minor outposts ordinary work was interrupted with

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*  
1 Lt Col  
Capt 37th Bn

7.5.18

### Working Party Return

Men	Location	Details Work done	Hours
20	T6 d	Cleaning & deepening existing posts	3
42	T6 d	Working along Coy front and also strengthening wire	4 1/2 ✓
14	T6 d.	Improving posts	4 1/2 ✓

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*  
1 Lt Col  
Capt 37th Bn

5/5/18





Working Party Returns 9.5.18

Nos. employed	Position	Details	Hours
20	T.6.6	Improving & deepening posts	4
12	K.7.0	Wiring single fence two wires between Posts 1+3, incomplete between 2+3, complete between 3+4. Improving existing posts	2
10	T.6.d.	Erecting 50 yds double apron wire in part of No. 6 post.	5
20	T.6.d.	Deepening & extending centre posts posts 1 & 2 Nos. 7 & 8.	5

*Dr. [Signature]*

\_\_\_\_\_

*T. H. Col.*

*Sandy 3rd Nov A.S.F.*





Intelligence Summary

3rd Batt. AIF  
Road  
Open 14.5.18  
Closed 5.5.18

Our Operations. Appendix 2.

From 4.5.18 to 9.5.18  
Between 5pm + 7pm

ARTILLERY our artillery shelled White  
bank in the vicinity of  
K.F.6.3. + also Mortars count.

Throughout the night a fixed  
programme has been fired.  
Several instances of short  
shooting have occurred +  
been notified to the artillery  
concerned.

MACHINE GUNS  
Fired indirectly

AEROPLANES  
Between 10pm + 11pm  
active. When these planes

passed over enemy line numbers  
of White Streamer lights were  
fired in direction of same +  
followed immediately by searchlights

PATROLS. See Scout Patrols attached.

Hostile Operations.

ARTILLERY Inactive on forward  
Areas.

10 pm. 10 rd 4.2° on  
TRENCH.

Towards dusk enemy registered  
on Switch line from Peak Horse  
Corner (Manlywood) to  
Raven. Good shooting.

MACHINE GUNS.

Some active from Cemetery  
+ K.7.C, and from approx  
K.I.C. 25.40

PATROLS. None seen

APPENDIX

2



AEROPLANES

Nil.

Movement

None; owing to heavy rain observation very bad.

FLYING LIGHTS

Very prevalent on the sector more so than what we are used to.

Altitude

Unchanged; probably a little ~~lower~~ <sup>higher</sup> previous after the previous evening.

Frank W. Shaw  
Lt Col 30th AIF

5.5.18

Patrols Report.  
night 4th 5th June 1918.

6 Patrols operated on the Battalion front from time when relieved to 5 am.

Two Patrols operated between J.G. 30.75 from 11 pm to 5 am on left Company front.

1 Patrol. made out a distance of 1500 yds on part of Post.

Machine Gun on connecting fairly active.

10 Heavy lights thrown up opposite battery. At 12.15 am one red light was fired, followed by 100 white lights.

Enemy fired few small missiles at 10.15 pm which appeared on the vicinity of the front.

Fighting patrol left front line from J.G. 20.00. at 2 am and landed up at X roads on J.G. 1 officer + 13 other ranks.

6 connecting M.F. fired several short bursts.

10 Heavy lights thrown up opposite sector.

APPENDIX 2



2 Patriots operated between  
 T 6 & 9. and. T 6 & 30. 10.  
 putting out a distance of 200'.  
 Very light very active.  
 15 thrown up opposite center bay.  
 active.

Machine gun fired from  
 K 10 25 40. occasional shot bursts  
 of fire. Location is only approx.  
 band of fire. Shot by.

Two Patriots operated between  
 T 6 & 30. 10. and T 2 & 5.  
 putting out a distance of 200'.

Machine gun fired  
 K 70. fired actively throughout  
 shift.

10 Very light very  
 thrown up opposite right bay  
 active, but appeared to be  
 fired from some distance  
 back.

Machine gun and  
 very light, but a little more  
 active than previously.

No sign of enemy patrols.

5.5.18

W. August Jr.  
 39th Bn AIF

Intelligence Summary  
 39th Bn AIF  
 Period from 5.5.18  
 to 5.5.18.

Our operations.

Artillery.

Normally active

12.15 pm.

15 shells fired to shells on  
 K 10 20 30 with good results.  
 Movement note previously, heard.

1.15 pm

Shells fired in E 27 d 3000

1.45 pm

One heavy shell fired in  
 K 10 20 by 1 in E 27 b 1 d.

