

AWM4

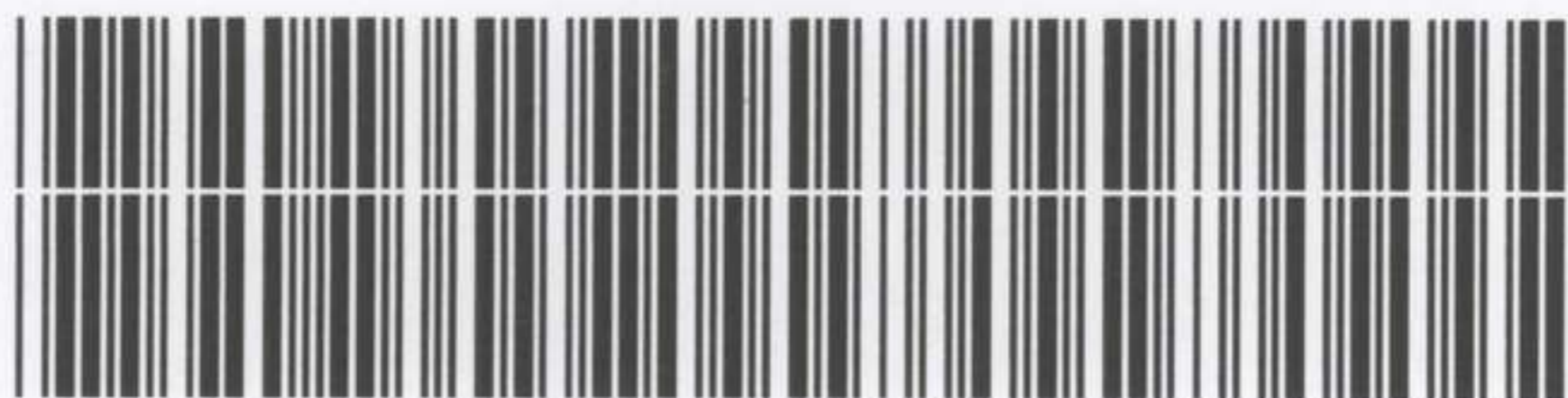
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/20/22

Title: 15th Australian Machine Gun
Company

December 1917



AWM4-24/20/22

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.

WAR DIARY
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form No. 103
AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY Coy.
No.
Date

Sheet 1.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ref. Map Sheet 28 1/40,000.	1917 Decr. 1 st		as per Intelligence summaries (3) - Coy., Brigade + Divl. Standing orders for Rear Hqs. issued Weather: fine-windy. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.	1. " 2.
"	" 2 nd		Intelligence summaries (3) Weather: cold & windy. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.	" 3.
"	" 3 rd		Intelligence summaries (3) Weather: fine. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.	" 4.
"	" 4 th		Intelligence summaries (3) Weather: cold & windy. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.	" 5.
"	" 5 th		Intelligence summaries (2) Report on gun positions of Company rendered. Weather: frosty. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.	" 6. " 7.
"	" 6 th		Intelligence summaries (3) Weather: frost-fine. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.	" 8.
"	" 7 th		Intelligence summaries (2) Inter-company relief in front line. 2 nd Lt. J. E. Murphy joined as reinforcement. Weather: dull. Reinforcements: 1 off. 1 on. Casualties: nil.	" 9.
"	" 8 th		Intelligence summaries (3) Lt. Whelpton relieved Lt. in front line. Weather: showery. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.	" 10.

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Sch. 52 Form 103/17

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
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and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages
will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army
No. 2118.
Date
Sheet 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ref. Map Sheet 28 1/40,000.	Dec	9 th	Intelligence summaries (2) Weather: rainy. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.	Appx. 11.
	"	10 th	Intelligence summaries (2) Lt. A. Coppin + Lt. B. L. Rider rejoined company from Hospital (wounded). Weather: cold-fine Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.	" 12.
	"	11 th	Intelligence summaries (2) Weather: fine. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil. Probable-relief orders received.	" 13.
	"	12 th	Intelligence summary. Referendum voting by men out of line. Training syllabus for week issued. Weather: fine. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.	" 14.
	"	13 th	Intelligence summaries (2) No. 9. boys' orders for relief received Brigade " " " " orders for movement to Tarenty area Weather: fine. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.	" 15. " 16. " 17. " 18. " 19. " 20.

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WAR DIARY
 or
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Ar Army Form U 2118. 3
 No.
 Date

Sheet 3.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Top ref. sheet 28 1/40,000.	1917 Dec 14 th		Transport section moved out in accordance with instructions. Company relieved from front line by 2 nd Aust. Inf. Coy. & billeted in Kennel. Filbox information attached Weather: fine Reinfnts. nil. Casualties: 1 st killed 2 nd wounded	Appx 21
	" 15 th		Company moved from Kennel at 9.30, entrained at Kenneber and arrived at Devres where billeted over night. Weather: cold Reinfnts: nil Casualties nil.	
course	" 16 th		Company moved from Devres at 9.30 am and billeted at Course. Weather: snowfall. Reinfnts nil. Casualties nil.	
	" 17 th		Transport joined Company. Company resting and re-arranging billets etc. Weather: Snow & cold wind. Reinfnts. nil Casualties: nil. Intelligence Summary received.	" 22
			Weather: Snow : Reinfnts. nil. Casualties: nil	

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WAR DIARY
 or
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form 2118
 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY COY.
 No.
 Date.
 Sheet 4

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Course	Dec. 18 th	1917	<p>Whole Company working on bickets - improving & making same more comfortable.</p> <p>Lt. H. Trevan M.C. seconded for training with A.F.C.</p> <p>Weather: Snow & frost. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.</p>	
"	"	"	<p>19th Overhauling all stores & gun gear & checking.</p> <p>Pay parade. Xmas greeting from G.O.C. V Div. received.</p> <p>Weather: frosty. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.</p>	appx 23.
"	"	"	<p>20th Programme of recreational training commenced.</p> <p>Company photographed by official photographer.</p> <p>Weather: frosty. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.</p>	
"	"	"	<p>21st Company Route march. Leave to Boulogne commenced.</p> <p>Lt. Hutton & Sgt. Power nominated for Infantry school.</p> <p>Weather: frosty. Reinforcements: nil. Casualties: nil.</p>	

D. D. & I. London, E.C.
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WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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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 Army Form C 2118
 MACHINE
 No.
 Date

Sheet 5

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cowie	Dec. 22 nd	1917	Company parade + inspection by O.C. Location list received Recreational training. weather: frosty. Receipts. nil. Casualties nil.	appx 24
"	"	23 rd	Recreational training. Preparation made for men's Xmas dinner. Painting of transport vehicles commenced. Special order of Day from C-in-C received. weather: frosty. Receipts. nil. Casualties nil.	" 25.
"	"	24 th	Official holiday for troops. Xmas gifts received from auct. Comforts sent. weather: snowing Receipts. nil. Casualties nil.	
"	"	25 th	Xmas greeting received from G.O.C., A.I.F. men had good Xmas dinner (augmented by an expenditure of £50) + were waited upon by officers + sergeants. Brevade order received weather: fine. 7/11/17. Ervington bonded Coy.	" 26 " 27

D. D. & A. London, E.C.
 (A5001) Wt. W177/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

WAR DIARY

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
No.
Date

Sheet 6.

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cource	1917 Dec. 26 th		Official holiday for troops. Lieut. C.A. Richards to England on leave. Sgt. H. Stagg & Pte. Bell to catch Battr. England. Weather: Snowing Reinfpts. nil Casualties nil.	
"	" 27 th		Recreational training. Weather: Snowing Reinfpts. + Casualties: nil	
"	" 28 th		Syllabus of training.	
	29 th		Lt. Hutton & Sgt. Power to Army School.	
	30 th		Lt. F.E. Murphy to Training School.	
	31 st		Weather: Frosty. Reinfpts. + Casualties: nil. Orders in event of strong enemy attack while in reserve at Kemmel attached.	appx. 28
George Fitzhald. Capt. a.c. 15 th m.g. Coy.				

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APPENDIX I

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

APPENDIX

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 am 30-11-17 to 6 a.m. 1



OPERATIONS:

Machine Guns engaged in harrassing fire the
 positions: 0.30. b. 00.55.
 0.44. c. 80.05.
 0.29. b. 75.05.
 0.24. a. 85.15.
 X Roads at 0.36. b. 18.57.
 Track at 0.30. c. 7.2.
 Military Road 0.24. a. 15.85 to 0.18. d. 21.15.
 Tracks 0.24. a. 50.20.
 0.24. c. 50.40.

S.O.S. was not called for.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Owing to Artillery demonstrations enemy sent up more flares than usual, red and green flares in pairs being very conspicuous. The former during demonstrations, and the latter at regular intervals.

Ammunition expended 15,200 rounds.

[Signature]
Lieut.
For O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

appx 1.

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17th
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
APPENDIX I

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Summary of Intelligence.
From 6 a.m. 30/11/17 to 6 a.m. 1/12/17.

Ref. Map. Sheet 28 1/40,000

1. OPERATIONS.

- (a) Artillery. Our artillery was active throughout the period. good shooting by the 18 pounders was observed on an enemy working party in O.36.A. near OIRA trench. At 5. p.m. guns opened heavy bombardment on enemy position O.29.D. - O.30.C. and continued with 18 pounders and heavies for 35 minutes. Enemy did not retaliate. At 4.15 a.m. our 18 pounders shelled enemy position at BEEK FARM also enemy O.P. at O.24.C.2-5. WAI FARM, O.23.D.1-2, KIVI FARM and COMBES CANAL received attention intermittently throughout the day. From 1.30 to 4.30 p.m. our heavies shelled back areas. Patrols. The right Battalion frontage was patrolled continuously from 7 p.m. to 4 a.m. At 8 p.m. a listening post was established at approximately O.29.C.7-2 and remained there until 11 p.m. They report splashing of water and could hear men speaking. They also heard a party of 20 strong apparently a relief. At 10 p.m. a patrol moved out to O.29.C.4-6 thence in a semi-circular movement to O.29.C.45-85 and report frontage quiet. Another patrol moved out along road in O.29.A. to O.29.A.9-4. thence in northerly direction to TAMBEKE in O.23.C. thence to our own line and report having seen an enemy patrol of 4 men at N.29.B.1-7 moving southwards. Signalling was also seen in same vicinity. 1 Officer and 9 other ranks moved out from our line to position O.23.C.9-3 and remained there for one hour. They report NO MANS LAND to be in very wet and boggy condition and that no enemy movement was detected. A patrol of one N.C.O. and four men moved out at 7.30 p.m. from O.11.B.9-3 to vicinity of O.12.A 2-4 thence to O.12.A. 2-1 returning at 11 p.m. They report no enemy movement.
- (c) Machine Guns Known enemy tracks and roads were engaged throughout the night. Guns were particularly active from 5.15 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. also from 1 a.m. to 1.45 a.m. Owing to poor visibility during the day good targets could not be observed. The following targets were harrassed from 6 p.m. intermittently until dawn:- CENTRE FARM in O.18.C., Cross Roads O.24.A., Cross Roads O.18.B.60-65 to O.18.B.20-75. Enemy tramway O.24.A. & B. Expenditure 8,000 rounds.
- (d) Trench Mortars. 65 rounds were fired on Machine Gun positions. It was noticed that guns ceased firing when our mortars opened fire on them.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING.
 Enemy shelling has slightly increased during the last 24 hours. RAVINE WOOD and O.17.A. received special attention with 77 mm. from direction of HOUTHEN. A pill box in O.34.A. was heavily shelled with 5.9", at 2.15 p.m. O.28.B. Central, O.26.B. and O.27.B. were shelled intermittently with Gas Shells and 4.2". O.26.C.7-8 and vicinity of LUMI FARM, O.19.D. and O.20.D. were also shelled with Gas and H.E. during the afternoon. O.23.A.3-6 and front line in that vicinity was shelled with 77 mm at 11 a.m. WYTSCHAETE received attention with Gas shells from direction of Houthen.

APPX I

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Infantry very quiet along the whole front. Artillery aggressive.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Machine Guns. Machine Guns were much quieter than usual particularly so during the night. Wire around the TWINS O.11.D.9-2 is visible and appears to be very strong. Wire between BEEK and VAN FARM also appears to be very thick.

6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY.

At 10.30 a.m. 3 enemy planes seen encircling vicinity of O.12.Central. They were driven off by our anti-aircraft. At 9.20 a.m. 2 balloons were up at 15 deg. and 50 deg true. from O.26.B.8-6. No E.A. crossed our lines during the day.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

At 7 a.m. an enemy party of 6 observed working on post in vicinity of O.12.A.5-2.

A working party at OTIRA trench at O.3.A. was dispersed by our artillery.

During the morning movement was observed on road O.36.A.2-2. The following train movements were observed during the day:-

11 a.m. train seen shunting at VERVICQ.

11.30 a.m. train seen moving from BOUSEQUE to VERVICQ.

11.42 a.m. train seen moving from GHELVE towards VERVICQ.

12.30 p.m. train moving from TENBRIELEN to GHELVE.

The following true bearings were taken from O.27.B.80-05 :-

7.5 a.m. smoke screen at 71 deg.

7.45 a.m. gun flashes at 86 deg.

7.43 a.m. gun flashes at 81 deg.

7.50 a.m. gun flashes at 76 deg.

8.5 a.m. gun flashes at 76 deg.

8.25 a.m. smoke screen at 71 deg.

10.20 a.m. smoke screen at 59 deg.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

Heavy box about the same size as S.A.A box was picked up in vicinity of No. 2 post which was raided. Box appears to contain explosives with fuse and lighter attached. It was evidently brought with raiding party for the purpose of blowing up Pill box but was dropped when objective was not reached.

The ground in front of post was examined by day but no enemy dead were to be seen.

9. DISPOSITIONS.

Following are the dispositions of the Brigade.

Brigade Headquarters	N.29.C.4-4.
57th Battalion	ONRAET FARM O.14.A.3-1.
58th Battalion.	O.20.B.2-2.
59th Battalion	LUMM FARM O.23.D.2-7.
60th Battalion	TORREKEN FARM O.20.D.2-3.
15th I.G. Company	LEG COPSE O.20.A.6-5.
15th A.I.M.B.	DERRY FARM O.27.A.5-6.

Major,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



For Official Use Only.

APPENDIX

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 a.m., 30th November - to - 6 a.m. 1st December 1917.

NOTE. Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Our artillery was actively engaged throughout the whole period in harassing enemy tracks and thoroughfares, and occupied areas. Strong points and enemy trench works were also bombarded. Registration and calibration was carried out during the morning.
- Between 2 p.m. and 4.20 p.m. PUMP, TRALEE and CORSE FARMS were shelled, also FORT buildings and NORTEVILDE. Fire was directed on a reported dump in P.25.c.6.2 at 2.10 p.m. During subsequent periods ending 8 p.m. UNABLE and UNBERT TRENCHES in O.36.c., U.6.a. and c., and U.12.a were closely searched and approaches harassed with shrapnel.
- Regular fire was maintained on tracks and junctions in O.29.d. and O.35.b. during this time. These operations were again carried out at a later hour and the tracks in P.7.c. were kept under a regular fire of both calibre as the night wore on.
- At 5.15 p.m. and 1 a.m. minor operations were carried out in co-operation with 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery and in support of Infantry raids.
- From 4.30 a.m. to 6 a.m. a cross roads in V.1.a and d. were swept by 18-prs. and 4.5" Hows., also OTIRA TRENCH in O.36.a. GUARD FARM, O.29.d. and ANGLE FARM, O.36.a. also came in for considerable attention, and tracks in O.18.d., and P.13.a. and b. were again subjected to our fire.
- Machine Guns. Our machine guns carried out special indirect fire on cross roads in O.36.b., and from U.12.b.3.7 to U.12.d.5.6. Harassing fire on enemy's roads and tracks was maintained at intervals throughout the night.
- L.T.M.'s. During the raids by Division on our right the following targets were engaged :- U.11.a.65.40, U.11.b.75.55, U.11.b.85.65, U.12.a.05.65; 4 guns being used. Another gun engaged and silenced. M.G.'S. at approximately U.11.b.98.40 and U.5.d.88.38. A Minenwerfer firing from U.12.a.50.45 was also silenced. 40 rounds were fired as a diversion on enemy works at O.35.d.8.9. Total expenditure 400 rounds.
- Patrols. Our patrols report as follows :-
- 8 enemy seen working on wire in O.35.d.; L.G. informed and fire opened.
 - A post at O.35.b.65. is heavily wired.
 - An enemy patrol of four was seen at about O.29.b.1.7. moving in a southerly direction. No other movement of hostile patrols.
 - NO MAN'S LAND in vicinity O.11.b.9.3. is getting very boggy.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.
3. ENEMY SHELLING. Enemy artillery was not so active as during previous period.
- MESSINES received about 20 5.9" during the morning.
- Between 8.15 p.m. and 9.15 p.m. O.34.a., c. and d., were shelled with about 100 shells of mixed calibres from COMINES direction.
- At the times of two raids on our right some 4.2" and 77mm. fire on our Front and Support lines, but enemy bombardment was not very heavy.
- appx. 1.

APPENDIX I

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The DOUVE valley (U.9., U.4., and U.5.) BETHLEHEM ROAD and FARM (U.5.d) and SEPTIEME BARRI (U.4.a) were shelled intermittently during the evening with 5.9" from COMINES direction, and 4.2" from behind WARINETON. RAVINE WOOD (O.10.) was shelled fairly heavily with 77 mm. from direction of BOUTHEM. O.28.b., O.26.b. and c., and O.27.b., vicinity of LUMI FARM (O.26.d), O.19.d., O.20.d. all received a few gas shells mixed with H.E. during the day. Some gas shells were also fired on WYTSCHLETTE.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Machine Guns were quieter than usual during the night.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Work going on at about U.11.b.8.5. (patrol). Party working on post at O.12.a.5.2. (observers). Enemy working on OTIUM TRENCH dispersed by our artillery. M.G's. located at O.35.a.7.9, and O.35.d.7.9. Enemy Post located at U.11.b.8.9. Wire around the TWINS is visible and appears strong (observers). Wire between WAM FARM and BEEK FARM (O.29.b.) appears to be very thick. Batteries. Flashes seen on T.B. 780 and 860 from U.4.c.90.05; also at T.B. 760, 810, 860 from O.27.b.80.05. At 7.5 a.m. and 8.25 a.m. smoke screens were observed on T.B. 710 from O.27.b.80.05 and at 10.20 a.m. at T.B. 580 from same place.
6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Below normal. On 3 occasions E.A. attempted to cross our lines but were driven off by A.A. and M.G's. O.B's. at 10.45 a.m. balloons at T.B. 650, 720, 74, and 810. from O.20.c.05.65.
7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.
 Movement seen :-
 (a) 6.30 a.m. at KIVI FARM (O.36.c.).
 (b) 5.15 p.m. 3 men seen crossing from KIVI FARM to Road in O.36.a.
 (c) During the morning on road at O.36.a.8.8.
Train Movement
- | Time. | Train seen. |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| 11 a.m. | Shunting at WERVICQ. |
| 11.25 a.m. | Shunting at ALLUIN. |
| 11.27 a.m. | Leaving ALLUIN for WERVICQ. |
| 11.30 a.m. | Arriving at COMINES from WERVICQ. |
| 11.30 a.m. | Moving BOUSBECQUE to WERVICQ. |
| 12.30 p.m. | Moving TENBRIELEN to GHELUWE. |
| 1.40 p.m. | Standing in Station P.34.b.5.4. |
8. SIGNALLING. Rockets bursting into 2 brilliant reds were sent up by enemy when our barrage opened at 5.15 p.m. The same signal was used at 1 a.m.; but at 1.10 a.m. numerous green rockets bursting into 2 green stars were observed.
9. MISCELLANEOUS. (a) Dense clouds of white smoke seen to issue from old ruins in U.18.a at 8.10 a.m. and 8.30 a.m. (b) Heavy box about size of S.A. box found in vicinity of O.29.c.5.9 (near post which was raided). Box evidently contains explosives and has a fuze and lighter attached. (c) Visibility poor owing to haze.

K.A. Goodland *Lieut*
 1st Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

APPENDIX



STANDING ORDERS

by

CAPTAIN G F FITZGERALD

29-11-17.

1. PRECAUTIONS AGAINST ENEMY AIRCRAFT:

(a) On the approach of hostile aircraft, either by day or night, the recognised warning will be given by the sentry on duty, i.e. 3 blasts on the whistle.

(b) On the approach of enemy aircraft by day all troops must immediately take cover.

(c) On the alarm being sounded by night all lights and ~~xx~~ fires must be immediately extinguished.

Special Precautions. It is absolutely forbidden to show any naked ~~xxx~~ lights or fires during the hours of dusk and darkness. Offenders of the above shall be severely dealt with.

2. DEFENCE AGAINST GAS:

Upon the alarm being sounded all men shall be awakened. They shall immediately put on their gas helmets and stand to. The helmets shall not be removed until instructions are received from an Officer or Senior N.C.O. to the effect that all is clear.

3. - Gambling within the Camp Area is strictly forbidden.

4. A high standard of cleanliness of Camp and Camp Area must be maintained. All ranks must at all times be neatly dressed and move about in a soldierly manner.

Special attention is to be paid to saluting.

5. No man is to leave the Camp Area without a pass signed by an Officer. Any men leaving Camp with passes shall wear a belt and small Box Respirator.

6. ROUTINE:

Reveille	7.30 a.m.
Breakfast	8 a.m.
Sick Parade	8.30 a.m.
Mounting & Dismounting of Guards	9.15 a.m.
Parade	9.30 a.m.
Dinner	12.15 p.m.
Parade	2 p.m.
Tea	4 p.m.
Tatto Report	8.30 p.m.
Lights Out	9 p.m.

7. GUARDS: A Quarter Guard of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men to mount at 9 a.m. daily, they shall act also as Gas Guard.

8. Sanitary Fatigues: 3 men to be detailed from No. 3 Section as permanent Sanitary Fatigues; these men to report to A.M.C. Corporal at 8.45 a.m. daily.

9. INSPECTIONS: Arms and accoutrements will be inspected daily at 9.30 a.m. parade.

Tents, billets and Camp Area will be inspected daily at 11 a.m.

10. DRESS FOR PARADES: Drill Order wearing Small Box Respirators. Puttees must be worn tapes uppermost.

11. PROPOSED WORKS: Whilst in occupation of present Camp it is proposed to carry out a system of general improvements, embracing the following:

- Duck-boarding the whole camp.
- Wiring of duck boards.
- Draining the Camp.
- Revetting of tents.
- Building of horse shelters.
- Erection of drying room.

(158) G.F. Fitzgerald Captain,
O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

appx 2.

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APPENDIX, 3

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 am, 1-12-17 to 6 am, 2-1-17.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

Date... APPENDIX

OPERATIONS:

Machine guns engaged in harrassing fire during the night and fired on the following targets:

- Military Road O.4.a.15.35 to O.18.d.21.15
- O.4.a.30.20.
- O.4.c.30.40.
- O.4.i.30.40.

Enemy retaliated with searching fire, but without obtaining results.

Ammunition expended - 15,000 rounds.

SIGNALLING:

Enemy signalling observed on a bearing of grid 100 deg. 28051 (Sheet 48, S.W.4) On night 30th. Nov/1st. Dec a RED light was used for that purpose; on night 1st/2nd Dec an ordinary WHITE light being used.

S.O.S. was not called for.

Lieut.

For O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

appx. 3

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
 No. 6p
 Date 2.12.17

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
 No.
 Date APPENDIX 3

Intelligence Summary No.3.

Period 6 a.m. 1/12/17 to 6 a.m. 2/12/17.

1. OPERATIONS.

Our Artillery was not so active as usual and heavy mist prevented observation. WANN FARM, GREEN FARM, RIFLE FARM, and FLY BUILDINGS, received attention during the morning. HOUTHEM and COMINES were intermittently shelled throughout the day. KORTEWILDE tracks in P.7.c., O.13.b., Pump Farm and Fort Buildings were also shelled during the twenty four hours.

(a) Machine Guns The usual harrassing fire was carried out throughout the night on the following targets:-

Enemy tramway system	O.24.c & d.
Centre Farm	O.18.c.
X roads	O.24.a.
HOLLEBEKE CHATEAU	
Road in	O.24.c.
X roads in	O.36.b.18.57.
Military Road in	O.24.a.15.80.
-do-	9.18.d.20.15.

Expenditure of ammunition 12,000 rounds.

(b) Trench Mortars.

Thirty rounds were registered on FLY BUILDINGS and RIFLE FARM and a machine gun at WASP FARM and at O.23.d.45.30 were silenced. Enemy working party at O.29.c.95.95 were fired on and dispersed.

(c) Patrols.

Our reconnoitring patrols continuously patrolled NO MANS LAND from dark to dawn and report enemy to be very quiet, no enemy patrols being encountered. A working party was observed at O.29.c.95.95. and dispersed by our trench mortars.

The following area was patrolled:-

- At 6.30 p.m.- O.29.c.3.4. to O.29.c.5.8. to O.29.c.5.95. thence to our line and repeated four times during the night.
- At 11 p.m. - Road O.29.b.5.3. to O.29.b.95.65 to Rd. O.29.b.95.85 thence to our line was patrolled and repeated at 1 a.m., 3 a.m. and 5 a.m.
- At 2.50 a.m.- A patrol moved out to O.89.c.5.7. and remained there for one hour but no enemy movement was observed.
- At 3.20 a.m.- A patrol of 1 Officer and 8 O.R's. proceeded to O.23.c.9.2. and returned by O.23.c.3.5. They report NO MANS LAND to be very quiet and no movement or machine gun fire observed.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING.

Enemy shelling has been consistent and distributed with slight concentrated fire. GUY FARM, WALL FARM, OLGA TRENCH and MAHIEU FARM received DENNY'S slight attention with 5.9.s. ROSE & DUMP WOODS and O.16.b., also O.21.b. and 9.22.a. were shelled intermittently. O.19.d. and O.20.c. and TORREKEN FARM received a few gas shells between 7 and 8 p.m.

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.

Date 2.12.17

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

APPENDIX

Date

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Very quiet in front line system but, movement in rear areas. Infantry and Machine gunners exceptionally quiet and artillery normal.

5. ENEMY DEFENSES.

Enemy were observed in a small trench at O.11.d.9.2.

This appears to be a night M.G.Post.

A Machine gun was observed firing from BANG FARM.

There appears to be a small trench or Camouflaged Machine Gun Position at O.29.d.4.7.

Enemy post suspected at O.29.c.9.3.

6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY.

During the period only two planes have crossed our trenches. These were engaged by two of our planes and driven back.

(a) Balloons. Nil.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

At 3.25 p.m. two men were seen moving from a pill box O.23.d.8.9. in direction of RIFLE FARM.

At 9.30 a.m. 3 men were shovelling in vicinity of BILL FARM O.24.a.

Owing to bad visibility no railway movement could be observed. Gun flashes were observed at 7.30 a.m. from O.27.d.90.65. at true bearings of 60 and 53 degrees.

(a) Signalling. At 9 p.m. a red light was signalling from HOUTHEM.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

The box mentioned in yesterday's summary was examined and the following points were ascertained. Strong wooden box, approximate size of S.A.A. box containing 30 pounds of perdit. (German High Explosive) a priming charge, detonator, length of fuze approximately to burn 30 seconds and a special percussion lighter. All properly fitted up and connected for firing.

A large flame followed by a dense white smoke was observed in the vicinity of HOUTHEM at 10.30 a.m. The flame was very luminous.

9. DISPOSITIONS.

The following are the dispositions of the Brigade.

Brigade Headquarters	N.29.c.4.4.
57th Battalion	ONRAET FARM O.14.a.3.1.
58th Battalion	O.20.b.2.2.
59th Battalion	LUMM FARM O.23.d.2.7.
60th Battalion	TORREKEN FARM
	O.20.d.2.3.
15th M.G.Coy.	LEG COPSE O.20.a.6.5.
15th A.L.T.M.B.	DERRY FARM O.27.a.5.6.

[Handwritten Signature]
Lieut.
for Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.
Date.

APPENDIX 3

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.
Date.

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 1st December - to - 6 a.m. 2nd December 1917.

NOTE. Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Our artillery maintained harassing fire on enemy defences throughout the period. Trench mortar and machine gun positions were effectively fired on. Enemy strong points at SPUD and PAT FARMS, KCRTEWILDE, positions in the Sunken Road at 0.18.a., COPSE and HADES FARMS, and LOCKS 4 and 5 were engaged. 12 direct hits were reported on machine gun positions in 0.17.b. 80.70 during registration. Between 4.30 a.m. and 6 a.m. KIMI FARM, machine gun position at 0.36.d.5.4, trench mortar emplacement at U.6.b.05.00, GASOMETER at U.6.b.99.20 were subjected to bursts of harassing fire. At irregular periods during the night enemy roads and tracks were searched.

Machine Guns. Harassing fire was carried out during the period on enemy roads and tramway system in 0.24.c. and d. Enemy wire and NO MAN'S LAND were swept at frequent intervals.

Trench Mortars. At 11.30 p.m. Right Brigade Stokes gun fired 20 rounds on the enemy post at 0.35.d.9.4 with good effect. At 1.30 a.m. 20 rounds were fired on 0.35.d.9.9 where a good deal of movement had been reported. Enemy retaliated immediately with pigeon bombs, but was eventually silenced by a further 20 rounds on 0.36.c.15.65. Left Brigade trench mortars fired 30 rounds on FLY BUILDINGS and RIFLE FARM, also machine gun positions at WASP FARM and 0.23.d. 45.30, silencing the latter. A hostile working party at 0.29.c.95.95 was fired on and dispersed.

