

AWM4

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/70/24

Title: 53rd Infantry Battalion

July 1918



AWM4-23/70/24

261

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
~~DUPLICATE.~~
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

53rd BATTALION. A. I. F.

FOR

J U L Y. 1918



Signature of Officer compiling

M Shearwood Lt.

Signature of Officer Commanding

W Cheema

Lt. Colonel

Commanding 53rd Battalion. A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. VOLUME 29 Page 1.

(Erase heading not required.)

Ref Map 62.D.N.W.1/20000.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place Date Hour

FRONT LINE

JULY

K. 7. 13. 14

1st

Our artillery has been very active during the last few days, and Enemy movement has been reduced considerably, by the effect of our snipers, who conceal themselves amongst the Crops in No Mans Land.

Several Casualties were claimed.

ARRIVALS

OFFICERS . O/RANKS

Reinfs18.

DEPARTURES

OFFICERS . O/RANKS

Wounded1

BATTALION STRENGTH

	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O/RANKS</u>
Present.....	29	546
Detached.....	10	212
Total.....	39	758



MAP REF 62.D.NE.1/20000

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

VOLUME 29 PAGE 2.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																				
FRONT LINE.	JULY 2nd.		<p>A Warm Day., Everything quiet on our Sector.</p> <p>Our Patrol reported one man missing, who lost touch with Patrol, and evidently wandered into Enemy Lines.</p> <p>(See Patrol report., Appendix.) ..</p> <p><u>ARRIVALS</u></p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Officers</th> <th>O/Ranks</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Reinf.</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>DEPARTURES</u></p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Officers</th> <th>O/Ranks</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Killed in Action.</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wounded</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Evacuations</td> <td></td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>-</td> <td>12</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>BATTALION STRENGTH</u></p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>OFFICES</th> <th>O/RANKS.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>28</td> <td>543</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>11</td> <td>204</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>39</td> <td>747</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Officers	O/Ranks	Reinf.	-	1		-	1		Officers	O/Ranks	Killed in Action.	-	1	Wounded	-	1	Evacuations		10		-	12		OFFICES	O/RANKS.	Present	28	543	Detached	11	204	Total	39	747	
	Officers	O/Ranks																																						
Reinf.	-	1																																						
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K.7.13.14



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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. VOLUME 29 PAGE 3.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices												
FRONT LINE K. 7. 13. 14	JULY 3rd		<p>A Solder Kiln has been erected at Transport Lines, L. 1.A.5.9. and all tins are returned from Forward, and passed through the Kiln.</p> <p>As a result of this scheme 24lbs of solder has been returned to D.A.D.O.S. during the past fortnight.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <u>ARRIVALS</u> <u>DEPARTURES</u> <u>OFFICERS</u> <u>O/RANKS</u> <u>OFFICERS</u> <u>O/RANKS</u> Reinforcements 6. Wounded 1. </p> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <u>BATTALION</u> <u>STRENGTH</u> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>OFFICERS</u></th> <th><u>O/RANKS</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>28</td> <td>546</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>11</td> <td>206</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>39</td> <td>752</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </p>		<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O/RANKS</u>	Present	28	546	Detached	11	206	Total	39	752	
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REF MAP 63.D.NE.1/20000.

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. VOLUME 29 PAGE 4

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Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																				
FRONT LINE K.7.13.14	JULY 4th		<p>A great deal of work is being carried out in Front Line, constructing Shelters, Deepening Trenches etc.</p> <p>At 3.10 A.M. an advance on our Left, and Right was made by Australians, the 55th Battalion on our Left and Right carried out two Raids, (One a Chinese Raid), and we received a heavy bombardment from the Enemy in consequence, which caused several casualties.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u></p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><u>OFFICERS. O/RANKS</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Nil</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nil</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>DEPARTURES</u></p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><u>OFFICERS O/RANKS.</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Missing.....</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>BATTALION STRENGTH.</u></p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>OFFICERS</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>O/RANKS.</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Present.....</td> <td style="text-align: center;">28</td> <td style="text-align: center;">544</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached.....</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> <td style="text-align: center;">205</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total.....</td> <td style="text-align: center;">39</td> <td style="text-align: center;">751</td> </tr> </table>	<u>OFFICERS. O/RANKS</u>		Nil	Nil	<u>OFFICERS O/RANKS.</u>		Missing.....	1		<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O/RANKS.</u>	Present.....	28	544	Detached.....	11	205	Total.....	39	751	
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WAR DIARY

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REF MAP 62 D NE 1/20000
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or
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. VOLUME 29 PAGE 5.

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and
 references to
 Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information																												
FRONT LINE	JULY 5th		Nothing of special interest happened during the day. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><u>ARRIVALS</u></p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Reinfe</td> <td>1</td> <td>4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><u>DEPARTURES</u></p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Nil</td> <td>11</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> </div> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th>BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>28</td> <td>548</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>12</td> <td>207</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><hr/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>40</td> <td>755</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Reinfe	1	4	OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Nil	11	BATTALION	STRENGTH			OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Present	28	548	Detached	12	207	<hr/>			Total	40	755
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K. 7. 13. 14

Front Line	JULY 6th		An Inter- Battalion relief was carried out at night without incident. (See Appendix 1) Listening Patrols were pushed out to cover the relief. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><u>ARRIVALS</u></p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Nil</td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><u>DEPARTURES</u></p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Killed In Action -</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wounded</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><hr/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>13</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> </div> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th>BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>27</td> <td>532</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>13</td> <td>210</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><hr/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>40</td> <td>742</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Nil	Nil	OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Killed In Action -	4	Wounded	9	<hr/>		Total	13	BATTALION	STRENGTH			OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Present	27	532	Detached	13	210	<hr/>			Total	40	742
OFFICERS	O/RANKS																																		
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K. 7. 13. 14



APPENDIX
I

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
 (Aro266) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/16

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REF. MAP. 62.D.NE. 1/20000

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. Volume 29 Page 6.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
FRONT LINE	JULY 7th		<p>Lieut J. STINSON rejoins Unit, from Hospital England, and is posted to his old Company.</p> <p>We had three men wounded during the day.</p> <p>ARRIVALS. Lieut J. STINSON.</p> <p>DEPARTURES. WOUNDED . 3.0/Ranks.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH.</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>28</td> <td>524</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>13</td> <td>215</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>41.</td> <td>739</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BATTALION	STRENGTH.			OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Present	28	524	Detached	13	215	Total	41.	739	
BATTALION	STRENGTH.																		
	OFFICERS	O/RANKS																	
Present	28	524																	
Detached	13	215																	
Total	41.	739																	
FRONT ZLINE	JULY 8th		<p>A Package containing German Maps, taken from dead German Officer found lying on our wire.</p> <p>1 Map showing our Battery positions proved to be of immense value to our Artillery, who found it necessary to shift several of the Batteries in consequence of the accuracy to which our Battery Positions were known to the Enemy.</p> <p>ARRIVALS. Reinf. 15 O/Ranks</p> <p>DEPARTURES. Wounded 1 O/Rank</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>28</td> <td>561</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>13</td> <td>192</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>41</td> <td>753</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BATTALION	STRENGTH			OFFICERS	O/RANKS.	Present	28	561	Detached	13	192	Total	41	753	
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K. 7. 13. 14

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. Volume 29 Page 7

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REF MAP .62.D.NE.L/20000
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
FRONT LINE K. 7. 13. 14	JULY 9th		<p>A wet day.</p> <p>An Enemy Battalion Headquarters was located in a building in MORLANCOURT, and our Heavies turned on to same. The shooting was very effective and men were seen running in all directions. During the night Private H. DOBBIN ("C" Company Stretcher Bearer) was killed. His loss is keenly felt by his fellow Comrades of "C" Company to whom he was known as the "Company Doctor". In and out of the Line at all times he was devoted to his work, and when he learned tonight that No 9 Platoon was being shelled, he passed along the Trench from Company Headquarters to see if all was well with the Platoon, and whilst with them was unfortunately, himself, killed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>28</td> <td>5 54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>13</td> <td>195</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>41</td> <td>749</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>DEPARTURES</u>. Wounded 2 O/Ranks To 14th Training Battalion.. 2 O/Ranks</p>	BATTALION	STRENGTH			OFFICERS	O/RANKS.	Present	28	5 54	Detached	13	195	Total	41	749	
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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. Volume 29 Page 8

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																											
FRONT LINE <i>K.7.13.14.</i>	JULY 10th		<p>Very wet and muddy. Battalion was relieved during night by 55th Battalion and moved back to SUPPORT AREA (J.22.D.2.4.) (See Appendix II)</p> <p>Relief was effected without incident.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;"></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u></td> <td style="width: 30%;"></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>DEPARTURES</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reinf.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1 O/Rank</td> <td></td> <td> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>K.I.A.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1 O/Rank</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wounded</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3 O/Ranks</td> </tr> </table> </td> </tr> </table> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>BATTALION</u></td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><u>STRENGTH</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>OFFICERS</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>O/RANKS</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td style="text-align: center;">26</td> <td style="text-align: center;">519</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15</td> <td style="text-align: center;">227</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> <td style="text-align: center;">746</td> </tr> </table>		<u>ARRIVALS</u>		<u>DEPARTURES</u>	Reinf.	1 O/Rank		<table border="0"> <tr> <td>K.I.A.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1 O/Rank</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wounded</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3 O/Ranks</td> </tr> </table>	K.I.A.	1 O/Rank	Wounded	3 O/Ranks	<u>BATTALION</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>			<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O/RANKS</u>	Present	26	519	Detached	15	227	Total	41	746	<p>APPENDIX II</p>
	<u>ARRIVALS</u>		<u>DEPARTURES</u>																												
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SUPPORT LINE <i>J.22 & 23</i>	JULY 11th		<p>The Battalion is now occupying Support Trenches (See Map attached) and can move about more freely by day.</p> <p>Arrangements are being made to establish Baths at VAUX-sur-SOMME.</p> <p>Canteen is well stocked, to supply all wa-nts, and business is very brisk.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;"></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u></td> <td style="width: 30%;"></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>DEPARTURES</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">NIL</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">NIL</td> </tr> </table> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>BATTALION</u></td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><u>STRENGTH</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>OFFICERS</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>O/RANKS.</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Present . . .</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25</td> <td style="text-align: center;">520</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td style="text-align: center;">16</td> <td style="text-align: center;">226</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> <td style="text-align: center;">746.</td> </tr> </table>		<u>ARRIVALS</u>		<u>DEPARTURES</u>		NIL		NIL	<u>BATTALION</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>			<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O/RANKS.</u>	Present . . .	25	520	Detached	16	226	Total	41	746.					
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WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																			
SUPPORT LINE	JULY 12th		<p>Bathing of Battalion is commenced. Small parties move off at regular intervals during the day to VAUX-sur-SOMME where hot baths in tubs are obtained and a clean change of underclothing is issued to all Ranks. After such a long stretch in the line, this was greatly appreciated by all.</p> <p>The hairdresser and bootmaker are being kept busy all day.</p> <p>A reconnaissance of Centre Battalion (56th Bn) Positions was made by Officers and N.C.O's of Headquarters and all Companies.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>DEPARTURES</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Nil</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Trans. Corps School. 1 "O/Rank.</td> </tr> </table> <table style="width: 100%; border: none; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>BATTALION</u></th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><u>STRENGTH</u></th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>OFFICERS</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>O/RANKS</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25</td> <td style="text-align: center;">518</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td style="text-align: center;">16</td> <td style="text-align: center;">227</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> <td style="text-align: center;">745</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>ARRIVALS</u>	<u>DEPARTURES</u>	Nil	Trans. Corps School. 1 "O/Rank.	<u>BATTALION</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>			<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O/RANKS</u>	Present	25	518	Detached	16	227	Total	41	745	
<u>ARRIVALS</u>	<u>DEPARTURES</u>																						
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<u>BATTALION</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>																						
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Present	25	518																					
Detached	16	227																					
Total	41	745																					
SUPPORT LINE	JULY 13th		<p>Bathing of Battalion continued during day. Reconnaissance of Centre Battalion Positions is still being carried out by Officers and N.C.O's. Working Parties sent out during night.</p> <p>(See Works Report.)</p> <p>Lieut Colonel W.J.R. CHEESEMAN "MC" reports back to Transport Lines from Hospital England.</p>																				

J. 22 & 23.



D. D. & L., London, E.C.
 (A8004) Wt. W1771/M2 31 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

REF. MAP. 62.D. NE.1/20000

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. VOLUME 29 Page 10.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices														
SUPPORT LINE J. 22 & 23.	JULY 13th Contd.		<p>Lieut J.S.COOKIE rejoins from Hospital England, and in charge of 12 O/Ranks reports to Forward Battalion Headquarters. The Battalion is now rapidly getting up to Strength.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u></p> <p>LT. COL. W. J. R. CHEESEMAN "MC" Lieut J.S.COOKIE. 12 O/Ranks</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>DEPARTURES.</u></p> <p>Evacuated. 1 O/Rank</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>26</td> <td>527</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>16</td> <td>229</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>42</td> <td>756</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BATTALION	STRENGTH		OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Present	26	527	Detached	16	229	Total	42	756	
BATTALION	STRENGTH																	
	OFFICERS	O/RANKS																
Present	26	527																
Detached	16	229																
Total	42	756																
SUPPORT LINE J. 22 & 23.	JULY 14th		<p>The Brigadier visits the Battalion during the morning.</p> <p>The crops in front of the Support Trenches are being cut by day, and sent back by Limbers at night to be used as fodder.</p> <p>The usual fortnightly pay is made available to all Ranks.</p> <p>Lieut Colonel W. J. R. CHEESEMAN "MC" visits Battalion during the morning, and inspected Trenches occupied by all Companies.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u></p> <p>Reinfs. 2 O/Ranks</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>DEPARTURES.</u></p> <p>R Nil</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>27</td> <td>532</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>15</td> <td>226</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>42</td> <td>758</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BATTALION	STRENGTH		OFFICERS	O/RANKS.	Present	27	532	Detached	15	226	Total	42	758	
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WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. VOLUME 29 Page 11.
(Erase heading not required.)

REF. MAP . 62 . D . NE . 1720000
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices														
SUPPORTS J.22 & 23.	JULY 15th		<p>Fine Day. Lieut Colonel W. J. R. CHEESEMAN "MC" takes Command of his Battalion again.</p> <p>Lieut Colonel A. C. S. HOLLAND departs on leave to the United Kingdom.</p> <p>Reinfs. <u>ARRIVALS</u> 4 O/Ranks</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2" style="text-align: left;">BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">OFFICERS</th> <th style="text-align: center;">O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td style="text-align: center;">27</td> <td style="text-align: center;">536</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15</td> <td style="text-align: center;">326</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-top: 1px dashed black;">Total</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px dashed black;">42</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px dashed black;">762</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>DEPARTURES</u> Nil Lt.Col.A.C.S.HOLLAND to Leave U.K.</p>	BATTALION	STRENGTH		OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Present	27	536	Detached	15	326	Total	42	762	
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OFFICERS		O/RANKS																
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SUPPORTS J.22 & 23.	JULY 16th.		<p>The C. O. reconnoitred Right Battalion (54th Bn) Sector during the day.</p> <p>The day was bright and sunny.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u> NIL</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2" style="text-align: left;">BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">OFFICERS</th> <th style="text-align: center;">O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25</td> <td style="text-align: center;">534</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td style="text-align: center;">16</td> <td style="text-align: center;">228</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-top: 1px dashed black;">Total</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px dashed black;">41</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px dashed black;">762</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>DEPARTURES</u> Nil</p>	BATTALION	STRENGTH		OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Present	25	534	Detached	16	228	Total	41	762	
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REF. MAP. 62 D. NE. 1/20000

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. Volume 29 Page 12.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices														
supports FRONT LINE	JULY 17th		<p>Weather unsettled, and showery towards evening. During the day busy preparations are being made to move into the line.</p> <p>The Battalion relieved the 54th Battalion in Line RIGHT during the night without incident.</p> <p>(See Appendix 3) The Rain has made the trenches and Communication Saps very wet and muddy.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u> NIL</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>DEPARTURES</u> NIL</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>25</td> <td>533</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>16</td> <td>229</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>41</td> <td>762</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BATTALION	STRENGTH		OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Present	25	533	Detached	16	229	Total	41	762	<p>APPENDIX III</p>
BATTALION	STRENGTH																	
	OFFICERS	O/RANKS																
Present	25	533																
Detached	16	229																
Total	41	762																
FRONT LINE	JULY 18th		<p>Wet Day. The Battalion is settling down in new Sector although the conditions caused by the Rain are most uncomfortable.</p> <p>Hot Rations in improvised hot food containers are carried forward in Limbers by night to a sunken road well up behind the Line. 24 hours dry rations are issued by night also. The supply of hot and dry rations is excellent.</p> <p>13 O/Ranks marched-in and were attached to Companies.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u> Reinfs. 13 O/Ranks</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>DEPARTURES</u></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>22</td> <td>541</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>19</td> <td>234</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>41</td> <td>775</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BATTALION	STRENGTH		OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Present	22	541	Detached	19	234	Total	41	775	
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
FRONT LINE	JULY 19th		<p>Wet Day. The Battalion was relieved at night by the 54th Battalion (See Appendix 4) and moved back to Reserve Positions in RAVINE. at J.21.c. (See Map at ached).</p> <p>During the short tour in the line of two days the Battalion did not sustain a single casualty, but owing to the bad weather conditions the men were pleased to get out and get a dry change of clothing.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ARRIVALS NIL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DEPARTURES NIL</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>24</td> <td>542</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>17</td> <td>233</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>41</td> <td>775</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BATTALION	STRENGTH			OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Present	24	542	Detached	17	233	Total	41	775	APPENDIX III
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Present	24	542																	
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Total	41	775																	
RESERVES LINE	JULY 20th		<p>Weather unsettled and showery . The Battalion is now in reserve and is being reorganised and equipped to enable it to participate in an attack to take place on the 24/25th Inst. All fatigues are cancelled. The Rations are very good. The men are now having a complete rest, and getting fit. Intelligence^{Staff} is being kept busy preparing a relief map showing contour of the ground for the proposed attack.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ARRIVALSNIL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DEPARTURESEVACUATIONS 5 O/RANKS.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>25</td> <td>544</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>16</td> <td>226</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>41</td> <td>770</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BATTALION	STRENGTH			OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Present	25	544	Detached	16	226	Total	41	770	
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WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																				
RESERVES	July 21st		<p>Battalion Baths have been started at VAUX-sur-SOMME again, and all Ranks enjoyed a hot bath, and clean change of clothing. The Quartermaster and his Staff are very busy getting all necessary Bombs, Ammunition, and equipment, etc., up to date. R.S.M.FROGGATT. W. proceeded to Cadet Battalion.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u> NIL</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"><u>BATTALION</u></th> <th colspan="2"><u>STRENGTH</u></th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>OFFICERS</u></th> <th colspan="2"><u>O/RANKS</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>24</td> <td colspan="2">538</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>17</td> <td colspan="2">225</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>41</td> <td colspan="2">763</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>DEPARTURES</u> Evacuations 6 O/Ranks. O.T.C. 1 O/Rank.</p>	<u>BATTALION</u>		<u>STRENGTH</u>			<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O/RANKS</u>		Present	24	538		Detached	17	225		Total	41	763		
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Present	24	538																						
Detached	17	225																						
Total	41	763																						
RESERVES	JULY 22nd		<p>The Canteen is still kept well stocked. It has been with the Battalion the whole time in the Forward Area this month, and is much appreciated by All Ranks. All Ranks are still resting and getting fit. The C. O. has been very busy working day and night, preparing Operation Orders for proposed attack.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u> NIL</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"><u>BATTALION</u></th> <th colspan="2"><u>STRENGTH</u></th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>OFFICERS</u></th> <th colspan="2"><u>O/RANKS</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>22</td> <td colspan="2">539</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>19</td> <td colspan="2">224</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>41</td> <td colspan="2">763</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>DEPARTURES</u> NIL</p>	<u>BATTALION</u>		<u>STRENGTH</u>			<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O/RANKS</u>		Present	22	539		Detached	19	224		Total	41	763		
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																					
RESERVES	JULY		Weather unsettled and showery. News was received that proposed attack for the night of the 24/25th was cancelled																						
	23rd.		Working parties were supplied at night for work on the last Sector the Battalion occupied in the Line.																						
			<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>DEPARTURES</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">NIL</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Evacuated 1 O/Rank.</td> </tr> </table>	<u>ARRIVALS</u>	<u>DEPARTURES</u>	NIL	Evacuated 1 O/Rank.																		
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RESERVES.	JULY		Wet Day. Battalion resting by day and working by carrying parties out again at night.																						
	24th		21 O/Ranks marched-in and were posted to Companies.																						
			An 18 Pdr Battery is situated in the same Ravine as the Battalion and only 40 Yards back from B.H.Q.. These Guns disturb the peacefulness of each night by shooting off 200 and sometimes 400 rounds.																						
			<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS.</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>DEPARTURES</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reinfs. 21 O/Ranks</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Wounded 2 O/Ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Died of Wds 1 O/Rank</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Evacuations 3 O/Ranks.</td> </tr> </table>	<u>ARRIVALS.</u>	<u>DEPARTURES</u>	Reinfs. 21 O/Ranks	Wounded 2 O/Ranks		Died of Wds 1 O/Rank		Evacuations 3 O/Ranks.														
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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. VOLUME 29 Page 16

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																		
RESERVES J. 21 & J. 27	JULY 25th		<p>Weather very unsettled and still showery. The C. O. received news that an attack with our Battalion participating is likely to take place in a few days time. The Proposed attack is very similar to the previous cancelled proposal, only in this instance our Battalion will be operating more to the Right of the BRAY-CORBIE road than previously arranged. (See Map showing objectives) The Signalling Officer Lieut V.J.BARKELL "DCM" rejoins from Hospital England, and takes over his old Command from Sergt W.KENNY "DCM" whose work in charge of the signallers during the 3 months absence of the signalling Officer has been splendid.</p> <p>All Fatigues have been cancelled.</p> <table> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>DEPARTURES</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lieut V.J.BARKELL "DCM"</td> <td>nil</td> </tr> </table> <table> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>24</td> <td>555</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>18</td> <td>222</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>42</td> <td>777</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>ARRIVALS</u>	<u>DEPARTURES</u>	Lieut V.J.BARKELL "DCM"	nil	BATTALION	STRENGTH		OFFICERS	O/RANKS.	Present	24	555	Detached	18	222	Total	42	777	
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RESERVES J. 21 & J. 27	July 26th		<p>Weather still wet with heavy showers.</p> <p>Battalion again gets in readiness for attack. At night the Ravine occupied by the Battalion was rather heavily shelled by a 5' 9" Howitzer Battery. A few dugouts were blown in</p>																			



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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. Volume 29 Page 17.

(Erase heading not required.)