Black Moustards

4.30 pm

1" Machine gun fired at 200  
 into K 10 20 30 + 10 100 into  
 trench.

Airplanes.

Normally active



Both Artillery & Scouts

Hostile Operations

Artillery Active force ~~is~~ all  
in back areas.

12.30 pm. 6 1500 shells.  
(shrapnel) on to our line in  
T12a.

Aeroplane See.

Movement

11.15 am 6 Mums looking  
on strong pt at E27d 50.50.  
They seemed to give in the  
end or best with bar & Earth.

11.30 am 1 Mum came off  
road & disappeared into  
bush E27d 60.10

11.55<sup>am</sup>

5 Mums at Kra 40.30

Movement noticed at different intervals  
in E27d.

1.25 pm.

2 Mums at E28.0.10.10

2 pm - 3 pm.

1 man was seen at intervals  
of about 15 mts going from road  
into trench in E27.6.50.30 and  
returning to road after stopping in  
trench about a couple of minutes.

5.30 pm.

At a bar bearing of 65° from  
OP (T60 20 20) in E6. Some  
200 horses were grazing on hill  
Artillery notified.

Attitude.

Mums a high tension judging  
by the shelling of battery areas.  
Normal on forward area.

5.5.18

Frank A. Shaw  
50 2nd AIF

APPENDIX

2



Intelligence Summary  
3rd Battalion A.I.F.  
Period { 6pm 5.5.18  
      { 6am 6.5.18

Our Operations:

Artillery.

During the stunt the shooting was good. From # 3.15am to 4.30am artillery active. 6.30am good shooting on Sunka Road in K1A where movement was seen.

Machine Guns

Seen indirectly as well as definite barrage

Aeroplanes

Seen down our artillery planes have been active over enemy forward area. At 7am when one of our planes was about to go over the enemy line it was attacked by 4 enemy triplanes when first south of Mearle wood; during a running fight our plane caught on fire & fell behind our old front line. 9th Bde sector. No other information

151  
Scouts See Scout Reports

Hostile Operations Artillery.

Active after our barrage had ceased; strapping all low lying ground between two new posts & old front line; Mearle wood & Sunka in T12 a.

Machine Guns

Active

KIC 22; Cemetery;

Aeroplanes.

At 7am 4 enemy planes flew low over our line & attacked one of our artillery planes, bringing down in flames behind our old front line 9th Bde sector.

Movement.

None

Seen other than during the stunt.

Signals.



~~White~~ At 6 am heavy barrage  
of 4.2" & 5.9" was put down  
in T.6. & K.I.C. several direct  
hits on posts but no casualties.  
While shrapnel of sunken road  
in K.I.C. was progressing Golden  
Rain rockets were sent up all  
along the sunken road even up  
as far as the sunken road showing  
that the enemy to us occupied  
a whole road. but he didn't seem  
to know if we had pushed  
forward or not in this sector then  
the shrapnel. The Golden Rain  
rockets were fired during a  
period of 5 minutes & finally  
stopped the barrage.

In other signals see  
scout reports

Altitude Very restless after and  
eventful night.

Mark Shaw Lt  
I.O. 30th

6/5/18.

39th Battalion, A.I.F.  
Patrol reports for night  
5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> May '18.

5 Patrols operated on B.M.  
fronts from 9 pm to 4.30 am.  
1<sup>st</sup> Patrol moved out from  
J.6.6. central, pushing out a  
distance of 250' to 300'. Patrol  
left at 9 pm and returned at  
11.30 am.

A very light were fired  
from behind Cemetery.

Machine Gun, fired  
several short bursts from K.1.C.L.

No. 2 Patrol, left front line from  
J.6.6. cent at 11.30 pm and  
pushed out a distance of 300'  
patrolling from left to right; patrol  
returned at 2 am.

Machine Gun, in Cemetery  
fired several short bursts.

Several very lights fired.

Scout reports, that enemy  
threw up 3 Double Red Lights  
before retaliation was given,  
after our barrage opened.

It was about 8 minutes  
before enemy replied.



Between 11.45 pm and  
2 am. enemy threw up about  
12 Double Red lights, to  
which no reply was given.

No 3 Patrol left front line from  
J.66. central at 2 am, and  
patrolled along left sector  
front from 2 am till 3 am,  
pushing out a distance of 300'.  
Machine Gun in

vicinity very active  
during lights. 10 were  
fired from vicinity of broken road  
in K.1.4.3.