Patrols. Reconnoitring patrols continuously worked in NO MAN'S LAND from dark to dawn, and report enemy to be very quiet. No hostile patrols were encountered. A working party observed at 0.29.c.95.95. was dispersed by our Stokes Guns. Patrols from our Right Brigade reported 2 hostile working parties; our Lewis guns successfully dispersed them.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.
3. ENEMY SHELLING. Enemy artillery if anything, was a little quieter than on the previous day; generally his shelling was light and distributed. At 8 a.m. our front and support lines in 0.55. and 0.29. were lightly shelled with 5.9" and 4.2" from direction of COMINES. Between 7.45 and 11.15 p.m. area 0.33 was lightly shelled by 77 mm., 4.2" and 5.9" at frequent intervals. A few gas shells are reported to have been used. 70 rounds of 77 mm. were placed in 0.35 between 12.5 a.m. and 2.15 a.m., 25 of which were gas shells. The DOUVE Valley was searched at intervals during the day with shrapnel and 4.2". GUY FARM, MACHIEU FARM came in for slight attention from 5.9" during the day. DENYS and ROSE Woods were shelled intermittently. TORREHEN FARM came in for a few gas shells between 7 and 8 p.m. During the night a few rounds were fired on VERNE Road in 0.16.c. and d.

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4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Right Brigade reports that since the nights have been brighter the enemy appears to remain in the main trench at night, instead of pushing his posts out forward. Enemy very quiet during the period. Heavy minenwerfer at U.12.d.50.59 caused a fair amount of damage to the parapet of our right brigade front line.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy were observed working in a small trench at O.11.d.9.2. This point was fired on at frequent intervals. It is suspected to be a night machine gun post. There appears to be a small trench or camouflaged machine gun position at O.29.d.4.7. Enemy post suspected at O.29.c.9.3.
Machine Gun Positions. A machine gun was observed firing from ANG FARM.
MINENWERFER Positions are located at U.6.a.5.8 and U.12.d.50.59., also at RIFI FARM.
6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. At 7.15 a.m. 2 enemy planes flew over our lines at a low altitude and were driven off by our Lewis Gun and rifle fire.
7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. 5 men were seen repairing wires in P.22/and P.26.c. Isolated movement was seen in a sap leading to V.7.c.6.4; a concrete supply dump is suspected in this vicinity. At 3.25 p.m. 2 enemy were seen moving from a pill box in O.23.d.8.9, in the direction of RIFLE FARM. They were fired on and hastily took cover. At 9.30 a.m. a working party was seen in O.24.a. and dispersed. Slight movement was seen around the dump and Sunken Road in P.31.b; our artillery fired on the movement observed. At 7.10 a.m. a train left GHELEWE going North; at 7.15 a.m. a train left GHELEWE going towards MENIN.
8. SIGNALLING. At 9 p.m. a red light was signalling from HOUTHEM. At 8.25 p.m. lamp signalling observed at T.B. 680 from O.20.c. 12.68.
9. MISCELLANEOUS. A large flame followed by dense white smoke was observed in the vicinity of HOUTHEM at 10.30 a.m.

S. Ashman Capt
for
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 am, 4-1-17 to 6 am, 3-1-17

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No. _____
Date _____

OPERATIONS:

Machine guns engaged in harrassing fire on the following:

Roads O.24, a.10.30 to O.18, d.1.15.
 O.24, c.50.30.
 O.24, c.50.40.
 O.24, a.04.40.
 O.24, c.50.30

X Roads O.30, b.5. (This road has lately been camouflaged)
 Track O.30, b.7.2.
 O.18, c.6.0.
 O.24, a.50.40.
 O.24, a.50.40

Ammunition expended - 11,000 rounds.

S.O.S. was not called for.

Fires: A fire, started apparently by our Artillery, burned fiercely about 10 p.m., approximately at Locke Farm O.24, c.50.40.

Lieut.
For O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

appx. 4

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15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Intelligence Summary No.4.

From 6 a.m. 2nd December 1917 to 6 a.m. 3rd December 1917

15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY. APPENDIX 4

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery

Our artillery showed the usual activity during the day, but was quieter during the night.

During the morning BEEK FARM was shelled with H.E. and shrapnel (approx. 30 rounds).

From 10.20 a.m. to 10.45 a.m. our heavies shelled COMINES causing a large conflagration which burnt until 4 p.m. GHELUVELT MILL and church were shelled from 12.20 p.m. several direct hits being observed and it was clearly seen that the fortification of the MILL was badly damaged.

Field Batteries engaged hostile position in O.29.d. & O.36.d.

Good shooting on OMELETTE TRENCH was observed at 3.15 p.m. and at 11 p.m. our field guns again shelled the same vicinity.

(b) Patrols.

Our patrols were active on the whole frontage from 7.30 p.m. to dawn, and report NO MANS LAND to be very quiet, no enemy patrols or working parties being observed.

The following patrols were in action during the night

Time.	Routes followed	Remarks.
7.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.	From O.11.d.1.3. North to O.12.A.1.4. returning to our line at O.11.b.4.0	Report no enemy encountered.
12.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.	From O.11.b.4.0. to O.11.d.9.9. making a thorough reconnaissance.	No trace of enemy.
4.45 a.m. to 5.25 a.m.	From VALL FARM and worked along O.17.d.2.5. to O.17.d.2.10	Report ground to be very rough and wet. No enemy parties or patrols sighted. G. fire quiet.
11.45 p.m. to 12.30 a.m.	From O.23.c.15.95 to O.23.a.9.5. thence to O.23.A.8.9. and returned on same route.	Report NO MANS LAND very quiet and the ground boggy and wet.
12.15 a.m. to 2.10 a.m.	From O.29.a.3.4 in a northerly direction and crossed the WAMBEEK at O.23.c.4.2. thence to O.29.b.4.4. returning along Road to O.29.a.3.9. and returned on original route.	The patrol reports WAMBEEK very difficult to cross (12 to 15 feet wide in places. There is a tree laying across the creek at O.23.c.3.1.) The ground is wet and marshy. No enemy encountered.

15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY. No. Rec. Date 3/12/17

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(c) Machine Guns.

The usual harrassing fire was carried out during the night but no good targets were available during the day.

The following targets were engaged from 5 p.m. to dawn.

BANG FARM 0.17.b.7.3.

The TWINS 0.11.d.9.2.

The GIANT 0.12.c.4.2.

POLL HOUSE 0.18.a.7.5.

SPUD FARM 0.18.b.2.9. and Road running through 0.18.d. Bridge over canal D.12.d.

Cross Roads 0.36.b.2.5. (This position has lately been camouflaged) 0.18.c.6.2., 0.24.a.50.25.

Total expenditure of ammunition 17,500 rounds.

(d) Trench Mortars.

Trench Mortars were active, the following targets being engaged.

RIFLE FARM, FLY BUILDINGS, enemy M.G. position at 0.29.d.45.15. and the TWINS.

The total expenditure of ammunition was 66 rounds.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS Nil.3. ENEMY SHELLING

Hostile artillery was exceptionally quiet during the 24 hours. Prince RUPERTS DUGOUTS, DERRY FARM, WALL FARM, and areas 0.19.d., and 0.26.a. were lightly shelled with 5.9s and occasional gas shells. While the front line area was untouched.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Exceptionally quiet.5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

A Machine Gun at BEEK FARM enfiladed our front line in the southwesterly direction. Indirect M.G. Fire appears to come from OTIRA TRENCH 0.30.c.8.2.

Trench at 0.11.d.9.2. previously reported is occupied by the enemy and is suspected Machine Gun post.

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Only two planes crossed our lines during the day at a very high altitude.

(a) Balloons. Nil.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

A small party at 7 a.m. seen near July Farm were dispersed by our snipers.

At 8.30 a.m. two men were seen walking towards WERVICQ and disappeared into a low line of trees.

At 12.45 p.m. a man came out of SQUARE FARM and moved in an easterly direction.

The following train movements were observed:-

11 a.m. train shunting in WERVICQ.

12.30 p.m. train from TENBRIELEN to GHELUWE.

8.6 a.m. a small motor engine drawing 17 trucks towards WERVICQ from direction of TENBRIELEN.

1.15 p.m. train moving from MENIN to WERVICQ.

In 0.25.b. a train could be seen moving backwards and forwards N and S direction apparently this is a broad gauge and appears to meet the narrow gauge train in that vicinity.

(a) Signals.

At 3.50 a.m. a red lamp was signalling from direction of TENBRIELEN.

At 5 p.m. lamp signalling was again seen signalling from HOUTHEM.



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15TH
 AUSTRALIAN
 MACHINE GUN COY.

APPENDIX 4

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT Contd.

(b) Flares.

Numerous red flares bursting into two stars were fired from irregular positions without apparent result.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

A fire in COMINES burnt from 10.45 a.m. to 4 p.m. The enemy R.A.P. located in long low building at true bearing 93 degrees from O.27.d.90.65.

Enemy is making consistent use of smoke screens for his artillery.

(a) State of ground.

The ground is now drying hard but NO MANS LAND is still boggy and wet.

9. DISPOSITIONS.

The following are the dispositions of the Brigade.

Brigade Headquarters	N.29.c.4.4.
57th Battalion	ONRAET FARM 0.14.a.3.1.
58th Battalion	0.20.b.2.2.
59th Battalion	LUTE FARM 0.23.d.2.7.
60th Battalion	TORREKEN FARM
	0.20.d.2.3.
15th M.G.Coy.	LEG COPSE 0.20.a.6.5.
15th A.L.T.M.B	DERRY FARM 0.27.e.5.6.

[Signature]
 Major.
 Brigade Major.
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

15TH
 AUSTRALIAN
 MACHINE GUN COY.

No. *Rec*

Date *3/12/44*

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15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
Date 4/12/17

15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
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For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 a.m. 2nd December - to - 6 a.m. 3rd December 1917.

NOTE. Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Our artillery carried out bombardments on occupied positions, and harassing fire maintained on enemy communications and centres of activity during the night. Registrations were checked during the day.

Hostile battery at V.13.a.10.50 was engaged and silenced at 3.30 p.m.

Trench mortar positions at FORT BUILDINGS O.13.d.7.9, U.12.d.5.8., O.36.c.7.2., V.6.b.05.00, U.6.b.4.4, O.56.a.7.7., and RIFLE FARM O.36.c.50.55 were bombarded during the day, and the vicinity intermittently searched during the night.

Concentration was put down on SQUARE FARM and tracks in the vicinity between 3 and 8.5 p.m.

Between 11 and 11.5 p.m. a similar concentration was placed on suspected dump at r.25.a.6.3.

The main COMBES - ARNETON Road was searched at intervals both during the night and day.

Trench Mortars. KINGSCLERE and enemy line from U.6.a.35.45 to U.6.a.30.90 was bombarded with 6" trench mortars at 10.30 p.m.

Right Brigade Stokes guns effectively bombed U.6.c.6.6 at 11.30 p.m., and U.6.a.5.8 at 11.55 p.m.

The Left Brigade trench mortars engaged RIFLE FARM, FLY BUILDINGS, and the machine gun position at O.29.d.45.15, and THE TWINS 1 O.11.d with good effect.

Machine Guns. Enemy tracks and communications were kept under fire at frequent intervals during the period. Enemy occupied positions and centres of activity were swept frequently during the night.

Snipers. Several targets presented themselves to our snipers; casualties are claimed.

Patrols. Our patrols were active throughout the night and report no sign of enemy patrols. A patrol reports the WA BEKE in O.23.c. and d., and O.29.b very difficult to cross; it being 12 to 15 feet wide in places. There is a tree lying across the creek at O.23.c.3.1.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Prisoner belonging to the 6th Coy. 102nd I.R. was captured this morning in O.35.a.

Order of Battle unchanged.

Examination of this prisoner forms an annexe to this Summary.

3. ENEMY SHELLING. Hostile artillery was quieter than usual throughout the day.

Area O.10.d. was intermittently shelled with 77 mm. from direction of HOUTHEM during the day. Between 3.30 and 3.45 p.m. O.28. was searched with 5.2" Hows; STEIGMAST FARM U.5.a. and POLLARD support were lightly shelled by 77 mm. and 4.2" from direction Bas - ARNETON.

At 9.15 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. BETHLEHEM FARM and ROAD were shelled with 5.9" and 8" Hows. Two guns were firing from COMBES.

Prince RUPERT'S Dugouts, DERRY FARM, ALL FARM and areas O.19.d and O.26.a. were lightly shelled with 5.9" and occasional gas shells during the day.

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4. **ENEMY DEFENCES.** During the night enemy appeared to remain in his main trench system and not push out his posts to his outpost line, opposite the Night Brigade front. Trench at O.11.d.9.2, previously reported, is occupied by the enemy, and is a suspected machine gun post. Machine Gun Positions. Some machine gun fire came from BECK FARM during the period. Indirect machine gun fire appears to come from OTIRA TRENCH at O.30.c.8.2. Hostile Batteries. Battery shelling BETHLEHEM ROAD and FARM between 9.15 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. is located at V.4.c.9.5 behind the walls of a large factory there. Heavy artillery were informed and the target engaged. At least 2 direct hits were observed and an explosion caused. A sheet of flame was noticed on the first direct hit. Gun flashes were observed in LA CRUCIFIX FARM P.30.b.8.9.
5. **HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.** At 7 a.m. enemy aircraft flew over our lines and were engaged by machine gun fire. At 1.15 p.m. one hostile plane was over our sector for a short period.
6. **MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.** At 8 a.m. one enemy looking over pill box at O.35.b.65.45 was fired on. At 8.15 a.m. several Germans were seen outside the dugout at O.35.b.7.4; smoke was seen to come from the same place. Isolated cases of movement were seen in O.35.b. during the day. Some individual movement was seen in the vicinity of KINGSCLEERE U.6.c. Small party seen near JULY FARM was dispersed by rifle fire at 7 a.m. Some isolated movement was seen in the vicinity of WERVICQ during the day. A little movement observed at 7.35 a.m. along road in P.32.c. Small party seen at 8.35 a.m. in the vicinity of LAKE FARM; party was fully equipped. Movement seen near SECURE FARM at 12.45 p.m. The following train movement was observed:-
- | | |
|------------|--|
| 8.15 a.m. | Train moving from behind COMINES. |
| 8.6 a.m. | Small motor engine drawing 17 trucks to WERVICQ from TENBRIELEN. |
| 9.40 a.m. | Train leaving RONCE going North in direction of MENIN. |
| 9.50 a.m. | Train going South from HALLUIN in direction of TOUCOING. |
| 10.3 a.m. | Train leaving RONCE for MENIN. |
| 12.20 p.m. | Train from HALLUIN to MENIN. |
| 12.30 p.m. | Train from MENIN to COURTRAI. |
| 1.15 p.m. | Train from MENIN to WERVICQ. |
7. **SIGNALLING.** Enemy signalling at a point 1810 T. from U.4.c.90.05 with orange coloured light. From 11 p.m. till about 1 a.m. lamp signalling "E.S.I.T." in Morse Code. These letters were constantly repeated. At 9.50 a.m. a red lamp was signalling from direction of TENBRIELEN. At 5 p.m. lamp signalling was again seen from HOUTHEU.

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APPENDIX 4

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8. MISCELLANEOUS. fire in COMINES burned from 10.45 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 At 9.20 a.m. a large volume of white smoke observed at P.34.b. central.
 At 11.50 a.m. smoke screens over COMINES and HOUTHEM.
 At 11.30 a.m. smoke screen over MENIN.
 Enemy appears to be making constant use of smoke screens for his artillery.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
 No. _____
 Date 4/12/17

W. G. ... Capt
 Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

appx 4

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 am, 3-10-17 to 6 am, 3-11-17



OPERATIONS: Machine guns engaged in harrassing fire following targets:

- 0.24.d.50.40.
- 0.24.c.50.05
- 0.24.c.70.00
- X Road at 0.30.b.00.58
- Gun on X Road 0.24.c.80.08
- Road at 0.24.c.50.35.
- Laas Farm 0.24.c.60.45
- Road at 0.24.c.90.90, to 0.24.d.09.99

Ammunition expended - 10,000 rounds.

Lieut.
For O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

Appendix 5

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15th AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
No. 4/17/17

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

15th AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
No.
Date.

Intelligence Summary No.5.

From 6 a.m. 3rd December to 4th December.

APPENDIX 5

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Our artillery was very active consistently shelling enemy positions and strong points throughout the period. At 11.30 a.m. good hits with 18 pounders were observed at BEEK FARM.

From 1 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. the Road along Canal between COMINES and WERVICQ and WERVICQ-TENBRIELE Rd. were intermittently shelled with the 60 pounders. A direct hit was observed on a gun firing from true bearing 77 degrees from O.27.b.90.65. causing a fire in adjoining building and numerous explosions. This eventually set fire to a dump in the same vicinity and burnt for four hours.

BANG FARM, THE TWINS, and GIANT received attention also. Intermittent fire was carried out on enemy tracks throughout the night.

(b) Patrols. The usual patrolling of NO MANS LAND was carried out. A patrol at 9.45 p.m. reconnoitred vicinity of RIFLE FARM, they report having passed an empty partially destroyed Pill Box at O.23.a.8.0. then proceeded to an embankment at O.23.d.10.95. where they remained and listened. Now earthworks were visible about 30 yards to the east and appeared about 6 yards long and evidently a parapet. This is a strong post and is occupied. Enemy discovered us and opened M.G. Fire which compelled us to withdraw. A party 20 strong moved to the South from the strong post and two men moved towards the spot where our patrol was first located. The Machine Gun at July Farm was located and the officer in charge of patrol is of opinion that the post he encountered is either Rifle or Bombing Post. There are at least two M.G. and one Infantry post around RIFLE FARM. The field of fire is good especially for traversing. The infantry post was thinly wired. Several small parties were seen but disappeared in the darkness.

(d) Trench Mortars. Forty rounds were fired on the TWINS and traversing fire to BANG FARM.

A Minnenwerfer firing from FLY BUILDINGS was silenced and at 3.30 am. another Minnenwerfer firing from RIFLE FARM was also silenced.

M.G. position was located at O.27.c.70.65. and was fired on whenever the gun fired.

Twenty rounds were fired at M.G. position O.29.d.55.60.
Total expenditure 100 rounds.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING

Enemy artillery was above normal particularly on our right Battalion area. The areas O.27.a, b, and d receiving special attention the whole day.

From a battery true bearing 94 degrees from O.27.d.90.65. WALL FARM was shelled on several occasions with 77s. from direction of COMINES.

A few 5.9s. fell on X roads and vicinity of O.11.c.13.11.

OLIVE TRENCH and the RAVINE also received the usual attention.

APPX 5

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15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY. 4/12/41

15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY. No. APPENDIX 5

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Above normal

The Artillery was aggressive and there was considerable infantry movement.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Enemy working on a Pill Box slightly North of LAKE FARM (approx. O.24.c.45.50.)
Minnenwerfers have been firing from FLY BUILDINGS and RIFLE FARM.
M.G's. located at O.29.c.80.65. and O.29.d.55.60.
Report on RIFLE FARM in para (b) Patrols.

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Inactive during the day but active during the night.
At 9 a.m. enemy plane crossed our line flying very high altitude. During the night several E.A. crossed our lines, dropping bombs on our back areas.

(a) Balloons.

Nil.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

Considerable movement was observed behind enemy lines.
At 7.50 a.m. party of ten in pairs at intervals walking along OMELET TRENCH. Four of them went to LAKE FARM and six got into the trench. Smoke at 8.20 a.m. coming from dug-out in OMELET TRENCH.
A party of twelve moved from Junction of Roads O.24.c.80.05 to LAKE FARM. They appeared to be carrying sawn timber and square boxes to Pill Box north of LAKE FARM.
At intervals during the day men were observed working in rear of OMELET TRENCH.
Another party of six in loose dress seen in road behind KORTEWILDE D.14.a. Single men seen carrying planks to PILLEGREMS FARM.
The following train movements were observed
10 a.m. train WERVICQ to TENBRIELEN.
10.40 a.m. train left TENBRIELEN for WERVICQ.
11.10 a.m. " " " "
11.50 a.m. train shunting at WERVICQ.
12.50 p.m. train from WERVICQ to GHELUWE.
1.30 p.m. train from GHELUWE to TENBRIELEN, thence to WERVICQ

Night movements as per Patrol reports.

(a) Signalling.

At 1.50 p.m. a white signal lamp was used from building in West edge of TENBRIELEN.
Red flares were sent up on which short shelling on WALL FARM ceased.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

Artillery boards were erected at 300 yds. interval along our frontage.
A dud gas shell fell near PRINCE RUPERTS DUGOUTS O.20.b.15.20 of following description:- 77 calibre, tinny appearance, 12 inches long, long copper nosecap and W on base.
Fortifications of GHELUVELT MILL & CHURCH are practically obliterated.

1. Contd.

(a) Machine Guns.

Our machine guns were active throughout the night engaging the following targets from 5 p.m. to dawn.
Road from TWINS to GIANT. BANG FARM. Cross Roads O.18.b.80.05
Down X Roads to MURPHY FARM. CENTRE FARM in O.18.c. to X roads near same. O.24.d.50.40, O.24.c.78.02., Gun on X roads O.24.c.80.08. LAKE FARM and road O.24.c.9.9. to O.24.d.09.99.
Expenditure of ammunition 19,000 rounds.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
4/17/17

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY. 28
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9. LOCATIONS The following are the locations of the Brigade

Brigade Headquarters	N.29.c.4.4.
57th Battalion	ONRAET FARM 0.14.a.3.1.
58th Battalion	0.20.b.2.2.
59th Battalion	LUMM FARM 0.23.d.2.7.
60th Battalion	TORREKEN FARM 0.20.d.2.3.
15th M.G.Coy.	LEG COPSE 0.20.a.6.5.
15th A.L.T.M.B.	DERRY FARM 0.27.a.5.6.

[Handwritten signature]

Lieut.
for Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

APPENDIX 5

No. ANNEKE TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
Date 4/12/17 3/12/17.

Examination of Lance Corporal of 6th Co. 102 I.R.
32nd Division captured at 26 O.35.d. at 8.30 a.m.
3rd December 1917.

1. IDENTIFICATION. L/Cpl of the 6th Co. 102nd I.R. (normal).
Born in BERLIN, 24 years of age. Joiner by
trade. Not strong physically, but intelligent.
2. METHOD OF CAPTURE. Prisoner had been sent back to the support
position to fetch up some message throwers.
Not feeling well he delayed departure this morn-
ing till about 6.30, and then came forward along the
road through P.31.a.b. and O.36.b.
Shortly after passing the cross roads in O.36.b.
he turned off the road to the right thinking that
as it was now light the road was unsafe.
His company sector being south of the road he then
tried to retrieve his mistake and go left but
came instead on to our posts and surrendered when
challenged.
3. ORDER OF BATTLE. North to South. Prussian Regt., 102 I.R. then
either the 103 or 177 I.R. (normal).
4. DEF. POSITIONS. 2nd Battalion in front line with three companies
(from N. to S. 7, 6, 5,) in front with the 6th Co
in support about half an hour behind.
3rd Battalion in rear at LIMBELLIES (see below).
Whereabouts of the 1st Battalion not sure but it
"must be" in support.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Trench Systems. The 6th Co. sector lay south of
CINEMA ROAD in O.36.a. with only one Co. sector of
the 102 regimental front to north and two to
south of it. Company sectors were known by letters
from N. to S., sectors A, B, C, D. Prisoner knew
D sector best and judge it to be 170-200 metres
long.
In D sector there was a trench dug for only about
half the front, remainder was shell holes.
Wire. Where prisoner crossed it (on a path in the
wire) it was ten to twelve metres across. Barbed
wire.
Shelters. Only one pill box forward in the company
sector for company commander. Men had corrugated
iron covers with half to one metre of earth on top.
The company in support was in similar shelters.
Trench Mortars. Had only seen light mortar.
They stood quite in the open in shell holes in the
grass.
Machine Guns. The company had 6 light M.G.'s. in
shell holes. Heavy M.G.'s. behind front locations
not known.
6. RELIEFS. 6. RELIEFS The 2nd Battalion relieved the 1st (?) on the
evening of the 1st December in front line. Next
relief will probably take place in the evening of
6th December. The relieving battalion left the
reserve position about 9 p.m. and was about three
quarters hour on the road

(To be continued)

ANNEXE TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Further examination of L/Cpl. of
6th Coy., 2nd Bn., 102nd I.R.,
captured at 28 O.35.d. at 9.30 a.m.
3rd December 1917.

6. RELIEFS (Continued). Reliefs take place every 5 days. The interval used to be 4 days, and it may be increased to more than 5 days.
NOTE. The 5 day cycle is borne out by the following facts:-
(a) The 3rd Battalion of the 102nd I.R. was relieved in the front line on the 26th/27th November by the 1st Bn. (a wounded Sgt. of the 3rd Bn. was captured on this night).
(b) The 1st Battalion was relieved on the night 1st/2nd December by the 2nd Bn. (L/Cpl's evidence).
The next relief of the 2nd by the 3rd Bn. may therefore be expected on the evening of the 6th December, about 9 p.m.
ROUTE. Along CINEMA Road (KAISER ST.) through O.36.b., P.31.a.b., 32.a.b. etc.
7. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Prisoner stated that the whole forward garrison in his Coy. sector remain in the trench line itself, except 3 men who push out into the wire as a covering party or screen (SCHLIER).
NOTE. This agrees with repeated reports from our right Brigade. The opposing lines are at this point in question only about 200 yds. apart.
8. REST BATTALION. The battalion in rest had formerly gone to BOUSBECCUE, but was now to go to LINSSELLES (for 10 days?). This change of the place and duration of the rest was made in order to allow better facilities for training.
9. LIGHT M.G.'S. The 6th Coy. now had 6, 3 having arrived (each singly) in the last few days. Prisoner did not know whether the other Coys. had their full complement of 6.
10. CASUALTIES. Not many.
11. COMPANY STRENGTH. 86 trench strength.
12. FOOD. Just enough; one 3lb. loaf to every 2 men.
13. ENEMY INTENTIONS. Nothing known or expected of an attack by the enemy either on a large or small scale.
14. DIVISIONAL RELIEF. Every sort of rumour had been in circulation on this subject, but at the present moment, relief of the Division was not thought at all likely.
15. GENERAL. Prisoner spoke freely on odd subjects, and had been much impressed even by the little he had seen of conditions among us since capture that morning. He and his comrades for instance were still fondly hoping for an end of the war before Christmas, but prisoner had given up that hope while coming down from the front. Questioned as to the reason why, he stated that they were told by their superiors that arrangements on our side were wretched and bad, and the German could easily break through at any time. Instead of this, he found everything was strong and businesslike.

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U-BOATS. He expressed his faith in the submarine, and that it would really bring ENGLAND to her knees at last, but -- at the sight and thought of the ham, white bread and sweet biscuits he had received on the way down, he sadly gave up that hope also. His surprise at these unheard of luxuries was obvious.

RAID, 19th November 1917. (This was made by a party of 10 from the Divisional Sturm Detachment). Prisoner stated that the raiders were all volunteers, and had been promised leave, money and decorations on return. The raid however, was a complete failure. He had heard there were 3 killed and 2 missing from the party.

LEAKAGE OF INFORMATION. Prisoner regretted that he had not torn up his papers before capture. They were frequently warned against carrying papers into the front line.

IRON CROSS. This was held by prisoner, but he could not tell why it was given to him, except that he must have been "next on the list". A man who had been in the field for any length of time, he said, had to be very bad indeed to escape getting some sort of decoration. (He had served since February 1915).

COCKADES.. Prisoner did not want to loose the cockades from his cap, as that would imply that he was a second-class soldier. Cockades were frequently taken off as a punishment for minor offences.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
 No. *1500*
 Date *5/12/17*

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
 No.
 Date

APPENDIX 5

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 3rd December - to - 6 a.m. 4th December 1917.

NOTE. Not to be taken into front line trenches.

- OPERATIONS. Our artillery was fairly active during the period. Registrations were checked during the day, and bombardment of strong points, trench mortar, and machine gun positions, and harassing fire carried out.

At 7.30 a.m. and 9.25 p.m. UNBLE TRENCH in U.6.a. was bombarded in reply to enemy activity.

At 11.30 a.m. trench mortars in action at U.12.a.5.9 were engaged and silenced.

During the night KIVI, KINGSCLEERE and LA BUSCHE FARMS, BARBARA HOUSE and ESPERANCE HOUSE, and trench mortar emplacements at U.5.a.05.00, and U.6.b.0.7 were intermittently searched.

Trench Mortars. Right Brigade Stokes guns fired 5 rounds on enemy aircraft at 3.15 p.m. The shells burst fairly close and enemy aircraft turned and flew back to his own lines.

Left Brigade trench mortars fired 40 rounds on the TWINS and traversing to BANG FARM.

A minenwerfer firing from FLY BUILDINGS was silenced at 3.30 a.m., also another minenwerfer firing from RIFLE FARM

Machine gun position located at O.27.c.70.65 was fired on and silenced.

20 rounds were fired on machine gun position at O.29.d.55.60

Machine Guns. Our machine guns actively kept enemy occupied centres, tracks and communications under intermittent fire. Enemy wire was swept at frequent intervals.

Patrols. Our patrols were active along the whole front throughout the period.

At 9.45 p.m. a patrol reconnoitred the vicinity of RIFLE FARM and report having passed an empty and partially destroyed pill box at O.23.a.8.0. Patrol then proceeded to embankment at O.23.d.10.95 where they remained and listened. New earth works were visible about 30 yards to the East and appeared about 6 yards long; evidently a parapet. This was found to be a strong point well occupied. Our patrol was discovered by the occupants who brought machine gun fire to bear on it. Patrol reports that the post is either a rifle or bombing post.