Ref Map 63. D.N.E.1/20000

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																		
Reserves J. 21 & J. 27	July 26th Contd.		<p>(in) but fortunately only one casualty resulted.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>DEPARTURES</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Nil</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Wounded 1 O/Rank Evacuated 1 O/Rank</td> </tr> </table> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>BATTALION</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>STRENGTH</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>OFFICERS</u> <u>O/RANKS</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24 553</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td style="text-align: center;">18 222</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">42 775</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">-----</td> </tr> </table>	<u>ARRIVALS</u>	<u>DEPARTURES</u>	Nil	Wounded 1 O/Rank Evacuated 1 O/Rank	<u>BATTALION</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>		<u>OFFICERS</u> <u>O/RANKS</u>	Present	24 553	Detached	18 222	-----		Total	42 775	-----		
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RESERVES & FRONT LINE J. 25	JULY 27th		<p>Weather clearing but ground very wet and slippery. Aeroplane photos and a Mosaic showing ground Battalion would be attacking over were issued to all Company Commanders by the Intelligence officer. Maps showing objectives, Artillery Barrage maps, and Message Maps (to be filled in by Platoon and Company Commanders after objective reached and sent back by Runner) also issued to Companies.</p> <p>Preparations completed for move into Line, and all Ranks look very fit after weeks rest.</p> <p>At Dusk Battalion moved into Line and relieved the 2 Right Platoons of the 56th Battalion, and the Left Company of the 54th Battalion. (See Map attached showing dispositions) (See Appendix V) + V^A</p> <p>Owing to continuous showers of rain on previous days the communication trenches, and Front and Support Trenches were very wet and muddy, which made relief very difficult.</p> <p>Lieut H.M.RIXON was shot through the head by a sniper during Relief and was very badly wounded.</p>	<p>SEE APPENDIX 5 & 5^A</p>																		



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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. Volume 29 Page 18.

(Erase heading not required.)

REF. MAP. 62.d.N.E.1/20000
Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
FRONT LINE K. 25	JULY 27th		<p>A Stretcher bearer in attending to Lieut Rixon was shot through the thigh. C.Q.M.S. KINROSS anxious as to his Company getting their rations alright in the Line, visited his Company ("C" Company) and was badly wounded received a bad bullet wound in so doing.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u> <u>DEPARTURES</u></p> <p>Reinfs. 2 O/Ranks Nil</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>BATTALION STRENGTH.</u></p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>OFFICERS</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>O/RANKS.</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td style="text-align: center;">23</td> <td style="text-align: center;">543</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td style="text-align: center;">19</td> <td style="text-align: center;">234</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">42</td> <td style="text-align: center;">777 O/Ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">660</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-----</td> </tr> </table>		<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O/RANKS.</u>	Present	23	543	Detached	19	234	Total	42	777 O/Ranks		660	-----	
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FRONT LINE K. 25	July 28th		<p>3 Companies are in the Front Line and "D" Company, which is now in Support will move up to Front Line tonight also, just prior to Zero Hour. 1 Man in "B" Company was sniped through the head and killed.</p> <p>Lieut A.C. ELLIOT "MC" returns from Hospital England, and takes command of Rear Battalion Headquarters during operations. Lieut J. DEXTER rejoins from Brigade School, and is posted to "B" Company.</p> <p>At 9 p.m. the C.O. with Adjutant, L.G.O., and I.O., and Headquarters Staff moved forward to Battle Headquarters (J.30.c.8.7.) which is situated 600 to 700 yards in rear of Front Line. (See Map). The Australian V.M.C.A. is established next to Battle Headquarters and hot cocoa, biscuits and chocolate are available for all during operations.</p>																



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REF. MAP 62 D.N.E.1/2000
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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. Volume 29 Page 19.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																						
FRONT LINE K. 25	July		<u>ARRIVALS</u> Lieut A.C.ELIOT."MC"																							
	28th			<u>DEPARTURES</u> Wounded Lieut RIXON 2 O/Ranks Evacuations 1 O/Rank Killed In Action 1 O/Rank																						
	Contd		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>24</td> <td>545</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>18</td> <td>232</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>42</td> <td>777</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BATTALION	STRENGTH		OFFICERS	O/RANKS	Present	24	545	Detached	18	232	Total	42	777									
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FRONT LINE K. 25	JULY		<p>Attack carried out at 1.25 a.m. (See attached report). Lieut F.CLIFT was rather badly wounded by a bomb. Lieut HASTINGS received a painful, but not serious wound in the ankle. 9 O/Ranks were killed, and 12 O/Ranks were wounded. Hostile artillery was very active, particularly at night. News of enemy massing in Terraces in K,25 at 4.30 a.m. and 8 p.m. but no Counter-attack eventuated. Artillery fire was brought to bear on this area. The C. O. visits Companies in Line during night. Officers of the 6th Northamptonshire Regiment visited Battalion during day and reconnoitred positions, preparatory to taking-over on the morrow.</p> <p>Dead were carried out during Night. A quantity of captured War Material was sent back to rear during night.</p>																							
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">BATTALION</th> <th colspan="2">STRENGTH</th> <th rowspan="2">DEPARTURES</th> </tr> <tr> <th>OFFICERS</th> <th>O/RANKS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ARRIVALS Nil</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Wounded 2 Officers 12 O/Ranks Evacuated Lt F.CLIFT. Lt J.B.HASTINGS.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td>25</td> <td>565</td> <td>Evacuations 4 O/Ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td>17</td> <td>208</td> <td>Killed in Action 9 O/Ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>42</td> <td>773</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	BATTALION	STRENGTH		DEPARTURES	OFFICERS	O/RANKS	ARRIVALS Nil			Wounded 2 Officers 12 O/Ranks Evacuated Lt F.CLIFT. Lt J.B.HASTINGS.	Present	25	565	Evacuations 4 O/Ranks	Detached	17	208	Killed in Action 9 O/Ranks	TOTAL	42	773		
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or
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(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
FRONT LINE K.25	July		Warm day. The killed carried out on the previous night were buried at the HELLY Cemetery during	APPENDIX VI															
	30th		the morning. Remainder of captured machine guns etc., were brought out during the day. Battalion was relieved at night by the 6th Northamptonshire Regiment (see Appendix VI) and moved back to the vicinity of BONNAY (Map 62.D.N.W. I.24.c.2.4.) where after a hot meal and hot cocoa the Battalion embussed and was taken to VAUX-en-AMIENOIS. <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>DEPARTURES</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Nil</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Wounded 14 O/Ranks To Training Battalion Lieut LEE.R. Tp 23rd Bn A.I.F. 1 O/Rank.</td> </tr> </table> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>BATTALION</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>STRENGTH</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>OFFICERS</u> <u>O/RANKS</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25 546</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td style="text-align: center;">15 202</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">40 748</td> </tr> </table>		<u>ARRIVALS</u>	<u>DEPARTURES</u>	Nil	Wounded 14 O/Ranks To Training Battalion Lieut LEE.R. Tp 23rd Bn A.I.F. 1 O/Rank.	<u>BATTALION</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>		<u>OFFICERS</u> <u>O/RANKS</u>	Present	25 546	Detached	15 202		-----	Total
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BILLETS. VAUX-en-AMIENOIS.	July		The Battalion de-bussed at VAUX-en-AMIENOIS at 6 a.m. and are billeted in the Village. All																
	31st.		Ranks are very tired and to-day are quite contented to rest, under much more comfortable conditions. then during the remainder of the month. <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>ARRIVALS</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>DEPARTURES</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Nil</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Nil</td> </tr> </table> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>BATTALION</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>STRENGTH</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>OFFICERS</u> <u>O/RANKS</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Present</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24 527</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached</td> <td style="text-align: center;">16 202</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">40 729</td> </tr> </table>	<u>ARRIVALS</u>	<u>DEPARTURES</u>	Nil	Nil	<u>BATTALION</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>		<u>OFFICERS</u> <u>O/RANKS</u>	Present	24 527	Detached	16 202		-----		40 729
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																																																				
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<p>NO. OF CASES TRIED BY C. O. DURING MONTH NIL.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>NO OF CASES TRIED BY F.G.C.M. DURING MONTH I.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>HONOURS . AND . AWARDS .</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pte T.E. RODWELL. (MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL.)</u></p>																																																																								

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WAR DIARY

ORIGINAL²²

OF

53rd BATTALION. A. I. F.

FOR

JULY. 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1	Operation Order No 38
2	do do do No 39
3	do do do No 39a
4	do do do No 40
5	do do do No 42
5a	do do do No 41
6	do do do No 43
7	Works Reports... From 1st July to 19th July.
8	Transport officers report.
9	Quartermasters Report.
10	Lewis Gun Officers Report
11	R.M.Os. Report.

MS

Ref Map
Sheet .62 .D.N.W.
61320000 .

53rd BATTALION. A. I. F.

APPENDIX. I 6TH JULY. 1918

Appendix. I

1. An Inter-Battalion relief will take place tonight 6/7th July 1918. Line Companies will arrange for covering of relief
2. "D" Company will relieve "A" Company in Line Right.
"C" Company will relieve "B" Company in Line Left.
3. On relief "A" Company will move to RESERVE LINE positions.
" " "B" " " " " " SUPPORT LINE positions.
4. Same arrangements for rations will be carried out tonight, as previously.
5. Relief will be arranged direct by O.C. Companies concerned.
6. Operation of relief will not take place until rations have been distributed and disposed of..
7. All Trench Stores, S.O.S., etc will be taken and handed over, and receipts obtained by Companies.
8. Completion of relief will be notified to Battalion Headquarters, by the Code Wire "SANDBAGS RECEIVED" as under.
(a) "C" & "D" Companies on completion of relief.
(b) "A" & "B" Companies on completion of move.
9. O.C. "A" Coy will arrange to relieve at once at J.24.b.6.8. Ration Dump Guard, 1 N.C.O. and three men & on relief Anti-Tank Gun Guard INCO 6 men
O.C. "B" Coy will arrange to relieve at once at J.16.b.6.9. Ration Dump Guard 1 N.C.O. and three men. And on relief Anti-Tank Gun Guard of 1 N.C.O. and 6 men.
On relief relieved men will report direct to O.C. "D" Company.
Relieving Anti-Tank Gun Gards will report to Battalion Headquarters for instructions.
10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued by Runner at

"A" Company Copy No	1
"B" Company	2
"C" Company	3
"D" Company	4
HQRS	5
60th Battalion	6
56th Battalion	7
14th Bde Hqrs	8
T.O.	9
Q.M.	10
War Diary	11/13

W. Evers
Adjutant, 53rd Battalion. A. I. F. Captain

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SECRET.

COPY NO. APPENDIX

53RD AUSTRALIAN INF. BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO 39.

Ref. Map. Sheet 62.D. NE. 120000.

10th July 1918.

Appendix 2.

1. The 55th Battalion will relieve the 53rd Battalion in Line, night 10/11th July 1918.
2. "A" Coy 55th Batt'n will relieve "D" Coy 53rd Batt'n in Line Right.
 "C" " " " " " " "C" " " " " " " Left
 "D" " " " " " " "B" " " " " " " Support
 "B" " " " " " " "A" " " " " " " Reserve.
 Line Companies will arrange for covering of relief.
3. O.C. Companies will arrange for 5 guides per Company, (1 per Platoon, and Company Headquarters) to be at SAP entrance J.17.b.20.05. at 10.20 P.M. to meet incoming Units. Guides will report to Lieut THOMPSON.
4. All Grenades, S.O.S., Defence Schemes, Maps and todays intelligence Summary, etc etc, will be handed over and receipts obtained, and forwarded to Batt'n Hqrs by 8.a.m. 11th Inst.
5. All Dugouts and Shelters are to be disinfected, as per 5th Aust. Div. Administrative Memo. No 70 and certificates forwarded to Battalion Hqrs with the Handing Over Statements.
6. On relief "A" Coy will move to RIGHT COY POSITION. ROMA LINE.
 " " "B" " " " " Area around J.23.Central. CLERMONT LINE.
 " " "C" " " " " CENTRE COY POSITION. ROMA LINE.
 " " "D" " " " " LEFT COY POSITION. ROMA LINE.
7. Transport Officer will arrange for:-
 (a) Reconnaissances of routes to new area.
 (b) Two Cookers to be in position at 55th Battalion Hqrs at dusk.
 (c) Water Tanks at 55th Battalion Hqrs to be filled after dusk.
 (d) Two Linbers to be at present 53rd Batt'n Hqrs at 10.P.M. Lieut RIDLEY will supervise loading.
8. Q.M. will arrange for hot meal and dry rations to be sent to New Area, to arrive at midnight.
9. Batt'n Hqrs will close on completion of relief, and open on arrival in Ravine J.22.d.25.40.
10. R.A.P. established at J.22.d25.40
11. Lewis Guns and Magazines (full) will be carried by Teams to new positions
12. Completion of relief will be notified to Batt'n Hqrs by PRIORITY WIRE "S.E/ 42. RECEIVED".
13. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued by Runner at....

- "A" Coy Copy No 1
- "B" " " " 2
- "C" " " " 3
- "D" " " " 4
- C.O. " " 5
- 55th Bn " " 6
- Q.M. " " 7
- T.O. " " 8
- 14th Bde Hqrs " 9
- File " " 10
- War Diary " 11-13.

W. Evans
 Captain
 Adjutant 53rd Battalion. A.I.F.

SECRET.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED WITH 53rd BATTALION.A.I.F. OPERATION
ORDER No 39^A 17.7.18.

APPENDIX 3

1. When the Battalion moves into the line, Battalion Cookers will be situated at J.29.a.1.8 and all meals will be cooked there, and collected by ration parties under Company arrangements.
2. MEALS. & Etc Commencing from tomorrow night 18th Inst, the following arrangements in regard to hot meals, and rations will be carried out:-
Meals. (a) Two hot meals will be supplied to each Company every twenty four hours at the following times:-
 First Meal.....10 P.M.
 Second Meal..... 2 A.M.
 It is imperative that parties reporting for second meal, leave the Cookers by 2.a.m.
Dry Rations.(b) Dry rations will be collected by parties reporting to Cookers for morning meal
3. ARRANGEMENTS FOR 18th INST.
 (1) Dry rations will be issued as usual tonight.
 (2) Breakfast will be collected from Battalion Cookers at 2.a.m. as laid down in Para 2.
3. WATER.
 A supply of water (10 Petrol Tins) for each Company will arrive with Rations nightly, and will be collected with the Morning Meal etc.
5. COMPANY QUARTER-MASTER SERGEANTS.
 C.Q.M.Ss. will be with Cookers during the time they Battalion is in the line and will be responsible for all meals, dry rations etc.
 Company Storemen will report to Transport Lines to-night for duty.
6. RETURNS.
 Intelligence Reports, Works Reports, Ration States, Casualty Returns, Ammunition Expended Returns etc will be rendered daily to reach Battalion Headquarters by 5.a.m.
7. REAPING HOOKS.
 Companies will retain Reaping Hooks now in their possession, and take same forward to new positions.

W. Evers

Captain
Adjutant 53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

- Issued by Runner at 6.40.p.m. to:-
 Copy No 1 to C. O.
 No 2 "A" Coy
 No 3 "B" Coy
 No 4 "C" Coy
 No 5 "D" Coy
 No 6 Q.M.
 No 7 Sergt Cook.

SECRET

22.d O.8

Battalion Guides will meet Companies at Northern end of Ravine
53rd BATTALION A.I.F. OPERATION ORDER NO 40... DATED 19.7.18.
Ref Map. G.P. D.V. 11420000e for

APPENDIX APPENDIX 4

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- (1) The 54th Battalion A.I.F. will relieve the 53rd Battalion A.I.F. in Line Right Brigade Front, "C" Divisional Sector tonight 19/20th July 1918.
- (2) "A" Company 54th Battalion will relieve "A" Company 53rd Battalion in Line Right, plus Right Platoon "B" Company.
"D" Company 54th Battalion will relieve "C" Company 53rd Battalion in Line Left, plus left Platoon "B" Company.
"C" Company 54th Battalion will relieve "D" Company 53rd Battalion in Supports.
One Platoon "B" Company 54th Battalion will take over Relay Post at J.29.c.75.15. They will also take over Supporting Point Rations and Water at this Point.
- (3) a All S.A.A., Grenades, Trench Stores etc will be handed over. Receipts to be forwarded to Battalion Headquarters by 8.a.m. 20th Inst.
b Os.C.Companies will hand over only the exact amount of S.A.A. Trench Stores etc taken over by them on Night 17/18th July 1918.
c Orders re cleanliness and sanitation to be complied with, as usual and certificates forwarded.
- (4) On Relief Companies will proceed to, and occupy bivouacs vacated by the 54th Battalion in Ravine in J.21.c
- (5) Lewis Guns and Magazines (full) will be carried by teams to new positions.
- (6) 53rd Battalion Guides will meet Companies at Northern end of Ravine 22.d O.8.
- (7) Q.M. will arrange for
(a) Hot meal to be ready on arrival in New Area.
(b) Dry Rations to be sent to new area this evening.
- (8) C.Q.M.Ss will report to Battalion Headquarters at 7.p.m. tonight to proceed to new positions.
- (9) Transport Officer will arrange for
(a) 3 Limbers to report to Battalion Headquarters at 10.p.m.
(b) 2 Limbers to report to Battalion Cookers at 10.P.M.
- (10) On completion of Relief Battalion Headquarters will be notified by the Code Wire 'S.E.180 received'.
- (11) Os.C.Companies will notify Battalion Headquarters on arrival in New Positions.
- (12) ACKNOWLEDGE.

D.W. Evans

Captain
Adjutant 53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

DISTRIBUTION

- Issued by Runner at ... P.M. 19.7.18 to:-
- "A" Company Copy No 1
 - "B" Company Copy No 2
 - "C" Company Copy No 3
 - "D" Company Copy No 4
 - 14th A.I. Bde Copy No 5
 - 54th Batt'n Copy No 6
 - T. O. Copy No 7
 - Q. M. Copy No 8
 - War Diary Copy No 9
 - 11
 - File Copy No 12

SECRET.

53rd AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO 42.

COPY NO.....

Ref Map. 62.D.N.E. 1/20000.

27.7.18.

1. The following readjustment of Right Brigade area, "C" Division, and Inter-Battalion Reliefs will take place on Night 27/28th July, 1918X
 - (A) The 8th Australian Infantry Brigade will take over the Front Line from from the present Northern Boundary to K.19.d.20.00.
 - (b) Northern boundary of Right Brigade will then run: K.19.d.20.00.- K.19.c.0.0. - J.24.Central, thence westerly along Grid.
2. The 53rd Battalion will relieve 2 Platoons (in Line) 56th Battalion, plus 1 Company (in Line) 54th Battalion.
3. (a) "B" Company 53rd Battalion will relieve "D" Company 54th Battalion, and take over frontage from J.30.d.80.30. to K.25.a.8.2.
 (b) "C" Company 53rd Battalion will relieve 2 Platoons "E" Company, 56th Battalion and take up frontage from K.25.a.8.2. to Brigade Northern Boundary.
 (c) "A" Company will take up position in Front Line along Battalion Frontage.
 (d) "D" Company will take up position as under:-
 2 Platoons in Terrace in vicinity of J.30.a.82.
 2 Platoons in trench r-unning through J.30.B.3.8.
4. "E" Company and "A" Company will not take over any Stores in new position. "C" Company will take over Stores and forward receipts as usual.
5. Order of March. "B". "A". "C". "D". Companies Hqrs. Companies will move in above order as soon as visibility permits.
6. Two 56th Battalion guides for "A" Company 53rd Battalion will be at 56th Battalion Headquarters at 9.45.p.m. tonight.
7. Advance parties, 1 Officer and 1 N.C.O. per Company will proceed at once to reconnoitre new positions.
8. Completion of relief will be notified to Battalion Headquarters by Code Wire "Disinfentant received".
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Sw Evers
 Captain
 Adjutant 53rd Battalion. A.I.F.

- Issued by Runner at 4.P.M. to:-
- "A" Company.....Copy No 1
 - "B" Company.....2
 - "C" Company.....3
 - "D" Company.....4
 - 54th Battalion.....5
 - 56th Battalion.....6
 - C.O.7
 - C.M. & T.O.....8
 - War Diary.....9/11
 - File.....12.

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APPENDIX 5

SECRET.ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONSISSUED WITH 53rd BATTALION OPERATION ORDER No 42. 27.7.18.

1. Hot meal will be issued as usual tonight.
2. On Battalion move tonight, C.C.M.Ss. will report and remain at Battalion Headquarters J.22.d.2.4. while Battalion is in the Line.
3. Breakfast and dry rations for 28th Inst will be carried up by parties from 55th Battalion. Companies will arrange for Guides for these Parties to report at Battalion Headquarters at 2.a.m. 28th Inst.
4. Hot meal for Night 28th Inst will be carried by parties from 56th Battn. Companies will arrange for guides for the parties to report at R.A.P. X. J.23.d.8.8. at 9.30.p.m. 28th Inst.
5. Water. Water bottles will be filled tonight before departure, and must be used sparingly.

W. G. ...
Adjutant 53rd Battalion. Captain
A. I. F.

Issued to recipients of 53rd Battalion Operation Order No 42.

SECRET.

53rd AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO. 41.

Ref. Map.
Sheet 62 D. N.S. 1/20,000.

26th JULY, 1916.

1. INTENTION. On "a" day which will be notified, the 5th Australian Division is to attack and consolidate on the line K.20.c.0.2, K.20.a.35.00, K.14.c.0.0, K.14.a.4.3, K.8.c.0.0. (enemy second line trench system).
 - (a) The 8th Aust. Infantry Brigade are carrying out the attack (Beacon attack). The 32nd Battalion is attacking on the right of the 8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.
 - (b) The 14th Aust. Inf. Brigade will carry out a supplementary operation (Blue Operation) with objective as follows:-
 Objective. A Line from J.30.d.95.30, K.25.c.54.40, K.25.d.00.52, K.25.d.65.94, K.25.b.80.21. To denote objective successfully reached flares bursting into
 RED
 RED
 RED
 will be fired.
2. DETAILED PLAN. The attack of the 14th Aust. Inf. Brigade will be carried out by the 53rd Battalion.
3. DISTRIBUTION. The Battalion will attack on a 2 Company Front - "B" Coy. on the right - "C" Company on left. "A" Coy. will follow "B" and "C" Coys. as "HOPPERS UP" for enemy first line trench running from K.25.c.00.35, K.25 Central to K.25.b.60.35. "A" Coy. will consolidate and garrison this line. "D" Company will be in Reserve in old Front Line Trench.
4. INTER COMPANY BOUNDARIES. K.25.d.00.30, G.F. inclusive for "B" Company. Tapes will be laid out by 14th Field Coy. Aust. Engrs. on "a" night marking flanks of attack and running 20 yards into "NO MAN'S LAND" for direction.
5. ARTILLERY. At Zero Artillery will come down on enemy front line for 3 minutes (Zero to Zero plus 3). From Zero plus 3 minutes onwards barrage will creep at the rate of 100 yards in 2 minutes until it reaches line XXXX.K.26.a.50.55, K.26.c.05.65, K.31.a.55.45, J.36.b.70.45, when protective barrage will be formed & will remain stationary until Zero plus 30 minutes, when fire will cease. H.A. Artillery are co-operating and will engage special targets and carry out counter battery work.
6. L.T.M. Three guns will be available to deal with special tasks.
7. L.T.M. 3 guns will be attached to "B" Coy. - 2 for use on right flank of objective and 1 for G.F. K.25.d.00.30.- As per special order given C.O. "B" Coy. and C.O. L.T.M. Battery, 5 guns will be replaced to shoot on enemy strong points in vicinity of CROSS ROADS K.31.a.00.90. Arrangements will be made between C.O. 14th L.T.M.B. and C.O. 56th Bn. for supply of parties (1 M.S.G. and 9 men) to carry ammunition forward for the 3 guns attached to "B" Company.
8. MACHINE GUNS. Detailed Machine Gun Tasks will be issued separately.
9. PREPARATORY WORK. To facilitate communications a RUSSIAN SAP will at once be pushed forward towards enemy line from K.25.a.60.00.
10. ASSEMBLY POSITIONS. Will be present Front Line J.30.d.8.3, K.25.c.00.55, K.25.a.60.00, K.25.b.00.52.
11. CONSOLIDATION. Is to be carried out on objective stated in para 1. (b) Posts will be pushed forward to positions which will be decided by Company Commanders concerned.
12. COMMUNICATION TRENCH. The 56th Battalion will supply the necessary party to dig a G.F. from K.25.a.6.0 to K.25.c.70.90. Detailed arrangements will be made by C.O. 14th Field Coy. Aust. Engineers and C.O. 56th Battalion re this party.