No 4 Patrol left front line at  
approx. from J.6.c.70.35. and  
patrolled along front ~~front~~  
on right bay sector, pushing out  
a distance of 300'. Patrol  
returned at 11.30. pm.

Machine Gun at K.1.c.2.2.  
was very active, firing short  
and long bursts.

Enemy lights, more active  
than usual, opposite this  
company front.

Enemy Working Party was  
heard, in K.7.a. between 9 and 11 pm.

A Patrol, 1 officer and 25 other  
rankers with two Lewis Guns,  
assembled in rear of post in K.12.6.4.0.  
When passage made forward,  
patrol advanced, forming  
flank protection for 35th Bn. A.I.F.  
and connecting up with right  
flank 39th Bn. To conform  
to the left flank of the advance,  
our patrol established  
communication with 35th Bn.  
and dug in at J.12.6.90.10.  
One Lewis Gun team was pushed  
forward to command, broken  
road and protect left flank  
of right Battalion, whilst  
consolidation proceeded.

This patrol, pushed our right  
flank forward by 300' at  
J.12.6.90.10. and by two hundred  
yards, to second post, constructed  
at J.12.6.75.45.

6.5.18.

W. J. [Signature]  
3rd Bn. A.I.F.







Movement increases this afternoon

1.45 pm 3 Huns moved north  
along road E 27 d 8050

2.15 pm Movement noticed in K165040

3.15 pm 6 Huns same spot as 1.45 pm

4.15 pm observed 2 horses moving  
about & feeding in E 186 7050

General. Enemy has ladder  
fixed against tree  
in rear of Cemetery K195060

### Trench Mortars

Disturbance during the day  
5 light mines fell on the  
eastern edge of outskirts  
of Village of Freuse.

Altitude rather uneven.  
6.45 pm. Shaw's Sign

Intelligence Summary  
39th Batty 1945  
Period 6.5.18  
to 7.5.18

### Our Operations

Artillery Fired few  
programmes. Retirees 3.30 am  
& 4 am counter preparations

### Machine Guns

Used indirectly  
throughout the night. More  
active than usual.

Scouts See Scout Report.

### Minor Enterprises

Prisoners taken to Pde  
by Capt Cumming.

### Aeroplanes

Between 6 pm



and some aerial activity  
great although clouds low.  
Aerial combats frequent.  
One enemy plane attacked by  
2 of ours appeared to be  
cut in and crashed & given down  
in direction of Corbie.

### Artillery Operations

Artillery not so active  
as during the day, however  
fired intermittently thro' out  
the night. No areas shelled  
were T.6.d; T.2.a; M.2.a  
Wood and T.11.a. Shells  
used were 59°, 45.2° & 47°  
chiefly 45.2° (instantaneous).  
At 3 a.m. 2 shells landed on  
trench where some of Sgt  
details live. No damage.  
At 7.30 p.m. some shells  
was heard to be shelled  
Machin's line

Active  
kings out the night; those  
troublesome on left sector  
were cleared up; K.19.10.10 &  
K.19.6.6.

151  
These troublesome on left sector  
dealt with in Lt August's  
Special report on Minor Enterprises  
Key fights more active than  
usual.

### Aero planes

Between 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.  
Several enemy planes attempted  
to cross our lines; but  
were taken in hand by our  
Scout machines.

### Movement

Nil.  
General. The extreme darkness  
and rain hampered movement  
especially on unknown  
grounds.

Attitude Still restless. Frank Shaw  
7.5.18



Scout Reports.  
39<sup>th</sup> Batt A.I.F.

Patrol  
7.30 pm 6.5.18  
4.30 am 7.5.18

Left Sector

1<sup>st</sup> Patrol.

8.30 pm - 11.30 pm

Very quiet; 2 bursts of MG fire  
from Cemetery & one burst from  
Kiabba

Very light

2 from Cemetery  
& 1 from post Kiawojo

2<sup>nd</sup> Patrol.

11.30 pm - 2 am

Acted as covering party for a working  
party. Worked up parties near  
Cross Roads on 26.5

Machine Guns.

Several short bursts  
from opposite. Kiawojo-40

Very light

Numerous lights observed

up from Cemetery and opposite  
Kiawojo.

3<sup>rd</sup> Patrol

2 am - 4.30 am

Machine Guns

Cemetery guns fired  
bursts across Rabbit Wood and  
left Coy sector; most of bursts  
fired high.

Very light

16 sent up from  
Kiawojo.