There are at least 2 machine gun and one infantry post around RIFLE FARM. The field of fire is good, specially for traversing. The infantry post is thinly wired. Several small parties of the enemy were observed in the distance, but disappeared in the darkness.
- ENEMY SHELLING. Generally quiet.

A few rounds of 77 mm. were placed in O.10.d during the morning. Area O.33.a. came in for a few 5.9" Hows. at 9.25 a.m. from the direction of COMINES. Our heavy artillery engaged this battery and silenced it.

Between 10 and 11 a.m. 50 rounds of 5.9" fell in the vicinity of BOB STREET.

At 3 p.m. HOLLEBEKE was shelled by 4.2", and the vicinity of O.27.b. intermittently searched by 4.2" Hows.

Area O.33. and STINKING FARM in U.7.a. was shelled periodically during the morning. POLLARD SUPPORT was lightly shelled by 4.2" from 8.30 to 9.30. p.m.

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MESSINES was shelled during the night with 5.9" shrapnel, and at 10.15 p.m. some gas shells were placed on this area from direction of ARNETON and COLINES.

3. ENEMY DEFENCES. During the night enemy was working on wire in the vicinity of O.35.b central. Small party were working on a pill box at approximately O.24.c.45.50. Minenwerfer positions. Light mortar fired from about U.12.a.5.9 during the day. Trench mortar still continues to fire from KIE FARM. Hostile minenwerfer were active firing from positions in FLY BUILDINGS and RIFLE FARM. Machine gun positions located at O.29.c.80.65 and O.29.d.55.60. O.P.'s. located in a tree at V.3.c.50.60 and at V.8.b.80.80.
4. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Enemy aircraft were not very active during the day. At 3.15 p.m. enemy plane with red body flew over our lines; was engaged by Stokes guns and made a hasty retirement to its own lines. During the night enemy aircraft were fairly active. A number of bombs were dropped in the left Brigade forward area and on our back areas.
5. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. At 7.10 a.m. enemy could be seen moving about at O.36.a.1.3, and at 8 a.m. 15 enemy were observed going into a trench at approximately O.36.a.3.3. At 8.15 a.m. movement was observed about the building at O.36.a.9.4. 11.40 a.m. a party carrying timber was observed at O.36.a.7.5. 7.50 a.m. party of men in pairs at intervals observed walking along OLELETTE TRENCH. A party of 12 moved from the junction of roads O.24.c.80.85 to LAKE FARM. They appeared to be carrying sawn timber and square boxes to the pill box just North of LAKE FARM. At 2.45 p.m. a party of about 70 made up in small groups were observed walking along the road in W.2.c in a S.E. direction, and disappeared behind buildings in W.9.b. At 1.45 p.m. a large party of about 40 men walking in a long line, at a few paces interval, appeared to be laying a railway track in W.20.a.
6. SIGNALLING. At 1.50 p.m. a white signal lamp was used from a building on the western edge of TENBRIELEN.
7. EQUIPMENT. A dud gas shell fell near O.20.b.15.20. The following is a description of it :-
Calibre 77 mm., 12" long, long copper nose cap, and W on the base. This shell is of a tinny appearance.

Sashum
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
 No.....
 Date.....

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Intelligence Summary No.6.

From 6 a.m. 4th December to 6 a.m. 5th December.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
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1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery.

Our artillery was above normal during the 24 hours. From 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 8" heavies and 6" howitzers maintained a steady and constant bombardment on FLY BUILDINGS, 9.23.b.1.9.; WAM FARM, 0.23.d.1.3.; and DEEK FARM, 0.23.b.1.9. 750 shots were fired and some good shooting was registered on these targets several direct hit being observed. Throughout the night intermittent fire was maintained on enemy tracks.

(b) Patrols.

Separate Report.

(c) Machine Guns.

During the bombardment of FLY BUILDINGS one M.G. fired on party twenty-five strong moving from FLY BUILDINGS to HIGH FARM casualties being inflicted. Our machine guns engaged in harrasing fire on the following targets:-

- By day, 0.24.c.5.4.
- 0.24.c.78.02.
- 0.12.c.5.1.
- 0.24.c.57.50.
- Rd.0.24.Central.

From 5 p.m. to dawn HOUTEBEKE CHAU BRIDGE over CANAL, 0.12.b. and Road leading to same. Enemy tram system 0.24.a. & b., CENTRE FARM, 0.12.c., and X roads near same.

Expenditure of ammunition 19,000 rounds.

(d) Trench Mortars.

It has been noticed that the mortars are proving very effective in silencing enemy M.G.s. Machine guns fired on remain silent for at least two hours, a burst of 2 or 3 rounds being sufficient to silence them. The following targets were engaged:- enemy M.G. position at 0.29.d.3.7., suspected strong post from which flares have been fired 0.29.b.5.2., at irregular intervals on DEEK FARM and strong post 0.29.b.2.7., the TWINS, and 0.23.d.50.45.

Expenditure of ammunition 70 rounds.

(e) Heavy Trench mortars.

Heavy trench mortars very effectively shelled RIFLE FARM. Expenditure of ammunition 13 rounds.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS.

Nil.

3. HOSTILE SHELLING.

The enemy showed increased activity during the morning but were very quiet during the afternoon there being no retaliation to our bombardment. At 9 a.m. the ROUZEBEKE VALLEY was searched with 77's. and H.E. from direction of HOUTHEM. OLIVE TRENCH from RAVINE forward to 0.11.c.0.6. was shelled with 5.9s. blowing the sap in, in several places. DERRY HOUSE and neighbouring vicinity received attention with 5.9s. from direction of WERVIOQ. MANCHESTER STREET between WAMBEEK Rd. and the Rd. in 0.22.d. leading to ONLONG FARM was also shelled the sap being blow in, in two places.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY. APPENDIX 6

3. HOSTILE SHELLING Contd.

From 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. BAY Road between TORREKEN Corner and BAY FARM was intermittently shelled with 4.2's. Prince RUPERTS DUGOUTS received slight attention.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Infantry normal. Artillery aggressive during morning but quiet throughout the night.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Enemy strong point was located in vicinity of WHIZ FARM (approx. Pill Box 0.17.d.65.95.).

Machine Gun and Infantry Post located by patrol in 0.11.d.90.85.

There appears to be fresh earthwork at 0.29.b.9.5. and wire in front of WAM FARM is exceptionally thick.

(a) Machine Guns.

Patrols were fired on from M.G. at WAM FARM otherwise M.G's. were very quiet.

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

At 4.30 p.m. 2 E.A's. flying at a very low altitude over our left Battalion front line were driven off by our Machine Gun Fire.

At 2.40 p.m. 2 E.A's. attempted to cross our line but were driven back by our anti-aircraft.

(a) Balloons.

At 3.15 p.m. 8 enemy balloons could be observed at the following true bearings from 0.21.d.80.85. 123, 133, 175, 86, 148, degrees.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

During the bombardment of FLY BUILDINGS a party of enemy (25 in number) were observed to run along the ridge from FLY BUILDINGS and enter the Wood at HIGH FARM 0.18.c.2.2. Small parties were noticed throughout the day in a strong point around Pill Box, 0.17.d.65.95. A party of 5 or 6 approached MG Post at 0.11.d.90.85. from the GIANT at 6.45p.m. see patrol report.

Several small parties were seen at intervals in vicinity of HOUTHEM. Considerable movement was observed round PILLEGREMS FARM and parties of 2 and 3 men were going backwards and forwards from this building in an easterly direction.

Enemy out posts were seen withdrawing to picket line in the early morning and were fired on by a Lewis Gun. The following train movements were observed.

9.18 a.m. train from TENBRIELEN to WERVICQ

9.40 a.m. train from WERVICQ TO TENBRIELEN.

2.15 p.m. train from WERVICQ to TENBRIELEN.

3.0 p.m. train from COMINES to WERVICQ

3.30 p.m. train from WERVICQ to TENBRIELEN.

Gun flashes were observed from the following true bearings from 0.15.d.75.95. 80, 68, 86, 50, 140 degrees.

(a) Signalling.

At 8.5 a.m. lamp signalling from enemy line at true bearing 92 degrees from 0.15.d.75.25. estimated 400 yds. in enemy line

A red flare dropped from an enemy plane with no apparent result.

At 4.40 a.m. red flares bursting into pairs were followed by Machine Gun fire.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

Smoke can be seen emitting from high chimney stack in WERVICQ - SUD. Smoke observed coming from several houses in HOUTHEM. The ground is beginning to freeze hard but NO MANS LAND is reported still wet and boggy in lowlying areas. Unchanged.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY. 9. LOCATIONS No. Rec'd Date 5/12/17

MAJOR BDE. MA 15th AUS. INF. BRIGADE

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15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Patrols reports from 6 a.m. 4th to 6 a.m. 5th Dec. 1917

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AUSTRALIAN
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Annexe to Intelligence Summary No.6.

No.1 Patrol.

1 Officer and 11 O.R. at 5 p.m. moved out from O.23.c.15.55. to ascertain whether WAM FARM was still occupied and the extent of damage done by bombardment. On reaching road O.23.c.7.3. they discovered several demolished and unoccupied dugouts and came in contact with enemy's wire on Eastern side of hedge O.23.c.00.25. The wire is right up against the hedge and very strong (at least 15 feet thick. Enemy fired several flares and opened fire with Machine Gun from WAM FARM preventing patrol from advancing. The ground traversed is very boggy and difficult to cross. Owing to darkness and the thickness of wire it was impossible to ascertain extent of damage done to WAM FARM.

No.2 Patrol.

At 5.15 p.m. 1 Officer and 11 O.R. moved out from O.23.a.25.50. to ascertain extent of damage done to RIFLE FARM, also if FARM was occupied. This patrol moved in a Southeasterly direction, and owing to darkness worked to far to the right of RIFLE FARM and reached a position halfway between RIFLE and JULY FARMS. Realising their position they moved in a Northerly direction where they observed an enemy party 20 strong moving to the East. Here the patrol took cover and observed flares being fired from a post a few yards to the South of RIFLE FARM. Several small parties were also seen and enemy appeared to be very alert. No wire was encountered. Owing to the frequency of flares patrol could not approach any closer to RIFLE FARM and returned by a direct line to O.23.a.25.20. at 6.40 p.m.

No.3 Patrol.

1 Officer and 2 O.R. at 8.30 p.m. moved out to reconnoitre BEEK and WAM FARMS leaving our lines at a position where front line crosses WAMBEEK they moved in an easterly direction to a position 50 yds North of BEEK FARM but here the patrol was subjected to heavy Machine Gun fire from BEEK FARM and forced to withdraw. The patrol reports the ground to be very wet and practically impassable but the wire is not an obstacle. They heard voices 250 yds. east of BEEK FARM and are of the opinion there is a post in this position as flares were frequently fired from there.

No.4 Patrol.

A patrol of 1 Officer and 3 O.R. left O.11.b.80.25. for the purpose of reconnoitring intervening between the GIANT and TWINS and our line. The patrol left our position and proceeded along road O.11.b.6.0. (this road is sunken and about 3 ft. deep and has been heavily shelled) thence to O.11.d.80.85. but at this point they attracted considerable Machine Gun fire from O.11.d.90.85. The patrol then attempted to outflank a post by moving under cover of the hedge but the amount of water in shell holes prevented this action. Half an hour later 5 or 6 men were seen moving towards the post from the direction of the GIANT The TWINS were quite discernable but movement could not be noticed although considerable talking was heard. The patrol returned to our lines at O.11.d.05.25. at 8.30 p.m. A Machine Gun emplacement was investigated at O.11.d.4.4. and had traces of recent occupation also a shelf containing several Pineapple bombs.

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AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No. *Rec'd*
Date *5/12/17*

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
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APPENDIX 6

No.5 Patrol.

At 4.5 p.m. a patrol of 1 Officer and 2 O.R. moved out from O.17.c.3.4. to reconnoitre FLY BUILDINGS and discover extent of damage caused by bombardment. The route followed by the patrol was O.17.c.87.05., O.17.d.2.1., O.23.b.3.9., O.17.c.8.3., On reaching point O.17.d.2.d. unusual movement was noticed in vicinity of FLY BUILDINGS. Moving forward to corner of fence at O.23.b.0.9 five groups of five men were seen moving northwesterly direction towards O.23.b.50.96. and others to number about 20 were detected working in vicinity. Exact nature of work could not be determined as darkness was approaching a small group of men as covering party noticed some 20 to 30 yards Northwest of working party. Total strength of party 50 to 60. Group of concrete structures suffered direct hits in today's bombardment but are capable of being placed in state of repair or utilised as shelters.

No.6 Patrol.

At 9 p.m. 1 Officers and 2 O.R. started out from O.23.a.2.5. to reconnoitre FLY BUILDINGS and discover damage caused by bombardment. They went to O.23.c.43.98., O.17.d.95.25. and then O.23.a.50.55. They report seeing about 20 men in small parties moving from Pill box O.23.b.55.75. and found enemy wire thick and hard to negotiate. On moving north to find gap saw three or four enemy working on top of pill box heard larger party working in rear of pill box. Patrol endeavoured to work round to the rear but owing to heavy wire entanglement this could not be done. At this position. patrol was observed by the enemy and drew heavy Machine Gun fire forcing them to retire. Patrol returned at 11.30 a.m.

[Signature]
Major.
Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
No. *Head*
Date *5/12/17*

Appendix 6

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
No.
Date.

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

APPENDIX

From 6 a.m. 4th December - to 6 a.m. 5th December 1917.

NOTE. Not to be taken into front line trenches,

1 OPERATIONS. Our artillery carried out bombardments of strong points, checked registrations, provided covering fire for our T.M.'s., and maintained harassing fire on enemy communications and centres of activity. At intervals during the day hostile T.M. at KIWI FARM was bombarded. Other points bombarded included KORTEWILDE, SHINDY VILLAS, SFUD and PAT FARMS, THE GIANT and RIFLE FARM. Main COMINES - WARNETON Road swept at intervals, and tracks searched during the day and night. M.G. posts were bombarded at 0.36.c.3.4, 0.33.b.9.4, 0.35.b.6.4 and 0.35.b.6.8. From 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 8" and 6" Hows. maintained a steady bombardment on FLY BUILDINGS (0.23.b), WAM FARM (0.23.a). and BEEK FARM (0.29.b.). 200 rounds were fired on each target and many direct hits were observed. About 40 men without hats or coats were observed to leave FLY BUILDINGS hurriedly and run towards a long low dugout on their left flank. The men were engaged with 106 fuse and a direct hit was obtained on one party. The dugout itself was then engaged and several direct hits on it observed. Heavy T.M.'s. Between 10.35 and 11.30 a.m. our heavy T.M.'s. fired 13 rounds on RIFLE FARM, and 6" Newton 30 rounds on strong points in the vicinity. Light T.M.'s. It has been noticed that T.M.'s. are very effective in silencing enemy M.G.'s. A burst of 2 or 3 rounds is sufficient to silence them, for a period of at least 2 hours. At 3 p.m. an E.A. flying low over our Right Brigade front was quickly turned by 5 rounds from one of our Stokes. Repeated at 3.45 p.m. 20 rounds fired on a minenwerfer firing from 0.35.c.55.70 silenced it. Other targets engaged were :- Enemy works and suspected M.G. at U.6.c.2.9. M.G. positions at 0.35.b.75.05 and 0.29.d.6.7., Strong posts at 0.29.b.5.2. (suspected) 0.29.b.2.7., 0.23.d.50.45, BEEK FARM, and THE TWINS. Machine Guns. Right Brigade carried out harassing fire on enemy tracks during the day. During the bombardment of FLY BUILDINGS one M.G. of the Left Brigade fired on a party of 25 men moving from FLY BUILDINGS to HIGH FARM; casualties were inflicted. Enemy-occupied centres and communications were kept under harassing fire. Patrols. Our patrols were active along the entire front. Right Brigade patrols report as follows:- An old sap affording excellent cover runs along S. edge of road passing through U.6.a.0.0. A wiring party of 7 men were seen about U.6.c.8.0. coughing and talking were heard about 0.35.b.7.0. Left Brigade patrols made following reports :- (a) Several demolished dugouts found at 0.23.c.7.3.-Enemy wire close up against the Eastern side of the hedge at 0.23.c.00.25 is very strong, at least 15 feet thick. Ground in 0.23.c. very boggy and difficult to cross. M.G. fire opened on the patrol from WAM FARM.

appx 6

-2-

(b) A patrol sent out to discover the extent of damage done to RIFLE FARM by our bombardment found the enemy very alert. Several small parties and one of about 20 men were seen. Many flares were fired so that the patrol could not approach close to RIFLE FARM.

(c) Patrol sent to reconnoitre BEEK and WAM FARMS met with heavy M.G. fire from the former and had to withdraw. Ground very wet, but the enemy wire here is not an obstacle.

(d) Considerable talking heard from THE TINS.

(e) A fifth patrol found unusual movement round FLY BUILDINGS five groups of five men each being noticed moving N.W. towards O.23.b.50.96, while about 20 men were working near the buildings with a covering party about 20 to 30 yards away. Concrete structures suffered direct hits in our bombardment, but are still capable of being repaired and used further as shelters.

(f) A second patrol sent to reconnoitre FLY BUILDINGS found about 20 men moving in small parties from pill box O.23.b.55.75. Enemy wire here very thick. Three or four men working on top of pill box, and a large party heard working behind it. M.G. fire opened on patrol who thereupon retired.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING. Hostile artillery was fairly active during the morning, but quiet during the remainder of the period. There was practically no retaliation to our bombardment. During the morning ROOZEBLKE Valley was searched at intervals with 77 mm. from HOUTHEN.

OLIVE TRENCH in the vicinity of the RAVINE came in for some attention.

DIRRY HOUSE, MANCHESTER STREET and OBLONG FARM were occasionally shelled. Areas O.35., U.3.d., U.7.a., were shelled periodically. BETHLEHEM ROAD and FARM came in for a fair amount of shelling during the day, mainly by 5.9" and 8" from direction of COMINES.

Between 1.40 and 2.30 p.m. areas U.7.d. and U.8.c, IRIS FARM and RAILWAY Line received about 150 5.9" Hows. from COMINES.

At 2.15 p.m. MESSINES Ridge was lightly shelled with 4.2" Trench Mortars.

From 6.50 to 9 a.m. Hostile minenwerfer fired about 80 rounds on our trenches in O.35.d., doing a considerable amount of damage to wire and parapet.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES. Strong point located near WHIZ FARM (approx. pill box O.17.d.65.95).

M.G. and infantry post located by patrol at O.11.d.00.85.

Heavy minenwerfer plainly seen firing from O.35.c.55.70 with crew of 8 men. - Mortar on being engaged was moved back 50 yards. When engaged by our L.G. the crew disappeared behind KIVI FARM.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet on the whole. Minenwerfer activity increasing on Right Brigade front.

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Two E.A. flying low over Left Brigade front were driven off by M.G. fire. Two others attempting to cross were driven back by A.A. fire. E.A. crossed our Right Brigade front 5 times and were engaged each time.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION 40
APPENDIX
 No.
 Date

7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. See under OPERATIONS (Patrol reports). Considerable movement round PILLEGREMS FARM. - Small parties seen near HOUTHEM. Small parties seen throughout the day in a strong point round pill box O.17.d.65.95. Enemy outposts observed withdrawing to picquet line in the early morning were fired on by Lewis Gun. Party of 5 or 6 observed working in a sap at O.30.c.O.2. Smoke seen risin from trenches at O.35.b.

8. SIGNALLING. At 4.40 a.m. red flares bursting into pairs were followed by M.G. fire. Light signals (apparently a revolving light) were observed during the night from direction of HOUTHEM.

Fred. W. Robinson
 Capt. Gen. Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

appx 6

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60th Battalion, please note and pass to 15th M.G. Coy

h.m.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.....

Date.....

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INFANTRY

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

APPENDIX

15th Aust Inf Bde

FIRST ANZAC CORPS WEEKLY SUMMARY
OF MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE
FOR WEEK ENDING 5th DECEMBER, 1917.

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

1. GERMAN ANTI-TANK TACTICS

The following has been extracted from a captured order of the CAUDRY group, dated 27th November, 1917, dealing with the lessons learnt regarding anti-tank tactics during the recent fighting near CAMBRAI:

OBSTACLES. Trenches at least 13 to 16½ feet wide and 10 feet deep, and very deep mud are serious obstacles to tanks. Ploughed land is easily passable and so are barricades.

The construction of obstacles is not worth while; thorough offensive action is better.

ARTILLERY. Advancing tanks must be engaged before they come into action, even when there is no probability of really hitting them. The main point is to prevent the enemy's infantry from following them up; the infantry must be made to fear the area in which the tanks are advancing.

For the engagement of the tanks themselves the only suitable means are guns in emplacements in the forward battle zone, which can immediately put tanks out of action, firing with open sights. Every direct hit kills some of the crew and frequently sets the tank on fire. Sections (artillery) kept in readiness well in rear of the front line have no knowledge of what is going on and generally arrive too late.

Such guns must, on principle, be sited well forward; the enemy cannot then surprise us.

The commander of the front line troops must be made responsible for the posting of anti-tank guns. Guns on motor lorries are very useful if the roads are good.

INFANTRY. The battle line must only be opened to allow undamaged tanks to pass through; cover should be taken, but troops must not retire. Tanks must be put out of action behind the line. The main thing is to repulse the enemy's infantry.

A few detachments posted behind the front line should be detailed for anti-tank defence.

ARMAMENT. The most important means of engaging tanks is the armour-piercing bullet (S.M.K). It is feared by the tank crews, as it goes clean through (the armour), at the same time producing a long flame which frequently sets the petrol tank on fire.

A tank is best attacked from behind, as it cannot fire very well to the rear and the stern is the least protected portion. House to house fighting against tanks is much in favour of the infantry. The troops take cover in the houses, allow the tanks to pass, and then open machine gun and rifle fire on them at close range.

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HAND GRENADES. Single hand grenades are useless. They are only effective if used as a concentrated charge (several cylinders tied round a central grenade) and thrown under the tank; this is, however, not easy.

MINENWERFER. Light minenwerfer are effective when fired at low angles of elevation. Good results were obtained when used singly.

GENERAL. Anti-tank tactics must be discussed and practised; tanks will then lose their terror.

2. ENEMY'S INTENTIONS

There are indications that the enemy may be preparing a withdrawal to the ROUVROY - FRESNES Line from RIENCOURT to PELVES. It is reported that craters have been blown in the roads leading to PELVES.

3. NEW TITLE AND SHOULDER STRAPS FOR THE 63rd INF. REGT.

An Imperial Army Order, dated the 3rd instant, appoints the Emperor of Austria to be Colonel-in-Chief of the 63rd Inf. Regt. (12th Div.), in recognition of its services on the Italian Front.

The 63rd Inf. Regt. will in future wear the Emperor Karl's cypher on the shoulder-straps, instead of the number 63. The full title of the regiment is now Infanterie-Regiment Kaiser KARL von OESTERREICH und Konig von Ungarn, (4 Oberschlesisches) Nr. 63.

4. BARRAGE SIGNALS (From captured Document).

Field Artillery Regt. (204th Div.), captured near REQUETE FARM (V.14.b.).

Order dated 24-11-17.

Right Sub-group. (i.e. Northern)

Barrage.

Upon a request being received for a barrage, it will be put down close in front of our own (i.e. German) line of posts; but upon WHITE lights, with Pearls being put up, the barrage will, at once, be put down in front of the Main Line of Resistance.

‡ Green Lights bursting into 2 stars only mean "Lengthen Range" and NOT "our own artillery firing short".

Tactical reports will be sent in to the Right Sub-Group at 8 a.m. covering the last 24 hours' work.

* (Note: This signal appears to be in use along the whole of Second Army front.).

5. COMPOSITION OF REGIMENTS OF THE 600 SERIES.

The following extract is taken from a letter written on the 21st October, 1917, by a man in the 603rd Inf. Regt. at MUNSTER Camp:

"There are about 70 of us here in a hut. All belong to the 1919 Class. Half were called up in June, and have been warned for a draft on Monday or Tuesday. It is said that we are off again to the Dutch frontier at BENTHEIM. If only that were true, for I don't like this place at all. I would rather desert or volunteer for the front."

6. DESERTIONS FROM DRAFTS EN ROUTE TO THE WESTERN FRONT.

An intercepted letter shows that, of a draft of 1,600 men proceeding from the Eastern to the Western Theatre, 130 deserted en route. The correctness of this statement is to some extent corroborated by the large number of deserters to neutral countries who have stated that they deserted while en route from the Eastern Theatre.

7. GERMAN RUSE.

A prisoner recently captured on the French front, states that, during a surprise attack recently carried out by the 1st Guard Div. without any artillery preparation, the artillery of the neighbouring sector carried out a bombardment, and the infantry in that sector exposed dummies in their trenches in order to give the impression that the surprise attack was to be carried out in their sector.

8. GERMAN WIRELESS ESTABLISHMENT

A captured document, dated the 15th July, 1917, gives the German Wireless establishment on that date as follows:

- (a) At ARMY HEADQUARTERS. One Army Wireless Detachment comprising 2 heavy field stations, 2 compass stations and 1 intercepting station.
- (b) At GROUP HEADQUARTERS. One Corps Wireless Detachment with 1 Corps field station and 1 compass station.
- (c) At DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS. One Divisional Wireless Detachment consisting of the following:

- 1 Divisional Wireless Station.
- 1 Infantry Wireless Section (2 large, 5 medium and 6 small trench sets).
- 1 Artillery Wireless Section (2 large, 6 medium and 4 small trench sets).

9. LISTENING SETS.

A captured document, dated the 15th July, 1917, shows that at the establishment of German listening sets is two per division. Of these, one is portable and is used for intercepting and keeping a watch on the German telephone system, while the other is used for intercepting both the German and our own messages. The document also claims that a German telephone apparatus which cannot be overheard is in course of construction.

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10. NEW "SECRET" AMMUNITION

From a document found on a German aviator, captured by the French, it appears that a supply of "secret ammunition" (geheime Munition) was transferred from the aircraft park of the Second Army to that of the Fourth Army, in September, 1917. The nature of this ammunition is not known; captured aviators should be examined regarding it.

5th December

H. Q.,
15th Aust. Inf. Brigade.



With reference to your No.g. 28/271 of 4-12-17, works report for week ending 5-12-17 is as follows:-

Map of Wytchaats (1/10000) is attached, shewing (a) Machine Gun Positions (b) Communications, (c) Advanced Company Hqrs and Group Hqrs.

Dumps: The dumps for the respective Groups of guns are located at the Hqrs of each Group, the main dump being at Advanced Coy Hqrs.

The dugout and shelter accommodation, with the work done and in hand at each position, may be summarised as follows:-
Position No. 1 - Position in good order alongside pill box in which men live; little improvement necessary.
Position No. 2 - Position in good order alongside pill box in which men live; little improvement necessary.
Position No. 3 - Position shell proof; men live in pill box a few yards in rear; improvement of position in progress.
Position No. 4 - Good position; men live in shell proof pill box; position in course of improvement.
Position No. 5 - Good position; requires little improvement.
Position No. 6 - Position in open; weather proof only. Improvement work in progress.
Position No. 7 - Reserve position. Used as A.A. position during daylight. Men live in shell proof dugout.
Position No. 8 - Pill box under direct observation, necessitating confinement to cover during daylight; little improvement necessary.
Position No. 9 - Good position; shell proof covering. Used for A.A. work during daytime. Little improvement necessary.
Position No. 10 - Position was not satisfactory and construction work is in course of ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ progress. Accommodation for men is not good, but is being improved.
Position No. 11 - Not very good accommodation. Has an alternative battle emplacement. Accommodation and position shell proof. Little improvement necessary.
Position No. 12 - Position only occupied between dusk and dawn. Shelter only sufficient to keep ammunition dry. Improvement in progress.
Position No. 13 - Position weather proof only, and fully manned from dusk to daylight. This position has been improved.
Position No. 14 - An exposed position, only utilized during the night. Little can be done to improve position.
Position No. 15 - Reserve position in good condition.
Position No. 16 - Good position, improved during week. There is an alternative position close by, and another position is in course of construction.

During the week constructional work has been carried out generally, with a view to improving all gun positions.

At the Rear Hqrs of the Coy, the following works have been completed:-

1. Company Drying Room.
2. Drainage of the whole Camp system.
3. Duckboarding throughout the Camp.
4. Construction of stabling for riding horses.
5. Construction of grease traps and cess pits, and other sanitary conveniences.
6. Completion in construction of stabling for transport horses.

Lieut.
For O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

appx 7.

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15th A. M. Gun Coy

Intelligence Summary. Cam 5-12-17-(1247)

Operations: Machine guns engaged in harassing fire on the following targets:-

O 24 c 50.25
 " O 24 d 50.20
 " O 17 c 6. 0.
 " O 24 c 70. 02
 " O 36 b 20.80 to O 30. Bd 25.20
 " O 30 d 25.80 to O 30. b 20.20
 " O 30 b 30.22
 X " O 24 d 50.40
 " O 24 c 90.90 to O 24 d 09.99

Ammunition Expended - records

S. C. I was not called for.

appx 8

Lieut
for C.C., 15th AM Gun Coy

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15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Intelligence Summary No.7.

From 6 a.m. 5th December to 6 a.m. 6th December 1917.

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APPENDIX 8

AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY

No. *Rec*

Date *5/12/17*

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Our Artillery was above normal during the twenty four hours. The Giant and Twins were engaged by the heavies from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and good shooting was observed. ONELET TR. in O.24.c. and O.30.a. was shelled consistently by the 18 pounders. BEEK and WAM FARMS received attention from the 60 pounders, and enemy lines in P.2.b. & d. were shelled by the 60 pounders, also. Throughout the night intermittent fire was maintained on enemy tracks and known positions.