13. FLANKS 54th Battalion will be on Right Flank in present Front Line Trench J.30.d.45.30. to J.36.00.30.
On Left Flank the C.O. 32nd Battalion has arranged as soon as Barrage permits to mop up gap from K.20.d.0.2. to K.25.b.80.21. joining up with this Battalion at K.25.b.80.21. The 32nd Battalion will hold the Line mentioned above. The closest liasion must be maintained between the Companies concerned.
14. LIASION An Artillery Liasion Officer will be at Battle Headquarters.
15. PRISONERS. Will be collected at head of ADELAIDE C.T. J.30.d.70.40. O.C. "D" Company will take over all Prisoners here and will provide escort to bring them to Battalion Headquarters. Prisoners should be utilised to carry wounded if necessary.
16. CONTACT PLANES Arrangements will be notified later.
17. CARRYING PARTIES. O.C. "D" Company will detail 2 Platoons as carrying parties to carry Stores as per attached table. Dumps to be made in Enemy Line in vicinity of K.25.c.50.60. and K.25.a.90.10.
18. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS See attached.
19. SIGNAL ARRANGEMENTS See attached
20. MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS. R.A.P. will be situated at J.30.c.80.75. Battalion Stretcher Bearers will clear casualties from Battle Areas to R.A.P. From R.A.P. casualties will be cleared by special parties detailed under Brigade arrangements to Relay Post J.17.c.95.10. from Relay Post to cars at K.17.b.20.50. thence by car to A.D.S.
21. HEADQUARTERS. Advanced Headquarters will be established as under:-
Advanced Brigade Headquarters ... J.22.d.20.54.
Advanced Battalion Headquarters. (Battal H.Q) J.30.c.8.7.
22. REPORTS. will be forwarded to Battle Headquarters with the utmost speed.
23. WATCHES. Will be synchronised by an Officer from Battalion Headquarters reporting to each Company H.Q. at 7 and 3 hours respectively before Zero The greatest accuracy to be observed.
24. "Z" Day and Zero Hour to be notified later.
25. ACKNOWLEDGE

Issued through Signals at.....m to:-

- "A" Coy Copy No 1
- "B" Coy 2
- "C" Coy 3
- "D" Coy 4
- Copies to:-
- 14th A.I. Brigade 5
- 32nd Battalion 6
- 54th Battalion 7
- 56th Battalion 8
- 14th F.C. Engrs 9
- 14th L.T.M.B. 10
- 5th Machine Gun Bn. 11
- C.O. 12
- Q.M. 13
- R.M.O. 14
- War Diary 15/17
- 5th Pioneer Bn. 18
- File 19
- Spare 20/21

W. G. Jones
 Captain
 Adjutant 53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

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SECRET.

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APPENDIX 5A
COPY NO.....53rd AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.SIGNAL ARRANGEMENTS.

From Advanced Brigade Headquarters to Battle Headquarters-- by Telephone (3 Metallic Circuits) and Power Buzzer and Amplifier

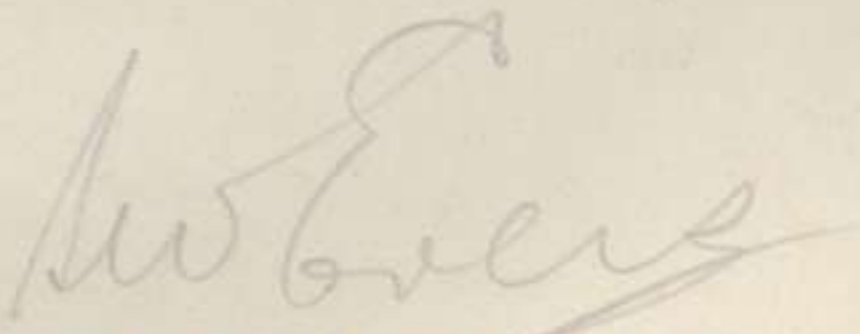
From Battle Headquarters to 32ns Headquarters at J.24.c.80.30.- by Telephone (2 Metallic Circuits). These Lines will be laid by the 32nd Bata

From Battle Headquarters to Companies-- By Telephone (3 Metallic Circuits) or by Power Buzzer and Amplifier which will be installed in present front Line at K.25.c.50.95.

Alternate methods)-

Message Rockets
Visual Signalling
Runners.

A Brigade Visual Transmitting Station will be established at J.21.a.70.00.


Adjutant 53rd Battalion . A. I. F.

Captain

Issued to all recipients of 53rd Bn Operation Order No 41

53RD AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED WITH OPERATION ORDER NO 41.

1. DRESS Battle Order. Entrenching tool to be worn in front of the body and Greatcoat and Waterproof Sheet to be carried rolled. Box Respirators will be carried at the alert.
- 2 RATIONS. The following will be carried in haversack:- IRON RATIONS, and 24 hours rations. 1 tin Solidified Alcohol. Water Bottles must be filled.
- 3 STORES. The following munitions and stores will be carried by the attacking troops:-
S.A.A. 170 Rounds per man.
Bombs. 2 No 36 Grenades, 1 No 23 Grenade per man to be carried. These will be collected into Dumps under Company arrangements
Aeroblene Flares. 2 per man. These will be lighted in groups of 3 when called for by contact Planes.
Wire Cutters. 1 Per Section.
Picks and Shovels. 50% of the attacking troops will carry either a pick or shovel, in the proportion of 1 pick to 3 shovels. Tools to be carried on the back under the haversack with the head of the tool resting on the top of the haversack.
S.O.S. Signals 4 per Company
Very Pistols. 1 Per Company
Very Flares. 50 per Company.
Rockets. 2 RED over RED over RED per Company to be carried by troops taking final objective.
Message Maps. 1 Packet of five to be carried by each officer.
Sandbags. 2 per man to be carried under the braces across the back. These sandbags to be used for making Bomb Blocks.
No 36 Discharger Cups 4 per Platoon will be carried.
Webley S.A.A. 24 Rounds will be carried by each Officer and No 1 of Lewis Guns.
- ④ DUMP A Dump containing the following Stores will be established under Brigade arrangements in the vicinity of J.30.c.80.70.
- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 20000 Rds S.A.A. | 30000 Rds S.A.A. (MG) |
| 1000 No 36 Grenades | 20 Boxes No 34 Grenades |
| 2 Boxes Very Flares "1" | 12 S.O.S. Signals |
| 100 Petrol Water Tins | 2000 Sand Bags |
| 1000 Yards Tape | 500 Rds Webley S.A.A. |
| 150 Shovels | 150 Picks |
| 12 Shelters in Sections | 600 Medium Pickets |
| 300 Long Pickets | 50 Voils Concertina Barbed Wire |
| 36 Reaping Hooks | 2 Rolls Camouflage. |
- Carrying parties will carry three long pickets to each coil of Concertina Barbed Wire.

W. Evans Captain
 Adjutant 53rd Battalion. A.I.F.

DISTRIBUTION.

Issued to all recipients of 53rd Bn Operation Order No 41

Report on Minor Operations carried out by 53rd Battalion,
A.I.F. on the night 28/29th JULY, 1918.

In accordance with orders the Battalion carried out an attack (supplementary to that carried out by 8th Brigade A.I.F.) on enemy trenches running from J.30.d.95.30., K.25.e.54.40., K.25.d.00.52., K.25.d.63.94. to K.25.b.80.21.

OBJECT OF ATTACK. The object of the attack was :-

- (a) To inflict loss on the enemy.
- (b) To improve our position with a view to further offensive action.
- (c) Disorganising the enemy defensive organisation.

FRONTAGE. The frontage was approximately 900 yards.

STRENGTH. The number of troops actually taking part in the operation was 12 Officers, and 387 Other Ranks

FORMATION. The Battalion attacked on a two Company front, "B" and "C" Companies in the first wave with a Company as "MOPPERS UP" for enemy first line trench running from K.25.e.00.35., K.25 Central to K.25.b.60.35. "D" Company supplied carrying parties (strength 2 platoons), the remaining 2 platoons being in reserve in original front line.

METHOD OF ATTACK. The method and formation for the attack was exactly the same as that ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ carried out during the POLYGON WOOD Battle and answered admirably.

ASSEMBLY. Assembly position was in our original front line. The Battalion suffered 3 casualties during the assembly.

DIRECTION. Attacking troops were materially assisted by flanking tapes which were run out 20 yards into "NO MAN'S LAND" on "Z" Night by 14th Field Company Aust. Engineers. No difficulty was experienced in keeping direction.

ARTILLERY. The barrage came down punctually at 1.25 a.m. All ranks of the attacking troops speak very highly of its accuracy and effectiveness. The pace of the creeping barrage (100 yards in 2 minutes) was found to be entirely satisfactory and the men were easily able to keep pace with it. Co-operation both during and after the attack was excellent and any request for fire and special targets by the Infantry was immediately carried out. Great credit is due to Lieut. JOLLY (Artillery Liaison Officer with this Battalion) for his work in this respect. A feeble enemy barrage was placed mostly in rear of our original front line 3 minutes after the opening of our barrage. Only 4 casualties were caused by this barrage and enemy fire which opened at 12.34 a.m. and continued during the operation of the 8th Brigade.

THE ADVANCE. The advance was made in perfect formation. The men kept so close to the barrage (about 40 yards) that they were on top of the astonished enemy before he could offer any serious resistance.

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2.

LEWIS GUNS. During the Advance a number of the enemy tried to run away through the barrage; these were dealt with by Lewis Guns firing from the hip. A number of casualties were caused in this way.

OBJECTIVE. Previous to the attack careful study of aeroplane photographs and relief maps by all ranks enabled Companies to easily recognise their objective.

ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy Front Line Trench was deep and in good order. On the left it was badly damaged by our Artillery Fire. His Support Line consisted of a chain of rifle pits not connected. No deep dug-outs were found. Enemy C.F. running from K.25.e.70.95 to K.25.d.40.30 was shallow and very wet.

CONSOLIDATION. Consolidation was carried out on final objective. Platoon strong point being established with small posts approximately 100 yards in front. The Battalion then being distributed in depth as follows:-

- "B" Company Front Line Right.
- "C" Company Front Line Left.
- "A" Company in Support in captured enemy Front Line.
- "D" Company in Reserve in original Front Line.

LEFT BATTALION. The closest Liaison was maintained between the 8th Brigade and this Battalion by patrols prior to the attack and by a strong point established at K.25.b.30.21 after consolidation.

LIGHT SIGNALS. Flares bursting into RED over RED over RED were used to denote that the Battalion had reached its final objective. This simple method of communication proved very effective. Several "dud" flares were found.

WIRE. Enemy wire consisted of patches of concertina barbed which was very thin and proved no obstacle/.

COMMUNICATIONS. Signal arrangements were excellent and at no time were the attacking Companies out of touch with Battle Headquarters. Laddered lines were run out by the Company Signallers with the attacking Companies. These lines were subsequently joined up by lateral lines which ensured good communication. As an additional precaution a Power Buzzer and Amplifier set was established in our Front Line at K.25.e.50.95. This Station was continually in touch with Power Buzzer and Amplifier set at Battle Headquarters. Lucas Lamps, pigeons and Message Rockets were also carried but were not used. Great credit is due to both Brigade and Battalion Signalling Officers.

FRENCH MORTARS. The work of the Heavy and Light French Mortars was extremely satisfactory.

Guns emplaced to fire on strong points in vicinity of K.31.a.00.90 fired 600 rounds and killed a number of the enemy. The 3 Light French Mortars that accompanied the attacking troops were firing and covering the establishing of bomb blocks two minutes after the final objective was reached.

Carrying parties for Light French Mortar ammunition were supplied by 56th Battalion.

COMMUNICATION TRENCH. A party consisting of Lieut. L. COBGRIVE and 60 Other Ranks from the 56th Battalion under supervision of the 14th Field Coy. Aust. Engineers dug a C.T. from K.25.a.60.00 to K.25.c.70.90. This was completed and dug to a depth of 3 feet and width of 2 feet by 3 a.m. This C.T. proved of inestimable value next day as it allowed rations, ammunition, etc. to be carried up in daylight.

RATIONS. Normal ration arrangements were not departed from except that the men carried an extra 24 hours rations in addition to their Iron Rations.

A Hot Meal consisting of stew, tea, etc. was distributed at 11.30 p.m. on "Z" night and on the following night a Hot Dinner and Hot Breakfast was distributed. We are indebted to the 56th and 55th Battalions for the supply of carrying parties for these rations.

CONTACT FLARES. Ground Flares were lit in answer to call from Contact Patrol.

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS. Proved entirely satisfactory. There was no hitch in the evacuation of wounded.

WATCHES. Synchronisation of watches was carried out by an Officer from Brigade Headquarters reporting to Battalion Headquarters at 8 and 4 hours respectively before Zero. The same method was adopted between Battalion and Company Headquarters, an Officer from Battalion Headquarters reporting to each Company Headquarters at 7 and 3 hours respectively before Zero.

PRISONERS. 2 Officers and 63 Other Ranks of 203rd R.I.B. were captured. On the whole prisoners were young and of medium physique. They seemed pleased to be captured.

TROPHIES OF WAR. 20 Machine Guns, 1 Flare Thrower, and a number of Rifles, etc. were captured.

CASUALTIES. The number of casualties suffered by this Battalion in the actual assault were:-

8 Other Ranks Killed.

2 Officers and 12 Other Ranks wounded.

During the tour in the line from night 27/28th July to night 30/31st July the total number of casualties were :-

11 Other Ranks Killed.

3 Officers and 28 Other Ranks wounded.

Enemy killed by attacking troops, artillery, trench mortars and machine guns, etc. is now estimated at 100.

SNIPING. In addition to the above enemy casualties our snipers accounted for a number of the enemy during the day following the attack.

4.

In conclusion I would like to mention the valuable assistance received from Major COGHLAN, O.C. 14th Field Coy. Aust. Engineers during the preparation for the attack and also the splendid work done by 56th Battalion, 55th Battalion and 54th Battalion, who supplied working parties, carrying parties and stretcher bearers both before and during the operation.

Without the above assistance the operation could not have been the complete success it was.

W. Cheeseman

Lieut. Colonel,
Commanding 53rd Battalion, A. I. F.

TYPE OF WORK.	LINE OF DEFENCE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE	MEN EMPLOYED.		
				ENGRS.	INF.	PNRS.
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	K.13.b.4.1	WIDENING AND DEEPENING OF TRENCHES. 50 YARDS.	1.	14.	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	K.13.d.6.5	WIDENING AND DIGGING OF TRENCHES. 50 YARDS.		8	
WIRING.	FRONT LINE	K.13.d.8.5	60 YARDS KNEE DEEP DOUBLE APRON.		7	
DIGGING.	FRONT LINE	K.7.d.1.8.	WIDENING AND DEEPENING TRENCH? & MAKING FIRE-STEP 50YDS	1.	12.	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	K.7.c.80 70	DIGGING COMPANY HEADQUARTERS 8 x 7 x 5.	1.	6.	
DIGGING	SUPPORT LINE	K.13.c.9.3	DEEPENING OF TRENCH 25 YARDS.	1	4	
DIGGING	SUPPORT LINE.	K.13.c.8.5	DEEPENING OF TRENCH 30 YARDS.		5	

1.7.18.

A. Thompson Lieut
Works Officer
53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

TYPE OF WORK	LINE OF DEFENCE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE	MEN EMPLOYED		
				ENGRS.	INF.	PNRS.
DIGGING.	FRONT LINE	K.13.d.5.5. K.13.d.5.7.	100 yards of Trench Deepened.		12.	
CONSTRUCTION.	FRONT LINE	K.13.d.6.3.	Construction of Lewis Gun Post 20 Sand Bags used.		4	
CONSTRUCTION.	B.H.Q.	J.17.b.35. 75.	Construction of 3 shelters. 6 Sheets Iron. 6 Lengths Timber		6	
DIGGING.	FRONT LINE	K.13.b.5.1 K.13.b.5.2.	Widening and deepening of Trench 50 yards.		6	

A. Thompson Lieut
Works Officer
53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

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TYPE OF WORK	LINE OF DEFENCE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE	MEN EMPLOYED.		
				ENGRS.	INF.	PNRS
DIGGING.	FRONT LINE.	K.3.d.6.3.	DEEPENING AND WIDENING OF TRENCH 40 YARDS		6	
DIGGING	SUPPORT LINE.	K.13.a.50.65.	DEEPENING AND WIDENING OF TRENCH 30 YARDS.		6	
DIGGING	SUPPORT LINE.	K.13.c.75.35.	DEEPENING AND WIDENING OF TRENCH 30 YARDS.		6	
WIRING	FRONT LINE	K.17.d.3.4. K.17.d.3.6.	100 YDS DOUBLE APRON WIRE 28 LG PICKETS. 8 SHORT. 14 COILS OF WIRE.		10.	
DIGGING	C. T. KING ST.	K.13.a.55.80 K.13.a.15.75	200 Yards OF KING STREET DEEPENED AND WIDENED.			78

Ro Thompson
Lieut
Works Officer
53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

TYPE OF WORK	LINE OF DEFENCE	LOCATION.	DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE	MEN EMPLOYED.		
				ENGRS.	INF.	PNRS.
DIGGING	SUPPORT LINE	K.13.a.55.63.	DEEPENING OF TRENCH 30 YARDS		6	
Construct-ion.	SUPPORT LINE	K.13.a.55.63.	CONSTRUCTION OF I SHELTER 3 SHEETS IRON 2 LGTHS TMBR.		4	
WIRING	FRONT LINE	K.7.d.15.31 K.7.d.15.20.	50 Yds MEDIUM APRON WIRE. 7 COILS WIRE. 32 PICKETS.		7	
WIRING	FRONT LINE	K.13.d.85.32. K.13.d.85.22	60 Yds DOUBLE APRON WIRE 7 COILS WIRE 36 PICKETS		10	
DIGGING	KING ST C. T.	K.13.a.40.75. K.13.a.70.00.	200 Yds KING STREET.C.T. DEEPENED AND WIDENED.			78
CONSTRUCT-ION.	FRONT LINE	K.7.c.80.75.	Construction of "D" Coy Hqrs 150 Sand Bags 4 Sheets Iron 6 Lengths Timber.	3	2	

Ro Thompson
Lieut
Works Officer
53rd Battalion. A.I.F.

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53rd BATTALION. A.I.F. DAILY WORKS REPORT.

TYPE OF WORK	LINE OF DEFENCE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE	MEN EMPLOYED.		
				ENGRS.	INF.	PNRS
DIGGING.	SUPPORT LINE.	K.13.a.45.35.	DEEPENING AND WIDENING TRENCH.		6	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	K.13.d.30.50.	DEEPENING TRENCH 40 YARDS.		7	
CONSTRUC-TION.	FRONT LINE	K.7.c.80.75.	L.COY HEADQUARTERS COMPLETED 100 SAND BAGS. 2 SHEETS IRON.	3	2	
CONSTRUC-TION.	B.H.Q.	J.17.b.3.7.	CONSTRUCTION OF 2 SHELTERS. 50 SAND BAGS. 5 SHEETS IRON. 6 LENGTHS TIMBER.			

W. Thompson
Lieut
Works Officer
53rd Battalion. A.I.F.

53rd BATTALION. A. I. F. DAILY WORKS REPORT 6.7.18.

TYPE OF WORK.	LINE OF DEFENCE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE.	MEN EMPLOYED		
				ENGRS.	INF.	PNRS
CONSTRUC-TION.	FRONT LINE	K.7.c.80.75.	IMPROVEMENTS LEFT TO COMPANY HEADQUARTERS.	3	2	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	K.13.d.5.9.	DEEPENING AND IMPROVING TRENCH		6	
DIGGING	SUPPORT LINE.	K.13.a.55.20 K.13.a.55.60	CLEANING OUT OF TRENCH BLOWN IN BY SHELL FIRE.		12	
DIGGING	SUPPORT LINE	K.13.a.50.60.	DEEPENING OF TRENCH 20 YARDS.		4	
DIGGING	C. Ts.	J.18.b.99.73 J.18.b.70.99.	DEEPENING OF COLLINS STREET C.T. 180 YARDS.			87

W. Thompson
Lieut
Works Officer
53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

53rd BATTALION. A. I. F. 201 DAILY WORKS REPORT. 7.7.18.

TYPE OF WORK	LINE OF DEFENCE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE	MEN EMPLOYED.		
				ENGRS.	INF.	PNRS.
CONSTRUCTION	FRONT LINE	K.13.d.65.30	SHELTER. 2 LENGTHS IRON 2 LENGTHS TIMBER.		3	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	K.13.d.55.50 K.13.d.55.60	DEEPENING AND WIDENING TRENCH 50 YARDS.		8	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	K.7.d.10.15 K.7.d.10.25	DEEPENING AND WIDENING TRENCH 50 YARDS.		8	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE.	K.13.b.20.80 K.13.b.20.90	DEEPENING AND WIDENING TRENCH 50 YARDS.		8	
CONSTRUCTION.	FRONT LINE	K.13.b.50.35	SHELTER TWO SHEETS IRON.		2	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	K.7.d.05.85 K.7.d.05.95	DEEPENING AND WIDENING TRENCH 50 YARDS.			

Boydson
Lieut
Works Officer
53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

53rd BATTALION. A. I. F. DAILY WORKS REPORT 8.7.18.

TYPE OF WORK	LINE OF DEFENCE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE	MEN EMPLOYED		
				ENGRS.	INF.	PNR.
DIGGING.	C. T.	K.13.b.20.80	DEEPENING AND WIDENING OF TRENCH 130Yds (CULGOA).			65
CONSTRUCTION.	SUPPORT LINE	J.18.b.25.90	CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTER. 2 SHEETS IRON. 1 LENGTH TIMBER.		2	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE.	K.13.b.50.20 K.13.b.50.30	DEEPENING AND WIDENING OF TRENCH 50 YARDS.		7	
DIGGING.	FRONT LINE	K.7.c.95.35 K.7.c.95.45	DEEPENING AND WIDENING OF TRENCH 50 YARDS.		7	

Boydson
Lieut
Works Officer
53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

53rd BATTALION. A. I. F. DAILY WORKS REPORT.

9.7.18.