Right Sector.

Report covering this patrol  
which operated with minor interference  
has been sent to base with Capt  
Cumming.

The intense blackness of night and  
heavy rain interfered with the  
work of patrols.

7.5.18.

Paul H. Shaw  
for Scout Officer



5.5.1918

Reference, minor operation  
on night 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> April 1918.

Before moving the fighting  
patrol into the main land, I  
gained touch with Capt.  
Finlay, of 35<sup>th</sup> Bn, and  
explained the purpose of our  
operation to him. He informed  
me that the area K 7.0 had  
not been mopped up, and the  
enemy was in occupation of 3 posts  
echeloned in depth. During the  
day he had seen enemy movement  
in this post. He also told me  
that it was his intention to extend  
his flank about 100<sup>yds</sup> from K 7.0.50.75,  
approximately.

I then gained touch  
with my Co. and explained  
situation to him. The result was  
that tactical scheme had to be  
arranged.

The fighting patrol,  
25 strong with two Lewis Guns <sup>moved</sup>  
went from left flank of 35<sup>th</sup> Bn, <sup>support line</sup>  
35<sup>th</sup> Bn front line <sup>inwards</sup>.

At K 7.0.50.75, approximately  
communication was established  
with the Officer on duty. He stated  
that, there were several M.G.  
situated somewhere on his  
left flank, and that he was  
subjected to enfilade rifle + M.G.  
fire.

Machine Guns and rifles  
were very active. owing to the  
blackness of the night it was  
impossible to locate enemy posts.

The area not having  
been mopped up. the continued  
activity of the enemy, work of  
consolidating posts, could not  
be carried on with.

J. August Kt.  
39<sup>th</sup> Bn A.I.F.



7. 5. 18.

Reference Reconnaissance.

From point of observation, enemy lights were observed to be fired from a position approximately K. 7. on airbase. Machine gun and rifle fire was active from this area also.

No movement of any description was seen.

Point of observation K. 7. or 1. 2.

Unable to locate any other enemy post.

Glenn  
39th Bn AIF

Intelligence Summary.  
39th Bn. AIF  
Period from 7.5.18  
6pm

Our operations

Artillery

6:15 am - 8 am Heavy shells burst at E 27 b - C + on Mohancom

3:30 pm In answer to enemy harassing fire on our forward area our batteries heavily shelled enemy line on K 7 & 13.

4 pm

Our guns burst through over bunker road in K 1 C.

Aeroplane when the



Weather cleared up about  
4pm our artillery planes  
became active flying over  
enemy lines.

Hostile

Artillery

Quiet during the  
morning; but between  
3pm & 4:15pm enemy  
opened up with a heavy  
barrage of 75, 4 & 5.9"  
on our forward post and  
in T12B & then worked  
back to valley in T12A  
also active in T.B.C.

At same time the traps  
were active on pt Rde  
front in regular manner.

At one period the  
shelled our forward post in  
K1C & the enemy  
occupants replied to  
numerous Golden Hawk  
rockets.

French Motar

6:30 am 14 pine apples  
onto pt Rde front in  
K7C

11:30 am 14 pine apples  
from hill on T12C  
onto T12B. No damage  
to our post.

Aeroplanes Inactive.

Movement Very little

9:40 am 2 Huns moving  
about on top of hill  
at K7B beginning to  
move toward Aboucoust.

2:15 pm 2 Huns looking  
over edge of our  
road in K1C  
They then had their hats  
beaten white.

APPENDIX

2

61



Attendance for our operations

4.10 pm

Over 6" Newtons shelled  
Jambou road - K.I.C. No  
direct hits observed. 2 shells  
burst about 5 yds. South  
of Haystack where M.G.  
inspected. Position  
K.I.C. 30.80

Altitude

Again none

Rank of Hawk  
to 1/2 m

3 pm

7.578

Quarters  
10th Bde

OP manned by observers  
to T.I.C. 20.20

Alternative position  
T 5d 87 50

Altogether I have  
1 M.G. + 4 men  
as observed

Rank of Hawk  
to 1/2 m



Intelligence Summary  
3rd Batt A.I.F.  
Period 6 pm 7.8.18  
      8 am 8.8.18

Air operations

Artillery

active thro' out the night from 9.30 pm. The barrage during the enterprise reported very good.

Machine Gun

Fired indirectly.

Aeroplanes

Between 6 pm & 7 pm 7.8.18 active; since none.

Scouts

See Scout Report.

Hostile Operations

Artillery

Shells thrown during the night 100 shells 59.