(b) Patrols. See annexe.

(c) Machine Guns. Our Machine Guns were active and were engaged in harrassing fire on the following targets:-

O.24.c.50.25.

O.24.d.50.40.

O.18.c.6.0.

and Road O.36.b.20.80 to O.30.d.25.20.,

Road O.30.d.25.80 to O.30.b.2.2.

Road O.30.b.30.22. X Road O.24.d.5.4.

O.24.c.90.90. to O.24.d.09.99.

Expenditure 18,000 Rounds.

(d) Trench Mortars.

Our Trench Mortars were active throughout the night. Machine Gun positions in O.29.d.65.65. and O.29.d.60. were engaged with silencing effect. BEEK FARM, JULY FARM, RIFLE FARM, and WASP FARM and FLY BUILDINGS were fired on at irregular intervals.

At 11.30 p.m. enemy retaliated with 77s. on one of our mortars.

Expenditure 85 rounds.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING.

Enemy shelling was above normal throughout the period, Prince RUPERTS DUGOUTS, MANCHESTER STREET, OLGA TRENCH, and O.22.d.2. DELPORT FARM and DERRY HOUSE received only slight attention with 5.9s. and 77s. during the morning.

RAVINE WOOD and OLIVE TRENCH were shelled at irregular intervals, while ROSEBEKE VALLEY, GREEN WOOD, and ROSE WOOD were intermittently shelled with 5.9s. from P.14.a. and 77s. from HOUTHAM.

Those two batteries were silenced by our counter battery work.

MAHIEU FARM also received slight attention with 5.9s.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE

Infantry normal. Artillery aggressive, having shown increased activity over the sector.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

The enemy have again been seen in strong point around Pill Box O.17.d.35.95.

A Machine Gun is mounted for aerial defence at true bearing 61 degrees from O.27.d.90.65. in O.24.a or b. 1 man was observed standing beside the gun and on one occasion the gun opened fire on our planes.

RIFLE FARM is wired with at least four belts of wire and the fourth belt being in the course of either construction or being strengthened (see patrol report).

Enemy night post is suspected at O.11.d.65.85.

APPX 8



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6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Above normal. Enemy planes crossed our lines several times during the day and were active bombing our back areas throughout the night.

At 10.20 a.m. an E.A. flew at very low altitude over RAVINE WOOD and was driven off by our M.G. Fire.

At 10.50 a.m. an enemy plane was brought down near COMINES.

At 10.55 a.m. an E.A. was brought down near COMINES.

(a) Balloons.

The following Balloons were seen from 0.15.d.75.55. at true bearings :- 73, 143, 108, 70, 57, 56, and 63 degrees.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

Very isolated infantry movement.
Increased train movement.

7.45 a.m. two men walking in a North ealy direction entered Pillogrom Farm.

7.50 a.m. a men working near PILL FARM; man seen with serial defence M.G. near 0.24.a. Parties of 2 or 3 at intervals in vicinity of Pill Boxes 0.17.d.65.95.

The following train movements were observed.

10 a.m. a train from WERVICQ to TENBRIELEN.

11.5 a.m. a train in WERVICQ.

11.15 a.m. " " from WERVICQ to GHELUWE.

11.50 a.m. " " " " " TENBRIELEN.

12.0 noon " " " TENBRIELEN to WERVICQ.

1.50 p.m. " " " WERVICQ to GHELUWE.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

At 9.45 a.m. a large explosion was seen at GHELUVELT which burnt for 30 minutes.

Three small round balloons at a great height dropped papers over our line. These papers have been forwarded. It could not be ascertained whether balloon was dropped from aeroplane or automatically controlled.

State of Ground.

The ground is becoming frozen hard rendering NO MANS LAND very difficult to traverse as the ice breaks through in shell holes causing considerable noise.

9. LOCATIONS

Unchanged.

J. P. W. Jones
for Major.
Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

append 8

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15TH AUSTRALIAN APPENDIX	
No.
Date.....	8/12/14

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Patrol Report onnexe to Intelligence Summary No. 7.

Our patrols were active from 5.30 p.m. to dawn.

No.1 Patrol. For the purpose of reconnoitring RIFLE FARM 2 Officers and 7 O.R. moved from O.23.a.25.20 at 5 p.m., then in a Southeasterly direction until they reached O.23.c.95.90. Owing to the frequency of flares and consistant bursts of Machine Gun fire the patrol was unable to approach any closer to RIFLE FARM. They remained in this vicinity for xone hour but were unable to obtain any informstion and returned by the same route at 7 p.m.

No.2 Patrol. For the purpose of reconnoitring RIFLE FARM and securing any identification 2 Officers and 5 other ranks left O.23.a.25.20. at 9. p.m. This patrol moved in direction of O.23-Central. and then worked slightly South. Before reaching the hedge surrounding RIFLE FARM this patrol passed through three belts of enemy wire, the first being a low wide trip wire, the second strong and thick and the third a trip wire with a distance of some 40 yards between the first and third belts. On arriving at the hedge an enemy working party 20 to 30 strong were detected wiring on a large belt of wire just inside the hedge after waiting ten minutes the patrol fired a salvo of 14 Mills. bombs, and opened fire with rifles. The enemy retaliated with stick bombs, and flares were fired immediately, also a large ground flare. Our bombs burst well among the party and casualties were inflicted. Owing to the Machine Gun Fire and the large amount of wire both behind and in front of us it was impocible to proceed to obtain identification. There appeared to be only one Pill Box, in the vicinity. and it showed no traces of the recent bombardment. The patrol returned at 7 p.m. by the same route.

No.3 Patrol. For the purpose of reconnoitring WAMBEKE VALLEY / N.G.O. and four men at 10.25 p.m. proceeded from O.23.c.15.55. in a Southeasterly direction until reaching the WAMBEKE at O.23.c.3.2. thence in a easterly direction to cross roads O.23.c.8.2. then in a northerly direction for a hundred yards. The patrol remained in this position for half an hour and then returned in a direct line to O.23.c.15.25. They report no enemy movement, but M.G.Fire in BEEK FARM.

No.4 Patrol. To investigate enemy sap O.29.c.7.2. 1 Officer and 6 O.R. proceeded at 5 p.m. in a southeasterly direction to O.29.c.7.2. they found the sap to be unoccupied and lightly wired. The patrol remained in the sap for one hour then proceeded O.29.c.9.5. where they heard enemy wiring and voices and were subjected to heavy low M.G.fire. The patrol returned to O.29.c.05.50. at 7.30 p.m. Owing to the frozen state of the ground it was very difficult to travel in silence.

No.5 Patrol. For the purpose of reconnoitring the ground to and approaching the Giant O.12.c.4.7. a patrol of 1 Officer and 4 O.R. left our lines at Post O.11.d.25.80. at 6.30 p.m.

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COMPANY

APPENDIX 8

No. *1111*

Date *1/12/44*

No. 5 Patrol. Cont'd.

Patrol worked in a Southeasterly direction to metal road (in bad condition) at O.11.d.4.4. then proceeded up road to within ten yards of road junction at O.11.d.65.85. At this point the patrol was halted by an enemy sentry an attempt to work round the post failed owing to the nature of the ground so patrol withdrew and moved to a point O.11.d.9.3. As the ground was impassable the patrol returned to our line on the same route at 8.30 p.m. ~~The Twins were found to be surrounded by very thick wire~~ They report the ground to be frozen hard and owing to the breaking of ice movement was easily detected thus disclosing their position to the enemy.

No. 6 Patrol.

For the purpose of reconnoitring (a) the ground in front of our line (b) to observe the position and depth of enemy wire (c) to locate enemy posts in front of the Twins. The patrol moved in a Northeasterly direction to O.11.d.15.30. and followed the hedge to O.11.d.75.35. The ground as previously reported is practically impassable and movement causes considerable noise. The ground in vicinity of Twins is rough and covered with thick isolated patches of wire. No enemy posts were located nor traces of any movement observed. Suspected post at O.11.d.65.85. could not be definitely ascertained.

No. 7 Patrol.

For the purpose of locating enemy post. One Officer and three other ranks at 7.30 p.m. moved out from O.17.c.7.4. JUNCTION BUILDINGS thence in northerly direction to O.17.d.5.9. and remained at this point for an hour. Machine Gun fire from O.17.d.9.9. caused trouble. Patrol returned at 9.30 p.m. report no enemy movement.

Four patrols continuously patrolled the left centre Battalion frontage and report movement very difficult owing to the frozen nature of the ground. No enemy movement being observed but consistent Machine Gun fire.

[Handwritten Signature]
Major.
for/Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

appx 8

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15th 51
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
APPENDIX 6

15th
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
No. 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
Date 7.12.17

For Official Use Only.

From 6 a.m. 5th December -to- 6 a.m. 6th December 1917.

NOTE. Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Our artillery checked registrations and carried out bombardment of enemy strong points and trench mortar positions, and maintained harassing fire on enemy tracks and occupied areas. The following points were bombarded during the day :- KORTWILDE, PILLEGREMS FARM, PICKLE HOUSE, CORSE FARM, THE TWINS, THE GIANT, POLL HOUSE, EUREKA FARM and dugouts at V.1.a.28.55 and V.1.a.05.60. Between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m., and 2.30 a.m. and 6 a.m. UNBENT and UNABLE TRENCHES in U.12.a., U.6.a. and c., and O.36.a and c., Emplacements at O.36.a.7.7. and O.36.a.85.70 were kept under intermittent fire during the same period. FLY BUILDINGS, RIFLE, WAM and BEEH FIELDS, THE GIANT and POLL HOUSE were searched at frequent intervals during the night.

Trench Mortars. Right Brigade Stokes guns engaged enemy mine/worker at U.11.b.8.9. at 1.45 a.m. with good effect. Dugouts at U.5.d.95.30 to U.6.c.1.1. were engaged at 1.15 a.m. At 2.15 a.m. 20 rounds were fired along enemy outpost line from U.5.d.75.30 to U.11.b.85.85. At 2.40 a.m. 16 rounds were fired on each of U.5.d.8.0 and U.11.b.85.80. Between 5 and 5.30 a.m. 11 rounds were fired on U.5.d.95.30 to U.6.c.1.1., 20 rounds on trench at U.6.a.4.3 to U.12.a.4.5. and 21 rounds on U.5.d.75.30 to U.11.b.85.85. Left Brigade trench mortars engaged enemy machine gun positions at O.29.d.65.65 and O.29.d.60.30 with good effect. BEEH FARM, JULY FARM, RIFLE FARM, WHIZZ FARM and FLY BUILDINGS were fired on at irregular intervals.

Machine Guns. Our machine guns were active, and kept enemy roads, tracks and communications under harassing fire during the night. Enemy wire was swept at intervals.

Patrols. Patrol from Right Brigade were fired on at U.5.b.95.60 by the enemy who were apparently laying in wait for them. One man was wounded, and one is missing. - Strong patrol was sent out to locate the enemy, but no sign of the enemy could be found. Hostile machine gun in U.6.a. was silenced with hand and rifle grenades. Left Brigade patrols were very active throughout the night. Patrol left our lines at 9 p.m. at O.23.a.25.0 for the purpose of reconnoitring RIFLE FARM. The patrol moved in the direction of O.23. central and then working slightly South. Before reaching the hedge surrounding RIFLE FARM, 3 belts of enemy wire were passed; the first being a low trip wire, the second a strong and thick wire, and the third another trip wire. The distance between the first and the 3rd lines of wire is about 40 yards. On arriving at the hedge, an enemy working party from 20 to 30 strong was detected wiring on a large belt of wire, just inside the hedge. After waiting 10 minutes, patrol fired a salvo of 14 Mills bombs and opened fire with rifles. The enemy retaliated with stick bombs, and flares were fired immediately, also a large ground flare. Our bombs burst well among the party, and casualties were inflicted.

appx 8

Owing to the machine gun fire and the large amount of wire both behind and in front of our patrol it was impossible to proceed and make identifications. There appeared to be only one pill box in the vicinity, and it showed signs of having suffered from our recent bombardment. Our patrol returned by the same route to our lines, without any casualties.

A patrol moved out at 10.25 p.m. for the purpose of reconnoitring WAMBEKE Valley. Patrol proceeded from O.23.c.15.55 in a South-Easterly direction until reaching the WAMBEKE at O.23.c.3.2, then in an Easterly direction to cross roads at O.23.c.8.2, and then in a Northerly direction for about 100 yards where the patrol remained in position for half an hour, and then returned in direct line to O.23.c.15.25. Patrol reports no enemy movement, but machine gun fire in BEEK FARM.

A patrol went out to investigate sap at O.29.c.7.2 at 5 a.m. The sap was found to be unoccupied and lightly wired. Patrol was in the sap for an hour, and then proceeded to O.29.c.9.5. An enemy wiring party and voices were heard. Patrol came under heavy machine gun fire, and returned at 7.30 p.m.

A patrol left our lines at O.11.d.25.80 for the purpose of reconnoitring the point approaching THE GIANT O.12.c.4.7. Patrol worked in a South-easterly direction to road at O.11.d.4.4, then proceeded up the road to within 10 yards of road junction at O.11.d.65.85. At this point was halted by an enemy sentry. An attempt was made to work round the post, but failed owing to the nature of the ground. The patrol returned to our lines by the same route at 8.30 p.m.

A patrol left our lines with the object of locating enemy posts in front of THE TWINS. The patrol moved out from O.17.c.7.4 and moved in a Northerly direction to O.17.d.5.9, and remained at this point for an hour. Machine gun fire from O.17.d.9.9. was very active. Patrol returned at 9.40 p.m. and reported no enemy movement.

NOTE. Patrols report the ground to be frozen and hard, and owing to the breaking of ice, movement was easily detected.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING. Hostile artillery was occasionally active during the period, but generally fairly quiet.

Light scattered shelling is reported over the forward areas. Area U.4.c. and FANNYS C.T. at O.33.central came in for some shelling of 4.2" during the early part of the night. STEIGNAST FARM, BETHLEHEM FARM and ROAD were also occasionally shelled.

PRINCE RUPERT'S Dugouts, MANCHESTER STREET, OLGA TRENCH, DEERY HOUSE, and DELPORT FARM received a little attention occasionally during the morning.

RAVINE, GREEN and ROSE WOODS, OLIVE TRENCH and ROOZEBEKE Valley were intermittently shelled with 5.9" throughout the period. MAHIEU FARM also received slight attention from 5.9". Areas U.7., O.22., and O.29. came in for light shelling during the period.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy had again been seen in strong point at O.17.d.65.95. RIFLE FARM is well wired (see patrol report). Enemy night post is suspected at O.11.d.65.85.

Minenwerfer position located at O.36.e.70.75.

Machine gun position located at O.35.b.0.6.

A machine gun is mounted on anti-aircraft duty at a T.E. of 610 from O.27.d.90.65 in O.24.a. or b. A man was observed

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.

Date 7.12.17

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

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standing beside the gun, and on one occasion opened fire on our planes.

5. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Enemy aircraft crossed our lines several times during the day, and were active bombing back areas during the night.

At 10.20 a.m. enemy aircraft flying at a very low altitude was driven off by our machine gun fire.

At 10.50 a.m. one enemy machine was brought down near COMINES, and again at 10.55 a.m. another was brought down in the same vicinity.

Observation Balloons. Several enemy balloons were up during the day.

6. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Isolated movement was seen in the vicinity of PILLEGRAMS FARM at 7.45 a.m.

Some movement observed at 7.50 a.m. near PILL FARM in O.24.a.

Parties of 2 and 3 were seen at intervals during the day in the vicinity of pill boxes at O.17.d.65.95.

At 7.15 a.m. smoke from light railway observed in P.31.a.

At 7.45 a.m. several cases of movement were seen round LAKE FARM O.24.c.6.4.

7. MISCELLANEOUS. During the afternoon enemy sent over about 4 balloons each about 12' in diameter, from which propaganda papers appeared to be dropped automatically every 15 minutes.

(Copy of these papers has been forwarded).

PART II.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

AIR RECONNAISSANCE. German outpost in O.17.b.9.3.

BANG FARM appeared to be strongly protected and occupied. Outposts at O.18.a.2.4. and O.17.d.8.9 occupied; apparently strongly concreted and sandbagged.

At WHIZZ FARM in O.17.d., there appears to be no wire visible.

FLY BUILDINGS O.23.b.60.95 occupied, and earthworks, sandbags and concrete visible.

BEE FARM O.23.b.2.6 occupied.

All tracks to above mentioned outposts appear to be well worn, and new work is not evident.

WHIZZ FARM and FLY BUILDINGS appear to be strongly held.

MIDGE FARM O.24.a.65.10 is occupied, strongly reinforced, and covered by three belts of barbed wire. The wire is in good order and has apparently no opening to the outpost line. Trenches running through O.24.c., O.24.a., O.24.b., O.18.d., and O.18.b appear to be in good order, and strongly held.

APPX 8

Samuel Cable

Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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standing beside the car, and on one occasion opening the
of our plane.

HOSTILE AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY. Many aircraft crossed our line
several times during the day, and some active bombing
was carried out during the night.
At 10.30 a.m. enemy aircraft flying at a very low altitude
was observed by our fighters and shot down.
At 10.50 a.m. our fighters shot down another enemy aircraft
which was again at 10.55 a.m. a balloon was observed
in the same vicinity.
Several enemy balloons were up
during the day.

MOVEMENT AND OBSERVATION IN AND AROUND THE VICINITY OF
Government was seen in the vicinity of ELLENBOROUGH TANK at
7.45 a.m.
Some movement observed at 7.55 a.m. near TIPP TANK in
vicinity of B and C tanks soon as balloons during the day
in the vicinity of TIPP TANK at 0.17.4.55.55.
At 7.15 a.m. several light balloons observed in P.51.4.
At 7.20 a.m. several cases of movement were observed
at 7.30 a.m. several balloons were observed.

During the afternoon enemy came over about
balloons each about 12 in diameter, from which
propaganda papers appeared to be dropped and scattered
over the area.
Copy of these papers has been forwarded.

PART II

1-POSITION AND OTHER SOURCES

General outline in 0.17.4.55.
and was reported to be strongly protected and occupied.
positions at 0.15.4.55.4. and 0.15.4.55.5. occupied; apparently
heavily defended and manned.
of these tanks in 0.17.4.55.4. there appears to be no fire
positions.
BY ENEMY 0.25.4.55.4.55.4. occupied, and apparently
positions and concrete structures.
at 0.25.4.55.4.55.4. occupied.
all the above mentioned positions appear to be well
defended, and well manned.
positions and the buildings appear to be strongly defended.
positions at 0.25.4.55.4.55.4. is occupied, strongly defended,
and covered by three miles of wire. The area is
not under and appears to be open to the outside line.
positions at 0.25.4.55.4.55.4. 0.25.4.55.4. 0.25.4.55.4.
0.15.4.55.4. and 0.15.4.55.4. appear to be in good order, and strongly
defended.

Copy
W. J. ...
ST. ANTHONY'S DIVISION

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APPENDIX

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 am 6-14-17 to 6 am 7-12-17

APPENDIX

Date.....

OPERATIONS: Machine guns engaged in harrassing fire on the following targets:-
Road 0.24.a.87.46 to 0.24.a.99.52
0.24.c.90.90. to 0.24.H.10.99
0.24.c.5.4.
0.24.a.50.25.
0.24.a.5.4.

Ammunition expended - 13,750 rounds.

S.O.S. was not called for.

Lieut.
For O. C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

Appx 9

APPENDIX 9

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Intelligence Summary No.8.

From 6 a.m. 6th December to 6 a.m. 7th December.



1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery.

Our artillery was above normal. BEEK FARM, WAMM FARM and RIFLE FARM were shelled intermittently by 6" guns from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and BAB FARM, O.23.d.6.9., was heavily shelled by the heavies and 18 pounders. OMELET Trench was shelled with 6" and shrapnel at irregular intervals and TROUT FARM also received heavy shelling, while FLY BUILDINGS and JULY FARM were consistently shelled throughout the day. Several direct hits were obtained on the former but damage appeared to be slight. Intermittent fire was carried out on enemy tracks and approaches throughout the night.

(b) Patrols.

The usual patrol activity was maintained special attention being given to RIFLE FARM.

No.1 Patrol.

For the purpose of reconnoitring RIFLE FARM and ambushing enemy post, a fighting patrol of two Officers and 20 O.R. moved out at 4.45 p.m. from picquet line O.23.c.15.63. The patrol moved in a North-easterly direction until reaching position O.23.c.1.9, where they were subjected to heavy rifle fire. Here the enemy were engaged with Mills grenades, Rifle and Lewis Gun fire. The enemy retaliated with machine gun fire. The patrol extended and endeavoured to surround the position and succeeded in penetrating two belts of wire (wire in good order) but the remaining two belts prevented any further advance. As the patrol had expended their ammunition and bombs they were forced to return. Heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy who appeared to be very alert. Enemy casualties estimated 15 to 20. The patrol report, four belts of wire round RIFLE FARM and at least four M.G.'s. in the Pill Box. Intervening ground was very difficult to traverse.

No.2 Patrol.

For the purpose of ascertaining the result of bombardment on FLY BUILDINGS, One Officer and two O.R. moved out from WALL FARM at 4.15 p.m. and travelled on the following route O.17.c.90.05. - O.17.d.1.1. - O.23.b.1.9. - O.23 .b.30.95. - O.23.a.9.8. thence returning to picquet line.

The patrol reports FLY BUILDINGS being strongly wired with irregular belts of French wire, well concealed and in places overgrown with grass.

Enemy movement was observed in and around field O.23.b.4.7.

The patrol were fired on by M.G. from O.17.d.4.2. & flares fired from a post in O.24.b.30.75.

FLY BUILDINGS have been damaged but could not be sufficiently approached to ascertain the extent, as wire presents a serious obstacle.

Three patrols from the right and left flank Battalion patrolled NO MANS LAND continuously from 6.30 p.m. to dawn and report enemy attitude to be very quiet. There is a consistent use of flares from various points.

FLY BUILDINGS, RIFLE FARM, WAMM FARM & BEEK FARM are certainly the centres of all activity.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.	
No.	7/13/17
Date	

(c) Machine Gun.

Our M.G.s. were above normal during the twenty four hours.

Enemy low flying planes were driven back by our fire.

Enemy party moving from Pill Box in vicinity of Front Farm were fired on several casualties being inflicted. The following targets were harrassed from 4.30 p.m. to dawn:-

SPUD FARM O.18.b. and
Road running through same.

PILLEGREMS FARM O.24.A. - POLL HOUSE O.18.a. -
Rd.O.24. .9.9. to O.24.d.1.9. O.24.c.5.4. - O.24.a.5.2.
and known enemy posts and approaches.

Expenditure of Ammunition 24,000 rounds.

(d) Trench Mortars.

The trench mortars engaged enemy posts and M.G's. and were particularly successful in silencing the latter. A Machine Gun at O.29.b.10.45. was also silenced with two shells.

RIFLE FARM & FLY BUILDINGS, were shelled at irregular intervals,

The expenditure of ammunition being 90 rounds.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS.

Prisoner who wandered into our lines in O.23.b. belonged to the 7th Coy., 93 I.R. This identification is normal.

3. ENEMY SHELLING.

Enemy artillery was not so active as in the preceding 24 hours. Olive Trench and Ravine Wood only receiving slight attention, while WALL FARM, TORREKEN CORNER, and vicinity of VERNE DUMP O.21.c. was only lightly shelled with 77s. firing from the direction of WERVICQ. The Right Battalion front line was also shelled with 77s. at intervals during the day and night. A few gas shells fell in WYTSCHAETE at O.19.c. about 11 a.m. At 4.30 p.m. DERRY HOUSE and vicinity was shelled with 5.9, H.E., and gas shells.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Quiet. Both infantry and artillery were normal.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Machine gun post located at O.29.b.05.30. This is apparently only a night post. Four M.G's were located in RIFLE FARM (see Patrol report) surrounded by at least 4 belts of wire. Enemy anti-aircraft M.G. located at FARM HOUSE O.18.c.45.85.

6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY.

E.A's were particularly active between 7 and 8 a.m. A Plane at a very low altitude over our left flank Battalion front line, was driven off by Machine Gun fire. A few planes attempted to cross our lines at intervals during the day, but were driven back by anti-aircraft. Odd planes flying at very high altitude succeeded in crossing our lines during the night and bombed our back areas.

Balloons.

Enemy observation balloons in direction of COMINES and KORTEWILDE were seen during the morning.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.	
No.	7/17/17
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7. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

Visibility was bad owing to ground mist. A small party were seen using shovels at Pill Box, and at 7.30 a.m. another party of 6 men working in rear of OMELET TRENCH; Movement again seen at Pill Boxes O.17.d.65.95. Isolated individual movement was noticed throughout the period.

Signalling.

Red lamp was signalling from HOUTHEN CHURCH at intervals of about an hour throughout the night. Enemy made consistent use of white flares.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

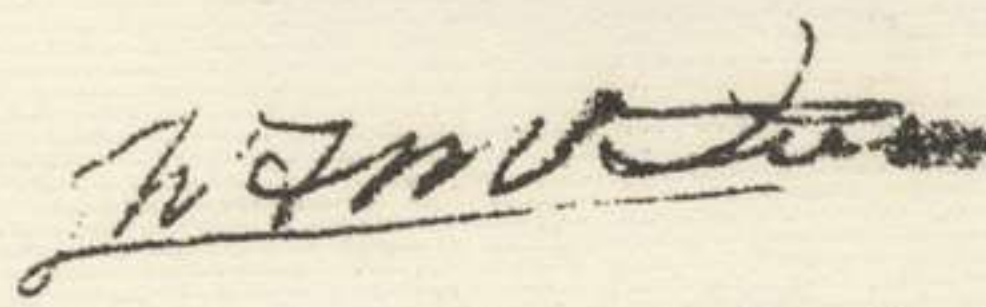
Several papers printed in English dropped from German Balloons have been found in vicinity of OOSTTAVERNE WOOD. These papers refer to the enemy advance in ITALY.

State of Ground.

Patrols report NO MANS LAND to be frozen hard and very difficult to traverse.

9. LOCATIONS.

Unchanged.



Lieut.
for Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
 No.....
 Date.....

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
 APPENDIX 9

CONTINUATION of Examination of Prisoner belonging to 7th Co. 93rd I.R. 8th Division, captured about 7 a.m. 7th December 1917 at 28 O.23.a.9.5.

1. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Wire. Prisoner thought that the whole outpost line was protected by a wire belt 15 to 20 feet across. He had himself been along it S. to about the centre of the 6th Co. sector. Height of the wire varied, but it was in parts sunken. It was thickest in front of the post occupied by prisoner.

Enemy Outpost. About O.23.b.35.50. Prisoner gave a detailed description of this post and identified it on the map. His identification is apparently reliable. The post is a deserted gun position consisting of a wooden roof on four uprights. It is quite unfortified but screened by a hedge about 15 yards in front (BEE FARM). Immediately in front of it there is a waterlogged pill box, now quite unusable. Tiles and bricks are lying around.

The position is the most advanced post in this part of the line. The garrison consists of one N.C.O. and 8 men armed with rifles (there are also a few bombs about) and a light machine gun with a crew of 5 men. At present however the garrison is increased by the addition of another group of 9 men, who should be in close support. As their pill box is untenable they have come forward into the outpost.

At night two men go to a shell hole about 30 yards on the right flank and in rear, another two go left a similar distance but not so far in rear. The light machine gun delivers harassing fire at intervals.

South of the post there is a gap of at least 200 yards to the next post, manned by the 6th Co.

Prisoner also described the position held by the minenwerfer Co., and placed it about 150 yards in rear of this post on the right flank. This location however seems very improbable. Details are as follows:-

The position is a trench about 50 yards long lying mainly north of the road (in O.23.b.(?)) but extending about 5 yards across it. There is a pill box built into the trench about 15 yards from the right end and a wooden shelter at the other end. The MW.Co. Comdr. was in the pill box.

The light MW's. stand on their circular iron bases, without further emplacement, but the medium have also concrete slabs. There are also Lanz.Mw. ("pigeon" throwers) in the trench.

2. CARRYING PARTIES.

Reserve Companies in HOUTHEM supply parties carrying forward to the dump at O.24.b.25.50. Tracks used as shown on trench map HOUTHEM. Two shifts per night starting regularly at 11 p.m. and 4 a.m. (German time). Journey there and back lasts about an hour.

3. PIONEER COMPANY of 93rd I.R.

This company is about 120 strong, and is composed of older and "garrison duty" men from all battalions. It is generally used behind the line, on wiring, trench digging, road repairs, salvage duties, etc. Individuals act as runners. The company also holds the position of regimental reserve. On the 7th instant, when it suffered casualties from our fire, it was right forward engaged on wiring.

4. OFFICERS NAMES 93rd Inf. Regt.

Commander: Major PAULUS.
 6th Coy. 93rd I.R. Lieut. FRIEDRICH.
 A new "little Major" arrived some days ago to command the 2nd Bn.

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5. RATIONS. One 5 lb. loaf to 2 men per day. Six mess tins are taken to the field kitchen to get the hot ration for 9 men - a lot is spilt on the road, and the soup arrives icy cold. A ration of spirits and tea with rum are issued on alternate days.

6. OTHER UNITS. Prisoner had seen the 2nd Bav. R.I.F. and the 103rd and 177th Regts. while in rest. The latter two he saw in BOUS BECQUE less than a week ago. Electrical Detachment (STROM-ABTEILUNG). One of these is located in VANDERBEEK, 28, Q.29.a. Prisoner had helped to put up posts for a new wire-line from this farm parallel to and behind the trench in Q.29.b.d.