TYPE OF WORK	LINE OF DEFENCE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE	MEN EMPLOYED.		
				ENGRS.	INF.	PNRS.
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	K.13.b.3.6. K.13.b.20.90.	DEEPENING OF TRENCH 150 YARDS.		10	
CUTTING CROP	FRONT LINE	K.13.b.3.6.	CUTTING OF CROP 50 x 60 YARDS.		6	
WIRING	FRONT LINE	K.13.d.6.7. K.13.d.60.85.	70 YARDS APRON (DOUBLE) 8 COILS WIRE.50 PICKETS.	1	7	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	K.13.d.65.30. K.13.d.65.30.	DEEPENING OF TRENCHES 30 YARDS.			
DIGGING	RESERVE LINE	J.12.c.55.05.	DIGGING OF RESERVE COY HQRS 6Ft x 7Ft x 8Ft.	1	5	
CONSTRUCTION	B.H.Q.	J.17.b.35.65.	CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTERS 3 SHEETS IRON 2 LENGTHS TIMBER		4	
DIGGING	C. T.	K.13.a.65.70. K.13.a.65.30.	DEEPENING AND WIDENING OF CULGOA C.T. 180 YARDS.			70

W. J. Thompson
Lieut
Works Officer
53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

53rd BATTALION. A. I. F.

DAILY WORKS REPORT.

10.7.18.

TYPE OF WORK	LINE OF DEFENCE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE	MEN EMPLOYED.		
				ENGRS.	INF.	PNRS.
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	K.13.d.75.35. K.13.d.75.25.	DEEPENING OF TRENCH 50 YARDS.		5	
DIGGING	C. T.	K.13.a.70.30. K.13.a.45.40.	DEEPENING AND WIDENING CULGOA C.T. 160 YARDS.			73
WIRING	FRONT LINE	K.7.d.15.20. K.7.d.15.10	100 YARDS DOUBLE APRON 10 COILS WIRE 70 PICKETS.	1	12	
CONSTRUCTION	RESERVE LINE	J.12.c.55.05	CONSTRUCTION OF COY HQRS TWO 8" FRAMES.3 CAPOLAS IRON.3 SHTS IRON.150 S.Bs.	1	6	
WIRING	FRONT LINE	K.13.b.65.85. K.13.b.65.90	50 YARDS DOUBLE APRON. 7 COILS WIRE 35 PICKETS.	1	10	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	K.13.b.40.60 K.13.b.35.70	DEEPENING TRENCH 50 YARDS.			7

W. J. Thompson
Lieut
Works Officer
53rd Battalion. A.I.F.

TYPE OF WORK	LINE OF DEFENCE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE	MEN EMPLOYED		
				ENGRS.	INF.	PNS
DIGGING	FRONT LINE.	J.36.a.90.20	IMPROVEMENT TO POST (DEEPENING OF TRENCH)		5	
CONSTRUCTION.	FRONT LINE	J.36.a.95.30	CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTER 2 SHEETS IRON 2 LENGTHS TIMBER.		3	
CONSTRUCTION	FRONT LINE	J.30.d.90.50.	CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTER 2 SHEETS IRON 2 LENGTHS TIMBER.		4	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	J.30.d.45.40.	DEEPENING TRENCH 30 YARDS.		8	
CONSTRUCTION.	FRONT LINE	K.25.a.55.10.	CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTER 2 SHEETS IRON.		4	
CONSTRUCTION	FRONT LINE	K.25.c.40.85	CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTER 2 SHEETS IRON.		5	
CONSTRUCTION	SUPPORT LINE	J.29.a.40.90.	CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTER 3 SHEETS IRON		4	
CONSTRUCTION	SUPPORT LINE	J.29.a.60.42.	CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTER 3 SHEETS IRON		3	
CONSTRUCTION	SUPPORT LINE	J.25.a.85.90.	CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTER 3 SHEETS IRON.		4	

W. Thompson
Lieut
Works Officer
53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

TYPE OF WORK	LINE OF DEFENCE	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE	MEN EMPLOYED		
				ENGRS.	INF.	PNS.
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	J.36.a.50.85.	DIGGING 50 YDS TRAVERSED TRENCH 3'6" WIDE.2'6"DP.	1	25	
DIGGING	FRONT LINE	J.36.a.50.90. J.30.d.59.85.	DEEPENING TRENCH 45 YDS DIGGING TRENCH 25 YDS 3'6" WIDE.2'6" DEEP.	2	30	
DIGGING	C. T.	J.30.c.90.80.	STEPS DOWN TERRACE			
DIGGING	C. T.	J.30.d.60.40.	DEEPENING & WIDENING C.T.			59
DIGGING	C. T.	J.30.d.10.70.	DEEPENING & WIDENING 50 YDS.			
DIGGING	C. T.	J.30.c.20.92. J.30.c.30.90.	DIGGING 70 YDS TRAVERSED TRENCH 5'DEEP.3' WIDE.			95
DIGGING	C. T.	J.30.c.30.92. J.30.c.35.92.	DEEPENING OF TRENCH 3'x 4'6"			

W. Thompson
Lieut
Works Officer
53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

WAR DIARY.53rd. BATTALION A.I.F.TRANSPORT SECTION1st. to 31st July 1918.

During the whole of this period the work done by the TRANSPORT has been very heavy. Considerable difficulty was experienced at times in supplying the various demands for Limbers, and both men & animals were kept going constantly.

The painting was carried on and partly completed.

An order was received during the month re the construction of "Bomb proof" walls around the Horse Lines, and this required immediate attention. The work was started at once and carried on to completion

Owing to heavy rains, the Horse Lines and Vehicle Park became very muddy which made the task of keeping the harness and vehicles clean a very difficult one, but the usual high standard was maintained owing to the keenness shown by the men.

The condition of the animals during the month was excellent, every advantage being taken to give them all the grazing available. Green fodder was cut and carted and the daily ration was in this way greatly added to.

The casualties among the animals were somewhat heavy for the month, there being three evacuations, each case being caused by shell fire.

Bathing Parades were held frequently for the men who were able to get clean underclothing, towels etc. There was no sickness during this month.

(P.T.O.)

War Diary "Transport Section"^{2.} (Continued)

The Rations were plentiful and wholesome and no complaints were received . Quite a considerable amount of "Comforts" material was received from the Q.M. and greatly appreciated by the men.

The daily routine was adhered to as closely as possible.

On 31st July a move was ordered to VAUX which place was reached by 4 p.m.. Good stables were obtained for the animals and accommodation found for the men.

J. G. Davro
Lieut.
Transport Officer 53rd. Battalion A.I.F.

APPENDIX No. 9

2nd. Dept. 53rd Bn July '18

RATIONS
Quality etc

In spite of circumstances arising during this month, which caused more difficulties than usual to be surmounted, the rationing arrangements throughout have been, if possible, more efficient than ever. The issues have been made at suitable times, and in this and other respects, the O.C. Supply Coy, A.S.C. has helped in every way possible. The quality and quantity of the rations have been, as usual, excellent.

WATER.

The supply of water to personnel in the line caused no little work, but on no occasion was there a shortage.

COOKING

ARRANGEMENTS.

The work of cooking + de-packing Hot Food + Rations to the line was carried out with the usual "Snap" + Efficiency, and, if possible, those concerned surpassed themselves in these operations.

The diets served have been most varied, partly due to the ingenuity employed in utilizing the limited assortment of commodities issued, and, to a great extent, to the excellent supplies of comforts received, both from the Aus. Comforts Fund, and the Y.M.C.A., whose forethought, made evident by the well timed issues, redounds great credit upon the representatives of these organizations. The Cocoa Kitchen, which had been established near Bn. H.Q. by the Y.M.C.A. proved of great value to the men in the line, and their appreciation was the keynote of the criticism regarding this institution.

TRANSPORTATION
OF
RATIONS, etc.
TO THE LINE.

No hitch whatever occurred throughout the month in the transportation of Stores to the Bn in the line,
proving

proving.

once again, the existence of a complete co-operation between the Transport Section and this Department, a state of affairs so obviously essential, if excellent results are to be achieved.

SALVAGE

Hereunder is a list of articles and material salvaged & returned by this Department during the month, numbers & weights being shown. The weight of fat returned, although quite up to the standard, pro-rata, as compared with the returns of other units of the Division, was much less than would have been returned, had none been used for cooking purposes. It is stated, however, the varied diets supplied during the month, have occasioned the use of extra fat.

RETURNS.	FAT.	2430 lbs.
	PAPER	392
	CARDBOARD	232
	SOLDER	46
	SHEET TIN	84 sheets
	JAM & BUTTER CARTONS	351 cartons

EQUIPMENT.

In consequence of the Battalion being in the line during the whole of the month, little can be said on this subject, but adequate arrangements have been made to ensure the prompt & satisfactory completion of the re-equipping operations.

Collinson Pearson
 Capt. Q.M.
 53rd Bn. AIF

COMFORTS. 261

THE FOLLOWING COMFORTS WERE RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH OF JULY 1918.

2.7.18.
 Cocoa & Milk Cases7
 Oatmealdo7
 Milkdo3
 Sugar. Bags2
 Fruit Cases3
 Sweets. do5
 Curry...do2
 Cigarettes .. Cases2
 Tobaccodo2
 Socksdo2
 Gramophone1

8.7.18.
 Coffee @ Milk..Cases5
 Biscuitsdo2
 Currydo2
 Cigarettesdo2
 Tobaccodo1
 Cardsdo $\frac{1}{2}$
 Boxing gloves Sets1
 Footballs1
 Bats3

13.7.18.
 Coffee & Milk Cases6
 Biscuitsdo3
 Syrupdo3
 Vegetablesdo3
 Cigarettesdo1
 Tobaccodo1

28.7.17.
 Fruit Cases4
 Currydo2
 Golden Syrupdo3
 Biscuitsdo2
 Cigarettesdo1
 Tobaccodo2
 Oatmealdo3
 Cricket Balls4
 Cricket Bats6
 Cheese, Parcels, (OffrsMess) ..1

The above Comforts were from Australian Comforts Fund.

Johnson Clarkson

Captain
 Quartermaster

53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

31.7.18.

THE FOLLOWING LIST SHOWS THE COMFORTS RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH FROM
 THE Y.M.C.A.

RASPBERRY SYRUP1 Tin
 Biscuits.1 Case.
 Quantity writing material.

Cocoa and milk was also supplied at all times at Forward Battalion
 Headquarters.

Johnson Clarkson

Captain
 Quartermaster

53rd Battalion. A. I. F.

31.7.18.

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49
APPENDIX
9

RETURN OF SALVAGE COLLECTED BY THE 53rd BATTALION A.I.F. FOR JULY 1918.

FAT	2430 . lbs .
PAPER	392 Lbs .
CARDBOARD	232 . lbs .
SOLDER	46 . lbs
Sheet Bin	84 Sheets .
JAM & BUTTER CARTONS	351 . Cartons .

Holmes Pearson

Captain
Quartermaster,
53rd Battalion . A . I . F .

31.7.18.

APPENDIX No 10

SUMMARY OF LEWIS GUN WORK FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 1918.

During the period of Line Work in the Morlancourt Sector from 26/27th June to 30/31st July, Lewis Guns were continually used for ground and A.A. Defence.

The distribution of guns was 7 per Company, and 2 Battalion Headquarters. The Line Guns were sited so as to ~~prevent~~ form a cross belt of fire, and to cover the best enemy lines of approach.

A Lewis Gun accompanied the majority of Patrols, being placed so as to give covering fire in case of necessity.

Working Parties were engaged and dispersed in several instances.

The A.A. Defence was organised on the "echelon system" and Enemy aircraft actively engaged, and in many instances driven off. The "Forward Area A.A. Sights" were used, also A.P., and Tracer bullets when supplies were available.

While in Reserve all guns were examined and tested, One Gun, (No 11286) which had been in continual use for two years, and was worn in several places was returned to D.A.D.O.S. for exchange. All guns were in good condition for the attack on 28/29th July

During the above attack good results were obtained from Hip Firing, several bursts being fired into parties of the enemy. The Guns were also used for the work of "Mopping Up".

During the month the new Battalion Organization has come into force, and a Headquarters A.A. Section is being trained.

31.7.18.

J. H. Kealey
Lieut.
Lewis Gun Officer,
53rd Battalion .A.I.F.

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APPENDIX //

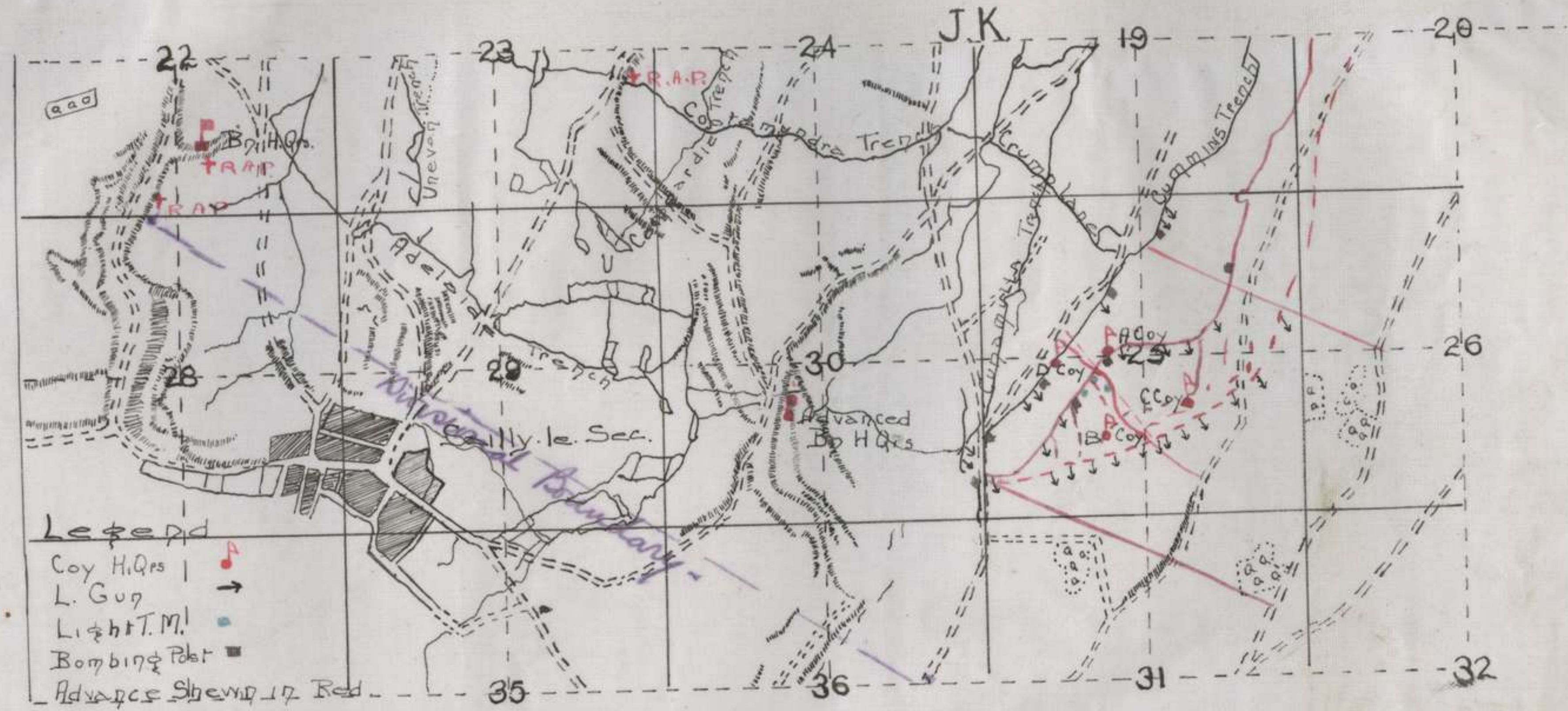
53rd BATTALION, A. I. F. L. 8 18.

With regard to the medical arrangements prevailing during recent Offensive operations performed by this Battalion, everything passed off without a hitch. The Bearers carry, from the Front Line to the R.A.P. varied from 900 yards to 2000 yards on the left of the Sector. This was bisected by a Bearer Relay Post situated at Battle Headquarters. Here were placed six squads of Regimental Bearers borrowed from another Battalion, they performed their work excellently during the whole operation, only two bearers became casualties, and one of these was a victim of a sniper in the front line. Once the stream of wounded started it continued to flow in regularly, and there was no clogging. Each Stretcher sent forward had a blanket, and a patient thus covered arrives in a very different condition from one who is forced to be carried unprotected in the chill morning air. Walking wounded cases were piloted down by the Stretcher Bearers also. On arrival at R.A.P. all patients at once received a drink of hot coffee whilst being attended to, and after receiving additional blankets were then carried by the Ambulance Bearers to their Relay Post on the BRAY-CORBIE road about 800 Yards distant. All the wounded showed a cheerful spirit even when in considerable pain and as usual one cannot fail to appreciate the uncomplaining spirit of the wounded Australian- You need to watch his face whilst dressing a fractured limb if you wish to see whether you are causing him pain, otherwise he will not make you aware of the fact. We were fortunate in the whole, when summing up the severity of the wounds, many seemed to be of a mild variety.

S. L. Pittman
 Captain
 R. M. O.
 53rd Battalion A.I.F.

Scale 1:10,000.

Sheet 62° NE.



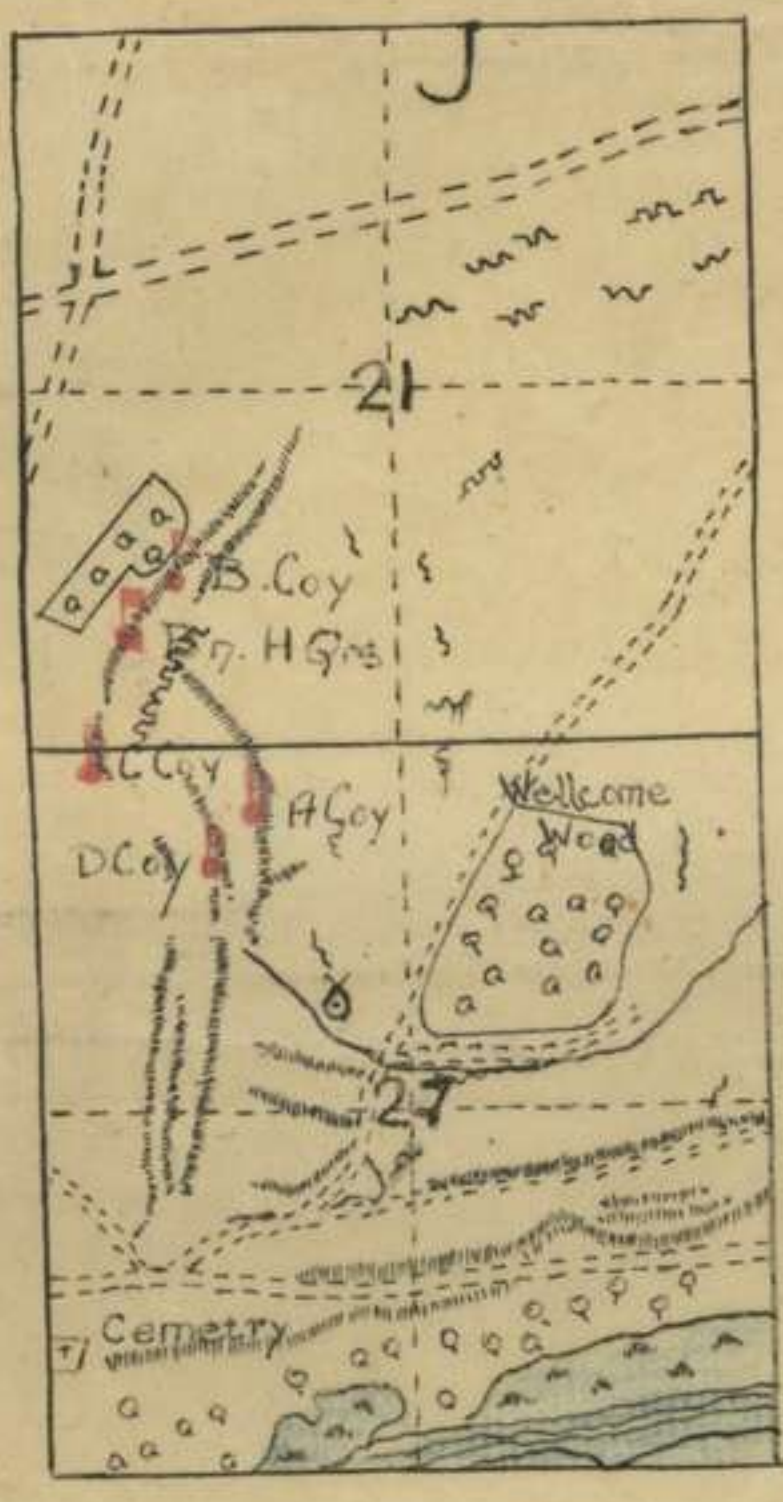
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APPENDIX

52

Scale 1:20,000. Sheet 62^DNE.

261 ✓

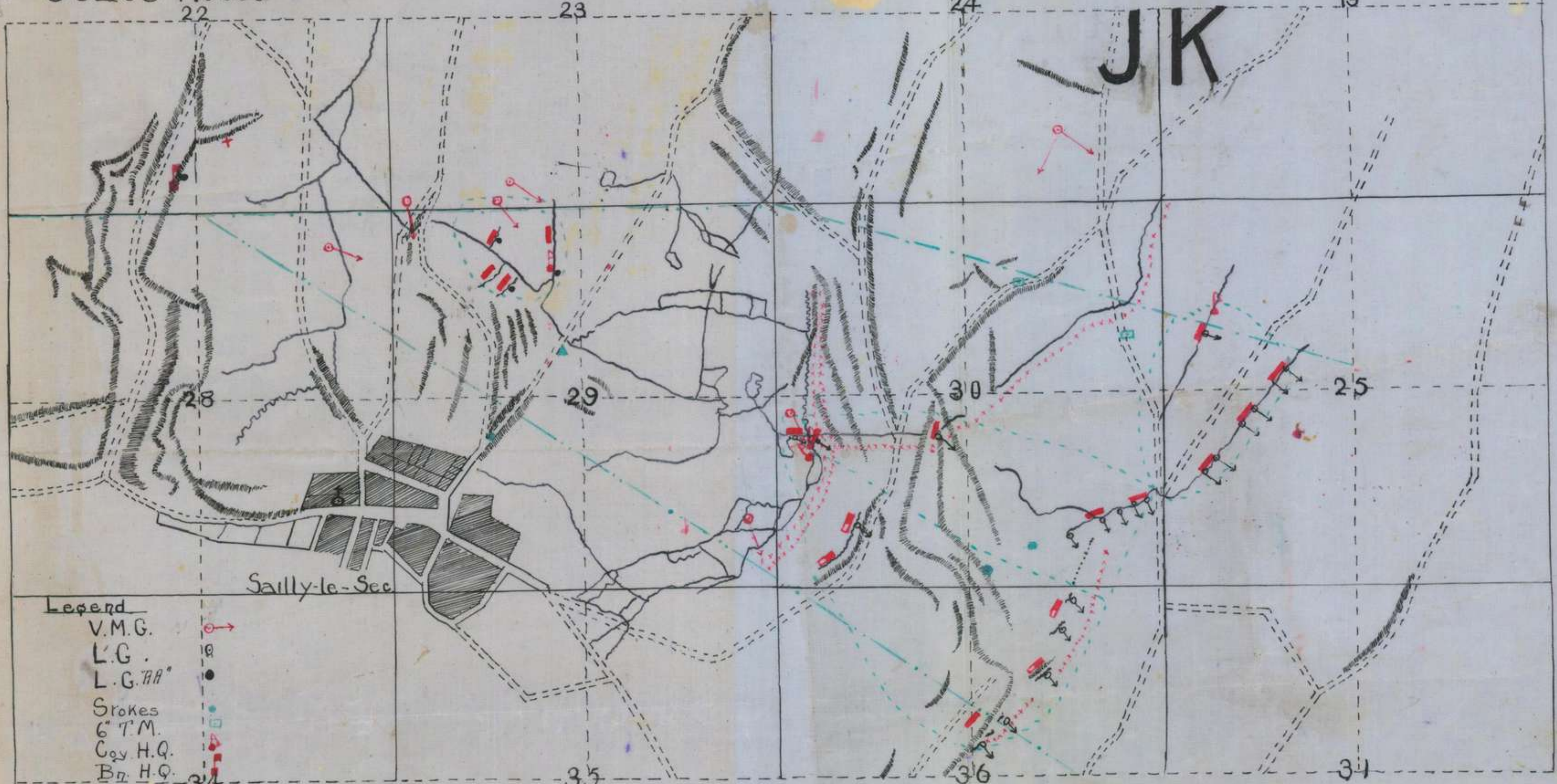


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Scale 1:10,000.