At 9.30 pm when our artillery opened up the enemy retaliated & fired intermittently thro' out the night from front line post in Kya back thru # 112 to 101. Machine wood, 111 a & Support Batt fire. The shells used were a mixture of 5.9" & 4.2".

From 11.30 pm - 2.30 am there was a high concentration of gas in Machine wood & 111 a Yellow Cross. At same time 111 a & 101 received gas.

Machine Guns battery & 111 a 66 guns active firing over left bay sector.

Aeroplanes Between 6 pm & 7 pm fighting planes active.

Movement Nil.



Very light There has been  
an increased no of  
lights along front

General During our state  
9.30pm - 11pm  
the enemy bombed  
his own wire opposite  
left Coy sector.

Artillery Very uneasy.

8/5/18

Bank to front  
30

Minor Enterprise

Will send you the  
exact locations of new posts as  
soon as possible  
to front

Scout Reports

Night 7/5<sup>th</sup> May 1918

1st Patrol

Left Coy Sector 9pm - 11.30pm

Machine Guns in battery  
& Kiabo fired about 13  
shots.

Very light 20 thrown up  
from Kiabo 30

Signals 11.15pm enemy sent  
up 2 green, 1 pink &  
1 large red light. on  
left Coy sector. On this  
his artillery put down  
a heavy state and  
forward areas.

2nd Patrol

Left Sector 11.30pm - 2am

Machine Guns in battery  
& Kiabo active

Very light 4 from Kiabo 30



A number of very light were  
fired from some considerable  
distance or near of village

3rd Sect. Left Sector  
2am - 4.30am

Machine Guns constant guns  
fired at KIC 40-50 active

Very Light many thrown up  
from similar places.

The Motor Enterprise  
covered the right  
Sector thro' out the night.

Frank Shaw  
for S.O. 39th

Intelligence Summary  
39th Bn 8.11.18  
Period from 5.5.18  
to 6pm

Operations Artillery

only normal  
active. At 4.50pm on  
heavy shells bursting in  
vic of our lines & several  
bursting over R7.

Aircraft Artillery  
planes active all day.  
5.10pm on sea planes  
buzz over our sector, being  
fired at by 8th gun.

Mobile Operations Artillery  
active. only normal  
12.5pm enemy shelling



line with heavy shells (4.2° + 5.9°)  
used with gas shells at intervals of  
3 to 4 minutes. features peaks in K70.

### Airplanes

Only one plane has  
been across our lines today.

### Movement

9:15 am

Observed one Hun  
come off road in E27d down  
into trench E27d base; also  
1 plane out of strong post E  
27c base & get down into same  
trench

10:40 am

2 Huns looking over  
edge of Sunkan Road one  
at KIA 3000 the other at  
K10 3000.

11:30 am

3 Huns coming at  
K10 3000, all wearing caps

12:15 pm

3 Huns in KIA 3000  
all wearing caps

2:20 pm

Observed 2 Huns come  
up road at E27d 2050 &  
disappear into trench

3:10 pm

one Hun showing over  
far west E27d base

3:55 pm

4 Huns at different intervals  
move from E27c 2050 to  
road E27d base.

4:35 pm

one Hun came off road  
& disappear at E27d base

### Trench Workers

1 light machine  
gun in trench & another in trench  
at E27d base.

### Attitude

Very quiet

8:518

Handwritten notes  
at 39th Base



Intelligence Summary  
30th Dec 11.15  
Good cam { 9.5-18.  
6pm

Operations:-

Artillery.

Very moderately  
active all day. 2.45 pm  
Sharpshoot burst on trench  
near pt at K16 40 80.

4.30 pm 15/100 & heavy gas  
heavily shelled roads in  
E27 & K3; Sanyon Road  
in K16 & d. Good shooting  
Several direct hits on trench  
in E27d to 80.

1 about 50 sharpshoot and  
villagers in trench & bunker.

4.50 pm Heavy shells on  
K2a 80 70; good shooting  
Sanyon. Shell on road.  
Good shooting on road  
& trenches in E27d.

151  
4.50 pm Good shooting by 4.8 hours  
on K16 2000 Sanyon  
Road.

Heavy Mortars

4.30 pm 6 6" mortar  
Shells on to Sanyon Road  
in K16 & d. Good  
shooting.

Aircraft

Artillery planes active  
all day; during the afternoon  
large flights of four fighting  
machines have sighted  
openly. Open.  
Large flight of large  
fighting machines over trench  
lines heavily fired on  
by AA guns.