7. WAR DEFENCES. The PASSCHENDAELE - TERHAND line in 28, Q.29.b.d. is only about one metre deep, not revetted or duckboarded. The wire is about 18 feet across, on iron picquets.

8. GENERAL. There is a general expectation of peace before Christmas. Hopes are centred on the armistice with some of the RUSSIAN troops, but prisoner is sceptical of real results. Conditions seem to him too unstable for definite negotiation to be possible.

TROOPS CONCERT PARTIES. There is a concert hall at BOUS BECQUE. Performances (comedy and musical) are given by men detached from their units for the purpose. Admission one penny.

-----000-----

South of the post there is a gap of at least 200 yards to the next post, manned by the 8th Co. Prisoner also described the position held by the mine-warrior Co. and placed it about 150 yards in rear of this post on the right flank. This position however seems very impracticable. Details are as follows:-

The position is a trench about 50 yards long lying mainly north of the road (in Q.29.b.d.?) and extending about 8 yards across it. There is a pill box built into the trench about 15 yards from the right end and a wooden shelter at the other end. The NW corner was in the pill box.

The light MW's stand on their circular iron bases, without further emplacement, but the medium have also concrete slabs. There are also land mines ("pigfoot" throwers) in the trench.

2. CARRYING PARTIES. Reserve Companies in NORTHERN supply parties carry in forward to the dump at O.24.b.25.20. Tracks used as shown in trench map NORTHERN. The shifts for night starting regularly at 11 p.m. and 4 a.m. (German time). Journey there and back lasts about an hour.

3. PIONEER COMPANY of 2nd I.R. This company is about 120 strong and is composed of clear and "garrison duty" men from all battalions. It is generally used behind the line, on wiring, trench digging, road repairs, salvage duties, etc. Individuals act as reserves. The company also holds the position of regimental reserve. On the 7th instant, when it suffered casualties from our fire, it was right forward engaged on wiring.

4. OFFICERS' MESS 23rd Inf. Regt. Commander: Major FAUBUS. 2nd Coy. 23rd I.R. Lieut. FRIEDRICH. A new "little mess" arrived some days ago to command the 2nd Inf.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 am 7-12-17 to 6 am 8-12-17.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
No. APPENDIX
Date

OPERATIONS: Machine guns engaged in harrassing fire on
following targets: 0.24.d.50.40.; 0.24.c.50.99.;
0.24.c.78.02.; 0.30.d.05.00.;
0.30.c.95.50.; 0.30.a.78.48.;
0.30.b.45.29.
Road 0.24.a.15.85.

Ammunition expended - 12,000 rounds.

S.O.S. was not called for.

MISCELLANEOUS: Fire. A fire was observed, burning fiercely,
approximately due East of 0.23.c.18.87, at 8 p.m. on 7-12-17.

Captain,
O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

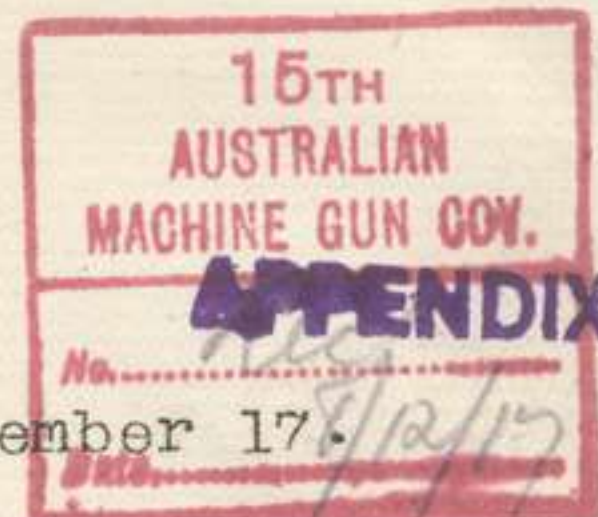
Appendix 10

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15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Intelligence Summary No.9.

From 6 a.m. 7th December to 6 a.m. 8th December 1917.



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1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery.

Our artillery continued the usual activity, particular attention being given to FLY BUILDINGS, BEEK FARM and RIFLE FARM. Good shooting was registered on FLY BUILDINGS from 10 to 11 a.m.

Our heavies and 18 pounders intermittently shelled RIFLE FARM & BEEK FARM.

Square 12.b. was kept under searching fire and OMELET TRENCH also received attention throughout the day from our 18 pounders. The heavies were engaged on back areas particularly COMINES and vicinity.

At irregular intervals throughout the night fired on enemy tracks and approaches.

(b) Patrols.

Our patrols were active but owing to extreme darkness observation was difficult.

No.1.Patrol.

For the purpose of reconnoitring FLY BUILDINGS and wire, 1 N.C.O. and two men moved at 11 p.m. from our line at approximately O.23.a.95.90. Moving in an easterly direction to a point O.23.b.30.95. and remaining in this position for one hour. Enemy movement could be heard and torch flashes seen at FLY BUILDINGS. From this position the patrol moved in a northerly direction along enemy wire which they report to be strong and intact. No gaps being found. The patrol returned to place of departure in our line at 2 a.m.

No.2 Patrol.

For the purpose of locating enemy patrols, a patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 4 men left O.11.d.25.80 at 7.30 p.m. & moved in a southeasterly direction along hedge to Road at O.11.d.4.6. then down Road to post O.11.d.05.25. In returning the patrol made a good detour into NO MANS LAND but no enemy patrols were encountered.

No.3 Patrol.

For the purpose of reconnoitring WAMBEKE VALLEY a patrol of 1 Officer and 4 O.R. left our line at O.23.c.15.55. at 3.20 a.m. and then moved in a southeasterly direction to bend in road at O.23.c.4.4., thence in a southerly direction along the Road until reaching the WAMBEKE which they followed in an easterly direction to O.23.c.8.2., remaining there for half an hour. The patrol returned in a direct line to point of departure.

They report no trace of enemy and NO MANS LAND to be very quiet.

The Right Battalion patrols continuously traversed NO MANS LAND from 6.45 p.m. to 4.30 a.m. and maintained communication with the flank units. They report enemy attitude to be very quiet, no enemy being encountered or movement heard.

(c) Machine Guns.

The usual activity was maintained. Enemy planes attempting to cross our line were successfully driven off by M.G. Fire.

Throughout the night M.G. were engaged in harrassing fire on the following targets:- X roads in O.18.b., POLL HOUSE O.18.a.75.55., Bridge over Canal O.12.b., HOLLEBEKE CHAU., O.24.d.5.4., O.24.c.78.02., O.30.c.95.50., O.30.b.45.29. and O.30.d.05.00.

Total expenditure of ammunition 18,000 rounds.

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15TH.
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COV.

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(d) TRENCH MORTARS.

The trench mortars were successful in silencing enemy M.G.guns at 0.29.d.60.80, - 0.23.d.45.50. - and 0.29.b.15.65.

FLY BUILDINGS, RIFLE FARM, and the TWINS were fired on at irregular intervals. An enemy working party at 0.23.b.5.2. was dispersed by our fire just approaching dark.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS.

Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING.

Enemy shelling has been below normal throughout the period. 0.27.d.- 0.34.a. - and 0.16.a.- were lightly shelled with 4.2s and H.E.

A few gas shells fell round PRINCE RUPERTS dugouts. The enemy shelling was very distributed with no concentrated fire.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Both artillery and infantry below normal.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Enemy post is suspected at 0.17.d.65.95. Enemy M.G. at 0.29.b.05.30. did not fire during the night. (this gun was particularly active on previous night). Enemy party seen repairing FLY BUILDINGS at 8 p.m. and were fired on by our trench mortars. Trench Mortars. Nil.

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Occasional planes attempted to cross our lines but were driven off by our M.G. fire and Anti-Aircraft fire.

Balloons. Nil.7. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

Visibility was very low owing to the hazy atmosphere thus rendering observation very difficult. Individual movement was observed at Pill Farm 0.24.a.4.3. Enemy movement observed at enemy Aerial Defence MG. at the bearing 61 degrees true from 0.27.d.90.65. Five men were observed at suspected enemy post 0.17.d.65.95; two men were seen apparently repairing telephone wire at 0.18.d.50.05.

Signalling.

At 2.30 p.m. enemy was signalling with a red lamp in direction of HOUTHEM, and at 4.45 p.m. signalling with a lamp from direction of SQUARE FARM.

Flares.

Enemy made consistent use of white flares throughout the night, and occasional red flares bursting into two stars were fired without apparent result.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

Our artillery caused a fire which burnt for about two hours in vicinity of HOUTHEM.

9. LOCATIONS.

Unchanged.

[Signature]
Lieut.
for Brigade Major
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

APPX 10

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY. 63
APPENDIX 10

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
No.....
Date.....

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 7th December - to - 6 2.m. 8th December 1917.

NOTE. Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Our artillery was very active throughout the period, carrying out bombardment programmes, maintaining harassing fire and checking registrations. Special attention was paid to PILL FARM - PILLEGRIMS FARM Area, the strong points themselves, pill boxes and trenches in the vicinity having received concentration bombardments at 6.15 p.m. and 9 p.m. A concentration was put down on strong points at 0.29.b.60.85, to which many tracks lead, at 11.30 p.m., and at 4.20 a.m. a similar concentration was fired on SQUARE FARM area. Other points bombarded were ANGLE FARM and T.M. positions in vicinity of KINGSCLERE. Harassing fire was maintained on FLY BUILDINGS, RIFLE and JULY FARMS, Wood at U.6.d.2.8, KIFI, SUBURB and SHINDY VILLAS, pill box at 0.18.a.7.4. COPSE FARM, FORT BUILDINGS, Lock 4 and KORTEVILDE. Roads and tracks used by the enemy have also been searched at irregular intervals. Wire was cut between 0.36.c. 15.15 and 0.36.c.00.35 by 4.5" Hows. Heavy artillery engaged strong points in support area during the day. TRENCH MORTARS. Our 6" Newton T.M. cut lanes in enemy wire at U.6.a.35.75 and U.6.a.35.25 and bombarded trench systems and M.G. positions to a depth of 200 yards in vicinity. Damage was done to trenches and points named. A hostile minenwerfer which opened in reply from approximately 0.36.c.75.05 was engaged and silenced. LIGHT T.M.'s. Right Brigade fired on M.G. positions and silenced a M.G. at 0.36.a.25.25. Gaps made in enemy wire by 6" Newton T.M. and artillery were registered during the day and night. Left Brigade silenced machine guns at 0.29.d.60.80, 0.29.b.15.65 and 0.23.d.45.50. FLY BUILDINGS, RIFLE FARM, and THE TWINS were fired on at irregular intervals. Enemy working parties dispersed at 0.23.b.5.2. MACHINE GUNS. Harassing fire during the night on set targets, roads tracks, etc. PATROLS . Active on left brigade front. Few sent out on the right owing to inter-battalion relief. Extreme darkness interfered with observation. For the purpose of reconnoitring FLY BUILDINGS and wire one N.C.O. and two men moved out at 11 p.m. from our line at approximately 0.23.a.95.90. They moved east to a point 0.23.b.30.95 remaining here for one hour. Enemy movement and flashes of torches could be seen at FLY BUILDINGS. Enemy wire was followed in a northerly direction and reported to be strong and intact. No gaps were found. Other patrols reported NO MAN'S LAND to be very quiet.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Further examination of prisoner of 7th Co. 93 I.R. captured 8/12/17 contained in an annexe to this summary.

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3. ENEMY SHELLING.

Below normal. STINKING FARM and the DOUVE VALLEY shelled by 5.9 at 5.20 a.m. from direction WARNETON. HUNS' WALK was heavily shelled by 5.9 H.E. from COMINES (V.4.c.9.5) at 11.45 a.m. about 200 rounds were counted.

During the morning U.4.d and U.5.c were intermittently shelled by 4.2" Hows and 77 mm's. STEIGNAST FARM received 20 rounds of 4.2 Hows. from BAS WARNETON at 2 p.m.

Light shelling by 4.2's and 5.9's was distributed over left brigade at various times during the day.

A few gas shells fell round PRINCE RUPERT'S DUGOUT. (020.b.)

MINENWERFER. 12 heavy minenwerfers were fired on our trenches at 0.35.central from about 0.36.a.65.70. Medium minenwerfer fired from KIWI FARM on our trenches at 0.35.d. during the day.

4. ENEMY DENENCES.

Enemy post suspected at 0.17.d.65.95 (movement seen). Description of enemy post at approximately 0.23.a.35.f.6's contained in prisoner's evidence in the annexe to this summary.

Machine Gun at 0.29.b.05.30 did not fire during the night (particularly active on the previous night).

Enemy trenches damaged by our bombardment at U.6.a.45.25 and U.6.a.35.75. Wire was cut at these points, and also from 0.36.c.15.15 to 0.36.c.00.35.

Enemy party seen repairing FLY BUILDINGS at 8 p.m. Fired on by our Trench Mortars.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Quiet. Minenwerfer active on the right brigade.

6. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Six enemy seen outside our wire at 4.35 a.m. at about 0.35.d.9.3. Individual movement at PILL FARM (0.24.a). Movement seen at enemy A.A. M.G. on a true bearing of 61° from 0.27.d.90.65.

NOTE: The bearing as given coincides exactly with that of the pillbox at 0.24.a.97.50 from the point of observation. This pillbox was reported yesterday by prisoner to be an A.A. station.

7. SIGNALLING. At 4.30 p.m. signalling with a red lamp was noticed from the direction of HOUTHEM; and at 4.45 p.m. from direction of SQUARE FARM.

White flares were used consistently throughout the night, one of which landed behind our lines and burnt for over a minute.

Occasional red flares, bursting into two stars were fired without result.

8. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Enemy machines over right brigade lines at 1.p.m. and 1.20a.m. Driven off by A.A. fire.

W. Robinson
Capt for
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff, 5th Australian Division.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 am 8-12-17 to 6 am 9-12-17.

15th
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.....

Date.....

APPENDIX.

OPERATIONS: Machine guns engaged in harrassing fire on the following targets:

	0.24.c.20.90.	to	0.24.d.10.99.
Trench	0.24.a.40.40.	to	0.24.a.30.47.
Kivi Farm	0.36.c.6.6.		0.30.d.05.00
	0.30.c.95.50.;		0.30.a.78.48.
Pifle Farm	0.30.b.45.29.		
	0.23.d.1.9.		

Ammunition Expended - 14,500 rounds.

S.O.S. was not called for.

Captain,
O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

appx 11.

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15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Intelligence Summary No.10.

From 6 a.m. 8th December to 6 a.m. 9th December 17.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

APPENDIX.

No.
Date

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery.

Our artillery was not as active as in the previous 24 hours but consistent slow fire was maintained on enemy communications and centres of movement. KORTEWILDE, HOUTHEI, and COMINES, were searched by the heavies and FLY BUILDINGS, RIFLE FARM, SQUARE FARM, O.30.b.5.2. received attention by our 18 pounders at irregular intervals.

At 3.15 a.m. a five minutes shoot was carried out on RIFLE FARM, this was followed by a box barrage for 10 minutes when the fire was again directed to RIFLE FARM. At 8.15 p.m. fire was again concentrated on RIFLE FARM.

Throughout the night the usual intermittent fire was maintained on enemy trenches and approaches..

(b) Patrols.

The usual patrol activity was maintained throughout the night, but owing to extreme darkness movement was very difficult and observation rendered impossible.

No.1. Patrol.

One N.C.O. and 2 men continuously patrolled NO MANS LAND in front of Right Battalions lines but no enemy movement was observed.

No.2. Patrol.

For the purpose of reconnoitring WAMBEEK VALLEY, one Officer and 3 O.R.'s. left O.23.c.15.55. at 5 p.m. The patrol moved in a southeasterly direction until reaching WAMBEEK O.23.c.5.2. then in an easterly direction to Road Junction at O.23.c.9.2. where they remained for half an hour, then returned by a detour to O.23.c. Central place of departure. They report NO MANS LAND to be very quiet, no movement being observed and experienced difficulty owing to the darkness.

No.3. Patrol.

For the purpose of reconnaissance a patrol of one N.C.O. and two men moved out from our lines O.17.c.75.35 at 4.45 p.m. and proceeded in an easterly direction for about 150 yds. where they reached enemy wire which they followed to approx. O.23.b.1.8., thence to O.23.a.90.85 and returned to our line at point of departure at 6.15 p.m. The patrol report M.G. activity at FLY BUILDINGS, otherwise enemy attitude very quiet.

No.4. Patrol.

A reconnoitring patrol of 1 N.C.O. and three men moved out from O.17.c.75.35 at 11 p.m. and proceeded to O.17.a.9.1. and patrolled the whole frontage to O.23.a.90.85 returning at 2.45 a.m.

The patrol report M.G. position at O.17.d.7.6. and a Minnewerfer firing near Pill Box at O.17.b.6.2. Flash of this mortar was very conspicuous.

No.5. Patrol.

For the purpose of locating enemy and securing a prisoner a fighting patrol of 1 Officer and 9 other ranks moved out from post 2 O.11.(O.11.d.2.7) at 7 p.m.

The patrol followed the line of trees from post 2. O.11. across the road and then due east to approximately O.11.d. 8.7.. After searching this locality and failing to find any enemy posts, the patrol moved in direction of the Twins, but were unable to get beyond Rd. Junction O.11.d.70.85. on account of heavy enemy wire, so patrol returned to our line at O.11.d.2.7. at 11.15 p.m. The patrol report no enemy encountered but hammering and movement of iron bars was heard from vicinity of Twins. M.G.'s were not active.

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(c) Machine Guns.

Our Machine Guns were active throughout the period. Hostile party at 0.17.b.90.30. were dispersed by our fire (casualties claimed).

Enemy tracks and approaches were swept continuously and the following targets were harassed:-

SPUD, MURPHY, and FAT FARM and road running through 0.18.b., enemy tramway system 0.24.a and b., road leading to bridge 0.12.b., KIVI & RIFLE FARM, trench 0.24.a.40.40 to 0.24.e.80.40., 0.24.c.20.90. to 0.24.d.15.95.

Expenditure of ammunition 24,000 rounds.

(d) Trench Mortars. Active.

In accordance with artillery operations the trench mortars fired on RIFLE FARM at 6.15 p.m.

M.G. at 0.29.d.4.6. was silenced with 3 rounds. This M.G. did not open fire again during the night.

BEEK FARM, FLY BUILDINGS, THE TWINS, and M.G. position 0.29.a.8.3. were fired on at irregular intervals.

Total expenditure of ammunition 200 rounds.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS Nil.3. ENEMY SHELLING.

Enemy artillery was exceptionally quiet throughout the 24 hours. WATBECK VALLEY 0.22.c. to 0.22.a. received slight attention from 5.9s. firing from direction of COMINES. The vicinity of ORANGE TRENCH and GUN FARM in 0.27.c. was lightly shelled with 77s and 4.2s. WALL FARM also received slight shelling with 77s from battery firing from direction of HOUTHEN.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Both artillery and infantry below normal.

Enemy feebly retaliated to our bombardment of RIFLE FARM.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Enemy M.G.'s appeared to be alert, although inactive. A new line of camouflage 300 yards long, has been erected along Road north of SQUARE FARM 0.30.b.5.2. The northern end has not been completed only the upper half having been erected.

Enemy infantry post located at 0.17.b.25.50.

TRENCH MORTARS.

Enemy fired 15 rounds from a light trench mortar in vicinity of RIFLE FARM. These shots fell short in NO MANS LAND.

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

E.A.'s were not active.

At 2 p.m. an E.A. flying at a very high altitude crossed our line but was driven back by Anti-aircraft.

Balloons.

Enemy balloons were up all day at true bearings 90° and 115° from 0.15.d.75.55.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

Individual movement was observed at PILGRIMS FARM; man with broad white band on his arm entered SQUARE FARM at 11.55 a.m.; two men with light blue uniforms (apparently new) entered Pill Box 200 yds. north of Square Farm. Isolated parties of two or three were again, seen throughout the day at enemy post 0.17.d.65.95. Enemy observer was seen on top of Pill Box BAB FARM. Smoke was also seen rising from this position.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
APPENDIX II
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 No. _____
 Date _____

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT Cont'd.

The following train movements were observed:-
 11.20 am. train from COMINES to WERVICQ.
 11.30 a.m. " moving towards WERVICQ.
 11.40 am. " from LANVORDE to TENBRIELEN.
 12.0 noon " GHELUVE to TENBRIELEN.
 12.30 p.m. " " " "
 12.50 p.m. " MENIN to WERVICQ.
 2.45 p.m. " GHELUVE to TENBRIELEN.
 1.50 p.m. " COMINES to WERVICQ.
 2.50 p.m. " MENIN to WERVICQ.
 3.0 p.m. " WERVICQ to GHELUVE.

Signalling.

Lamp signalling at 4 p.m. from COMINES.

Flares.

Double red flares were fired from vicinity of where enemy shots fell short.
 Enemy made constant use of white flares throughout the night.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

A very bright light apparently 6 jets of brilliant white flame lasting for about 12 minutes was seen at true bearing 77 degrees from O.22.d.90.66.

State of Ground.

The ground in NO MANS LAND is now dry and firm (since patrol reported this rain has fallen).

9. LOCATIONS. Unchanged.

W. J. ...
 Major.
 for Brigade Major.
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

appx //

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 am 10-12-17 to 6 am 11-12-17



OPERATIONS: Machine guns engaged in harrassing fire on the following targets:

- 0.24. a. 15.85.
- 0.36. a. 75.65
- 0.30. d. 24.90.
- 0.30. b. 20.18.
- 0.24. d. 50.40.
- 0.24. c. 60.40.
- 0.24. c. 30.05.
- 0.24. c. 15.50.
- 0.24. c. 30.65

Ammunition expended 11,750 rounds.

S.O.S. was not called for.

Captain,
O. C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

Appx 12

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15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Intelligence Summary No. 11.

From 6 a.m. 9th Dec. to 6 a.m. 10th December 1917.



1. OPERATIONS.

(a) ARTILLERY

The usual artillery activity was maintained. From 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. RIFLE & BEEK FARMS were shelled by our 4.5s and 6" guns; good shooting was registered. From 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. FLY BUILDINGS, RIFLE FARM, and WAM FARM were engaged by the 18 pounders and heavies. OMELET TRENCH in O.30.a. was intermittently shelled with 18 pounders. The TWINS and GIANT were also kept under fire at irregular intervals. In response to message from front line stating enemy relief was in progress at FLY BUILDINGS our artillery concentrated fire on that position.

Throughout the night enemy approaches and centres of activity were kept under intermittent fire.

(b) PATROLS.

Our patrols were active through the night but the extreme darkness prevented observation of enemy movement.

No. 1 Patrol.

A reconnoitring patrol of 1 Officer and 2 O.R. moved out from our line O.17.c.6.4. and proceeded to O.23.b.80.20. where they reached enemy wire; then in a northerly direction to O.17.b.2.3., returning in a direct line to our picquet. The patrol report NO MANS LAND to be very quiet; voices were heard at FLY BUILDINGS and O.17.b.6.2.

Enemy wire is a rough apron type and damaged in places

No. 2 Patrol.

A reconnoitring patrol of 1 N.C.O. and two men moved out from our line at O.17.c.6.4 at 12.45 a.m. and proceeded towards FLY BUILDINGS. On nearing objective two enemy parties of about 8 men each in single file were observed approaching FLY BUILDINGS. The patrol returned at once and reported this to O.C. front line, who informed artillery and Stokes Mortars that relief was in progress. Good shooting was observed by both artillery and Stokes Mortars.

The patrol further report Minnenwerfer firing at O.17.b.2.3. and the ground wet and slippery and difficult to traverse.

No. 3. Patrol.

A reconnoitring patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left post 2. D.11. (O.11.d.25.80) at 5.30 p.m., and proceeded to Road O.11.d.65.80 then along hedge O.11,d.95.85, O.11.b.9.0., O.11.b.98.30., O.11.b.95.27., O.12,a,25.20, then along hedge and returned to post 5. O.11 (O.11,b,9,4.)

No enemy movement was seen, and machine guns were inactive.

No. 4 Patrol.

A reconnoitring patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left post 3. O.11.(O.11.b.4.1.) at 10.30 p.m., and proceeded south to hedge O.11.d.45.30 and returned to post 1. O.11(O.11.d.05.25) at 11.50 p.m. They report NO MANS LAND very quiet, and Machine Guns inactive.

No. 5 Patrol.

For the purpose of reconnoitring WAMBEEK VAILEY a patrol of 1 Officer and 3 O.R's. moved out from O.23.c.15.55 at 5 p.m.

They moved southeasterly until reaching WAMBEEK at O.23.c. 5.2. then easterly to Road Junction O.23.c.85.25, here they remained for half an hour. The patrol worked north wards along Road to O.23.c.75.40 then in direct line to place of departure.

They report enemy attitude exceptionally quiet.

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15th
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
No.
Date 10/12/17

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15th
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No. 6 Patrol.

The right Battalion patrols continuously patrolled NO NAYS LAND, and maintained communication with flank units throughout the night. They report enemy very quiet. Movement difficult.

(c) MACHINE GUNS. Active.

Enemy tracks, approaches, and centres of activity in O.12 and 24 were particularly harassed from 6 p.m. to dawn. Fire was also concentrated on FLY BUILDINGS, in response to report of relief being in progress.
Expenditure of ammunition 28,000 rounds.

(d) TRENCH MORTARS.

A Machine Gun O.29.d.2.9 was successfully silenced. Observers report direct hit on M.G. O.29.a.95.40. During enemy relief mortars were directed on FLY BUILDINGS.
The TWINS was shelled at irregular intervals.
Expenditure of ammunition 90 rds.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS Nil.3. ENEMY SHELLING.

Enemy shelling was below normal. WALL FARM, PIONEER LAKE O.16.c., and OMEGA TRENCH O.22.a., was lightly shelled with 77s in direction of HOUTHEN.
DERRY HOUSE, O.P. Mahieu Farm, ORANGE TRENCH O.27.b., received slight attention from guns firing from true bearing 89 degrees from O.27.d.90.65.
Gas shells fell round Bn.H.Qrs. O.20.b.2.2.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Artillery and Infantry quiet.
Slight M.G. activity.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Minnenwerfer position located just in rear of GREEN FARM (approx. O.17.b.6.4.) this mortar fired on our posts 1. O.11., and 4. O.17. respectively. Another trench mortar was located at O.17.b.20.30.

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Nil.7. ENEMY MOVEMENT

Owing to poor visibility, observation of enemy movement was rendered very difficult. Individual movement was observed at LAKE FARM.
Enemy relief observed (See Patrol Report). Isolated movement was observed round Pill Farm O.24.a.4.3.
Signals. Red lamp was observed signalling at 80 degrees true from O.27.d.90.65.
Flares. - Enemy made consistent use of white flares during the night.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

State of Ground. - The ground is very wet and slippery rain having fallen during the day.

9. LOCATIONS. Unchanged.

[Signature]
Lieut.
for Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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APPENDIX 13

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY - 6 am 11-12-17 to 6 am 12-12-17

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.
Date.....

APPENDIX

OPERATIONS: Machine guns engaged in harrassing fire following:-

	0.36.a.65.75;	0.30.d.24.90.
	0.30.b.20.18;	0.24.d.50.40.
Road	0.24.c.90.90. to	0.24.d.59.99.
	0.24.c.45.40. to	0.24.c.35.60.
	0.24.c.73.02	
	0.24.b.90.10 to	0.24.a.30.40.
	0.18.c.69.00;	0.24.d.50.40.

Ammunition expended - 11,200 rounds.

S.O.S. was not called for.

Signalling was observed to the left of Commines about 6.30 p.m.

Captain,
O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

APPX 13

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Intelligence Summary No.13.

From 6 a.m. 11th December to 6 a.m. 12th December 1917.



1. OPERATIONS.

(a) ARTILLERY.

Our artillery was actively engaged on enemy strong points during the day.

Enemy line between PARTYNTJE FARM O.24.d.8.3. and LAKE FARM O.24.c.5.4 was shelled by 4.5s. The usual spasmodic fire was maintained on the TWINS and GIANT, FLY BUILDINGS, RIFLE FARM and BEEK FARM.

Counter-battery work was also carried out and enemy back areas shelled.

Enemy post O.17.d.65.95. was engaged by the 18 pounders.

Consistent slow fire was directed on SQUARE FARM, O.30.b.5.2.

Enemy tracks and approaches were swept throughout the night.

(b) PATROLS.

Patrolling activity was maintained from 5 p.m. till daylight. NO MANS LAND is reported to be very quiet, no enemy movement being encountered.

Patrols as follows:-

No.1. Patrol.

A reconnoitring patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men moved out from our line O.11.d.05.25. at 8.30 p.m., then in an easterly direction to position 100 yds front of our wire, and patrolled our front returning to O.11.b.4.1. at 9.50 p.m.

No enemy movement was observed.

No.2 Patrol.

A reconnoitring patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left O.11.b.75.25. at 10.30 p.m. They proceeded in an easterly direction to Road which they followed to O.11.65.85. then to O.11.d.05.25 and back along our wire to place of departure.

Report no enemy activity.

No.3 Patrol.

A reconnoitring patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men moved out from our picquet line in O.23.a.7.6. at 4.45 p.m.

Patrol proceeded in a northerly direction for about 100 yds. where they turned to the east and followed hedge for about 150 yds. They report enemy minnenwerfer firing from O.17.d.7.1. Enemy party was also heard working on their wire. No hostile patrols were encountered. Another patrol on approximate same route two hours later heard working party on wire O.23.b.4.5. also apparently ration party carrying tins O.17.d.7.2.

No.4 Patrol.