Sheet 62° NE. 54

JK



Legend

- V.M.G.
- L.G.
- L.G. 77A
- Stokes
- 6" T.M.
- Coy H.Q.
- Bn H.Q.
- Trenches.
- Dumps.
- Wire.
- Platoon.
- Coy. Bndry

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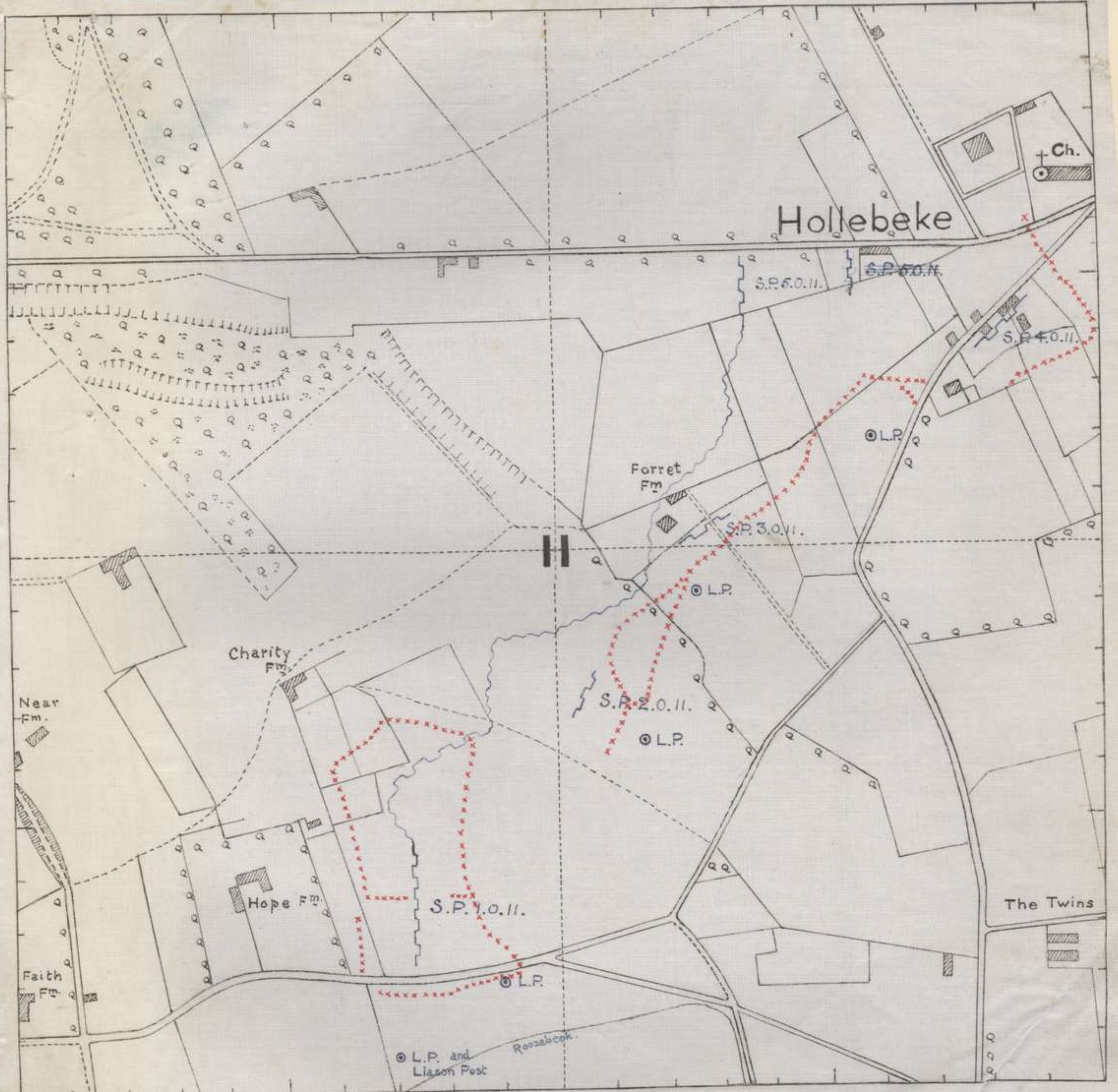
Note :

The following map appears to have been misplaced by the Aust War Records Sect. It does not relate to the 53rd Bn's activities in France in July 1918, but appears to relate to activities in Flanders, probably in February - March 1918.

B 5/7/1988

267

Part of Sheet 28.0.



Scale 1:5,000



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56

53rd Bn.
54th Bn.
55th Bn.
56th Bn.
14th L.T.M.B.

M.E. *R.C.*

FOURTH ARMY REST CAMP.

1. Personnel, for second period at Fourth Army Rest Camp, commencing 26th instant, will be detailed by units as follows:-

53rd Battalion.		10	Other Ranks.
54th "		10	" "
55th "		10	" "
56th "	1 Officer.	10	" "
14th L.T.M.B.		5	" "

Nominal rolls to reach this office by 6.p.m. 24th instant.

2. Units' quota will report at H.16.d.O.7. at 8.30.a.m. 26th instant, and will there embuss. The officer detailed by 56th Battalion will take charge of the party.
3. Unexpended portion of rations for 26th instant will be carried. Hot tea will be supplied by Camp Commandant, PERNOIS for mid-day meal.
4. 55th Battalion will detail one man of allotment to act as Military Policeman.
5. All ranks proceeding must have all their clothing and be fully equipped (including mess tin, knife, fork and spoon).
6. Officers will take valises.
7. Men are to be bathed and free from lice before they leave the camp and will be supplied with clean underclothing.
8. A Post Office exists at the camp. Letters and parcels may be redirected to "Fourth Army Rest Camp". No letters or parcels should be redirected from units two days prior to return of party.

14TH
AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE.
No. *A56/49*
Date *23.7.18.*

R. Sumpter
Staff Captain 14th. Aust. Inf. Brigade. Captain,
Chas Thompson & party



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APPENDIX

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F 712

AUSTRALIAN WAR MUSEUMS.

Received from (Name)..... (Unit) 53rd Batta.
for the National Collections being formed by the Australian War Records Section, Chancery Lane, London,
W.C. 2., the following relics, etc., which have been given on behalf of UNIT SELF:-

Table with 4 columns: No., Article, No., Article. Contains handwritten entries for items 2604-2607 including '2 M.G. Amm. Boxes & Belt (German)', 'German Great Coat', 'German Sketches', '5 German Wooden Pegs & container', 'Germanless Tin', 'German Pack, containing Pipe, Boot Brush, 2 Tins Polish, Pair Socks, Woollen Thread & pieces of canvas cloth.'

H.Q. 1st ANZAC, 8/7/1918

W. Barker Pte.
The Collecting Depot, Australian War Museums.

20 Bks.—10/17.—7051.

F 713

AUSTRALIAN WAR MUSEUMS.

Received from (Name)..... (Unit) 53rd Batta.
for the National Collections being formed by the Australian War Records Section, Chancery Lane, London,
W.C. 2., the following relics, etc., which have been given on behalf of UNIT SELF:-

Table with 4 columns: No., Article, No., Article. Contains handwritten entry for item 2610: 'German machine gun No. 5480 (with Bipod)'.

H.Q. 1st ANZAC, 7/7/1918

W. Barker Pte.
The Collecting Depot, Australian War Museums.

20 Bks.—10/17.—7051.



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SECRET. 53RD. BATTALION PROVISIONAL DEFENCE SCHEME. COPY NO.....

REF. MAP. 62D.N.E. 1/20,000.

28th. JUNE. 1918.

1. DISPOSITIONS.

The Battalion Sector extends from K.13.d.65.10. (BRAY-CORBIE Road INCLUSIVE) to K.7.central. This is held by two Companies in front line. One Company in support, one Company in reserve. Inter-Company boundary K.13.b.3.5.

Dispositions of Companies.

Right Company.....K.13.d.65.10. to K.13.b.3.5.
 Headquarters.....K.13.d.6.8.
 Left Company.....K.13.b.3.5. to K. 7. central.
 Headquarters.....K.7.c.8.8.
 Support Company.....In BOURKE LINE.
 Headquarters.....K.13.a.55.40.
 Reserve Company.....Three Platoons disposed in CORBAR LINE, one Platoon in PIONEER BUNCH from J.18.b.1.2. to J.18.a.9.9. Headquarters J.18.d.95.95.
 Battalion H.Q. & H.A.P.....J.17.b.3.7.

2. ACTION IN CASE OF ATTACK.

(a). In the case of ~~the~~ a raid, should an entry be made on any post in our front line, immediately the place is located, a local counter attack will be made simultaneously from either flank and if necessary bombers working from either flank towards the objective, and Lewis Gun Teams to work forward into NO MANS LAND to try and cut off the raiders.

(b). Against a general attack-action will be taken similar to that of a raid, but should the troops holding the front line fail to restore the situation, the Company Commander of the Support Company in BOURKE LINE, who will have sent forward scouts to make a reconnaissance of the situation, will, immediately he finds it necessary, launch a counter attack on his own initiative from either flank, or from both flanks simultaneously.

The Reserve Company will "Stand-to" but will not move forward without orders from Battalion Headquarters.

The BUNBURY LINE will be the Battalion main line of resistance, but the front line will be defended to the last.

3. RECONNAISSANCE.

All Officers and N.C.Os. will be made thoroughly conversant with all routes, and alternative routes to the various Company Sectors.

4. WORKING PARTIES.

These will always carry rifle, bayonet, and 50 rounds and will in the event of operations report to the nearest Officer for instructions.

5. S. O. S.

The S.O.S. Signal is a signal rocket bursting into three flares-RED over RED over RED.

6. COMMUNICATION.

Telephone communication is maintained with all Companies, Brigade Headquarters and Plank Units. There is a Power Buzzer and Wireless also installed at B.H.Q. and a buried cable to Brigade. Messenger Dogs and Pigeons are used each day.

7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

DISTRIBUTION.

C. COMPANY.....Copy No. 1. Adjutant, 53rd. Battalion. A. I. P. Captain.
 "A" ".....No. 3.
 "B" ".....No. 4.
 "C" ".....No. 5.
 "D" ".....No. 6.
 14th. A.I. Bde.No. 7.
 55th. Battalion.....No. 8.
 19th. Battalion.....No. 9.
 3/4 Master & G.F.No. 10.
 FileNo. 11/13 ✓
 War Diary

261

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.1. AMMUNITION

Every man is in possession of 170 rounds. In addition there is a supply with each Company and reserve dump at Battalion Headquarters.

2. WATER.

A 400 gallon tank at Battalion Headquarters supplies water for the Battalion Area. Companies send to Battalion Headquarters for it. Two water carts fill this tank each night.

3. RESERVE RATIONS AND WATER.

600 reserve iron rations and 75 tins of water are stored at Battalion Headquarters and another lot at J.16.b.6.9. under a permanent guard.

4. COOKING.

Hot food is cooked at Transport Lines and Quartermaster's Store at I.1.a.2.8. (Sheet 62D.N.W.) and brought forward to Battalion Headquarters at night by limbers. Carrying parties meet it and take it to Companies.

5. R.E. MATERIAL.

An Engineer Officer is attached to the Battalion and all indents submitted to him are delivered to Battalion Headquarters from where it is carried by limbers to Battalion Dump at K.13.a.0.7. thence by carrying parties to front line. There is a dump of wire and pickets at Battalion Headquarters.

6. B. A. P.

Is at Battalion Headquarters. Evacuations are done by motor car, from there to car loading post at Quarry, MARICURT, thence to A.D.S.

7. BATHS.

Are located at HEILLY. Application is made to Brigade for allotment for these.

Captain,
Adjutant, 53rd Battalion A.I.F.

Issued to all recipients of Defence Scheme.



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SECRET. AMENDMENT TO 53RD. BATTALION PROVISIONAL DEFENCE SCHEME. COPY.....
Ref. Map. 62D.N.E. 1/20,000. 1-7-18.

Para. 1.

Dispositions of Companies.

Reserve Company.

Cancel previous dispositions. Read:-

.....4 Platoons disposed in
BUNBURY LINE.
Headquarters.....J.12.c.52.10.

M. J. Bowers
Captain,
Adjutant, 53rd. Battalion. AIF.

Issued to all recipients of
Defence Scheme dated 28-6-18.



535 Coy

Intelligence Summary

11 am 1-7-18 to 11 am 2-7-18

A

21

(a) Artillery

9:30 am K 21 Heavy searching fire for 77 batteries.
 11:0 am K 14 10 shells 18 fuses on MORLAYCOURT ROAD
 3 pm K 2 a 18 fuses shells many positions in vicinity of Ravines
 3 pm K 9 K 14 heavily shelled. 80 shells.
 4:50 K 14 C 70 20-4-5
 4:55 K 14 a 20-4-5
 4:50 K 14 a 5 10-4-5
 4:50 K 8 D 10-4-5
 8:15 K 14 C 30 + 18 fuses
 K 3 + 4 Shelled at intervals all the afternoon

(b) Patrols

One Officer + 7 O/R left K 10 B 2-9 at 10:30 pm + proceeded to K 7 D 50-75. A working party was heard at approx K 7 D 50-50 mining. Enemy troops party could not be seen. Patrol returned to K 7 D 05:00 at 12:50 am.

One officer (Lt J Denton) + 8 O/R left our lines at K 13 D 1-8 10:30 pm and proceeded by stages to K 14 a 1-1. considerable enemy movement was heard from here and a working party digging was seen at approx K 14 C 4-8.

An enemy patrol of 7 was observed leaving trenches in K 14 C 2-7 & were lost sight of for a time. They were seen later returning to their own lines from direction of our wire. Patrol returned to place of departure at 1 am.

(c) Snipers 3 in snipers were very active all day & claim 3 casualties.



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Intelligence Summary Report

240

1-7-18 to 11-7-18

No. of Reports

Pairs

1) I. No. Our & J. No. fired 50 rounds on enemy posts during the period.
At 9.45 pm 2 unknown No. carriers were destroyed by "staked" mortar was fired on by snipers & one killed.

Enemy Identification NIL

Enemy Strength

10.15 am	K 7C + J 12 D	50 shells	4 2	7 3	Direction S-E
5.25	J 12	20	"	4 2	
9.50	J 16	10	"	5 9	
9.25	J 11C+D	20	"	5 9	
9.45	J 16	9	"	4 2	
9.30 pm	J 16	1	MW		
5 am	K 7B				

Enemy Activity No. seen near any activity during the night and snipers were active.

Enemy Reports NIL

Aerial Activity

Hostile planes crossed our lines at following times. 9.30 am 1, 5.35 pm 1, 6.55 pm 1, 7.5 pm 7, the latter engaged one of ours & brought them down in flames in enemy lines. Another one was observed falling in flames to the right of sector. 8-10 pm Battle planes crossed our lines.

Our planes were active patrolling lines throughout the day and dropped bombs on R 11 at night.

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535 Rev

Intelligence Summary

243

from 1-7-18 to 2-7-18

to line ^{from} Reference

Para

7

K 3 B

Enemy movement
A great deal of movement was observed around enemy positions all day although our artillery fire has slowed movement somewhat in this area.

8 am K 7 B 9 8

Enemy snipers observed.

8 15 am K 4 a

1 man seen on road going towards Railway line.

~~10 am~~ 10 45 am K 3 a

Several enemy troops observed singly at intervals of 1 minute. They appeared to come from Railway line & move towards trench in K 3 B.

11 10 am K 4 a + B

Enemy troops continually moving up & down road from Railway to trench positions.

8

Signalling Nil

9

No miscellaneous Nil

10

Locations unchanged

M. Shearwood Jr.
1.0.



261

53-209
23/30

Intelligence Summary

245

From 4 am 2/7/18 to 4 am 3/7/18.

MAP
NO TIME REFERENCE

PARS.

TIME	REF	DESCRIPTION
7:50 am	K14	40 shells 18 pudes enemy front line
10:10 am	K7 B	80 " " (direct hits on trenches observed)
11:50	K2 a + c	Heavy artillery shelled road.
3 pm	K2 B	6 shells - heavy - on enemy positions
3:45	K3 B	6 " " " "
		Direct hits observed:
4:15	K2 B	6 " " " "
4:45	K2 C	20 shells 18 pudes on road
5:10	K3 B	6 heavies on enemy positions
5:15	K14 B + D	30 shells 18 pudes on T.M. positions
6:0	K8 a + c	15 " " " " " "
8:30	K10 a 8-6	8 " " " " " " " " " " " "
1:15 am	FRONT LINE	5" bombardment by 13 pudes
3:25	K14 K3 C + D	18 pudes shelled enemy front line, several shells fell short just clearing our trenches

B

Patrol

One Officer (Lt W. W. White M.C.) + 7 O/R left K15 B 10:30 pm + proceeded to K13089 where patrol came under severe machine gun fire from approx K14C 8-2, K1309-8, K1308-3 + K14A 4-1. A large working party were working in trench system approx K14C 7-4 digging and wiring up as strong enemy party out in front. Our projector gas blew back over enemy lines towards our own + patrol had to wear respirators for 20 minutes. At one stage two of patrol were sent forward as scouts + were fired on by the Germans. In trying to escape they lost direction and wandered towards enemy lines and came within 10 yards of machine gun post.



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Snipers

Intelligence Summary Cont'd

247

4 am 2.718 to 3.718

No	Time	Reference	Para
			<p>when enemy fired 5 flares from all sides of them. One man taking his direction from a flare left off made back whilst other man ran towards post and has not been heard of since, other man was found by patrol who made a thorough search without success for missing man. Patrol returned to place of departure at 1-39 am.</p> <p>A Patrol of 1 P.C.O. + 3 P.R. was sent out at 2-30 am to reconnoitre Battalion frontage for man lost on previous patrol. Patrol returned at 3-15 am after a fruitless search.</p> <p>Leisure Patrols between front Battalion were sent out at frequent intervals during night.</p> <p>(C) <u>Snipers</u> Our snipers were very active throughout the period, many enemy snipers and movement included remains of aeroplane just inside enemy's lines. Several casualties are claimed.</p> <p>(E) 4-30 am K7 B9-9 Lt M B fired 10 shells on sniper position from left Battalion sector situation observed that, after second shot, snipers ran towards trench 10 yards or more.</p> <p>Identification 714</p>



250

Intelligence Summary

250

No	Time	Map Reference	Notes
3	6:00am	J11B4 D J11B	Enemy shelling 5" bombardment with H.A. directed on NE
	7:40	J12+18	12 shells " " " 3E
	10:40	"	18 " " " "
	12:30	"	10 " " " "
	3 pm	K1	6 " " " "
	10:50	J12+18	15" bombardment
	11:50	"	"
4			Enemy activities Enemy positions were silent during the period.
5			Enemy positions R1L
6			Aerial activities Enemy aircraft observed sector at following times: 10 am 2, 10:40 am 11:45 am 4, 1:45 pm 1, all were engaged by AA & L.A. fire. Our planes were active all day particularly towards dusk when 10 planes observed over sector.
7	7:30am	K7B 9.8	Several enemy observed entering trenches.
	8:50am	"	"
	9:20am	K7B 9.8	5 men observed moving in trench
	1: pm	K3 D.5.7	1 man seen going towards trench
8			Signs of life. During the night last night mortars and flares were fired from front line & passed back. The same time enemy shells hit



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Intelligence Summary Report

253

From 2 7 18 to 4 am 3 7 18.

to June 2 1918

Pass

lines on left of sector very heavy ~~mass~~ and a succession of green planes were fired and range was lengthened.

9

No recognition

In 2-0-5 signal was fired between 9+10 north of Albert.

9:30 pm to 8:00 pm being signalled with green light from this point.

10

Locations unchanged.

E. A. Shearwood Jr.
10

261

255

Intelligence Summary

Waterson
Hopkins

4 am 3-7-18 - 4 am 4-7-18

10 am	K 14 B	4 heavies on enemy positions
10	K 20 a 5.9	16 18 puds
3.30 pm	K 4	Intermittent fire of heavies on enemy positions
4 0		
7.45	K 10 C+D	80 18 puds on enemy positions
7.45	K 10 a	8 heavies on enemy positions
2.50	K 14 C	Area has been shelled heavily by 18 puds
8.30		am 4.5 during the time stated.
12.45 am	K 14	20 18 puds on enemy forward positions
3.10 am		Our Our artillery laid down a barrage preparatory to operations.

B Patrol
One Officer (Lt W. White M.C.) and 7/R left K 13 B 5.1 at 10.15 pm and worked along front between wire and enemy posts. Flame throwers were very busy and marking parties were heard at approx K 14 C 0.9 and K 14 C 4.6 a lot of talking and movement was heard in enemy trench system. Enemy transport could be heard on BRAY - CORBIE Road. M. Linn fired on Patrol from K 13 B 9.0. Patrol returned to place of departure at 12 midnight.

C) Snipers
Our snipers have been very active during the period.
Identification a bundle of enemy correspondence found in enemy vacated trench in A.M. L. attached.



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Intelligence Summary Report

257

From 3.7.18 to 4.7.18

No	Time	Map Reference	Place
3			<u>Enemy Shelling</u>
	10.10am	J 12	6 shells W.2 N.E. direction S.E.
	8.45pm	J 16	8 " " " "
	9.15	J 12 + J 18	10 minutes bombardment W.2 " "
	9.35	J 12	4 " " " "
	9.45	J 11C + D	4 " " " "
	3.10am	K 13 + K 7 J 12 + J 18	Enemy opened vigorously in reply to our bombardment. Throughout the day there was very quiet. Enemy snipers were fairly active during the day.
4			<u>Enemy Attitude</u>
5			<u>Enemy Defences</u> Nil
6			<u>Aerial Activity</u> Enemy planes patrolled our lines at the following times. 4.5am 1, 6.5am 1, 8.15am 6 Our planes patrolled front system at frequent intervals during the day and constantly fired on by anti-aircraft guns.
7			<u>Enemy Movement</u> 2 men observed to come up trench to sniper post and after a minute or two 2 men seen to return down trench - probably relief of sniper + charges effected. 8 enemy were observed to walk from approx K 10 a 6-4 to K 15 B 9.8 A good deal of movement was noticed in enemy front line during the day.
8			<u>Signalling</u> Nil
9			<u>Aspirations</u> Nil
10			<u>Locations</u> - Unchanged Visibility fair.