Notes

Artillery

Artillery active



During the morning 50-47° + 3  
47° fall in stream

10:15 am  
Shells 3000-4000  
at different intervals with 14E  
& also 1470 North 47°

11:30 pm  
40-47° + 10-12° fall  
on left bay sector.

Abon plan  
Only moderately  
adequate from 10 to 12 noon  
Dawning plane patches on hills.  
Movement.

From 6 to 8 am movement  
noticed in KIA Gun Road.

9:55 am  
2 Huns near from  
Eryd 5090 to Eryd 5050  
11:30

2 Huns going South  
a road in KIA left

11:55 am  
2 Huns going to right  
along road to 3000  
pushing a heavy cart

11:30 am - 12:30 pm

2 Huns observing  
from strong pt KIA 3000.  
Again at 1:35 pm

Miscellaneous Movement  
Observed at home in Villa  
San Andres KIA 6095  
A few bricks being removed  
from side of wall (apparently  
with object of using as CP)

Altitude  
~~unchanged~~ still  
now normal

Bank to bank  
1/3 depth

6:25 pm



Score Report Night of 17/18

1st Patrol

Left by section 11:30 pm - 11:30 pm  
Held out some  
Not part forward to No 2 Pat.  
then to No 3 post which again

to No 4 post located to be kept in  
Machine Gun in K78 very active

Very light Present about 30  
About 10 pm

8 evening some sound  
hearing about 10 pm  
part of No 1 post  
they disappeared into trenches

2nd Patrol

11:30 pm - 2 am  
same work as above

Machine Gun in K78 active  
with short bursts.

Very light Active in part of  
Nos Pat.

No 3 Patrol

Left by section 2 am - 4:30 am  
Operated with

2 score of 20<sup>th</sup> post, starting  
then the position of posts

Machine Gun in K78 very  
active.

Very light Present about 30  
they find.

No 4 Patrol

Left by section

3 am - 4:30 am  
No 4 post in K78  
No 4 post left by section  
very active at 2 am  
Group the position of posts.

No Gun as at No 3 active

Very light Present; especially  
from at start of valley



Special Patrol

At 9:30 pm Lt Gordon  
with 2 scouts & 11 other ranks  
supported by 2 sections with  
2 scouts & 20 of 2 mounds  
away from left of left long  
section & set out for out  
own line at 10:15.

Lt Gordon's party moved along  
embankment in road on one of  
leading towards left section  
Lt Gordon's party moved 30'  
on rd of embankment to mound  
specific to within 200' of  
left edge of embankment. From  
this position at approx 11 pm  
heavy bombing & machine gun  
fire from enemy post at  
approx E. 750.3. (see sketch).

The platoon then moved along  
embankment towards house of  
E. 500.3 to try to get in touch  
with 40th Pn. When within 100'  
of house enemy fired 2 long  
lights from the positions. Lt  
Gordon then returned to the left  
section which was on the  
embankment approx 150'

from house & reported to  
Lt Gordon.

There was a chance to  
they until time of  
enemy was seen to  
light from different positions  
around embankment & other mounds  
however it was seen to  
from 1000.3. (see sketch).

The 40th Pn was seen to  
take dig at embankment  
embankment on edge of  
spade banks along front  
in these tanks.

A trap or mine was  
found at village to right of  
food house. Photo taken to  
point line at 10:30 am.

APPENDIX

2



Intelligence Summary  
27th Batt. AIF  
Period before 1st  
Sept 1951

Air operations  
Artillery

5.35 pm Heavy shells  
bursting on bunker roads  
in K1 B

6.5 pm HE shells  
bursting at 5.55 at 1st  
of  
through the night  
no artillery was heard  
as usual

Machine Guns  
Sound  
heard all through the night

Aircraft  
active between  
6 pm & 8 pm.

Beats foot beat  
at 7.15

151  
Band Masters  
about 8 pm 6th Newton  
fried about 100 into bunker  
road in K1 B. Band shooting.  
about 200 feet were seen  
to run down bunker road towards  
Vella sun house. Moved from  
my shell post, but the location  
positions of this post did not  
permit the use of gun lenses.

White operations  
Artillery

7  
First burst in the night  
through the night on 1st  
March Wood 1st, support  
Patt line & back areas.

Machine Guns  
Sound at K1 & 6. - 1st cur 70  
& 2 guns in K1 & K2.  
active through the night.

Aircraft  
normally active between  
6 pm & 8 pm