A reconnoitring patrol of 1 Officer and 6 O.R.s. moved out from O.23.a.3.2. at 6.30 p.m. and proceeded in northeasterly direction along road to O.23.b.0.5., then south for about 200 yds, where they turned southwest to point O.23.c.6.7. then south till reaching the WAMBEEK and returned by direct route to O.23.c.15.5 at 7.30 p.m. Report enemy unusually quiet, no movement being observed.

No. 5 Patrol.

A reconnoitring patrol of 1 Officer and 6 O.R.s. moved out from O.23.c.15.55 at 10 p.m. Patrol proceeded slightly east of south until reaching the WAMBEEK which they followed to O.23.e.8.2., then northerly to O.23.c.95.85. then southwesterly to place of departure at midnight.

M.G.Fire was encountered from front and both flanks when patrol was about 150 yds south west of RIFLE FARM, but no enemy movement could be detected.

No.6 Patrol.

The Right Battalion patrols actively traversed NO MANS LAND throughout the night and report enemy attitude to be very quiet, no movement being observed. Communication was maintained with Flank units.

appx 13

(c) MACHINE GUNS.

Our Machine Guns were actively engaged in sweeping enemy trenches, tracks and approaches, and the following targets were harassed intermittently from 5 p.m. to dawn:-

System of enemy trenches O.18.b. and d., Road from O.18.b.4.5. to O.12.d.15.05., including PAT, MURPHY, and SPUD FARMS. Lock No. 4 in P.13.a. and road leading to same.
Expenditure of ammunition 18,000 rounds.

(d) LEWIS GUNS.

Lewis Guns fired on and dispersed several small parties moving about enemy positions (two casualties are claimed).

(e) TRENCH MORTARS.

Machine Gun Positions in O.29.d.40.55., O.29.d.25.90, and O.23.d. Central, were shelled with silencing effect.
JULY FARM, FLY BUILDINGS and the TWINS were kept under irregular fire.
Expenditure of ammunition 78 rounds.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.3. ENEMY SHELLING.

Hostile artillery activity has again shown notable increase. COSTAVERNE WOOD was kept under consistent fire with H.E. and gas shells, while OLIVE TRENCH, and RAVINE WOOD were again subjected to searching fire with 5.9s. and GREEN and ROSE WOODS received particular attention with 77s. from direction of HOUTHEM. Prince Ruperts dugouts O.20.b.2.2., TORREKEN CORNER, GUY FARM, and MAHIEU FARM were shelled with gas shells.
VALL, ANZAC, and GUN FARMS were shelled intermittently. MANCHESTER St. and PIONEER LANE were also searched with 5.9s.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Artillery above normal and aggressive Infantry and Machine-Guns quiet.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Enemy post at O.17.d.65.95 does not appear to be occupied since our artillery bombarded it.
Minnerwerfer located firing from O.17.d.7.1. Working parties were heard on wire at O.23.b.4.5.

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Enemy aircraft showed increased activity on our left Battalion frontage. Low flying planes were effectively engaged with M.Gs.

(a) Balloons.

Balloons were observed from the following true bearings from O.10.d.25.50 :- 120 and 119 degrees. A small pear shape balloon at a high altitude from direction of WARNETON disappeared in direction of Drénoutre.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

Small parties of enemy were observed in vicinity of HOUTHEM.

At 11 a.m. party of 4 men seen at dugouts in CANAL bank P.13.d. LAKE FARM, O.24.c.5.4., and PILL FARM O.24.a.4.3. showed regular individual movement.

During the heavy fog at 5 a.m. enemy could be distinctly heard working behind wire in direction of FLY BUILDINGS.

A succession of six blasts of a whistle and voices could be heard in same vicinity. It is thought whistle was a signal for stretcher bearer.

A dump in O.23.b.4.6. was ignited by our artillery at 10 a.m.

At 12.15 a.m. a train was seen moving into WERVICQ.

Signalling.


Flares. The result of three enemy shells falling close to RIFLE FARM three green flares each bursting into two were fired from RIFLE FARM. Several flares breaking into two white lights were fired throughout the night without apparent result.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

Enemy made consistent use of smoke screens for his artillery in vicinity of HOUTHEM.

State of ground. Patrols report NO MANS LAND to be wet and difficult to traverse.

9. LOCATIONS. Unchanged.


Lieut.
for Brigade Major.
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.

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APPENDIX 14

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SECRET.

MG 3251

APPENDIX

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.	
No.
Date.

8th Machine Gun Co.
 14th Machine Gun Co.
 15th Machine Gun Co.
 25th Machine Gun Co.

The following is a forecast of the probable dates of relief of Machine Gun Companies of 5th Australian Division:-

8th Machine Gun Co.	by 3rd Machine Gun Co.	Day and night 16/17th Dec.
15th Machine Gun Co.	by 2nd Machine Gun Co.	Day and night 14/15th Dec.
25th Machine Gun Co.	by 21st Machine Gun Co.	Day and night 14/15th Dec.

Relief Order will be issued later.

11/12/17.

Robert J. ...
 MAJOR.
 D.M.G.O., 5th Australian Division.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. 6 a, 12-12-17 to 6 am 13-12-17

APPENDIX
15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
Date.....

OPERATIONS: Machine guns engaged in harrassing fire on the following:-

Trench	0.24.a.67.46;	0.36.b.23.57.
	0.30.d.05.00;	0.30.d.25.90.
	0.30.b.00.50..	
Road	0.24.c.90.15 to	0.24.d.20.25;
Road	0.24.c.9.9. to	0.24.d.10.98.
	0.24.c.78.02;	0.24.c.50.25.
	0.18.c.60.00.	

Ammunition expended - 11,750 rounds.

S.O.S. was not called for.

Captain,
O.C., 15th M. Gun Coy.

APPX 15

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15th
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No. *Rich*
Date *14/12/17*

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Intelligence Summary No.14.

From 8 a.m. 12th December to 6 a.m. 13th December 1917.

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15th
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

APPENDIX 15

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) ARTILLERY

Our artillery was actively engaged in shelling enemy defences. The back areas received special attention throughout the period. RIFLE FARM received concentration of fire from our 18 pounders on several occasions. LAKE FARM was shelled at intervals. Lock(3) in HOUTHEM COMINES CANAL was heavily shelled by the heavies. The TWINS, GIANT, and Square O.12.b. were kept under searching fire. Throughout the night the enemy known centres of movement and tracks were irregularly shelled.

(b) PATROLS.

No.1 Patrol. - For the purpose of reconnaissance, a patrol of 1 Officer and 3 O.Rs. moved out from O.23.c.15.95. at 4 p.m. The patrol moved in an easterly direction to Pill Box O.23.c.55.70 which was suspected night M.G.Post and found Pill Box to be unoccupied with no sign of recent occupation. From here the patrol proceeded in a northerly direction and investigated two demolished Pill Boxes O.23.b.02.60. They remained in this position for half an hour, and heard enemy movement in vicinity of BEE FARM O.25.d.1.5. The patrol returned to our line at O.23.c.15.55. at 6.0 p.m. No enemy were encountered.

No.2 Patrol.

For the purpose of reconnaissance a patrol moved out from our line O.23.c.15.25 at 10 p.m., and proceeded southeast to the WAMBEEK at O.23.c.3.2., then easterly to Junction of Roads O.23.c.9.2., then due north to O.23.a.9.0. when they returned in a direct line to O.23.a.2.1. at 11.45 p.m.

They report M.G.activity from WAM and BEEK FARMS, but no enemy movement was observed.

No.3 Patrol.

For the purpose of reconnoitring GREEN FARM a patrol of 1 Officer and 3 O.Rs. left our line at O.17.b.00.55. They proceeded to O.17.Central, then in direction of GREEN FARM. The patrol reached and patrolled Road on west side of GREEN FARM and immediate vicinity of GREEN FARM. Movement could be distinctly heard at GREEN FARM and heavy M.G.Fire from O.17.d.4.8., GREEN FARM and O.17.b.4.5. was encountered. The patrol returned at 11.45 p.m.

No.4 Patrol.

Two patrols left our left centre Battalion lines and patrolled NO MANS LAND. No.1 from 5 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. report enemy attitude to be below normal. No.2 from 10.30 p.m. to 1.45 a.m. report M.G.position at O.17.d.6.2. and O.17.b.Central, and enemy wire to be strong.

No.5 Patrol.

The right Battalion patrols continuously patrolled and reconnoitred NO MANS LAND, and report enemy to be very quiet, communication was maintained with flank units.

(c) MACHINE GUNS.

M.G. were active throughout the period. Hostile aircraft was effectively engaged.

Enemy tracks and defences were swept intermittently from 5 p.m. to dawn.

M.Gs. were engaged in harrassing fire on the following targets:- Tramway system in O.24.a. and b., Road from O.12.d.20.00 to X Roads O.12.c., POLL HO. in O.18.a. and X roads O.18.b., Trench O.24.a.67.46 - O.30.b.00.50. - Rd.O.24.c.90.15 to O.24.d.20.25 and Rd. O.24.c.9.9. to O.24.d.10.98.

Expenditure of Ammunition 21,000 rounds.

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(d) TRENCH MORTARS.
M.Gs. at 0.29.d.2.9. - 0.29.c.4.7. - and RIFEE FARM were fired on with silencing effect. Snipers post 0.29.d.2.7. was destroyed with four rounds. RIFLE FARM; JULY FARM, FLY BUILDINGS and the TWINS were irregularly shelled during the night. Expenditure of ammunition 90 rounds.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING.

Enemy shelling has not been so active during the twenty four hours as in the previous. OOSTIAVERNE SPJR was subjected to occasional bursts of H.E.

WALL FARM, DERRY HOUSE, ULSTER FARM, and TORREKEN CORNER were lightly shelled with the 77s. while areas between BAY ROAD and GUN FARM was shelled at irregular intervals. 0.10.d. was kept under searching fire with 5.9., H.E. and shrapnel from direction of KORTEWILDE. GREEN WOOD, ROOZEBEEK VALLEY, and RAVINE WOOD also received slight attention. No gas shellings reported.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Artillery quiet, Infantry Normal.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Suspected M.G. position 0.23.c.55.70 does not bear traces of recent occupation.

M.G. activity reported from GREEN FARM, BEE FARM, and WAM FARM.

M.Gs. were located at 0.17.d.60.20 and 0.17.b. Central.

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Hostile planes were very active. During the morning 4 E.As. attempted to cross our lines but were driven back by M.G. fire and A.A.

At 10.45 a.m. a low flying plane evidently spotting for artillery flew along the left Battalion front line.

At 2.15 p.m. 9 Gothas escorted by three scouts crossed our line travelling in direction of Dranbutre. They were engaged by I.A. and M.Gs. These planes returned at 3 p.m. One hostile plane was observed to fall in direction of NEUVE EGLISE.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

The usual movement was observed at PILL FARM. Two aerial defence M.G.s. previously reported at true bearing 61 degrees from 0.17.c.90.65. was observed to fire on our planes.

At 1.45 p.m. a party of twelve men in single file moved from PILLE GREMS FARM to PILL FARM. Parties of approximately of twelve and fifteen men were seen moving about BEE and LAKE FARMS between 7 and 8 a.m. Owing to bad visibility train movement could not be detected.

Signalling.

Several orange coloured flares bursting into two lights were fired without apparent result. Enemy made frequent use of clear flares from 12 to 2 a.m. and again at 5.30 a.m.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

One of our planes had a forced landing in vicinity of WULVERGEHEM. When returning at 3 p.m. the Gothas dropped several bombs in vicinity of TORREKEN farm and square 0.29.d. State of ground. - Wet and difficult to traverse.

9. LOCATIONS Unchanged.

[Handwritten Signature]
Lieut.
for Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

APPENDIX

No 3.	SYLLABUS OF TRAINING PERIOD DEC 12th to Dec 22nd			
Day & Date	9.15 to 9.30	9.30 to 10.30	10.30 to 11.15	11.15 to 12.00
Monday 17th	Inspn of Arms & accoutrements by S.O.	Physical Exercises	Tcg Inspn of Anti-Gas Equipment by Gas N.C.O.	Squad Rifle Exercises
Tuesday 18th	Inspn of Arms & accoutrements by S.O's	Physical Exercises	Tcg Overhauling, Cleaning & Storing of Guns & all gun gear.	Records
Wednesday 19th	Inspn of Arms & accoutrements by S.O.	Physical Exercises	Tcg Gun Drill.	Brush up in elementary work. Recreat Tcg.
Thursday 20th	Inspn of Arms & accoutrements by S.O.	Physical Exercises	Tcg Cleaning of Limbers.	Recreat Tcg.
Friday 21st	Inspn of Arms & accoutrements by S.O.	Physical Exercises	Tcg Squad Drill & Rifle Exercises.	Overhauling & repairing of Belts. Recreat Tcg.
Saturday 22nd	Inspn of Arms & accoutrements by S.O.	Physical Exercises	Tcg Inspn of S.R.R. by Rde N.C.O.	Stoppages 20 min Mechanism 25 min. Recreat Tcg.

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APPENDIX 17

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY,
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. 6 am 13-12-17 to 6 am 14-12-17

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
APPENDIX
Date

OPERATIONS: Machine guns engaged in harrassing fire on the
following:- Fly Buildings 0.24.a.18.85; Roads & Tracks
0.24.a.50.25; 0.24.c.78.02; 0.18.c.60.00;
0.18.c.15.50 to 0.18.c.70.65; 0.23.b.90.10 to 0.24.a.30.40.
0.24.c.50.40. 0.24, central.

Ammunition expended - 5,750 rounds.

S.O.S. was not called for.

Captain,
O.C., 15th M. Gun Company.

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APPENDIX 17

15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.	
No.	<i>Recd</i>
	<i>18/12/17</i>

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 a.m. 13th December - to 6 a.m. 14th December 1917.

NOTE. Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Our artillery continued with registrations, calibrations, harassing fire, and carried out a concentration bombardment during the day. By night a special programme of bombardments and searching fire was performed in expectation of hostile relief.
- Concentration shoot was carried out by 18 prs., 4.5" Hows., 9.45" H.T.M. and 6" Newton T.M., between 11.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. against concrete strong points at BEE FARM (O.23.b.1.5) H.T.M. fired 32 rounds and 6" H.T.M. 60 rounds, very effective shooting being recorded. One of the two main strong points is reported demolished, the other two received many direct hits from 6" T.M. and Field Guns, but condition is not known.
- Bombardments of KORTEWILDE, FORT BUILDINGS, COPSE, PEREGRINE, HAPPY and WHIZ FARMS and FLY BUILDINGS were also carried out during the day, and harassing fire maintained on enemy front line system in U.11.b. and U.6.0.
- At frequent intervals during the night bursts of fire swept relief routes; roads junctions were blocked and PILL FARM, PILLEGREMS FARM, LAKE FARM and YANCO FARM areas were bombarded, whilst bursts of harassing fire were put down on enemy strong points.
- Heavy artillery co-operated with bombardment of Company billets in HOUTHEM and by blocking road junctions.
- Light T.M.'s. Retaliatory fire and harassing fire were directed from the Right Brigade front on to a large number of targets during a suspected relief.
- On the left T.M. activity was above normal. In addition to other targets engaged, the Light T.M.'s. co-operated in the shoot on BEE FARM. Several direct hits were obtained by each type of mortar engaged.
- Machine Guns. Usual harassing fire on enemy tracks and movement areas was carried out.
- Patrols. Active on both fronts. Right Brigade patrols located several M.G.'s. and noticed enemy movement (see Enemy Defences).
- A patrol of the Left Brigade left our line at O.23.a.15.10 at 4.20 p.m. in order to reconnoitre enemy post at BEE FARM. Near the FARM they crossed 3 belts of wire (in good condition but not strong). Heavy M.G. fire was then met with from both WASP and BEE FARMS. A number of flares were fired from what appeared to be a small trench about 100 yards East of BEE FARM. These allowed the patrol a good view of their objectives. WASP FARM showed no sign of damage. BEE FARM appears to have suffered, several blocks of cement having disappeared on N.E. corner. Enemy were apparently engaged in repairs - movement being seen. The M.G.'s. which were definitely located in BEE and WASP FARMS. Damage done to BEE FARM Pill Box was confirmed by another patrol.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

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-2-

3. ENEMY SHELLING. Lighter than usual. U.4.d. and U.10.b. were heavily shelled for a short time at 9.10p.m. At 11 p.m. the duckwalk in U.4.c and d. and the road in U.3.d. were searched. At 9.15 p.m. a sharp burst of fire was put over on our front line at O.35.a.8.2, lengthening back to O.34. central. ROOZEBEEK Valley, GREEN WOOD, RAVINE and ROSE WOODS, Square O.10.b. and a few other areas were lightly shelled. During our T.M. bombardment 4.2" Hows. actively shelled area round O.16.d.8.1. At 1.30 a.m. WYTSCHAETE was shelled with 5.9" Hows. and gas shells (approx. 40 rounds). Enemy sent over numerous pigeon bombs on the front trenches of the Right Brigade. 6 Medium Minenwerfer fell on O.35.d.1.9 from KIWI FARM, and 9 Heavy M.W. fell in NO MAN'S LAND at O.35.b.4.2.
4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Machine Guns reported as follows :-
 U.6.a.35.25, U.5.a.90.35, O.36.c.0.6, O.36.c.1.2, BEE and WASP FARMS (all by patrols). Suspected at O.17.d.3.6, O.17.d.0.3, O.17.d.5.0.
 Light M.W. reported by patrols as firing from about U.6.a.30.25. Others fired from THE TWINS.
 WIRE reported by patrols to be in good condition between O.36.c.0.5. and U.6.c.8.8 and near U.11.b.9.8.
6. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Talking heard in enemy trench at U.6.a.35.35 and about U.6.a.2.0. Movement was noticed at O.36.c.15.10 by patrol - we fired numerous rifle grenades in this locality. Men seen near KIWI FARM were fired on. One man seen examining enemy wire is claimed as a hit by our snipers. Movement was also observed between RIFLE and JULY FARMS.
7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Nil.
8. SIGNALLING. During the short bombardment at 9 p.m. enemy fired a flare bursting into golden rain. Range was immediately lengthened from front to support line.

ADDENDUM to ENEMY SHELLING.

A few gas shells fell round O.P. at MAHIEU FARM O.21.d.

F. W. Robinson
 Capt. for. Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

MACHINE GUN INSTRUCTIONS.



Issued with 5th Australian Division Order No. 184.

Ref:- Sheet 28 1/40,000
& CALAIS 13 1/100,000

Headquarters
12/12/17.

1. The 5th Australian Division (less Artillery) will be relieved by the 1st Australian Division in the left Divisional sector between 13th and 17th December.
2. The Machine Gun Companies of the 5th Australian Division will be relieved by Machine Gun Companies of the 1st Australian Division and move to Reserve Area in accordance with attached table.
3. All maps, battle orders, etc., specially relating to the sector will be handed over, together with lists of trench and area stores.
4. Subject to the terms of this order all details of reliefs will be arranged between Company Commanders concerned.
5. The 25th Machine Gun Company will form portion of 15th Infantry Brigade Group and will receive detailed instructions for move to the Reserve Area from that Brigade, under whose command they will remain.
6. 8th, 14th and 15th Companies will move to Reserve Area under orders of their respective Brigades.
7. Completion of relief will be notified by wire.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

D. M. G. O.

Major,
D.M.G.O. 5th Australian Division.

Issued at 12 noon to:-
8th Machine Gun Co.
14th Machine Gun Co.
15th Machine Gun Co.
25th Machine Gun Co.
D.M.G.O. 1st Aust. Division.

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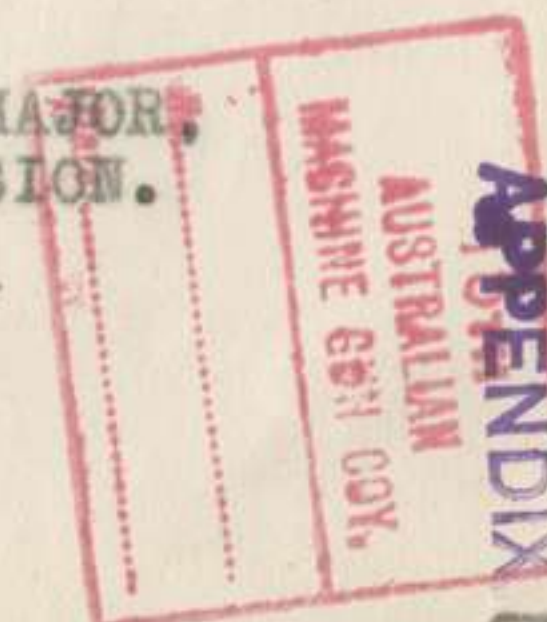
MOVE TABLE

Serial No.	Dates	Unit	From	To	Remarks
1.	Dec. 13th	14th M.G.Co.	KEMMEL AREA	SAMER AREA	Entrain at DE KENNEBAK 1200 - Detrain DEVRES 1700.
2.	14/15th	15th M.G.Co.	LINE. To be relieved by 2nd M.G.Co.	KEMMEL AREA	15th Dec. Entrain DE KENNEBAK 1200. Detrain DEVRES 1700
3.	14/15th	25th M.G.Co.	LINE. To be relieved by 21st M.G.Co.	KEMMEL AREA	15th Dec. As for 15th M.G.Co. Under orders of 15th Inf.Bde.
4.	16/17th	8th M.G.Co.	LINE. To be relieved by 3rd M.G.Co.	HILL SIDE CAMP.	17th Dec. Entrain DE KENNEBAK 1200. Detrain DEVRES 1700

NOTES: - As much of the above reliefs as possible to be carried out by daylight.
 Transports will move under instructions to be issued by respective Brigades.

12th December 1917.

[Signature]
 MAJOR
 D.M.G.O. 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



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SECRET.

Copy No. . . .

APPENDIX.
15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
 No.
 Date.

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15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 135.

Ref:- BELGIUM
 Sheet 28 1/10,000.
 CALAIS
 Sheet 13 1/100,000.

10th December, 1917

1. The 5th Australian Division (less Artillery) is being relieved by the 1st Australian Division (less Artillery) between the 13th and 17th December, 1917.
2. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade (plus 25th Machine Gun Company) is being relieved by the 2nd Australian Infantry Brigade (plus 21st Machine Gun Company) during the 14th and night 14th/15th December in the left sector of the Divisional Front.
3. Reliefs will take place in accordance with attached table, all details not provided for in this order being mutually arranged between Commanding Officers concerned.
4. All maps, trench stores, aeroplane photographs, defence schemes etc. will be handed over on relief and receipts exchanged. Copies of these receipts will be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters as soon as possible after relief.
5. The completion of reliefs will be reported in code to Brigade Headquarters.
6. Special Administrative Instructions will be issued separately.
7. The Command of the Sector will pass to the B.G.C. 2nd Australian Infantry Brigade on the completion of relief, when Brigade Headquarters will close at REGENT DUGOUTS and reopen at KEM'EL CHATEAU.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signature]
 Major,
 Brigade Major,
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 9 p.m.

To.	Copy No.	Copies to :-	
57th Battalion	1.	112th Infantry Brigade	12.
58th Battalion	2.	Oostaverne Group Artillery	13.
59th Battalion	3.	Hollebeke Group Artillery	14.
60th Battalion	4.	29th A.A.S.C.	15.
15th M.G. Company	5. ✓	15th Field Coy. A.E.	16.
15th I.T. I.	6.	15th Field Ambulance	17.
25th M.G. Company	7.	Area Commdt. KEM'EL	18.
No. 4 Signal Section	8.	B.G.C. 15th A.I. Brigade	19.
Copies to :-		Staff Captain	20.
5th Australian Division	9.	War Diary	21-23.
2nd Aust. Inf. Brigade	10.	File	24.
8th Aust. Inf. Brigade	11.		

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SECRET.ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

to accompany

15th Aust. Inf. Brigade Order No. 135.

Dated 10.12.17.

11.12.17.

1. The 2nd Australian Infantry Brigade is relieving the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade in the left Divisional Sector on night 14th/15th inst.
2. Arrangements will be made forthwith to prepare all handing over lists.
3. Care must be taken to discriminate between Trench and Area Stores and Mobilization or Unit Stores. Mobilization and Unit Stores must under no circumstances be left in the Area.
4. All parties as detailed in Brigade Tactical Working Party Table No. 3. will be relieved on 14th inst. Representatives of parties in forward areas will meet their reliefs at LAMP POST CORNER (O.19.0.4.7.) at 10 a.m. on 14th inst. and guide them forward.
5. Officers in charge of Gum Boot Stores will not leave their stores until all boots taken over by them have been accounted for and receipts obtained. Units will ensure that all gum boots in their possession are returned to stores.
6. When handing over Ammunition Dumps, the name of Dump and map location will be quoted on the receipt.
7. All receipts must be legibly made out. Rank, name, and unit must be stated of both the handing over and receiving Officer.
8. Nucleus will proceed to respective Camps as laid down in 15th Aust. Inf. Brigade Order No. 135 at 4 p.m. on 14th inst. Brigade Representative IRISH HOUSE will ensure that Camp and vicinity is handed over in a clean and sanitary condition.
9. Band of 59th Battalion will rejoin unit on 14th inst. and will be rationed by 59th Battalion as from 15th inst.

[Signature]
Captain.
Staff Capt.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to all recipients
of Order No. 135.

APPX 19

RECEIVED
AUSTRALIAN
WAR MEMORIAL



To
LIEUT Fred Whelpton.

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T A B L E
TO ACCOMPANY 15th A.I. BRIGADE ORDER No. 135.

DATE	UNIT	FROM	TO	TO BE RELIEVED BY	REMARKS.
14th and night 14th/15th December.	59th Battalion	LINE RIGHT	LINDENHOEK CAMP	5th Battalion	<p>(a) No movement of troops East of the MESSINES - VITSCHAETE RIDGE before 4.30 p.m.</p> <p>(b) Incoming Units will be warned against unnecessary movement in areas under observation by the enemy</p> <p>(c) As much of the relief as possible to be completed during daylight.</p>
-ditto-	60th Battalion	LINE RIGHT CENTRE	RAVILLES CAMP	6th Battalion	
-ditto-	59th Battalion	LINE LEFT CENTRE	KESSEL	8th Battalion	
-ditto-	57th Battalion	LINE LEFT	ROSSIGNOL CAMP	7th Battalion	
-ditto-	15th M.G. Coy.	LINE	LA POLKA FARM	2nd M.G. Coy.	
-ditto-	15th L.T.M.B.	LINE	KESSEL VILLAGE	2nd L.T.M.B.	
-ditto-	25th M.G. Coy.	LINE	KESSEL CAMP	21st M.G. Coy.	

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15th
 AUSTRALIAN
 APPENDIX
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SECRET.

ADDENDUM No. 1 to
ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

ACCOMPANY 15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 136.

12th December, 1917.

1. Interpreters have been allotted for the move to Units of the Brigade as follows :-

- | | | |
|--|---|----------------|
| Brigade Transport Column -
leaving 14th inst. |) | M. SALAUN. |
| Brigade Headquarters |) | M. VAN CUTSEN. |
| 15th A.L.T.M.B. |) | |
| 15th M.G. Company |) | |
| 59th Battalion |) | M. TROCME. |
| 60th Battalion |) | |
| 32nd Battalion |) | |
| 25th Machine Gun Company |) | |
| 57th Battalion |) | M. RAYNAUD. |
| 58th Battalion |) | |
| 29th A.A.S.C. |) | |
| 15th Field Company A.E. |) | |

2. M. RAYNAUD will arrange Billets in WIZERNES for transport and personnel mentioned in Table "A" of Brigade Order No. 136.
3. Lieut. L.S. DAVIS 58th Battalion has been detailed to take charge of the column proceeding by train on 15th inst. and will superintend entrainment and detrainment and subsequent move.
4. Lieut. C.R. COLE 58th Battalion has been detailed as Billeting Officer for Brigade Transport Column moving on 14th inst. This Officer will report at once to the O.C. Column for instructions.
5. D.V.C. wagons allotted to Units will be used for conveyance of all baggage, stores, rations etc. subsequent to the departure of the transport.

A. Gallon
Captain,
Staff Captain,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to all recipients of 15th Infantry Brigade Order No. 136.
Copies to Interpreters concerned.

appx 20

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S E C R E T.

A D D E N D U M No. 2.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS
to

ACCOMPANY 15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 136.

Ref:- BELGIUM Sheet 29 1/40,000
CALAIS Sheet 13 1/100,000

13th December, 1917.



1. The following are the approximate Billeting Areas for Units of the Brigade Group :-

Brigade Headquarters	PARENTY	5.D.7.1.
15th A.L.T.M.B.	-do-	-do-
15th M.G. Company	COURSE	5.E.1.5.
57th Battalion	DOUDEAUVILLIE	5.D.10.4.
58th Battalion	COURSET	5.E.1.8.
59th Battalion	ENQUIN-SUR-	
	BAILLON	6.E.1.9.
60th Battalion	HUBERSENT	6.C.8.9.
29th A.A.S.C.	BEAUCORRY	5.D.7.5.
15th Field Ambulance	QUEHEN	4.B.10.2.
25th Machine Gun Coy. near	CONDETTE	
15th Field Company A.E.	VIERRE-AU-BOIS	

2. All Units (less 58th Battalion) moving by train on 15th inst. will be billeted in DESVRES on night of arrival. 58th Battalion will proceed direct to COURSET.

3. (a) Motor Lorries will report to Units at 7 a.m. on 15th inst. at places as shown hereunder :-

Brigade Headquarters	}		
15th A.L.T.M.B.		1 lorry	KEMMEL CHATEAU
15th M.G. Company		1 lorry	-do-
57th Battalion		2 lorries	-do-
58th Battalion		2 lorries	-do-
59th Battalion		2 lorries	-do-
60th Battalion		2 lorries	-do-
25th M.G. Company		1 lorry	KEMMEL CHURCH.
15th Field Company A.E.		1 lorry	-do-
15th Field Ambulance		1 lorry	DRANOUTRE.
32nd Battalion		2 lorries	WULVERCHEM.