{ 4.30 am
5.15 "

P. H. ...

53rd Bde

Intelligence Summary

259

From 4-7-18 to 4am 5-7-18

War Diary

No	Time	Abstr Reference	Para	# Copies	
1	11-45 am		as Artillery		
	12-30 am	K 2 B	Our artillery carried out heavy bombardment on left and right sectors.		
	1-30 am	K 14 + 15	18 pieces shells - Road - Railway - Ravine		
	2-30 am	K 9	10 beams		
	3-45 am	K 3 a	The salute coming by heavy artillery.		
	4-30 am	K 3 B	Heavy concentration 18 pieces + 4.5 on enemy movement.		
	5-00 am	K 14 + 15	20 rounds fired by 18 pieces.		
	6-30 am	K 3 a	5 " beams		
	7-00 am	K 3 + 4	Irregular shelling of enemy positions by beams on movement. Loud shouting observed.		
	8-00 am			Heavy barrage put down by our artillery in response to 3.03.	
	9-30 am	Left Brigade		Throughout remainder of night artillery was very active on enemy positions. M. W.	
	10-00 am				
			<u>B Patrols</u>		
			One Officer (Lt L Gale) and 7 P/O left K13D 65 at 11-15 pm and moved to K13D 77. No enemy working parties were seen or heard and M. W. were unusually quiet. All enemy posts on right front were occupied and numerous flares were sent up. 3 enemy were seen near post at K13D 75.90. At 2-55 am enemy was shelling in front of our front line and many shells fell on his own posts shouting was heard and green over green flares were immediately sent up after which range was lengthened. During this shoot enemy used many gas shells and gas blew back over his lines. Stomach bombs were heard and our patrol forced to wear gas masks. Our own artillery retaliated on enemy trenches and posts and more shouting was heard.		



53rd Bde

Intelligence Summary 1918

from 4.7.18 to 5.7.18

to	Boat Reference	Pass
		Our wire was slightly damaged by shell fire. Patrol returned to K 13 D 6.4 2 am.
		Patrol of 1 Officer (Lt J. Denton) + 7 O/R left K 7 D 1.9 at 11 pm and proceeded to K 7 D central. No enemy movement was observed. Gas drifting back to enemy at 1.30 am. Patrol returned to place of departure at 2 am.
1		Our snipers were active and one casualty is claimed.
2		<u>Enemy Identification</u> . A bundle of correspondence taken from enemy dead in N.M.L. enclosure.
3		<u>Enemy Shelling</u> . Slightly shelled by 77+4.2 H.E.
	5.0 am K 7 A + B	
	5.30 " J 12 + 18	
	8.45 " J 12 + 18	10 4.2 H.E. direction S.E.
	9.20 " J 12 + 18	10 " "
	11.25 " K 1 + K 2 C	Several rounds fired in vicinity of enemy's own trenches. White flags sent up from sniper post at K 7 B 9.8.
	1.10 pm J 12 D	50 4.2 H.E. direction S.E.
	8.30 " J 11 A + C	8 4.2 " "
	8.50 " "	Enemy opened heavy barrage on left
	9.30 " "	Brigade sector preparatory to counter attack also moderate shelling of this sector included enemy gas.
	11.15 " J 12 + K 1	5 minutes heavy bombardment 4.2 + 77
	11.30 " J 11	5 " " " " "
	11.45 am	Intermittent shelling over whole sector including gas.
	11.40	
4		<u>Enemy Attitude</u> Artillery active during morning - lull during afternoon until counter attack was launched on Left Brigade.
		<u>Enemy Defences</u> Nil.



Intelligence Summary

From 4-7-18 to 5-7-18

No	Time	Map Reference	Part:
6			<p><u>Aerial Activity</u> Enemy planes patrolled our lines at following times: 5:50 am 1, 6:00 am 1, 9:25 am 5, 9:45 am 6, 11:35 am 1, 12:5 pm 8, 1:30 pm 2, 2 pm 6, 4:25 pm 1, 8:5 pm 1, in addition enemy bombing planes crossed our lines and dropped bombs in reserve area. 2 bombs dropped in J 12 + 5 small bombs in MARETT WOOD. Our own planes were very active during the day + appeared in great numbers during attacks in morning and counter attack at night.</p>
7			<p><u>Enemy Movement</u> 7:30 am } K 3 A 4 7 12 enemy seen in trench 8:00 } 9:50 K 3 C 4 " " on road going towards K 3 B. Railway 10:20 K 4 B 1 10:45 K 4 B 3 11:0 K 3 B Large bodies of enemy troops in full marching order moving at intervals across over ridge and down road to junction K 3 B. Artillery were immediately notified. Probably there were many sub positions prior to counter attack on Left Brigade. 12:40 K 3 + 4 Several troops seen moving about trenches 1:10 K 8-a 2 men seen moving in trench 2:25 K 7 B 9-8 2 enemy position 2:45 K 3 about 20 men in parties of 2 and 3 seen to come from road at K 3 D 2 and cross to bunker road at K 3 C 2-5 7:30 K 7 B 9-8 Enemy moving about enemy position 7:55 K 7 B 9-8 10 " walking up trench carrying boxes</p>
8			<p><u>Signalling</u> Enemy bombarded our line with T.M. and signal flares of 1 RED + 2 GREEN were set up several times until fire ceased</p>



Intelligence Summary

025 Div

from 4 7 18 to 4 am 5 7 18.

No	Time	Notes	Remarks
4	11 25 am		Enemy fired several rounds vicinity of us on tracks to K 8 A from which white flares were sent up until shelling ceased.
7	0 35	R. 20	No observations Enemy ^{observation} balloons drifted over our lines at an altitude of 500 feet travelling S.W. Enemy observation balloon 88° TB from K 7 D 00.50. Visibility good.
10			<u>Locations</u> unchanged.

M. Shearwood
10.

261

525 Am

Intelligence Summary South

267

Ham 5 7 18 to Ham 6 7 18

No	Time	Map Reference	Para
			<u>a Artillery</u>
	11 am		Heavy bombardment of enemy lines left sector by 18 pieces and howitzers
	7 am	K 3 B	Howitzers fired 3 salvoes on road striking good hits
	12:30 pm	K 2 a + c	Howitzers lightly shelled enemy positions for 15 minutes
	2.0 "	K 14 B	25 8" H.Q. shells
	3.20 "	K 9 B	15 " " road junction
	3.20 "	K 8 C	24 18 pieces enemy front line
	3.45 "	"	2 salvoes "
	3.55 "	K 15 D	Heavy shelling of positions near road.
	5.5 "	K 10 C	10 Howitzers
	6.4 "	K 10 a	10 " vicinity of destroyed hangar
	7.55 "	K 15 B 5.7	15 " enemy position
	10.15 "		18 pieces bombarded enemy front system
	11.0 "		Howitzers also fired on " J.M. emplacements
			Intermittent fire was maintained throughout the night.
			<u>B Patrols</u>
			One Officer (Lt L. Gale) + 8 OR left K 13 B 35.35
			11 pm + proceeded to K 13 B 5.5 thence along front returning to K 13 D 60.35 at 2 am.
			Patrol report that enemy front posts were fully manned and alert, continually sending up flares from all posts. Enemy artillery replied to our artillery resulting in a lot falling short on to his posts. Green our green flares were fired, no notice was taken of this signal, Pink over Pink were then fired and rough lengthened
			<u>C Snipers</u> Our snipers have been very active throughout the period.



535 B4

Intelligence Summary Contd

269

From 5 712 to 4 am 6 7 18

No	Time	Abap Reference	Para
1	8:30 pm	K 8 a 00:45	T. M. Our light T.M. fired 20 rounds on M. Gun emplacement.
2			<u>Identification</u> . A document taken from enemy dead in N.M.L. enclosed.
3	10:15 am to 11:15 "	K 8 a + K 7 J 12 + J 6	<u>Enemy Shelling</u> Enemy dropped a barrage on our positions in reply to our bombardment many of his shells falling on his own line.
	11:0 pm	J 17 a	6 . 5 . 9 H 8
	1:45 am	"	15 " " "
	3-10 "	Our Support	20 " " "
			Enemy throughout day was unusually quiet.
4			<u>Enemy Attitude</u> . Very quiet but alert
5		K 7 B 9 . 9	<u>Enemy Defences</u> . Sniper was again active from sniper posts.
6			<u>Aerial Activity</u> Enemy planes patrolled our lines at following times: 6 am 1, 8:55 am 6, 9:15 am 2 squadrons of 6 + 8, heavily shelled by a-a guns and turrets, 11:25 am 8, 12:10 pm 1, 5:55 pm 2. Our planes patrolled all day particularly towards dusk; after firing on lines on to enemy trenches + movement.
7	10:40 am		<u>Enemy movement etc</u> 2 parties of enemy 5 in each, observed at K 9 B 25:70 + proceeded up road to K 3 C 25:50



Intelligence summary

274

from 6.7.18 to 7.7.18

No. Time Reference Place

1 as Artillery

9.55am K 3+ Heavily shelled by 18 pieces and
12.40hrs K 4. 18 pieces. Sub starting shelling on
21.0hr enemy positions and roads.
4.25.
5.25.
6.40.

2.30 " K 14 30 - 18 pieces

6.5 " MORLANCOURT 6 6"

K 9+10 } these areas were shelled frequently during
K 17 K 2 } the day.

B. Patrols

Liaison patrols between flank Battalions
were carried out and strong listening
posts were pushed out to cover
intercompany relief. No movement
was observed.

C. Snipers Active during period.

E. J.M.

R 7898 One J.M. carried out shots on superhost
during the day

Enemy Identification NIL

Enemy Shelling

2

3

6.30am J 18 (Support) 10. 77 H.E. Direction SE

8.0 K 1 4 4.2

9.10 J 16+17 6 4.2

9.30 J 16 7 5.9

~~6.55 J 18~~ 10 77+18

10.20am J 11 3 5.9

8.0 J 12+K 1 Occasional fire on this area 2
8.50 shells observed to fall short in K 13
which were not seen from flank, etc.



Intelligence summary report

278

from 6.7.18 to 11 am 7.7.18

Time	Map Reference	Notes
12.7 am	J10+16	5 minute bombardment 4-2 Direction SE including gas.
6.55 pm	K13	E J16
7.0 "	K27C	6 "Pineapple" 5 "
4		Enemy Attitude - Quiet.
5		Enemy Defences Nil
6		Aerial Activity Hostile aircraft was inactive only one crossing sector during period - 9.00 am Our own planes were normally active. Bombs were dropped on MORLANCOURT 4.10 pm + bombing raids were also carried out during night.
7	7.30 am K14D L. 8	Enemy Defences Nil 2 new AA in gun positions observed one edge of path running from K14D 6.8 to K14D 5.7.
	8.45 am K17B 9. 8	1 man seen in sniper post.
	9.45 " K4 B	1 " with full pack seen on road proceeding to back area.
	3.10 pm K3C 4.7	3 men seen coming from MORLANCOURT
8		Signalling Nil
9		Abandoned
	10.0 pm	Fire observed on MORLANCOURT
10		Locations unchanged Visibility poor. Inter Company relief was effected by 1.45 am without incident.

A. Shawwood Lt. 10.



261

535 Bu

Intelligence Summary Logs

284

4 am 7-7-18 to 4 am 8-7-18

No	Time	Map Reference	Para
4			<u>Enemy Attitude</u> very quiet.
5		K 2 a 3.5	<u>Enemy Defences</u> NIL
6			<u>Aerial Activity</u> Enemy planes were active and patrolled our lines as follows - 10.50 am 1, 10.3 am 1, 2 pm 7, 7 pm 2, 7.20 pm 5, all were engaged by A.A. + L. Gun fire. Our planes were active during day particularly towards dusk. at 5.45 pm a flight of our contact machines crossed enemy's lines flying S.E. 6.15 pm our planes dropped bombs + fuel m. guns into enemy trenches. 6.45 pm our planes dropped 3 small bombs in our own line in K 13 D.
7	4.30 pm	K 7 B 0.7	<u>Enemy Movement etc.</u> Enemy were seen moving about tree
	5.0 pm	K 8 a 3.5	20 men seen " " trench apparently at work
	9.30 pm 10.0 pm		Transport heard on road running through K 9+10, c + D.
	11.15 am	K 2 B 3.2	Smoke screen rising from behind Railway.
8	12.15 am		<u>Signalling</u> by Double RED flags followed by enemy's bombardment
9			<u>Miscellaneous</u> NIL
10		X	<u>Locations</u> unchanged. Visibility had at Shearwood 10

261

53rd Div

Intelligence Summary

287

8718 159718

No	Time	Map Reference	Para
			(a) <u>Artillery</u>
	11-10am	K 3C	30 shells 18 puds. sharpnel
	11-00	K 14A+B	Roads and enemy positions shelled by 18 puds
	12-15		4.5 + heavy, 4.5 and sharpnel
	11-30	K 9B	40 shells 4.5 + 18 puds
	10-40	K 3	Intermittent shelling of roads and positions
	1-40		by light and heavy guns
	1-55	K 3C	16 shells cal. 18 puds
	12-30	K 14C	Bray-Corbie road + positions north of it shelled by 18 puds - 24 shells
	2-45	R 9D B.1	Position shelled by 4.5 - 36 shells
	2-55	K 8D	4.5 40 "
	3-00	K 20A	Light shelling of BRAY-CORBIE Road by 18 + 60 puds
	5-00		
	4-00	K 14B	30 shells 4.5
	4-20		4.5
	5-00	K 8C	50 4.5
	5-30		20 4.5
	5-50	K 2A	20 4.5
	5-15	K 2C	20 6
	5-25	K 15C	10 18 puds
	8-50	K 3A+B	20
	10-10		Practice shoot on enemy front systems
	10-30		Intermittent shelling by 18 puds
	10-30	K 14C	
	2-am		
			(b) <u>Patrols</u>
			One No. and 8 Or. left K 13 B 30-25-11 pm proceeded along front to BRAY-CORBIE Road. returning through K 13 D 6-3 at 1 am. No movement observed.
			Enemy identification. Under separate cover a package of German maps and

2

cont'd

from 8 7 18 to 4 am 9 8 17

correspondence taken from dead German Officer on our wire at approx K13D 65.40

3
 7-5am K13B 15 shells 77 H. S. direction S.E.
 10-10" K13D 15
 10-55" K7B 6 " 10-5am "

{10-15 hrs
 12 midnight K1-7+13
 J6-11-12+18
 Enemy retallied to our counter preparation with all calibres majorly falling on Support line.
 Enemy artillery was very quiet throughout the day.

(C) Enemy machine Guns & snipers.
 Both were very active during the night.

(F) T.M.
 {10-12 hrs K13B+D 12 heavy T.M.
 10-35

4
 Enemy Attitude quiet during day, normally active from dusk on.

5
 Enemy Defences
 No Gun flashes noticed at approx K14C 4.6 + K20B 2.7 - Snipers position K13D 8.6

6
 Aerial Activity
 Enemy aircraft patrolled our lines following times: 4-5am 1, 8am 1, 10-15am 1, 11-5am 5, 12-30pm 1, 1-30pm 1, 3 to 3-25pm 1
 Our own aircraft were active all day.

7
 Enemy movement etc.
 3-30pm K9B 25-60 3 men observed at Road junction
 6-10" K8a 5.8 2 " working at this position

8 10-25 hrs
 Signalling Several Soldiers have fired during our bombardment
 P. Shearwood
 I.D.



53rd Bn

Intelligence Summary

291

4 am 9 9 18 to 4 am 10 7 18

No	Time	Adv/Reference	Para
(a) Artillery.			
4.10 am	R. 8. c.	10 shells	4.5
10 am	R. 2. d. 3.0	50 shells	18 pdrs. One burst right over suspected enemy quarters in MORLANCOURT and 20 enemy were seen to run into building from rear presumably to Cellars.
4.30 pm	R. 2. d. 3.0	Engaged by our 6" and 4.5 batteries. Direct hits on building observed and several enemy seen to run from same.	
6/6 pm	K. 9. d.	40 shells	14.5
7.15 pm	K. 9. b.	30	18 pdrs (Shrapnel)
8 pm	K. 3. d. 20.95	40	18 pdrs on X roads.
8.50 pm	K. 8. c.	30	18 pdrs.
9.15 pm	K. 8. c.	20	18 pdrs.
10.15 to 11.45 pm		18 pdrs opened up at irregular intervals (12 to 24 rounds) on Enemy front line and MORLANCOURT. In addition our Artillery was busy all night shelling enemy front line and positions in rear.	
(b) <u>Patrols</u> Owing to bad weather no definite patrols were sent out. Liaison patrols were carried out with flank battalions at frequent intervals during the night. Strong listening posts were pushed out in front but no movement of enemy observed.			
(c) <u>Our Snipers</u> were active by day.			
(d) <u>M. Gs</u> Our machine guns were active during night firing out harassing fire on enemy targets in rear.			

535 Bu

Intelligence Summary

293

Ham 9, 8, 17, 15 Ham 10 & 17

No	Time	Boat Reference	Pass
	1.15am		(c) <u>T.Ms</u> Our L.T.Ms. carried out shoot of 30 rounds on positions at: K. 13. d. 9.5 K. 13. d. 8.6 K. 13. d. 9.7 K. 14. c. 1.8
2			Enemy Identifications NIL.
3			Enemy Shelling.
	5.20am	K. 13. C and D SUPPORTS.	25 NO. 4.2 H.E. DIRECTION, S.E.
	7.30am	K 7B + K 1D	16 4.2 } H.E. shrapnel - apparently registering
	8.45		20 77
	9.5	K 13 a + c	20 4.2 H.E. single round, minute interval
	9.25		
	9.30	K 13 B	8 77 shrap.
	1.30pm	K 13 a + c	20 4.2
	2.20		
	3.25	J 18	6 10.5cm
	7.40	J 12	15 10.5 - shrapnel
	8.40	K 13 C + D	20 5.9 + 4.2 H.E. + shrapnel
	9.0pm	K 13 C + D	20 " " " " 10" shrap.
	1.40am	K 13 C (Supports)	40 77
	2.30	J 12 + 18	10" bombardment 10.5cm 77 including a few gas shells.
	2.45	J 17 B	10 blue cross gas shells vicinity of B.H.9.
	3.15	J 18 + 16	Intermittent fire of 77-4.2 + 5.9.
	3.45		
	4.30	J 16	12 10.5cm
	4.45	J 11	10 10.5

Enemy showed an increase in shelling on previous day. Shooting yesterday morning was practically for registration purposes on front lines and caps.



9

70

4

Enemy attitude. Artillery active during whole period. No. Guns + snipers active by night.

5

Enemy Defences

1055 pm R 305.8 m. Gun emplacement

6

Aerial Activity

Enemy aircraft patrolled our sector at following times. 9.00-10.30 am, 11.35 am, ~~1.00-1.15 pm~~ 2 pm, all were engaged by L. Guns. Our planes were very active throughout the day. Bombing squadrons crossed over to enemy's lines towards midnight.

7

9.15 am R 203.0

R 344

Enemy movement etc

Several enemy seen moving in front + rear of building, ectry camouflage; thought to be at H. Gs. Artillery notified and target engaged. Small party of enemy troops observed moving about position all day.

8

Signalling Nil

9

Miscellaneous

Observation balloons 38° TB from R 1000-70
680 " " "
880 " " "
142 " " "

10

Locations - unchanged. Visibility fair. Ground wet + slippery

P. Shearwood.
I.O.



261

Intelligence Summary

298

6 pm 18718 to 4 am 18718

Hostile Reference	Para
1 6.45 pm 2 3.0 am	<p><u>Artillery</u> Our artillery maintained intermittent fire during period. Liaison patrols between platoon runs carried out at frequent intervals during the night. One Officer (Lt. L. Dale) one O/R left our lines at J30 D8.3 1.30 am proceeded to J30 D75.25 when rifle fire was opened on them from enemy post at approx J30 D95.15. Patrol moved to J30 D80.54 was fired on by m. Gun from same post also m. Gun from approx J30 D99.25. Patrol listened here some time. Talking and sounds of picks & shovels could be heard in b.p. approx J30 D95.15. Enemy planes were constantly fired and ground sound was very wet and heavy making patrolling difficult. Patrol returned to J30 D45.15 at 3 am.</p> <p><u>Enemy Identification</u> NIL</p>
2	
3	<p><u>Hostile Operations</u></p> <p><u>Artillery</u></p>
8.30 pm	J30 4 shells 77 14.3. Direction S.E
8.45	do 8 " " " " " " " "
9.50	J30 c 2 salutes " " " " " " " "
9.20	J30 c 5 minutes moderate shelling by 77 Direction of S
9.35	J30 c 5 " " " " " " " "
10.20	J30 5 " " " " " " " "
10.40	J30 5 " " " " " " " "
1 am	J30 3 shells 77 " " " " " " vicinity of C.T.
2.30	J30 5 minutes " " " " " " " "
3.0	J30 5 " " " " " " " "
10	<p><u>Miscellaneous</u>. Visibility poor. ground wet and slippery.</p>
11	<p><u>Locations</u> B48 J22 C80.25 Right + centre Coy 49 J30 C15.70 Left Coy 49 K25 A30.40 Support Coy J29 A65.70</p>

261

Intelligence Summary

300

Relief was effected by 1 am without incident

W. Shearwood
1.0.53 W.B.N.



52nd Bn.

Intelligence Summary

303

18 7.18 to 4 am 19.7.18

No	Time	Locality Reference	Remarks
1			<u>A. Artillery</u>
	11.25 am		2 enemy positions front systems actually shelled by light guns.
	8.15	K 36 C	30 shells 4.5 how.
	11.50	K 31 B	24 " 18 puds.
	12.30 pm	K 36 C	20 " 4.5 how.
	2.15 pm	K 31 B	30 " 18 puds.
	2.50	Q 8 B 00.60	50 " 6" how. several hits on road adjacent
	12.30	Q 8 + 9	50 " " "
	24.0		" " "
	3.5	K 31 B	30 " 18 puds.
	4.15		Scattered shelling on enemy supports + reserves
	4.45		10 shells " " "
	5.30	Q 8	18 " 18 puds vicinity of CERISY-GAILLY
	5.45	"	" " " "
	6.5	"	Intermittent shelling by hows.
	6.35	"	" " " "
	7.45	K 31 B	20 shells 18 puds
	12.30 am		2 minute sheet on enemy forward positions Harassing fire maintained on enemy positions throughout remainder of night

B. Patrols

One Officer (Lt L. Gale) 3 OR left our lines at J 36 B 00.45 11.30 pm and proceeded to J 36 B 30.45 thence moved along edge of esp to K 36 B 50.75 where patrol came under heavy m. Gun fire. Patrol returned to J 36 B 2.8 1.30 am.