- (b) These lorries will be loaded with the utmost despatch and will be clear of KEMMEL before 8.30 a.m.

- (c) Lorries should be loaded with Officers valises and baggage required first at destination.

- (d) Billeting parties will meet lorries at DESVRES STATION on arrival and dispose of them as Staff Captain will direct.

4. Transport columns arriving at new area will be met by guides from Units as follows :-

(a) Transport mentioned in Table "A" accompanying Brigade Order 136 will be met at CROSSROADS immediately SOUTH of CAMPAGNETTE 5.E.8.8. at 12 noon on 16th inst.

(b) Transport moving in accordance with Table "B" accompanying Brigade Order 136 will be met at ZOTEAUX 5.E.65.45 at 2 p.m. on 17th inst.

A. Gallan
Captain,
Staff Captain,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

APPX 20

"A" Form. MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121 (in pads of 100).

No. of Messages

APPENDIX.

Prefix <i>dmw</i> Code <i>400</i>	Words <i>24</i>	Charge	This message is on a/c of: <i>15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN CO</i>	Recd. at <i>9 31</i> m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions <i>FN 26</i>	Sent			Date <i>12/12/17</i>
	At	To	From <i>FS 47</i>	
	By	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By <i>KA</i>	

TO { *FS 45*

Sender's Number. <i>* G 12/6</i>	Day of Month. <i>12th</i>	In reply to Number.	AAA
----------------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------	-----

Reference 136 order and table B attached aad wire strength personnel and horses accompanying your transport on 14th inst

From	<i>FN 26</i>
Place	
Time	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

(Z)

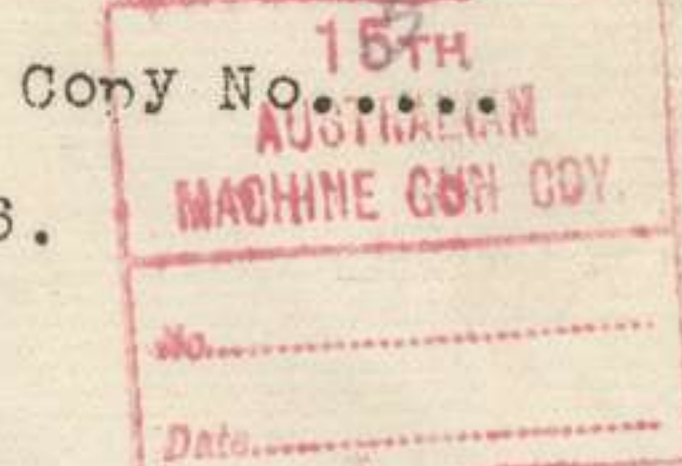
Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

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S E C R E T.

APPENDIX 70 91

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 136.



Ref:- BELGIUM
Sheet 28 1/40,000
CALAIS
Sheet 13 1/100,000

11th December, 1917.

1. (a) The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade Group is moving to the PARENTY Area on the 14th and 15th December, 1917.
(b) For the purpose of this move, the group is to consist of 15th Brigade Headquarters - 57th - 58th - 59th - 60th Battalions - 15th and 25th Machine Gun Companies - 15th L.T.M.B. - 15th Field Company A.E. - 15th Field Ambulance and the 32nd Battalion of the 8th Australian Infantry Brigade.
2. (a) All Transport (less that shewn in attached Table "A") will move by road in accordance with attached Table "B".
(b) All personnel and the transport shewn in attached Table "A" will move by rail in accordance with attached Table "C".
3. The following transport will report to Units on the 14th December from the D.A.C. :-

15th Brigade Headquarters	One G.S. Wagon.
Each M.G. Company	-ditto-
15th L.T.M.B.	-ditto-
15th Field Company A.E.	-ditto-
15th Field Ambulance	-ditto-
Each Battalion	Two G.S. Wagons.
4. (a) As the Transport shewn in attached Table "A" will not reach Units until the day after arrival in the new area, all necessary cooking utensils will be carried on the train or on motor lorries which will report to Units on the 15th December at an hour to be notified later. These lorries will proceed direct to the billeting areas.
(b) Second Blankets and all necessary baggage will be stacked at the station on the morning of departure and loaded on to the personnel trains.
(c) Motor lorries will meet trains on arrival to convey the above mentioned stores etc. to the billeting areas.
5. (a) The transport train (vide attached Table "A") will leave BAILLEUL Station at 6.0 p.m. and arrive at WIZERNES at 8.0 p.m. on the 15th December.
(b) Personnel and transport proceeding by this train will be billeted during the night 15th/16th December at WIZERNES under arrangements to be communicated separately.
6. Supply arrangements will be as under :-
 - (a) For troops moving by rail :-

14th December	- No issue.
15th December	- Issue at entraining station under supervision of Q.M.'s.
16th December	- Double issue at BEAUCORRY for consumption on 17th and 18th December except for 32nd Battalion, 15th Field Company and 15th Field Ambulance who will draw from SAMER.
 - (b) For troops moving by road :-

14th December	- No issue.
15th December	- Refill at RENESCURE Church for consumption on 16th.
16th December	- Refill at THIERONNE for consumption on 17th and 18th.
17th December	- Draw rations for consumption on 19th December from BEAUCORRY except 15th Field Company and 15th Field Ambulance who will draw from SAMER.

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15TH AUSTRALIAN APPENDIX 70
 No.
 Date.

(2)

7. Railhead will move to SAMER on the 15th December.
8. The Divisional Reinforcement Wing closes at CAESTRE on the 14th December and reopens at SAMER on the same day.
9. Brigade Headquarters will close at KEMMEL CHATEAU at 9.0 a.m. on the 15th December and reopen at PARENTY on arrival.
10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Street

Major,
 Brigade Major,
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 9.0 p.m.

To.	Copy No.
57th Battalion	1.
58th Battalion	2.
59th Battalion	3.
60th Battalion	4.
15th Machine Gun Company	5. ✓
25th Machine Gun Company	6.
15th L.T.M.B.	7.
No. 4 Signal Section	8.
32nd Battalion	9.
15th Field Company A.E.	10.
15th Field Ambulance	11.
Copies to :-	
5th Australian Division	12.
8th Aust. Inf. Brigade	13.
29th A.A.S.C.	14.
Area Commdt, KEMMEL	15.
A.P.C.	16.
B.G.C. 15th A.I. Brigade	17.
Staff Captain	18.
Captain MATHESON	19.
War Diary	20-22.
File	23.

appx 70

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APPENDIX

"A" Form. MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121. (In pads of 100.)

Prefix <i>SM</i>	Code <i>HKP</i>	m	Words.	Charge.	No. of Message
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.			<i>31</i>		<i>15</i>
<i>FN 26</i>			Sent		This message is dated by <i>9-45 Jan</i> Reed. at <i>12/12/17</i> Service <i>FN 26</i> Date <i>12/12/17</i> From <i>FN 26</i> By <i>M. Bruce</i>
			At	m.	
			To		
			By	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	

TO	<i>FN 23</i>
----	--------------

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	
* <i>SC 544</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>AAA</i>

<i>Re</i>	<i>Admn</i>	<i>instructions</i>	
<i>accompanying</i>	<i>Order</i>	<i>order</i>	<i>156</i>
<i>Para</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>AAA</i>	<i>701</i>
<i>14th</i>	<i>inst</i>	<i>read</i>	<i>13¹²</i>
<i>inst</i>			

From	
Place	<i>FN 26</i>
Time	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required. (3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

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SECRET.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN BATT. 70

No.

Date.

Administrative Instructions

to accompany

15th Australian Infantry Brigade Order No. 136.

dated - 11.12.17.

12.12.17.

1. Advance parties from units comprising the 15th Aust. Inf. Bde. Group will report to the R.T.O. BAILLEUL at 4.30 p.m. tomorrow, 13th inst. and will travel by Train R.B.L.40 to SAMER, reaching there about five hours later.

2. Advance parties will consist of:-

	<u>Offs.</u>	<u>Others.</u>
Brigade H.Qrs.	-	1
Each Battalion	1	1 N.C.O. per Co.
Machine Gun Co's.	1	1 N.C.O.
L.T.M.B.	-	1 N.C.O.
Field Amb.	1	1 N.C.O.
Field Co.	1	1 N.C.O.
A.A.S.C.	-	1

3. Arrangements will be made for this party to be met and accommodated for night in SAMER. Officers will take their valises by train from BAILLEUL.

4. Advance parties will meet Staff Captain at RAILWAY STATION, SAMER at 10 a.m. on 14th inst. The senior of each unit party will produce correct ration state (personnel and animals) of his unit.

5. Bicycles will be taken.

6. Units will move out with echelons full.

7. All baggage and Supply waggons will report to transport lines on afternoon of 13th inst.

8. Advance parties will meet units on arrival of trains at DESVRES and will guide to billeting areas.

Gollan

Captain.
Staff Capt.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to all
Recipients of Brigade Order 136.

Appx 20



T A B L E "A"

TO ACCOMPANY 15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 136.

TRANSPORT TRAIN.

- A. The transport train will consist of :-
30 Covered Vans for personnel and horses.
17 Flat trucks for vehicles (carrying in all 68 axles).
- B. The following personnel and transport will be carried on this train :-
All Cookers,
One water cart per Unit.
All mess carts,
3 Riding horses and one baggage wagon Brigade Headquarters.
2 Riding Horses per Unit.
- C. Two days rations will be carried for personnel and animals travelling by this train.

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APPX 20

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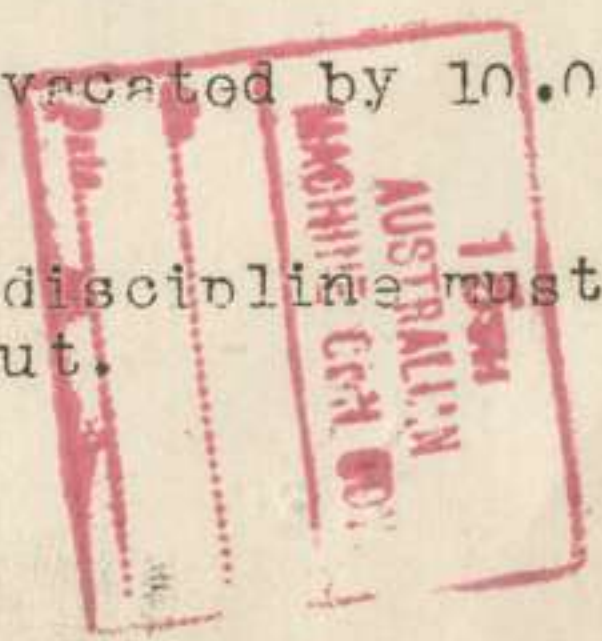
T A B L E "B".

TO ACCOMPANY 15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 135.

DATE	FROM	TO	ROUTE	REPORT FOR BILLET TO	REMARKS.
DECEMBER 14th	KEMMEL AREA	STRAZELLE AREA	At discretion of Senior Transport Officer	Area Commandant STRAZELLE	(a) The times of moving off from each area will be notified direct to all concerned by the Senior Transport Officer (Captain MATHESON 29th A.A.S.C.)
15th	STRAZELLE AREA	RENESECURE AREA	WALLON CAPPEL	Area Commandant RENESCURE	
16th	RENESECURE AREA	THIEMBRONNE AREA	ARQUES	Area Commandant THIEMBRONNE	
17th	THIEMBRONNE AREA	Respective Billeting Areas	At discretion of Senior Transport Officer		

- (b) When transport is Brigaded 100 yds distance will be kept between each Unit transport.
- (c) One N.C.O. and 3 men of the M.P. are moving with the column and are at the disposal of the Senior Transport Officer. They will be rationed by Brigade Headquarters.
- (d) A billeting party of one Officer and 4 N.C.O's with one Interpreter (to be detailed by Brigade H.Qrs) will be detailed by the Senior Transport Officer to move in advance of the column and arrange billeting. They will be provided with bicycles.
- (e) All billets will be vacated by 10.0 a.m. each day.
- (f) The strictest march discipline must be observed throughout.

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APPENDIX 296

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T A B L E "C"

TO ACCOMPANY 15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 133.

DATE.	UNIT	STATION		TIME		REMARKS.
		ENTRAINING	DETRAINING	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	
DECEMBER 15th	15th Bde. H.Qrs.	DE KENNEDIEK	DESVAES	12 noon	5.0 p.m.	(a) All troops must be at the entraining station one and a half hours prior to the time of departure of the train
"	57th Battalion	"	"	"	"	
"	58th Battalion	"	"	"	"	
"	15th M.G. Company	"	"	"	"	
"	15th L.T.M.L.	"	"	"	"	
"	15th Field Coy. A.B.	"	"	"	"	
"	15th Field Ambulance	"	"	"	"	
"	25th M.G. Company	"	"	"	"	(b) Unit entraining Officers will meet Capt. A.E. KEYS, 57th Battalion, at the entraining station half an hour before the arrival of the troops. Entrainment stores to be brought.
"	59th Battalion	"	"	1.0 p.m.	6 p.m.	
"	60th Battalion	"	"	"	"	
"	32nd Battalion (8th A.I. Bde.)	"	"	"	"	(c) Each train accomodates 2,200 all ranks and has in addition two baggage vans
						(d) The following distances will be observed on the march :-
						Between Companies 100 yards
						Units and Transport 100 yards
						Battalions 500 yards

Copy 20



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APPENDIX 2

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Headquarters,
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.
10th December 1917

57th Battalion.		
58th Battalion.		
59th Battalion.		
60th Battalion.		
15th M.G. Coy.		
15th A.L.T.M.S.		



Forwarded herewith for your information
list of Pill Boxes and accommodation in area.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No. *Rec'd*

Date *11/12/17*

Street

Major.
Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Wood Water

appx 2

APPENDIX

PILL BOXES AND ACCOMMODATION.

Contained in Area East of Road running South from O.2.Central, East to Front Line and
Flanked by Left Divisional Boundary to the ROOZEBEEK.

**15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.**
No.....
Date.....

Location.	Type of Shelter	Size of Room.	Total Accommodation if bunked.	Condition.	Remarks.
O.10.c.40.15	Concrete Cupolass	<u>Two</u> 9' x 9'	12	Good.	Requires very little improvement. 1 Room is bunked at present. Occupied by men in charge of Bomb dump.
(O.10.c.35.15. O.10.c.35.25.	Cupola Shelters Splinterproof.	8' x 3'	8	Good.	Used by Engineer details in charge of ROSEWOOD DU'P.
O.10.c.50.05.	House Ruins.		8		Two small concrete rooms, unfinished, 50% complete. Size of room 6' x 4' Apparently this was intended for Machine Gun Position.
O.11.b.85.40.	Concrete Cupolas	12' x 8'	10	Drainage Bad.	About 10" of water in this Pill Box. Not used by Posts.
O.11.b.83.45.	" "	" "	10	" "	" " "
O.11.b.9.4.	Concrete Pill Box.	10' x 6'	6	Good.	Used by men of outposts in day time. The floor of this has been raised & sump dug & pump fixed to same.
O.11.b.20.15	Concrete cupolas.	16' x 9'	16	Good.	Used by Advanced Coy.H.Q. and Signals. Bunks for 9 men are fixed and also pump for soakage.
O.11.b.20.10.	Concrete Pill Box.	6' x 6'	2	Good.	At present not used.
O.11.b.25.10.	Concrete Cupolas.	16' x 9'	16	Good.	Used by Garrison of FOREST FARM.
O.13.a.65.95.	Concrete Pill Box.	2 rooms 8' x 6' 1 Passage 8' x 2'	14.	Good.	Used at present as Support Coy.H.Q. in rear of S.P.1. Bunks have been fixed in same. 2 more bunks could be erected in passage.

APPENDIX. 21

PILL BOXES AND ACCOMMODATION CONTAINED.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.
Date

2/2/33

Location.	Type of Shelter	Size of Room.	Total accommodation if bunked.	Condition.	Remarks.
0.16.a.60.85.	Concrete Pill Box.	1 room 10' x 6'	8	Good.	Used by above Garrison.
ROSEWOOD	Splinter proof Shelters.	24 of different sizes.	86	Fair	" " " " Shelters have also been fixed in S.P.1. and more are being erected in Com.Trench.
0.9.d.48.40.	Concrete Pill Box.	2 rooms 10' x 6'	12	Good.	Used by Reserve Garrison as Reserve Coy.H.Q.
0.9.d.48.50.	Concrete Pill Box.	1 room 10' x 6'	4	Good.	" " " " " " "
0.9.d.5.5.	Concrete cupolas.	2 " 8' x 6'	8	Good.	" " " " " " "
0.9.d.48.53.	Concrete Pill Box.	3 " 9' x 9'	18	Fair.	Centre room is used as Cook House. Other room used by cooks. Front of building requires blocking on enemy side. Used by above.
0.9.d.4.6.	Concrete Cupolas.	10' x 6'	8	Good.	Used by Garrison of Reserve Line.
0.9.d.38.60.	Improved Shelter.	8' x 8'	8	Good.	Used by garrison of Reserve Line. This is a splinter proof dugout of Logs and Iron at rear side Pill Box.
0.9.d.40.65.	Concrete cupolas.	10' x 6'	8	Good.	This Pill Box is Waterlogged and required draining and pumping out.
0.9.d.42.68.	Improved Shelter.	8' x 8'	8	Good.	Splinter proof structure of logs, Iron & Sandbags. Bad drainage at present water logged.
0.9.d.4.7.	Concrete Cupola.	7' x 6'	4	Good.	Used by Garrison of Reserve Line.

APPENDIX 1

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PILL BOXES AND ACCOMMODATION CONTAINED

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
No.
Date

Location	Type of Shelter.	Size of Room.	Total accommodation if bunked.	Condition.	Remarks.
0.9.d.3.7.	Concrete Pill Box.	6' x 4'6"	2	Good.	Used by Garrison of Reserve Line.
0.9.d.16.20	Concrete Cupolas.	8' x 6'	6	Good.	This Pill Box has a splinter proof shelter of snadbag walls with loes and iron roof in rear of it size 10' x 8'.
" "	Splinter proof Shelter.	10' x 8'	12	Good.	Good condition. Accommodation 9 men Used at present by Garrison of Reserve Line.
0.9.d.6.5.	Concrete Pill Box.	2 rooms 6' x 6'	8	Good.	Requires door protection on enemy side. Used by Garrison Reserve Line.
0.9.d.8.1.	" "	2 rooms 6' x 6'	8	Fair.	Drainage not good requires drain trench to be excavated, to make good. Used by Garrison Reserve Line.
0.9.d.4.2.	" "	2 rooms 7' by 6'	8	Good.	This Pill Box is waterlogged. Not used on account of same.
0.9.d.45.20.	" "	2 rooms 7' by 6'	8	Good.	" " "
0.9.d.25.20	" "	2 rooms 7' x 6'	8	Good.	This Pill Box has splinter proof shelter of loes and iron and is used as a drying shed.
0.9.d.10.25.	" "	1 room 6' x 4'6"	2	Unfinished.	This Pill Box is 60% completed. Drainage Good.
0.9.d.20.15.	" "	2 rooms 7' by 6'	8	Good.	Waterlogged and not in use.

APPENDIX 21

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

No.
Date.

PILL BOXES AND ACCOMMODATION CONTAINED.

Location.	Type of shelter.	Size of Rooms.	Total accom- modation if bunked.	Condition.	Remarks.
0.9.b.2.4.	Concrete Pill Box.	8' x 6'	6	Badly damaged.	Requires repairs before it could be occupied.
0.9.c.35.85.	" "	8' x 6'	6	Good.	Used by Artillery for accommodation for Gunners.
0.9.c.40.90.	" "	8' x 6'	6	"	" " " "
0.9.c.45.82.	" "	8' x 6'	6	"	" " " "
0.9.a.30.65.	" "	8' x 6'	6	Slightly damaged.	" " " "
0.9.a.90.30	" "	8' x 6'	6	" "	" " " "
0.9.b.05.40.	" "	6' x 6'	4	Good.	Not in use.
0.9.b.15.42.	" "	12' x 12'	12	"	This Pill Box has open side and evidently has been used as Electric power Station as damaged dynamos are lying about it.
DAVIN STRASSE From 0.2.a.80.25 To 0.9.b.80.95	Splinter proof shelters.	different sizes.		Fair.	Has quite a number of all types of splinter proof shelters, most of which are in fair condition. At present none of these shelters are occupied owing to being shelled at intervals, daily.
0.14.a.30.72.	Concrete Pill Box.	2 rooms 10' x 9'	8	Good.	About 1 foot of water. Can be drained easily. Not used at present.
0.14.a.80.73.	Elephant Cupola Shelter.	12' x 10'	8	"	Not used at present.
0.14.a.73.73.	Splinter proof dugout	12' x 11'	10	Fair.	6" of water could be drained to sunn outside doorway. Not used at present.

APPENDIX 21

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PIIL BOXES AND ACCOMMODATION CONTAINED.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
No.....
Date.....

Location.	Type of Shelter.	Size of Rooms.	Total accommodation if bunked.	Condition.	Remarks.
0.14.a.90.78.	Elephant cupola shelter.	12' x 10'	8	Good.	Not used at present.
0.14.a.80.84.	Calais Shelter.	9' x 6'	6	"	" "
0.14.a.80.86.	Elephant cupola Shelter.	7' x 10'	4	"	" "
0.14.a.75.86.	" "	8' x 10'	6	"	" "
0.14.a.80.99.	Concrete Pill Box.	12' x 7'	8	"	Used by Artillery.
0.8.c.20.05.	" "	20' x 9'	16	"	" "
ZERO WOOD	Deep dugout	With 3 entrances. Gallery 50' long 1 room 24'x9'			This dugout is in good condition. Gas doors. Slightly damp. 2' of water over floor.
0.8.i.3.5.	Elephant cupolas and other splinter proof dugouts	1 - 10' x 10' 1 - 6' x 6' 1 - 12' x 10' 1 - 12' x 9' 1 - 6' x 6' 1 - 6' x 5'	38	Good.	All these dugouts are splinter proof and are at present used by Artillery Garrison.
0.14.Central.	Elephant cupolas & various types of dugout.	Various sizes.	32	50% in good condition.	Not used at present.
0.14.b.3.3.	Concrete Pill Box and various other kinds of splinter proof shelters.	9' x 8'	6 30	Goods "	Used by Artillery Garrison. Splinter Proof.

APPENDIX 21

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15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.

Date.....

PILL BOXES ACCOMMODATION CONTAINED.

Location.	Type of Shelter	Size of Rooms.	Total accommod- ation if bunked.	Condition.	Remarks.
O.15.a.2.3.	Calais Shelter.	9' x 6'	6	Good.	Splinter proof.
O.15.a.03.50	Concrete Pill Box.	9' x 8'	6	Fair.	About 2' of water in it. Could be pumped out and kept dry.
O.15.a.45.80	" "	9' x 8'	6	"	" " " "
O.14.b.7.7.	9 Calais Shelters. Splinter Proof.	Various sizes.	Accommodation for about 60.	Good.	All shelters splinter proof. Not bunked.
O.3.d.3.1.	Concrete Pill Box and 4 Cup ola shelters. Splinter Proof.	11' x 10'	8 30	Good. "	Used by Artillery Officers. Used by Artillery.
O.2.Central to O.3.Central	This area has a considerable number of splin- ter proof shel- ters and dugouts.	Accommodat ion for at least a 100 men	100	9% in good condition	Mostly all splinterproof.
O.3.c.80.45	1 Concrete P.Box and several sholt ers of different sizes types.	' x 7'	6 24	Good but waterlogged 50% in good condition.	About 3' of water. Mostly splinterproof.
O.20.a.3-5-	Splinter roof	11'x9' x5'6"	10	Good.	Requires improvement. Unoccupied.
O.20.a.9.5.	" "	10'x7'x4'	8	Fair.	Slightly damaged by shell fire. One end requires blocking up.
O.14.d.3.1.	Concrete Shelter	4'6"x3'6"	1	Good.	" " "
O.14.d.2.2.	Timber Dugout.	7' x 4'	2	Good.	Contains about two (2) feet of water.

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PILL BOXES AND ACCOMMODATION CONTAINED.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
No. _____
Date _____

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Location.	Type of Shelter.	Size of Rooms.	Total accommod- ation if bunked.	Condition.	Remarks.
0.14.d.3.4.	Concrete Pill Box.	-	-	Very bad.	Badly damaged by shell fire.
0.14.d.3.4.	Concrete Cupola	10' x 8'	6	Fair.	Requires minor repairs.
0.14.d.3.2.	Concrete Pill Box.	8'x8'x8'	5	Good.	" " "
0.14.d.3.2.	Concrete Cupolas	Two rooms 8' x 6'	8 8	Fairly Good.	Slightly damaged by shell fire.
0.14.d.3.2.	Cupolas concrete roof Wooden sides.	10' x 8'	6	Good.	Contains about 1 foot of water.
0.14.d.3.2.	Splinter proof Cupolas.	12' x 9'	10	Good.	Requires minor repairs. Unoccupied.
0.14.d.4.5.	Concrete Pill Box.	(i) 14'x9'6" (i) 8' x 6'	14 6	Good. "	Occupied by Light Railway ordnance.
0.15.c.1.9.	" "	10' x 8'	6	Fairly Good.	Contains about 2 feet of water Requires minor repairs.
0.15.c.1.9.	" "	10'x8'x3'6"	4	"	Contains about one foot of water.
0.15.c.1.9.	" "	8' x 6'	4	Good.	At present occupied by 56th Battalion.
0.15.c.1.9.	" "	10' x 8'	6	Fair.	Requires blocking up both ends and minor repairs.
0.15.c.2.2.	Concrete Pill Box.	8'x7'x4'	5	Good.	At present occupied by 56th Battalion.

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PILL BOXES AND ACCOMMODATION CONTAINED.

15th
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN Coy
No. _____
Date _____

Location.	Type of Shelter.	Size of Room.	Total accommod- ation if bunked.	Condition.	Remarks.
0.15.c.1.9.	Cupola. Walls of Wood. Roof wood and earth.	12' x 8'	10	Fair.	Slightly damaged and is very damp.
0.15.c.3.6.	Splinter Proof.	10' x 8'	8	Fair.	Damaged by shell fire and requires repairs.
0.15.c.2.8.	Concrete Pill Box.	14' x 8'	12	Good.	Slightly damaged by shell fire.
0.15.c.4.8.	" "	Two. 6'x6'x4'	4	Good.	Contains about one foot of water.
0.15.c.4.7.	Concrete Shelter	12' x 10'	10	Fair.	Front requires blocking up and several repairs done.
0.15.c.3.7.	Concrete Pill Box	7'x5'x6'	3	Good.	Contains one foot of water.
0.15.c.4.7.	Splinter Proof.	7' x 5'	2	Fair.	This of timber and has been slightly damaged and requires repairs.
0.15.c.2.7.	Concrete Pill Box.	8' x 6'	6	Good.	Contains two feet of water.
0.15.c.2.7.	Concrete Cupola	10' x 8'	8	Fair.	Full of water and requires minor repairs.
0.14.d.9.8.	Concrete Pill Box.	6'x4'x6'	1	Good.	Full of water.
0.15.c.9.4.	" "	7'x5'x5'	2	Good.	This has a lesnto wooden structure 10'x 8' attached, which is in a bad state of repair. Unoccupied.
0.15.c.1.4.	" "	Two. 8' x 6'	12	Fair.	Full of water.

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PILL BOXES AND ACCOMMODATION CONTAINED.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY
No.
Date

Location.	Type of Shelter	Size of Room.	Total accommodation if bunked	Condition.	Remarks.
0.14.d.8.4.	Wooden Dugout.	Two 8' x 6'	10	Fair	This is more or less damaged by shell fire and is full of water.
0.14.d.8.5.	Concrete Pill Box.	Seven of all different sizes.	50	Good.	At present unoccupied one room 8' x 7' is damaged by shell fire.
0.14.d.9.3.	" "	9' x 7'	8	"	Full of water & slightly damaged.
0.15.c.1.2.	Concrete Cupolas.	12' x 9'	12	"	Very damp unoccupied.
0.14.d.5.1.	Concrete Pill Box.	One 8'x8' One 12'x7'	10 10	Good. Fair.	One end of larger room has been badly damaged and requires a new front.
0.21.a.1.6.	Concrete Cupolas.	10'x6'x6'	6	Good.	Occupied by 14th Machine Gun Company. There is also a Cookhouse attached of wood and iron about 10' x 6' which could be made to accommodate 6 men.
0.14.d.5.1.	Concrete Pill Box.	One 10'x8' Two 8'x8'	10 16	Good Good	Slightly damaged. Full of water.
0.21.a.1.5.	Concrete Cupolas.	One 15'x5' One 10'x8'	4 10	Good. Good.	Occupied by 14th Machine Gun Company.
0.21.a.1.4.	Concrete Pill Box.	9' x 9'	8	Fairly Good.	Occupied by the above slightly damaged by shell fire.
0.21.a.1.4.	Splinter Proof	8'x 8'	8	Good.	Sandbag and timber structure occupied by 14th M.G. Company.
0.14.d.7.1.	Concrete Pill Box.	Three rooms	-	Bad.	Full of water and out of repair.
0.14.d.8.1.	Cupolas	9' x 9'	8	Fairly Good.	Wood and iron structure slightly damaged by shell fire.

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PILL BOXES AND ACCOMMODATION CONTAINED.