One NCO + 3 OR left J 30 D 20.00 11.30 pm proceeded to J 36 B 50.75. Enemy W.P. noticed making near wire around post J 30 D 90.25. What appeared to be a small covering party was also noticed out in front of this post. Both parties were observed to move into post + our patrol was then fired on by m. Gun, tracer bullets being used. Patrol returned to J 30 D 60.35 ^{1.30 am} m. Gun fire was brought to bear on local enemy post



5th Div

Intelligence Summary Report

305

11 am 18 7 18 to 4 am 19 7 19

No	Time	Spot Reference	Para
1			(C) Snipers Our snipers were active during day engaging enemy snipers. (D) <u>No 2</u> machine guns carried out harassing fire during the night. (E) <u>J. No 2</u> 20 rounds on enemy posts
2	3.5 am		Enemy identification MIL
3			<u>Hostile Operations</u>
			(a) <u>Artillery</u>
	2.0 pm	J29	8 shells 77 H& direction MALLARD WOOD
	2.0 "	J30C	6 " " "
	2.30 "		
	2.40 "	J29C	50 " 5.9 "
	3.30 "	J29	60 " 4.2 "
	3.40 "	(Supports)	
	5.10 "	J29 (Supports)	30 " 4.2 "
	9.50 "	J30C	5 minutes bombardment
	10.0 "	J30C	8 " heavy " 77 H&
	1.0 am	J30 (Front Support)	60 77 H&
	1.45 "	do	20 77 "
	1.50 "	J30C	3 minutes bombardment by 77
	2.0 "	do	5 " "
			(b) <u>M.W</u>
	10.30 am	K25C	30 MW front line
	3.10 pm	J30D	10 " (Pineapples)
	1.55 am	K25 a	H " "
4			<u>Enemy Attitude</u> Artillery quiet by day and active during night. m. guns were also active during night

261

530 Rev

Intelligence Summary 1918

307

18 7 18 19 7 18

No	Date	Source Reference	Part
6			<p><u>Enemy Defences</u></p> <p>K 31 B 00.60 (approx) Suspected m gun emplacement.</p> <p>K 31 B 7.7 (approx) Suspected T.M. " in reserve.</p> <p>Q 14 B 4.4 } occupied enemy positions. Q 14 D 7.8 } Q 20 B 75.45 }</p>
6			<p><u>Aerial Activity</u></p> <p>Enemy aircraft patrolled our lines at following times. 5-10 am 4, 7 am 2, 10.55 am 2,</p> <p>(B) Our planes were very active during day and night.</p>
7			<p><u>Movement etc</u></p> <p>Q 20 B 75.45 Considerable movement of enemy troops observed all day going to + fro. Smoke as from cook houses noted.</p> <p>Q 7 B Troops in ones + twos seen frequently on road.</p> <p>800hr Q 25+26 2 columns of troops roughly about a Battalion led by mounted officer seen marching along WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT Road in W. easterly direction. Engaged by heavy artillery.</p> <p><u>Transport</u></p> <p>Q 20 B 75.45 Several G.S. wagons seen approaching + leaving this point.</p> <p>Q 8 B + D Several G.S. wagons seen during day on road going towards CERISY-GUILLY</p> <p>Q 25+26 continual stream of wagons, motors, + lorries passing to + fro on WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT R.</p> <p><u>Trains</u></p> <p>650hr Q 26 C + D 1 train - (engine + 6 trucks) seen going towards WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT RB</p>

261

53022

Intelligence Summary

309

18th 7 18 19th 7 18

No	Line	Map Reference	Pass
9			<u>Signalling</u> NIL
10			<u>Miscellaneous</u>
	7 pm	Q26 C+D	A <u>Fires</u> Fire caused by bombs dropped from our planes.
			D <u>Visibility</u> Good. Ground very wet and slippery.
11			<u>Locations</u> Unchanged

R. Shearwood Jr
I.O.



261

3rd Bde

Intelligence Summary.

311

From 4 am. 19/7/18 to 12 midnight 19/20/7/18.

No.	TIME	Map Reference	Part.
1.			(a) <u>Artillery.</u>
	6 am.	Q. 7. b.	Heavy artillery shelled road.
	11.20 am.	Q. 8.	18 pdrs heavies firing on roads (shrap & HE)
	1.45 pm.	K. 31. a	18 pdrs. (shrap) on S. O. S. line.
	1.50.	Q. 8.	Heavies fire on road.
	1.55.	Q. 7. b.	Heavies shell road.
	2.10.	Q. 28. c.	2 Heavy shells on Railway siding.
	2.30.	Q. 8. a. b.	18 pdrs shelling CERISY-GAILLY.
	2.45.	Q. 28. c.	2 Heavy shells on Railway.
	3.5.	Q. 8. o. d.	Heavies shell Roads.
	3.30.	Q. 28. c.	2 Heavy shells on Railway.
	4.0.	Q. 28. c.	2
	4.5.	Q. 8. b.	Shrapnel on CERISY-GAILLY.
	4.10.	Q. 14. c.	Heavies shell N. part of Q. 14. c.
	4.50.	Q. 8. b.	Shrapnel over CERISY-GAILLY.
	5.30.	K. 31. a	Shrapnel on enemy front system.
	6.30.	K. 19. d.	4 rounds 18 pdrs.
	4.30 am.	K. 19. d	T. Me 6 rounds enemy post.
2.			(b) <u>Patrols</u> Protective patrols were put out to cover relief.
3.			<u>Identifications</u> NIL.
			<u>Enemy Shelling</u>
	11.15 pm.	J. 30. d.	Q 8 "Punchy" Enemy Artillery was very quiet during day. A little shelling on left by sector.
4.	6.30 am & 8.40 pm	K. 19. c & do	<u>Enemy Attitude.</u> Unusually quiet during day and night. Very little machine gun fire by night & a notable absence of planes.

Intelligence Summary

313

From: 4 am 19/7/18 to midnight 19/20/7/18

No

TIME

MAP REF.

Obs.

5

Enemy Defences Nil

6

Aerial Activity

(a) Enemy planes patrolled our lines three times during day.
(b) Our guns were active during period constantly fired on enemy movement.

7

Movement etc.

5.30 am

Q.13

(c) MEN.
Swimmers cutting crop observed.

7.15 am to 8.45 am

Q.14

Much movement in cove at Q.14

7 am

Q.14. d.

Smoke apparently from Coopers seen rising from Cove.

K.31.00

2.10 pm

Q.19. d

at. Lot of enemy movement in Trenches

50 men (in parties of from 2 to 8) approached towards position in Q.19. d. coming from all directions.

5.30 am

Q.23 b.

Train observed arriving at dump.

8.15 am

Q.28

Train (Large & small engine & 6 trucks) seen departing from dump travelling E.
(b) Transport.

7 am

Q.26

Motor also horse seen going to and fro along WARFUSSE ROAD.

9.30 am

Q.20 c

1 G.S. Wagon & 2 Motors seen on road travelling towards cove in Q.14.

9

Signalling Nil.

10

Miscellaneous (a) Stability: Good

11

(b) Relief effected by midnight without incident.

Locations Bn H.Q. J. 21.0.2.3

W. Shearwood



261

255 R/W

Intelligence Summary

315

6 am 27 7 18 to 4 am 28 8 18

No.	Time	Abn Reference	Refs
1			<u>Artillery</u>
	8:20 am	K 20 A	20 shells 18 puds.
	10:0 "	MALLARD Wood	120 " H.S.H.S.
	12:0 am		" heavies
		MORLANCOURT	45 " Road in front of HARBOYNIER
	12:50 pm		60 " "
	1-10	P 20 A	30 " 18 puds
	{ 1-10 1-45	K 22 27 + 28	area shelled by heavies - 400 rounds
	2:30	MALLARD Wood	45 shells heavies.
	4:45	K 20 B	40 " 18 puds H.S.
	5:20	Q 14	80 " heavies
	6:0 "	MALLARD Wood	60 " " "
	7:50	K 28 B	100 " " "
		K 26 D	" " "
	8:0	K 20 B	50 " 18 puds
	{ 8:10 8:30		General bombardment enemy forward + rear positions.
	1:30 am	K 25 C	
			E Sniping enemy snipers active during early morning.
2			Identification - NIL
3			Enemy Operations.
	{ 3:30 am 11:30 "	K 19 Support Area	Intermittent shelling - 100 shells 5.9. H.S.
	5:20	J 19 B	20 shells 77 + 4.2 H.S.
	6:30	J 19 B	30 " " " "
	8:40	K 19 Support	30 " 4.2 " "
	10:30	J 22 D	20 " 4.2 H.V.
	11:20	K 19	15 " 4.2 H.S.
	2:0	do	30 " 4.2 " "
	3:40	K 19 Support	100 " 5.9 " "



261

5325 Base

Intelligence Summary

317

6 am 27 7 18 to 4 am 28 7 18

No	Time	Map Reference	Para.
4	20 pm	J 19 A	20 shells W 2 H 2.
	7-15 "	R 25 J 30 J 24 J 22	400 " 77 4.2 + 5.9 H 2.
	8-15 "	J 24	12 " 5.9 H 2.
	9-0 "	R 25 J 30 J 23	300 " 77 4.2 + 5.9 H 2.
	1-30 "	R 25 C	8 " 4.2 H 2.
4			<u>Bombing attitude.</u> NORMAL
5			<u>Bombing Defences.</u> NIL
6			<u>Aircraft activity.</u> NIL
7			<u>Bombing movement etc.</u>
	5-10 am	R 26 a	2 men seen walking on road.
	11-0 am		4 men got out of com. trench leading from road in R 26 a to MALLARD Wood + walked overland into wood.
	1-15 am		Enemy patrol observed and engaged by Lewis Gun.
	9-15 "		Transport heard in MALLARD WOOD
8			<u>Signalling.</u> NIL
9			<u>Miscellaneous.</u> Visibility. fair. Showery. ground very wet and slippery.
10			<u>Locations.</u> By H.Q. J 22 D 2.4 Dutei Battalion relief was effected

M. Sharwood

261

319

Intelligence Summary

5200 Bu

from 6 am 28.7.18 to 8 pm 28.7.18

No	Time	Moat/ Reference	Para
1	10-10 am 5-15 "	K 31 a + b do	(a) <u>Artillery</u> 18 guns shelled enemy positions Intermittent shelling throughout day by heavies on enemy reserve areas. Very little shelling done by artillery during the day. <u>Identification</u> Nil
2			<u>Enemy shelling</u>
3	6 am 8:15 " 9:15 " 10:45 " 11:0 "	J 29 D K 19 J 30 c + D	5 shells 77 H.B. from MALARD WOOD 4 " 10.5 cm " MORCOURT (99) 15 " 10.5 " scattered. MALARD WOOD scattered intermittent shelling vicinity of Sailly-le-Sec. from MALARD WOOD and Morcourt
	12 noon 4:11:30 pm 6 pm	J 30 c J 33 K 19	B <u>M.W.</u> 9 "Pineapples" vicinity front line - 4 M.W. 4 do. 2 do. Visibility was very poor and direction from which T.M. were firing could not be seen.
4			<u>Enemy Attitude</u> . Very quiet.
5			<u>Enemy Defences</u> . Nil
6	6 am		<u>Aerial Activity</u> a <u>Hostile</u> 5 enemy aircraft patrolled our line during



53rd Div

Intelligence Summary route

321

from base 28.7.18 to 8 pm 28.7.18

No	Time	Map Reference	Pass.
	9-17 am		very high. Engaged and driven off by a fire
	12-15 pm		1 1/2 plane very low patrolled our line 1 " " " " " "
	7-10 pm		(B) <u>Observ.</u> Our planes patrolled enemy lines through day constantly firing on. Guns into enemy trenches. 3 planes crossed enemy lines and dropped bombs + fuel on. Guns on enemy's rear systems.
7	3 pm		<u>to enemy movement etc</u> Much individual movement observed in Q9 all day and a little in K31. This is normal. Train observed in rear of WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT Road moving towards latter place.
8			Signalling - NIL
9	7 am 7.45		<u>Miscellaneous</u> Observation balloons seen to use 123° T.B. from K30C 10.70 - close proximity to MOCOURT
	7.30 am	Q15 a.3015	a permanent tripod structure at this point. 3 men seen to leave. either ^{shaft on airport} hospitality of out only at intervals. another summary will be furnished to HQ Shearwood ^{K.0} later. per H. Bouch



261

326

Intelligence Summary

from 7.14 to 29.7.18

No	Time	Reference	Para
	2.30	K 19	60 shells 4.2 5.9 H.b.
	1.50	K 19 D	20 " " " " direction MALARD WOOD
	2.30	K 25 C + D	Intermittent shelling sharpshoot + H.b. by 77
	3.30	J 30 D	5 shells 10.5 cm. H.b.
	3.30	K 31	Heavy shelling by all calibres.
	3.55	J 30 D	10 shells 4.2 H.b. from MALARD WOOD
	4.0	K 25 C	
	4.0	J 30 D	5 " 4.2 " " " "
	4.0	K 19 a	5 " 4.2 " " " "
	4.15	K 19	20 " 4.2 " " " "
	5.5	K 19	20 " 4.2 " " " "
	6.25	K 19	10 " 4.2 " " " "
	9.30	J 30 B	15 minute bombardment by 77 " "
	10.20	J 30	20 " " " all calibres
			Enemy heavily shelled whole of sector at intervals of 10 to 15 minutes during remainder of night.
		<u>B T. M.</u>	
	4.45 hr	J 30 D	20 " Pineapples" appeared to come from K 251
	5.10 "	K 19 D	15 " " " " " " " " " " " " "
	5.20 "	J 36 B	15 " " " " " " " " " " " " "
	5.30 "	J 36 B	6 " " " " " " " " " " " " "
	6.45 "	J 30 B	10 " " " " " " " " " " " " "
	6.55 "	J 30 B	10 " " " " " " " " " " " " "
	9.00 am	K 25 B	3 M.W.

Enemy Attitude

Men seen massing in K 26

No counter attacks has so far been launched but enemy artillery which was active all day increases in

4

~~3.30~~
8.0 hr

Sub B

Intelligence Summary

324

from 11 am 29. 7. 18 to 4 am 30. 7. 18

No	Time	Source Reference	Para.
1			<p>a. <u>Artillery</u> During the morning artillery fired intermittently on enemy defenses.</p> <p>18 fudo shelled enemy defenses - 15 minute intervals -</p> <p>3-45 " T 31C approx 50 shells 18 fudo vicinity SALLY-LAURET</p> <p>3-45 " K 274 33 Heavies shelled Mallard Wood</p> <p>4-35 " do</p> <p>5-25 " K 25 D 20 - 18 fudo AL</p> <p>5-45 " K 31 B 20 - 18</p> <p>During remainder of period artillery carried out intermittent shelling on enemy defenses.</p> <p>B. <u>Patrols</u> Liaison patrols between flank Battalions were sent out frequently during day and night. No regular patrols were sent out, strong listening posts were pushed out.</p> <p>c. Snipers were active.</p>
2			<p><u>Identification</u> Under separate cover several documents and maps are forwarded for your information.</p>
3			<p><u>Enemy Operations</u></p> <p>a. <u>Artillery</u></p> <p>7-0 am T 30 B+D 4 shells 77+42 at intervals of 15'</p> <p>1-30 pm K 25A+E Intermittent shelling 5.9 H.S. from MALH WOOD</p> <p>7-0 am } 11-30 " } 25 shell. H.S. No direction MALARA WOOD</p> <p>9-30 am K 25 30 minute bombardment 27+53 "</p> <p>2-30 pm K 25</p>



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53rd Bn

Intelligence Summary Contb

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From 29.7.18 to From 30.7.18

No	Time	Map Reference	Para
5			<p><u>Continuing artillery contb.</u> continuous bombardment during the whole night.</p> <p><u>Enemy Defences</u> T.M. located approx K26C 15-50. K31 B 85-80 to K26C 0.0. shell holes consolidated.</p>
6			<p><u>Aerial activity</u></p> <p>A. Enemy planes patrolled air lines at following times 7 am 1. 7:30 pm enemy contact plane shown was shown their own front line by means of WHITE and flares from ground + Red + white ^{from plane}</p> <p>B our own planes were active during day patrolling lines.</p>
7	11 am	K31 B 66	<p><u>Enemy movement etc</u></p> <p>2 men seen working SW disappeared in creep at to K31 B 8-4</p>
	11 am	K31 B 85-80 K26C 0.0	<p>Working parties observed consolidating shell holes. a shoot was put down and enemy dispersed.</p>
		K26C 20	<p>Continual movement observed on road and vicinity thereof during all day. A horseman was observed leading road. Suspected H.Q. at this point.</p>
8	9:30 p 9:30 p		<p><u>Signalling.</u></p> <p>1 green flare - } no apparent result 1 }</p>
9			<p><u>Miscellaneous</u></p> <p>at 10 pm a dump was set on fire behind enemy lines direction of Accroche road</p>



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52nd Bn

Intelligence Summary Reports

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No	Line	Map Reference	Jan 29 7.14 to Jan 30 7.14	Para
<p>Locations. as per map forwarded under separate cover. Visibility fair. Ground still mud.</p>				
<p>E. A. Shearwood</p>				

14th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 9.

From 6.a.m. 4/7/18. to 6.a.m. 5/7/18.

1. OPERATIONS. (a) Our Artillery. Right Group. 100 rds. were fired on movement reported by infantry observers in K.32.b. and K.31.b. at 11.30.a.m. and 5.20.p.m.

At 9.a.m. 476 rounds were fired on S.O.S. During the night roads and tracks in K.20.c., K.21.a. to K.21.b., K.20.d. to K.21.a. and K.22a. were fired on. 100 rounds were fired on banks in K.14.d. and K.15.d. and 20 rounds into re-entrant in K.27.a. & b.

(b) Patrols. In addition to the usual liaison patrols, protective patrols were sent out covering reliefs in progress. The Left Battalion sent out the following patrols:-

(1). 1 Officer (Lieut. GALE) and 7 O.Rs. left K.13.d.65.55. at 11.15.p.m. and moved to K.13.d.70.70. All enemy posts on right front were occupied and numerous flares were being fired. These enemy were seen near post at K.13.d.75.90. At 12.55.a.m. enemy commenced shelling in front of our line, many shells falling on his own posts, on which shouting was heard and GREEN over GREEN flares were immediately sent up. Range was then lengthened. During this shoot enemy used many gas shells, and gas blew back over his lines. Strombos Horns were sounded and our patrol wore gas masks. Our own artillery retaliated on enemy trenches and posts and more shouting was heard. Our wire was slightly damaged by shell fire. Patrol returned to K.13.d.60.40. at 2.a.m.

(2). A patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. DENTON) and 7 O.Rs. left K.7.d.10.90. at 11.p.m. and proceeded to K.7.d. central. No enemy movement was observed. Gas was detected drifting back on enemy's lines at 1.30.a.m. Patrol returned to place of departure at 2.a.m.

(c) Sniping. Snipers were active on all movement, one casualty being noted.

(d) M.Gs. Right Coy. 7000 rounds were expended on harassing fire on road from K.14.d.30.20. to K.20.b.40.60. Also on K.20.b.50.80. K.20.a.50.80., K.20.a.80.80. during the night and early morning.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING. Between 8.p.m. and 9.30.p.m., when enemy counter-attacked in Left Brigade Sector, a portion of his barrage fell on Left Bn. sector. This included a little sneezing gas.

At 11.15.p.m. and 11.30.p.m. areas J.11. and 12. were subjected to 5 minutes bombardment with 77s. and 105s. Between 1.a.m. and 1.40.a.m. there was heavy scattered shelling over the area. The shelling by day was slight. From 9.p.m. enemy carried out work on batteries near HELLY with one H.V. gun.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Enemy remained quiet by day but the movement of his troops into positions for the counter-attack on the Left Bde. went on all day and was engaged by our artillery.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. The wire protecting the second line of trenches in K.20.c. and K.19.d. raided by our Right Bn. on morning of 4th inst. was cut by our fire and did not form an obstacle. The first line of trenches was very lightly held as enemy knew the attack was coming (prisoners statement). The trenches were in good order.

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. (a) E.A. were moderately active patrolling our lines on seven occasions. By night bombs were dropped on MAURETT WOOD (1.40.a.m.).

(b) Our own planes were present in great force during the morning attack and the evening counter-attack. By day several planes bombed and fired M.Gs. on the enemy's forward system.

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7. ENEMY MOVEMENT. (a) Men. At several times during the day large numbers of enemy were reported by aeroplanes and by infantry observers to be massing and were engaged by our artillery fire. Left Bn. observers reported much of this movement in K. 8.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. A heavy gun mounted on Railway Line in F. 28. was engaged by our artillery at 6.30 p.m. This gun again fired between 12.15 a.m. and 12.50 a.m. (Bearing T.B. 72° from J. 17. a. 4. 2.). A man descended by parachute from O.B. on T.B. 69 1/2° from J. 17. a. 4. 2. at 3.45 p.m. At 20.35 p.m. an enemy O.B. drifted over our lines at an altitude of 500 feet travelling S.W.

9. LOCATIONS. A re-distribution on the Brigade Sector took place, and additional frontage being taken over from Brigade on the right.

- 53rd Bn. Left Line position.
- 54th Bn. Right " "
- 55th Bn. Reserve " "
- 56th Bn. Centre Line " "

Handwritten signature: J. G. Gardner
 Brig.-General,
 Commanding 14th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

APPENDIX

24th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 10.

From 6 a.m. 6/7/18. to 6 a.m. 7/7/18.

- 1. OPERATIONS.** (a) Artillery. Field. 540 rounds were fired on roads in K.15.a., K.20.e. and K.21.a.b.&c., K.27.a. and tracks in K.20.b. At 1.30 a.m. shelters in re-entrant in K.25.d. and at 2.45 a.m. trench in K.14.d. were fired on by 4.5 Hows. From 3.15 a.m. to 3.35 a.m. O.P. work on selected targets was carried out.
- (b) Patrols. In addition to the regular liaison patrols the following were sent out:-
- Right Battalion. (1). At 11.50 p.m. a patrol of 1 officer (Lieut. DICK-
INSON) and 2 O/Ranks left our lines at J.30.c.20.15. and worked S.E. to J.36.a.9.8. returning to our lines at J.30.c.4.3. at 1.55 a.m. Nothing was seen of the enemy.
- (2). At 10 p.m. a patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men left J.30.b.2.1. and proceeded S.W. to J.36.b.2.9. and found an unoccupied enemy bomb bay post containing 12 stick bombs which were brought in. No enemy were seen. An unoccupied enemy M.G. position was also found at J.36.b.20.95.
- (3). At 1.30 a.m. a patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left our lines from J.30.b.1.2. proceeding S.W. to J.36.b.2.9. thence N.E. to J.30.d.6.4. returning to our lines at J.30.d.35.30. at 3.30 a.m. No enemy were seen or heard.
- (4). At 11.30 p.m. a special patrol consisting of 2 officers (Capt. McNAB. M. C. and Lieut. PICKUP) and 4 O.Rs. left post at J.30.d.15.20. and proceeded along side of terrace to J.30.d.2.0. Here small enemy post was found to be unoccupied. A belt of wire surrounded the post which contained stick grenades. Patrol then moved forward along terrace towards enemy post at J.36.b.4.8. Patrol proceeded to within 100 yds. of trench when they were evidently seen as a M.G. opened fire. The post of right Company in front of this enemy post report having seen two men on parapet at dusk. Patrol returned to our lines by same route at 12.30 a.m.
- (5). A patrol of 1 officer (2/Lieut. MacGREGOR) and 4 O/Ranks left our lines at 10.50 p.m. from J.30.d.3.5. and proceeded through crops to post at J.36.b.4.8. which was found to be unoccupied. It was evidently used as M.G. post, and bombs were found, also belt of M.G. ammunition which patrol brought back with them. 3 men were left at this post whilst remainder moved forward to J.36.b.7.6. passing a small unoccupied position at J.36.b.6.8. This post contained bombs which were removed. Patrol then came under our own artillery fire and commenced to return. Patrol saw what appeared to be an occupied post at J.36.b.8.8. Returning, an unoccupied snipers post was passed at J.30.d.8.0 from which a rifle and grenades were removed. Patrol returned to J.30.d.4.4. at midnight. No enemy patrols were encountered.
- (6). A patrol of 2 O/Ranks left from J.30.d.9.5. at 12.45 a.m. and proceeded to investigate post at J.30.d.3.2. which was found to be occupied by M.G. team of 3 with gun. Fire from this gun is brought to bear upon left of Company sector. Post is strongly wired on three sides but patrol could not see if any sap led into it. It is about 80 yards from our line. Patrol returned at 1.20 a.m.
- Centre Battalion. (1). A patrol of 1 officer (Lieut. KROGH) and 1 O/Rank left trench at about K.25.a.7.6. at 12.35 a.m. returning to same point at 1.40 a.m. The patrol moved 50 yds. E. and then 250 yds. in a S.W. direction, returning over the same route. Enemy wiring parties were observed at about K.25.b.5.4. and K.25.d.3.7. These parties finished their work at 2.15 a.m.
- (2). The same patrol left K.25.c.4.3. at 2.10 a.m. moving E. 50 yds. to front of left flank of post at about K.25.c.15.30. An enemy party was observed going back from wiring and cutting of crops. Patrol returned to K.25.c.4.3. at 2.45 a.m.

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(b) Patrols (Ctd).

Left Battalion. Listening patrols were pushed out to cover inter-Company border.

(c) Sniping was carried out at long ranges and in two cases casualties were caused. Rifle Grenades were freely used against occupied posts on right Bn. sector, keeping down enemy movement. Centre Battalion Grenadiers fired 30 Mills Grenades into enemy posts and "Flackles" were fired in reply.

(d) M.G. Right M.G. Coy. maintained harassing fire throughout the night on following targets:-

K.31.d.2.9. to K.31.b.75.55. K.25.d.6.3. to K.25.a.1.1.
K.14.d.3.2. to K.20.b.4.6. K.20.b.5.8. to K.20.b.95.75.
K.8.d.71.40. K.20.a.59.89. and K.20.c.97.87.

17,000 rounds being expended.

(e) M.G. The following programme was carried out during the period by L.T.Ms.:-

Right Sector. Between 12 midnight and 2 a.m. 20 rds. were fired on enemy positions at J.33.b.25.25.

Left Sector. Between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m. Posts at K.14.c.2.6. M.G. at K.14.c.2.5. Saps at K.14.c.6.5. 65 rounds were expended.

(f) Gas. 100 gas projectors were successfully discharged against enemy defences in Ravine in K.25.d. at 2.30 a.m.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING.

Time.	Location.	No. of shells.	Calibre.	Remarks.
8.10 a.m.	K.19.	20.	10.5 cm.	On support area.
9.30 a.m.	J.16.	7.	15 cm.	" " "
8 p.m. to 8.45 p.m.	K.19.	20.	77s.	Front line area.
3.30 p.m.	K.19.c. & J.30.b.	300.	10.5 cm.	Including Gas.
4.30 p.m. to 5.15 p.m.	J.30.a.	70.	77s. H.E. & Shrap.	from MALLARD WOOD.
7.5 p.m. to 7.50 p.m.	K.19.a. & c. } J.30.b.	250.	10.5 cm.	Including Shrap.
12.7 a.m.	J.10. & 16.	5	10.5 cm.	5 Minute bombardment including Gas (nature unknown) included.
M.Ws.				
7.40 a.m.	J.30.b.7.7.	8.	Medium.	
11.45 a.m.	Front line right.	12.	"	Shells fell short
3 a.m. to 5.30 a.m.	" "	20.	"	in N.W.L.
5.50 p.m.	Front Line Cent. Bn.	20.	Light.	No damage
6.55 p.m.	K.18.	6.	"	"
7.10 p.m.	K.7.c.	5.	"	"

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Artillery was active at intervals. M.Ws. were active on whole front. No patrols were met but enemy is on the watch for ours.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. (a) New Work. The enemy post at J.30.c.8.2. has been worked on as low earth works.

(b) Wire. New wire also appears round this post.

(c) M.G. Emplacements. Posts at J.30.c.8.3. and J.33.b.4.3. are occupied by M.G. The post at J.33.b.4.3. was found occupied by M.G. by one patrol, but a second patrol found post empty.

(d) O.P's. Occupied O.Ps. were located at K.25.b.5.1. and K.31.b.1.6.

(e) Snipers Posts. The post at K.7.b.9.8. was fired on by L.T.Ms. (Left Brigade).

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. (a) Hostile planes were inactive patrolling only on three occasions.

(b) Our planes were very active especially between 8 a.m. and 12 noon.

14th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 12.

From 6.a.m. 7/7/18. to 6.a.m. 8/7/18.

OPERATIONS. In conjunction with the Battalion on the right, right Coy. of Right Line Bn. moved forward under cover of a fighting patrol and established a new line running from J.36.b.1.3. to right post of Centre Coy. at J.30.d.2.2. No opposition was met with, though enemy artillery, m.w. and M.G. fire was very heavy. Consolidation of the new line commenced at once.

(a). Artillery. Right Group. Between 12.15.a.m. and 1.a.m. 1050 rounds were fired on S.O.S. line and forward in conjunction with minor operations. At 3.a.m. 4.5.Hows. fired 145 rds. gas on K.9.d. The usual harassing fire on roads, tracks and shelters was carried out.

(b). Patrols. Right Battalion.

(1). A patrol consisting of 1 Officer (2/Lieut. MacGREGOR) and 3 O/Ranks left our lines at 11.45.p.m. from J.30.d.5.2. and proceeded to enemy post at approx. J.56.b.7.9. which they occupied during operation to cover advancing Coy's. left flank. This post was held by 1 enemy who disappeared on grenades being thrown at him. Patrol returned to our line at daybreak.

(2). A fighting patrol of 1 officer (Lieut. PICKUP) and 18 O/Ranks left our lines from J.30.c.95.20. at 11.45.p.m. and proceeded to position in front of enemy post at J.36.c.3.3. From this post 3 grenades were thrown at patrol. On the barrage opening up, patrol rushed trench which was then found unoccupied. A few stick bombs and signs of newly dug earth were seen in the trench. When in position a platoon of the right Coy. took over post from patrol. The post is about 50 yds. long and traversed. It has been blown in in places and was evidently used as a M.G. post as numerous empty cases were seen. The crops in front have been cut down for about 50 yds. The post commands the whole of the front and right of the valley and is well sited.

Centre Battalion. (1). Lieut. SHIMBLEY and 1 O/Rank left K.19.d.4.5. at 11.40.p.m. and moved S.E. for about 70 yds. where they observed a party of about 8 enemy employed in cutting crop. At this stage operations commenced on the right and the enemy W.P. disappeared immediately. Patrol returned to starting point at 12.35.a.m.

(2). A patrol of 1 officer (Lieut. DAVIES) and 3 O/Rks. left K.13.d.70.20. at 2.30 a.m. and moved S. returning to K.19.b.50.50. at 1.15.a.m. The area patrolled was covered with heavy crop through which the enemy kept up M.G. fire. No enemy were sighted.

(3). Lieut. KEOGH and 2 O/Rks. left K.25.a.9.5. at 12.55.a.m. and proceeded S.E. 55 Yds. Then for about 400 yards halting and listening at intervals and returning to trench at K.19.d.3.1. at 1.50.a.m. No signs of enemy were noticed except at K.20.c.0.4. where a W.P. was heard shovelling.

(4). Lieut. COOBY and 2 O/Rks. left K.25.b.0.8. at 12.30.a.m. and returned to K.19.d.5.6. at 2.30.a.m. reconnoitring sector to a depth of 120 yards. several enemy W.Ps. were heard digging and wiring.

(c). Sniping. Centre Bn. snipers fired on 4 enemy moving along top of trench causing 2 casualties. L.Gs. fired on enemy W.Ps. during night causing work to cease temporarily.

(d). M.Gs. Harassing fire by right M.G. Coy. on roads and tracks at:

K.20.b.14.35. K.14.d.8.3. K.16.c.20.38. K.20.a.59.89.
K.20.a.37.87. K.31.b.3.9. to K.25.d.8.6.
K.23.c.5.7. to K.23.a.6.3.

At intervals during the night and early morning. 11000 rounds were expended.

(e). L.T.Ms. L.T.Ms. Between 12.midnight and 3.a.m. L.T.Ms. fired on cross trenches at K.14.c.4.6. and M.G. at K.13.d.9.9. 20 rounds being expended.

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2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ENEMY SHOOTING.

Time.	Location.	No. of shells.	Calibre.	Effect.
10.30 a.m.	J.30.c.d.	20.	10.5 cm.	
12.50 p.m. to 1.50 p.m.	SALLY LA BAY.	40.	15 cm.	
2.30 p.m.	J.30.	23.	20.5 cm.	
7.25 p.m. to 7.55 p.m.	Cross Roads J.30.c.d.	20.	20.5 cm.	
8.40 p.m.	J.30.	10.	15 cm.	
11 p.m.	K.13.a.d. & c.	20.	10.5 cm.	

Enemy replied energetically to our barrage and until 4 a.m. shelled the right sector (especially J.30.c.d.) with all calibres.

M.W.

12.35 a.m. to 1 a.m. K.13.b.d. & c. 20. Medium. Retaliation to Barrage.

4. ENEMY ARTILLERY. Enemy artillery was normally active until our operations commenced. Great flares and M.G. activity was kept up throughout the night.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Dumps. A dump exists at J.36.b.3.5. along edge of road.
M.W. positions. M.M.W. active at K.31.a.4.8. L.M.W. active at J.36.b.3.2. M.W. at J.36.d. control was fired on by artillery.
O.P's. 25 rds. were fired on an occupied O.P. at K.31.b.1.6. at 3.0 p.m. K.25.b.5.1. is also an O.P. position.

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. (a) M.A. were moderately active and patrolled our lines at intervals.
 (b) Our planes. At 6.55 a.m. bombs were dropped in enemy lines in K.25.d. Our planes frequently fired M.Gs. at enemy trenches throughout the day.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT. Transport. After dusk transport was heard on roads in K.9.c.30.
Men. At 6.50 p.m. O.P. for 6th How. Battery was informed of movement in trench at K.4.b.3.8. Good shooting was observed and several enemy ran out of trench into crop at rear. This shoot was repeated at 7.30 p.m. At 5 p.m. 20 seen working in trench at K.8.a.3.5.

8. SIGNALING. Enemy barrage was apparently brought down by double RED flares. Single REDS and double GREENS were also used during bombardment.

9. MISCELLANEOUS. At 6.30 p.m. a party of men seen working in trench at K.4.b.3.8. appeared to be putting in a gun. Visibility poor owing to haze.

R. Gardiner
 Brigadier General
 Commanding 14th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

14th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 13

From 6 a.m. 8/7/18. to 6 a.m. 9/7/18.

1. OPERATIONS. (a) Our Artillery - Right Group. 900 rds. 15. p.m. and 10.35 p.m. 230 rds. were fired on O.P. wer. at 5.30. 4.5 Hows. fired 145 rds. Gas on K.21.d.0.0. 40 rds. were fired on M.W. in at K.26.c.3.9. between 1 a.m. and 2 a.m. 150 rds. were fired cracks in K.20. and K.21. road junction at K.9.b.2.8. and K.21.b. and on roads in K.15.b., K.20.d., K.21.a.b.c. and K.22.a. Movement reported by infantry was fired on on road in K.14.d. at 9.40. p.m.

(b) Patrols. Right Battalion. (1). A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 2 O/R. left post at J.36.b.5.8. at 10.30 p.m. and proceeded to J.36.b.6.9. About 150 yds. ahead of this point a large enemy W.P. was heard. M.G. positions were located at approx. J.36.b.7.7. and J.36.b.9.9. T.Ms. are believed to be in copse J.31.a.8.8. Patrol returned at 11.45 p.m. to post at J.30.d.7.1.

(2). A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 2 O/Rks. left out lines from J.30.d.50.15. at 12.30 a.m. and proceeded to J.30.d.8.2. in front of enemy post. Talking could be heard and patrol remained listening for some time then returning to J.30.d.7.2.

Centre Bn. (1). A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 O/Rks. left K.19.b.7.8. at 11.40 p.m. and moved out for a distance of 170 yds. and came on what appeared to be a listening post. Patrol lay in wait for half an hour but saw no sign of enemy and then moved back to K.19.b.7.5. at 1 am

(2). 1 officer (Lieut. COULSTON) and 2 O/Rks. left K.25.c.35.85. at 1.30 a.m. and proceeded S.E. for a distance of about 200 yds. An enemy W.P. could be heard some distance off. Enemy M.Gs. were silent but flares were largely used. Patrol returned to K.25.a.8.5. at 2.15 a.m.

(3). A patrol of 1 N.C.O. (L/Opl. READ) and 1 O/R. left trench at K.25.a.90.45. at 12.50 a.m. and proceeded E. for 60 yds. then N. for 200 yds. listening at intervals and returning to trench at K.19.d.30.25. at 1.55 a.m. No sign of enemy was seen or heard. Enemy shelling vicinity of K.25.a.5.1. to K.25.a.8.7. fairly heavily with 15. c. and shrap.

Left Bn. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 8 O/R. left K.13.b.30.55. at 11 p.m. and patrolled front to BRAY-CORBIE Road. No enemy movement seen or heard. Patrol returned to K.13.d.60.30. at 1 a.m.

(c) Sniping. Activity of snipers has reduced enemy movement in sniping range to a minimum and very few targets presented themselves.

(d) M.Gs. Right M.G. Coy. carried out harassing fire during the night on the following targets:-
Cross Road K.20.b.12.85.

Roads and tracks at K.14.d.60.30. K.15.c.26.33.
" " " " K.31.d.4.9. to K.31.b.7.5.
K.25.d.8.6. to K.23.c.1.1.

7000 rounds being expended.

(e) T.Ms. L.T. Ms. Between 1.30 a.m. and 2 a.m. L.T.Ms. fired on enemy cross trenches at K.20.a.1.1. 40 rds. were expended.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING.

Time.	Location.	No. of shells.	Calibre.
7.30 a.m.	J.30.c.	15.	15 cm.
11.45 a.m.	J.29.d. and J.30.c.	30.	10.5 cm. & 77s.
2.45 p.m.	J.29.d. & J.30.c.	30.	15 cm.
5.30 p.m.	Support line, Centre Bn.	20.	10.5 cm.

Throughout the day shelling continued intermittently over scattered areas. Between 10 p.m. and 3 a.m. areas J.22.d. J.22.c. and J.22.a. were lightly shelled with Blue Cross and Yellow Cross Gas shells. Our O.P. shoot brought the usual artillery re-taliation. Front line and support areas were shelled heavily with all calibres at intervals until 11.30 a.m. At Midnight a barrage of 15 cm. shells was put down on COCHRAN ST. in J.24.e. lasting about 15 mins.

2.

- 4. ENEMY ATTITUDE.** Our O.P. shoots caused the enemy uneasiness resulting in a great display of coloured and white flares. Enemy working activity continues by night. No observation of results is possible from Brigade front.
- 5. ENEMY DEFENCES.** M.Ws. co-operated with artillery retaliation. Gun positions have been located in copces at K.26.c.3.7, K.31.a.5.8, K.20.a.5.A., K.31.c.0.5, and J.36.d.55. Artillery informed. M.Gs. Road J.35.b.6.0. to J.27.c.0.0. has 5 M.Gs. along it. M.G. flashed were picked up at K.14.c.4.6. and K.20.b.2.7. Artillery informed.
Snipers Posts. A sniper was active from K.15.d.8.6.
- 6. AERIAL ACTIVITY.** (a). M.A. patrolled our lines on 6 occasions mostly during morning and at a great height.
(b). At 7.30.a.m. bombs were dropped on LAGLARD WOOD. Our planes were active all day.
- 7. ENEMY MOVEMENT. Transport.** The following roads were used by enemy transport:-
BRAY-MEAULTE Road, Road at K.6.b. River Road in K.23 (by night). Men. Enemy moving to positions in trenches and railway dug-outs in K.3.b. use road through K.4.b. and K.5. (observers report).
- 8. SIGNALLING.** When our O.P. shoot fell enemy fired single and double REDS and brought retaliation. Later GREENS and successions of GOLDEN clusters were fired.
- 9. MISCELLANEOUS. Explosions.** At 1.15 a.m. an ammunition dump exploded in enemy's lines on T.8. 115° from J.17.a.4.2. and continued an hour.
The rifle Grenades used by enemy appear in some cases to be Mills
Visibility poor to fair.
State of Ground. Slippery especially in O.Ts. owing to recent shower.

R. Staudin

Brig.-General,
Commanding 14th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

9/7/18.

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14th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE APPENDIX

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 14.

From 6 a.m. 9/7/18. to 6 a.m. 10/7/18.

1. OPERATIONS. (a) Our Artillery. Right Group. The following targets were fired on:-

M.W. positions at K.31.a.5.8. (20 rds.), J.33.d.1.4. (20 rds.),
 K.26.c.4.8. (20 rds.), K.26.c.30.65. (20 rds.).
 M.G. positions at K.14.c.30.75., K.14.c.30.56., K.20.b.15.75.,
 O.P. at K.25.b.5.1. (40 rds.).
 Tracks in K.23.a.c. & d., K.27.a.b.c., K.20. K.21.
 Cross Roads at K.21.a.35.75. (20 rds.).
 Woods K.27.a. & b. (20 rds.).

Between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 290 rds. on selected targets.

At 3.45 a.m. 150 rds. were expended in searching fire behind S.O.B. in special retaliation called for by infantry. Right flank artillery group co-operated with right line En. in shooting on the following:-

M.G. positions in sunken road K.31.a. & b. (4.5" & 6").
 M.W. " " J.33.d. central.

Mostly 10.5 cm. Battery firing from near K.27. central.

(b) Patrols (Right Battalion. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 2 O.Rs. left J.30.d.9.4. at 1 a.m. and proceeded to J.30.d.8.3. No enemy were seen but movement and talking could be heard coming from direction of sunken road K.25.c.0.0. Patrol listened for half an hour but no enemy were seen and then returned at 2 a.m. to J.30.d.7.2.

Centre Battalion. A patrol of 1 officer (Lieut. KEOGH) and 2 O.Rs. patrolled front from K.25.b.1.5. to K.25.a.6.1. at a distance of about 60 yds. from trench. Patrol leader reports that enemy seems to have gone back from outpost as no movement was seen or heard and on his own shells falling short in to his line no lengthen signals were sent up.

(c) Sniping. Right En. At 7 a.m. 4 men walking from road K.25.b. to trees in K.23.c. were fired on by L.G. and 1 casualty caused. Centre Battalion. A small enemy party in extended order was seen in K.26. and fired on, 2 hits being seen. 1 other casualty was caused during day.

Left Battalion snipers were active but no results could be observed.

(d) M.Gs. Right M.G. Coy. Harassing fire was carried out at intervals during the night on following targets:-

Tracks and trench at K.14.d.3.5.
 " " " " " K.13.c.26.58.
 Roads from K.31.b.3.9. to K.25.d.6.6.
 K.23.a.5.7. to K.23.c.26.63.

6000 rounds were expended.

(e) T. Ma. L. T. Ma. fired on enemy posts at K.13.d.9.4. K.13.d.6.5., K.14.c.1.8. K.14.c.2.8.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING.

Time.	Location.	No. of shells.	Calibre.
12 noon.	K.12.a. Reserve Line.	60.	77s.
9.50 a.m. to	J.30.a.	16.	15.cm.
12.45 p.m.	J.30.c. & d.	30.	87s.
2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.	J.30. Continuous shelling with	77mm.	shells.
5.20 p.m.	K.13.c. & d. Supports.	25.	10.5.cm.
5 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.	J.33.b. Continuous shelling with	77mm.	shells.
6.30 p.m.	K.19.a.	40.	15.cm.
7.20 p.m.	J.30.c. 5 minute barrage with	77mm.	
9.20 p.m.	J.30.c. & d. " " " "		
9.30 p.m. to 9.45 p.m.	J.30.c. Continuous shelling with	77mm.	
10 p.m.	Support Area J.39.a. 5 minute barrage with	77mm.	
			H.E. and Gas. (Blue Cross).
12.1.5 a.m.	J.30. 5 Min. barrage with	77s.	H.E. & Gas. (Blue X).
2.30 a.m.	J.12. & 13. 10 Min. bombardment with	10.5.cm. &	77s Gas.
2.45 a.m.	J.17.b. near H.Q.	10.	Blue X Gas.
At 3 a.m.	a barrage of all calibres was placed down across		Brigade Front
	lasting 20 minutes.		

APPENDIX

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Summary of 1/5

5.5 ENEMY ARTILLERY (Ctd).

M.Ws. During afternoon Medium and Light M.Ws. were active on front line of Right Coy. Right Bn. but were silenced by 4.5" Howa. Between 1.30 a.m. and 3 a.m. enemy fired about 40 rds. from L.M. on left of Support Line, Centre Bn.

6. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Enemy artillery was very active, special attention being paid to J.50. Nervousness of enemy as shown by his instant retaliation to our shots.

7. ENEMY DEFENCES. New Work. Lack of observation from greater part of front prevents observation of new work which patrols report in progress.

M.Os. and M.Ws. These active from positions reported in Summary No. 1 S. were engaged by artillery and silenced. A M.O. emplacement is reported at L.8.c.d. active at 10.30 p.m.

8. AERIAL ACTIVITY. (a). Hostile planes were normally active and patrols were reported on 4 occasions. At 1.50 p.m. an enemy plane crossed our lines flying very low. After making a considerable reconnaissance of back areas he was driven back by A.A. and M.G. fire.

(b). Our planes bombed enemy positions in K.14.c. during early morning.

9. ENEMY MOVEMENT. Trains. Between 10.45 a.m. and 11 a.m. there was much train movement on Light Line in J.31.

Transports. G.S. Wagons were seen on the following roads:-

Cross roads L.1.a., L.7.b. and K.6.d.

Mon. At 3 a.m. 3 enemy seen in enemy post in K.23.b. were fired on by rifle grenades.

Tue. At 9.15 a.m. Left Bn. observers reported enemy creating camouflage round suspected M.O. at K.2.d.3.0. At 10 a.m. 10 shells fired on this causing 20 enemy to run into building probably for shelter in cellars. At 4.50 p.m. 6" and 4.5" Howa. secured direct hits on this building causing enemy to run from it.

10. SIGNALING. At 3.50 p.m. a M.O. shell landed near enemy front posts in L.80. A COLDEN cluster was sent up and range lengthened.

11. VISIBILITY. Medium during morning - good during afternoon except when showers fell.

R. J. Gardiner

Brigadier-General,
Commanding 14th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.