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
Date: _____

Location.	Type of Shelter.	Size of Room.	Total accommod- ation if bunked.	Condition.	Remarks.
0.14.d.6.3.	Concrete Cupola	One 10' x 9' one 15' x 9'	10 12	Good.	Full of water.
0.16.c.4.4.	" "	Two 10'x7'x5'	10	Good.	Very damp unoccupied.
0.22.a.3.7.	Concrete Pill Box Concrete Cupolas	8'x7'x5' 8'x7'x5'	4 4	Good.	No.2 S.P. Occupied by 54th Battalion.
Alongside the above.	Concrete Pill Ex	Two 9'x7'x5'	8	Good.	Occupied by 54th Battalion.
0.22.a.2.8.	Concrete Cupola Splinterproof	9'x7'x5' 9'x8'x6'	4 4	Fair. Good.	Slightly damaged. Sandbags and iron.
0.22.a.2.8.	Concrete Cupola	8' x 6'	8	Good.	Occupied by 54th Battalion and is damaged by shell fire.
" "	" "	16' x 8'	16	Good.	Occupied by 54th Battalion.
0.22.a.4.8.	Concrete Pill Box.	8' x 6'	-	Very Bad.	Badly damaged by shell fire and out of repair.
" "	Concrete Cupolas	10'x9'	10	Good.	Slightly damaged by shell fire and requires minor repairs. Unoccupied.
0.16.c.5.1.	" "	8'x7'x5'3"	5	Good.	Unoccupied.
0.22.a.4.6.	Splinter Proof.	about 8'x6'	4	Fair.	Wooden structure with wood, iron and earth roof. Slightly damaged and full of water.
0.15.c.9.3.	Concrete Pill Ex	13' x 9'	12	Fair.	Slightly damaged by shell fire. The floor is earth and is very damp.
0.15.c.9.4.	" " "	5' square	1	Fair.	Slightly damaged by shell fire.
0.16.c.3.6.	" " "	12' x 9'	18	Good.	Full of water.

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PILL BOXES AND ACCOMMODATION CONTAINED.

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Location.	Type of Shelter.	Size of Room.	Total accommod- ation if bunked.	Condition.	Remarks.
Near above.	Concrete Cupolas.	8' x 3'6"	1	Good.	Front requires blocking up, which would then make accommodation for one man.
0.16.c.7.5	" "	Two 10'x9'	20	Good.	Full of water.
0.16.c.8.4	Spinterproof Cupola.	About 8'x 6'	6	Very Bad.	Badly damaged by shell fire and is out of repair.
0.16.d.1.8	Concrete Pill Box.	Two 10'x8'	16	Good.	Full of water.
0.16.d.1.7	Concrete Cupo- las	8' x 9'	8	Good.	Contains about three feet of water.
0.16.d.1.6	Concrete Pill Box.	About 8' x 6'	4	Fair.	Damaged by shell fire and is full of water.
0.16.d.8.5	" "	Three about 8'x6'	12	Good.	Full of water.
0.16.d.9.6	" "	Two about 8'x6'	10	Good.	" " "
0.16.d.9.5	" "	6' x 5'	3	Good.	Unoccupied Dry.
0.16.d.8.3	" Cupolas	about 10'x8'	-	Very bad.	Badly damaged by shell fire and out of repair.
0.17.c.1.5	" Pill Box	Two 8' x 6'	6	Good.	Unoccupied.
0.17.c.2.5	" " "	9' x 7'	6	Good.	Slightly damaged by shell fire.
0.16.d.8.2	" " "	8' x 6'	6	Fair.	Badly damaged and full of water.

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AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
Date: _____

APPENDIX 21

PILL BOXES AND ACCOMMODATION CONTAINED.

15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
No.
Date

Location.	Type of Shelter.	Size of Room	Total accommod- ation if bunked.	Condition.	Remarks.
0.15.d.2.1.	Concrete Pill Bx.	6'x5'x5'	4	Fair.	Damaged by shell fire and contains about two feet of water.
0.21.d.9.8.	" " "	10'x5'x5'	4	Fair.	Occupied by 14th M.G.Coy. Very wet.
EUG FARM	" " "	Two. 9'x7'	12	Good.	Unoccupied, dry.
" "	" " "	Two. 11'6"x5'6"	12	Good.	Slightly damaged by shell fire.
" "	" " "	Two. 12'x6'	-	Very Bad.	Badly damaged and out of repair.
" "	" " "	10' x 6'	4	" "	Full of water and out of repair.
" "	" Cupola.	16' x 9'6"	12	Fairly Good.	Slightly damaged and full of water.
0.15.d.8.5.	" Pill Box.	11'6"x6'x7'	6	Good.	O.P.
0.15.d.8.5.	" " "	14' x 8'	6	Good.	O.P.
0.15.d.3.3.	Spintorproof.	15'x11'x4'	8	Fair.	Slightly damaged by shell fire.
0.15.d.4.7.	" "	14' x 14'	12	Fair.	Contains about three feet of water.
0.15.d.2.5.	Concrete Pill Bx	6' x 6'	2	Very Good.	Unoccupied.

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Headquarters,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade,
17th December, 1917.

APPENDIX 22
10TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
No. _____
to _____

58th Battalion,

Please note and pass to 15th M.G. Company,

[Signature]
Major,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

*Memo
W. J. [unclear]*

Adjutant
58th Battalion A. I. F.

[Signature]
INFANTRY BRIGADE

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APPENDIX



FIRST ANZAC CORPS WEEKLY SUMMARY
OF MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE
FOR WEEK ENDING 12th DECEMBER, 1917

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

1. FRENCH 75 MM. GUN CONVERTED FOR ANTI-AIRCRAFT WORK.

A French 75 mm. field gun, recently re-captured, has been converted into a gun (calibre 77 mm.) for use both as an ordinary field gun and as an anti-aircraft gun, by mounting it on a German light field how, carriage. The limits of elevation are minus 10° and plus 60°, though greater elevation can be obtained by sinking the trail.

2. CAPTURED GERMAN ORDER

The following is the translation of a secret order issued by General von MOSER, commanding the ARRAS Group, on the 29th November:

"By dint of sanguinary and stubborn fighting since the 20th Nov. the troops of the ARRAS Group have held up the enemy in his advance on CAMBRAI, and in doing so have inflicted such heavy losses on him that whole divisions, e.g., the 40th English Division, may be regarded as annihilated.

Tomorrow morning the great attack by the Second Army will give the enemy the coup de grace, and frustrate his hopes of taking CAMBRAI. A powerful concentration of artillery will prepare the attack with an overwhelming storm of fire, and will screen it with a creeping barrage. Strong aerial forces will support the attack. I am convinced that the gallant infantry will accomplish the rest with a dashing assault, supported by the field guns, which will accompany the attack in a true spirit of comradeship."

This order was issued to the following divisions :-

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 49th Reserve Division. | 20th Div. |
| 221st Div. | 21st Res. Div. |
| 214th Div. | 3rd Guard Div. |
| 119th Div. | |

and orders were given for it to be burned as soon as it had been read out.

3. GERMAN TROOPS IN TURKEY

A document indicates that the 703rd Inf. Bn. arrived at CONSTANTINOPLE shortly before 27th Oct.

The 701st, 702nd, 703rd, 707th and 708th Inf. Bns. were all identified at REUHAMMER Camp (Silesia) during the latter half of Sept. These battalions, which presumably form part of the two Turco-German divisions, known as Tigris I and Tigris II, appear to have been sent to Turkey during October.

The German Field Post Office No. 511. has been transferred from the Balkans to Turkey.

4. GROUP SECTORS IN THE CAMBRAI AREA

A captured map shows that on the 19th Nov., i.e., the day prior to our attack, the CAUDRY Group (XIII Corps) held the front from west of MOEUVRES to S. of BELLICOURT (30 km.), with 4 divisions in line. These divisions were :-

Handwritten signature and number 22

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20th Landwehr Div.
54th Div.
9th Res. Div.
163rd Div.

N.W. of MOEUVERES the line was held by the ARRAS Group (IX Corps) and S. of BELLICOURT by the ST. QUENTIN Group.

Documents show that the CAMBRAI Group (IX Corps), had been dissolved subsequent to the 1st Sept.

After our attack, the sector S. of CAMBRAI was reinforced by a number of fresh divisions, and a BUSIGNY Group was formed between the CAUDRY and QUENTIN Groups, while the sector of the ARRAS Group was extended further east.

5. THE 1920 CLASS IN THE DEPOTS

A deserter, who left the Ers. Bn. of the 65th Inf. Regt. at COLOGNE on the 26th Nov., states that 500 recruits born in the year 1900 joined the recruit companies of his depot on the 22nd Nov.

This confirms the statement given in Annexe to G.H.Q. Summary of the 3rd November, 1917.

6. INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM PRISONERS

An N.C.O. of 1st Machine Gun Coy., 29th Inf. Regt. states :-

Dispositions. - The 1st Machine Gun Coy., with 10 guns, is 150m. in rear of the main front line. Two guns are, however, in the outpost line. (The Coy. is 12 strong). The guns are grouped in such a way as to command as large a field of fire as possible.

By day the guns are placed under cover (co rruated iron over shell holes).

By night they are mounted in the open. The prisoner could not indicate the exact location of the guns, as he is unfamiliar with the sector.

Machine gun tactics. - The two guns in the outpost line are intended for the immediate repulse of an attack. Should the attackers succeed in penetrating the main line of resistance, the latter would be withdrawn temporarily until about level with the 10 guns in rear, which would then enter into action. Overhead fire would not be employed.

The prisoner only knows of one case in which overhead fire was employed, viz at WARNETON. There, it was not a success, as the infantry complained that they had fired short. To the prisoners knowledge systematic machine gun fire was not employed by the Germans. He had never seen any machine gun barrage maps. He does not know the reason for this.

7. MOVEMENT OF AIRCRAFT UNITS TO THE CAMBRAI FRONT

During the past week, the movement of the following aircraft units to the CAMBRAI Front has been established :-

- 3 Pursuit Flights from FLANDERS.
- 3 Protective Flights from FLANDERS.
- 1 Protective Flight from ARTOIS.
- 1 Reconnaissance Flight from FLANDERS.
- 1 "A" Flight from FLANDERS.

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8. GERMAN REINFORCEMENTS ON THE CAMBRAI FRONT

(In continuation of para. 3 of G.H.Q. Summary Serial No. 328 dated 24th Nov., 1917 and Second Army Summary No. 869, dated Nov. 25th, part III, Para. 6.)

At the beginning of the CAMBRAI offensive, 3 German divisions were in line on the front attacked, viz. :-

20th Landwehr Div.
54th Division.
9th Res. Div.

Two divisions were resting within easy distance of the battle front, and were sent up to reinforce, viz. :-

107th Div., (recently arrived from Russia).
214th Res. Div. (in the DOUAI area.)

Since the 20th Nov., the sector of attack has been reinforced by 13 other divisions, drawn from the following sources :-

From the Crown Prince RUPPRECHT'S Group of Armies :-

6 from Flanders, viz. :-

3rd Guard Div.
119th Div.
185th Div.
220th Div.
49th Res. Div.
9th Bav. Res. Div.

1 from the QUEANT sector, viz. :-

20th Division.

From the Crown Prince's Group and from Duke ALBRECHT of WURTEMBERG'S Group :-

2 from LAON, viz. :-

28th Div.
30th Div.

3 from CHAMPAGNE, viz. :-

34th Div.
221st Div.
21st Res. Div.

1 from the WOEVRÉ, viz. :-

208th Div.

9. GERMAN ARMoured CARS

(a) The 1st Armoured Car Detachment was identified by document at WUNSDORF, 25 miles south of BERLIN, on the 1st September.

(b) The following are extracts from letters written by an N.C.O. belonging to the 3rd Armoured Car Detachment :-

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Trebbitz, 13th November, 1917.

Dear Adolf,

I have just heard that I am to be transferred to the Armoured Car Detachment. What a queer job for an old soldier to take to! I shall give you more details about it when I get there. It is all right when one can drive up to the trenches behind armour plate; otherwise, it is certain death. We have seen what the English have done with their Tanks, and we shall no doubt do the same. Do not write again till you get my new address.

Berlin, 18th November.

Dear Adolf,

I write to tell you that I shall not return to the 1st RES. ERS. REGT. At my medical examination yesterday they passed me as fit for tropical service (TROPENFAHIG), and I shall no doubt go to TURKEY almost immediately. I am still, for the moment, at SCHONEBURG, but on Monday ~~to~~ Tuesday I shall join the 3rd Armoured Car Detachment (STURMPANZER-KRAFTWAGEN-ABTEILUNG 3) at BERLIN-LANKWITZ.

10. COMING FROM THE ARMY

A captured order, issued by German General Headquarters, dated 26th September, 1917, states :-

(a) The situation regarding reserves for the army is such that fit (K.V.) officers, N.C.O's and men over 41 years of age, who are claimed by industries in Germany, will not be released from military service in the same numbers as hitherto. Only in exceptional cases, where the services of experts are essential to the continuance of war industries, will anyone be released from service.

(b) The above does not apply to men fit for garrison duty (G.V) employed on the L. of C.

(c) An exception is made in favour of coal-mining experts. All such men claimed from Germany will be released immediately. (See Second Army Summary, Part II, dated 22nd August, 1917).

11. GERMAN UNITS FOR SERVICE IN ASIATIC TURKEY

A document indicates that the 703rd CAVALRY TROOP (ZUG) had left GERMANY for service in the east before the 10th October, 1917. MILITÄRWERFER TRUPPEN, pioneer ABTEILUNG and cavalry ZUG have now all been identified, numbered in the 700 series and destined for service in ASIATIC TURKEY, in addition to the infantry battalions of this series.

12. GERMAN APPRECIATION OF THE SITUATION AT THE END OF OCTOBER

The following is a translation of a captured order issued by the Second German Army on the 31st OCTOBER, 1917.

(1) In consequence of the crushing reverses suffered by the Italians, which have seriously threatened the military situation of our enemies, the British and French will adopt a more active policy on the Western Front. The success of the French on the LAFFAUX salient will further strengthen these intentions. Resolutions in this sense appear to have been adopted by the War Council of our enemies.

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(ii) Hence, it is of particular importance for us at the present moment to be continuously and rapidly informed about the enemy's intentions. We must, therefore, utilise to the full, every available source of intelligence, such as, air reconnaissance, comparison of the enemy's artillery activity, interrogation of prisoners and close observation of the enemy's attitude. If this is carried out, no hostile preparations for attack on a large scale can escape our notice.

(iii) I call upon each Group Headquarters to concentrate its most particular attention on the above points, and to take steps to carry out frequent and carefully prepared raids with the object of securing prisoners.

(iv) In the sector between the SOMME and the OISE the change in the enemy's attitude points to either considerable reliefs or to preparations for an attack. It is, therefore, of especial importance that the troops holding this sector, should, at the earliest possible moment, regain that mastery of No man's Land which they appear to have lost for the present.

The General Officer Commanding,
(Signed) von der MARWITZ.
General and A.D.C. to His Majesty.

13. DEFENCES AGAINST AERIAL BOMBARDMENT

Prisoner of 15th R.I.R., 2nd Guard Res. Divn., states that his regiment was billeted in specially dug concrete bomb-proof dugouts in GITSBERG. These were built under the ground, and were 7' high, and had at least 3' of overhead cover. The dugouts were large enough to accommodate 30-40 men if necessary, but the billeting was so arranged that only a few men were put into each dugout to enable them to sleep on beds in comfort. Prisoner thinks it is quite common in the villages behind the line for troops to be billeted in similar shelters.

14. GERMAN TANKS

According to an Alsatian deserter, a man in his company who came from the firm of Henschell & Co., at CASSEL, stated that an order had been given for 300 Tanks about April last. A certain number had now been completed. They are said to be armed with four machine guns and 2 light guns each: two different patterns are believed to exist.

15. RELIEFS ON THE RUSSIAN FRONT

Prisoners of the 16th Res. Div. state that, when in line in GALICIA last month, they had the 33rd Div. on their left and an Austrian cavalry division on their right. A Coy. sector averaged about 1000 yards.

The 16th Res. Div. was relieved by a brigade of Polish volunteers from the WARSAW area. These troops wore a uniform similar to the Austrian one, with a cap of Russian pattern, bearing an eagle as a badge. Prisoners state that the 33rd Div., which had been withdrawn from the front, is also coming to France. Tired Austro-Hungarian Divs. from Italy are being put into line on the Russian front in relief of fresh divs. which are being sent to Italy.

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16. GERMAN MACHINE GUN ESTABLISHMENTS

There are two types of machine guns :-

- (a) Heavy (08 pattern), corresponding to our Vickers' gun.
- (b) Light (8/15 pattern), corresponding to our Lewis gun.

Other types of light machine gun or automatic rifle, e.g. Bergmann, Madsen, and Parabellum, appear to have been discarded.

The normal establishment is now :-

Light machine guns:- 2-3 per infantry coy. (72-108 per division)

Heavy machine guns:- 8-12 per bn. machine gun coy. (72-108 per division).

The minimum figure is probably normal for divisions in quiet sectors of the front, the maximum being reached in active sectors.

The average number per division is, therefore :-

90 light machine guns; 90 heavy machine guns. Total, 180.

At present (December, 1917) there are also about 90 independent "machine gun marksman detachments," (each of 3 companies) which are G.H.Q. troops, and are allotted as required to particular sectors of the front. These companies are similar in establishment to the battalion machine gun companies:-

The total number of machine guns in the German Army may, therefore be calculated as follows :-

240 X 90 = 21,600 light machine guns with companies.
 240 X 90 = 21,600 heavy machine guns with battalions.
 270 X 10 = 2,700 heavy machine guns in marksmen detts.
 135 X 10 = 1,350 heavy m.g's. in mountain and cavalry units.

47,050 machine guns of both types.

17. DRAFTS FROM RUSSIA TO BEVERLOO CAMP

(a) A prisoner of the 68th Res. Inf. Regt. (16th Res. Div.) captured S.W. of CAMBRAI, had joined his regiment in the CAMBRAI area on the 1st Dec., from the training centre at BEVERLOO. He had arrived at BEVERLOO in October, with a draft of about 1000 men, mostly between the ages of 20 and 25, all withdrawn from regiments on the Russian front. At BEVERLOO, the men underwent a month's training in order to fit them for trench warfare on the Western Front.

(b) A prisoner, captured in the LENS area, confirms the arrival at BEVERLOO of large drafts, aged 20 - 25, from Russia. These men replaced younger recruits, probably the 1919 class, who were transferred to Russia. The moral of the training camp appears to have improved in consequence. The prisoner states that there are at present about 25,000 men at BEVERLOO, but that the camp can accommodate twice as many.

18. THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF FIELD POSITIONS

1. The principal change in the 3rd Edition, (Aug., 1917) of the "General Principles of the Construction of Field Positions" is that it lays down that the defence must be conducted "not in lines but in defensive zones,....distributed in depth" (which may amount to several kilometres) instead of (as in the previous edition) "a strongly constructed first position with plenty of depth...of several continuous but not parallel lines," with other similar positions behind it.

2. The defences will include :-

The outpost zone, to deny the enemy observation into the battle zone.

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**15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.**

APPENDIX.

No.

Date.

The battle zone, in which the really heavy hostile attack will be combatted.

The rearward zone, to hold up the enemy who has broken through.

The battle zone and the rearward zone must be so placed that they are not liable to simultaneous artillery bombardment.

"The enemy who has broken through should eventually find himself surrounded in front and flank by fire trenches and obstacles, and it should then be possible to annihilate him by means of well-hidden machine guns and trench mortars, and also by the guns told off to deal with ground inside our front line".

3. Outpost and battle zones are organised alike, except that in the latter the works should be more carefully constructed and more numerous. Each should consist of: a "system of defensive works (not crowded together - with gaps for counter-attack), obstacles and dug outs...and, as regards the infantry position, a network of trenches (with short field of fire) composed of many continuous lines, irregularly traced 150 to 400 yards apart, with numerous communication trenches,.....supporting points, holding on points and groups of dug outs."

In the rearward zones, simple works must suffice."

Machine guns and dug outs form the framework of all defensive arrangements in depth, the former being placed for flanking fire so that every trench and every interval is under flanking and cross fire.

4. The sequence of work in preparing a defensive position is laid down as :-

- (i) Arrangements for bringing up material, (roads, railways, dumps
- (ii) Dug outs, flanking arrangements, observation and command posts.
- (iii) Obstacles and construction of signal communications.
- (iv) Earth works.

5. Greater stress is laid on alternative positions for guns and their use in the open, with dug outs for personnel and ammunition at suitable points; the shell-proof storage of ammunition; the organisation of secure command and intelligence communications, and of arrangements for alarm.

6. The responsibility of the several staffs for the construction of the various portions of the defence is more clearly defined, viz, Army and Corps for rearward positions, and divisional for the outpost and battle zones.

7. The importance of the improvement and maintenance of the road, tramway and railway systems, and of arrangements for traffic control during the periods of pressure is more strongly emphasised; the necessity for correcting mistakes in siting and construction in the front zone, and the method of organising shell-hole positions are pointed out.

8. The preparations for the offensive include
- (a) Pushing forward of the front trenches.
 - (b) Dug outs and shelter trenches for the assault troops.
 - (c) Improvement of communications.
 - (d) Artillery and trench mortar positions.
 - (e) Dumps- (f) Housing arrangements.

But, to secure surprise, "which is the most decisive factor in success," the extent of the work must be strictly limited, and be concealed.

appx 22

The battle zone, in which the really heavy hostile attack will be directed, is held up by the enemy who has broken through. The battle zone and the rearward zone must be so placed that they are not liable to simultaneous artillery bombardment.

The enemy who has broken through should preferably attack lateral positions in front and flank by fire trenches and obstacles and it should be possible to annihilate him by means of well hidden machine guns and trench mortars, and also by the use of gas to deny with ground troops the front line.

Defence and battle zones are organized alike, except that in the latter the work should be more carefully considered and more numerous. Each should consist of a system of defensive works (not necessarily trenches) with gaps for counter-attacks, obstacles and wire. As regards the lateral position, a network of trenches (with their field of fire) composed of many continuous lines, three daily trained to the same speed, with numerous communication trenches, supporting points, holding on points and groups of the same.

In the lateral zone, single works must suffice. Machine guns and gas are the backbone of all defensive systems in a line, the latter being placed for flanking fire to meet every threat and every interval in the trenching and cross.

The sequence of work in preparing a defensive position is laid down as follows:

- (i) Arrangements for bringing up material, (roads, railways, dumps)
- (ii) For wire, flanker arrangements, observation and command posts
- (iii) Obstacles and construction of lateral communication.
- (iv) Earth works.

Greater stress is laid on offensive positions for guns and their use in the open, with dug outs for personnel and ammunition at suitable points, the shell-proof storage of ammunition, the organization of reserve command and in flanking communication, and of arrangements for fire.

The responsibility of the various staffs for the organization of the various portions of the defence is more clearly defined, viz., Army and Corps for rearward positions, and divisions for the outpost and battle zones.

The importance of the improvement and maintenance of the road, railway and railway systems, and of arrangements for traffic control during the periods of pressure is more strongly emphasized; the necessity for correcting mistakes in wiring and construction in the front zone, and the need of systematic shell-hole positions are stated out.

- (a) The preparation for the offensive includes:
 - (i) Positioning forward of the front trenches.
 - (ii) The wire and other factors for the rearward zone.
 - (iii) Improvement of communication.
 - (iv) Artillery and trench mortar positions.
 - (v) Dumps (if) housing arrangements.
- But to secure surprise, which is the most decisive factor in success, the extent of the work must be strictly limited, and be concentrated.

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15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.	
No.	22
Date	

For Official Use Only

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 a.m. 15th December - to - 6 a.m. 16th December 1917.

NOTE. Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Our artillery were actively engaged during the period with registration, bombardments, wire cutting, and searching and harassing fire. During the day wire cutting was continued in the vicinity of LAKE HOUSE, and at night searching fire was maintained on the surrounding area. Bombardments of KORTEWILDE, THE GIANT, THE TWINS, POLL HOUSE, SPUD, PAT and COPSE FARMS were carried out during the afternoon. At irregular intervals during the night bursts of harassing fire were put down on KINGSCLERE, OTIR TRENCH in 0.36.a., H.Q. at P.31.b.80.75 and P.31.a.65.95. Vicinity of Trench Mortar emplacements at 0.36.c.7.2, of dugouts and cross roads at 0.36.b.2.5 were also intermittently swept by fire. Searching of roads and tracks was continued during the night. L.T.M.'s. Firing on known targets and M.G. positions which were active, was carried out during the night, 170 rounds expended. Machine guns. At night our Machine guns carried out harassing fire on PILLGRIMS FARM (0.24.a.), POLL FARM, cross roads in 0.18.b., the valleys of the BLUWEPPOORTBEEK and WAMBEEK, enemy trenches in 0.18.d., and tracks and occupied positions. Patrols. Our patrols were active on the whole front. They report as follows :-
- Enemy wire in 0.35.d. was reconnoitred and found to be very thick and about 5' high.
 - Sap leading towards enemy lines from about U.5.b.8.9 was examined and found to be filled with barbed wire near enemy line. This sap comes to within about 20 yards of our line and has been used as a listening post by us.
 - Enemy heard working on his wire at 0.36.c.20.35.
 - The WAMBEEK was found to be swampy for a width of 40 yards.
 - No enemy seen in RO MAN'S LAND.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING. Enemy artillery was slightly more active than usual on left sub-sector. STEIGNAST FARM (U.5.a.) was shelled during the morning with 4.2" from direction of BAS WARNETON. Vicinity 0.34. central, and 0.35.a. and c. were shelled intermittently with 77 mm., 4.2", and 5.9". NESSINES was lightly shelled at intervals during the day. VERNE ROAD (0.16.) and MANCHESTER STREET were lightly shelled At 3.50 p.m. WYTSCHLAETE cross roads was shelled with 4.2" from COMINES direction. Other areas shelled were :- 0.34.a. and b. and 0.28.c. (5.9" from WARNETON direction); ROE WOOD (0.16.a.) (5.9" from KORTEWILDE); The WAMBEEK Valley was shelled with gas shells during the night.

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4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Minenwerfer. There was no retaliation by enemy to our L.T.M. fire during the night.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Machine Guns. U.5.d.9.5 (fired on patrol) U.6.c.1.8. (sweeps U.5.b.8.9. regularly every evening, also tracks leading to our front line. Fires very accurately and low along the road.) M.P.'s. were also active from BEEK FARM in the night.
6. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Two men seen entering a pill box at about O.36.b.3.7. They appeared to be wearing GREEN uniform. Smoke seen at 8.10 a.m. from chimney of a house at O.36.d. 25.55 lasted for 10 minutes. At 6.45 a.m. a party of about 30 men was seen at PILL FARM (O.24.a.) in fatigue dress going east. Enemy transport was distinctly heard at dusk on Left Centre of Left Brigade (O.17.) Train Movement slight, 7 trains were observed by the Right Brigade, 4 going North, remainder South.
7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. On the right 9 enemy planes were observed to fly over our lines at various times during the morning, all flying very high. Two enemy planes patrolled our lines for a short time on the left. Our planes were active in patrolling during the day.
8. SIGNALLING. Nil.
9. GENERAL. Two escaped prisoners of war were recaptured in our forward area about O.16. at 5 a.m. this morning. They had left MARQUISE North of BOULOGNE at midnight the 12th/13th instant and had travelled since by night, remaining hidden in woods and hay stacks by day. For rations they had saved up bread and bully beef, and picked turnips in the fields.

J.W. Robinson
 Capt for Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

No.	
Date	
15th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION	
APPENDIX. COM. COY.	
No.	
Date	

Headquarters,
19-12-17.

I wish all my comrades of the 5th Australian Division a Happy Christmas - as happy as it can be under existing conditions. I hope indeed it will be the last we shall spend away from Australia.

I take this opportunity of thanking you all for the splendid and loyal assistance you have given me during the last twelve months. By your gallantry, efficiency and good discipline you have won for the Division a reputation of which we may be justly proud - a reputation that inspires the hope that in the coming struggle we shall with honour and distinction take our full share.

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J. J. Hobbs.

Major-General,
Commanding 5th Australian Division.

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15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN 15th AUSTRALIAN APPENDIX No. 24 Date 25/12/17

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

LOCATION LIST No 3.

22.12.17

Brigade Headquarters	. . .	PARENTY
15th A.L.T.M.B.	. . .	-do-
15th M.G.Co.	. . .	COURSE
15th M.G.Co.Transport	. . .	LE MOIS JULIEN
29th A.A.S.C.	. . .	MUSLETTTE
Supply Section and Dump	. . .	HODICQ
57th Battalion	. . .	BOUDEAUVILLE
" " Transport	. . .	HODICQ
58th Battalion	. . .	COURMET
59th Battalion	. . .	ERQUIV
60th Battalion	. . .	BRUBERT
15th Field Ambulance.	. . .	CUMEN
15th Field Co.A.E.	. . .	WIERRE-AU-BOIS

D.A.D.O.S.	. . .	DE VRES.
A.D.M.S.	. . .	SAMER
Div.Salvage	. . .	CARLY
A.P.M.	. . .	SAMER
Div.Paymaster	. . .	SAMER
5th Mobile Vet.Section	. . .	SAMER
8th Field Ambulance	. . .	VERWICHES
No.2 Dental Unit.	. . .	DEVIRES
No.32 Dental Unit	. . .	CORMONT
No.23 Dental Unit	. . .	SAMER

- (a) All previous lists are cancelled.
- (b) Transport is with units unless otherwise stated.
- (c) Headquarters are at villages named.

J. Gallan

Captain.
Staff Capt.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

APP 24



SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

By FIELD-MARSHAL SIR DOUGLAS HAIG

K.T., G.C.B., G.C.V.O., K.C.I.E
Commander-in-Chief, British Armies in France.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY. 123
APPENDIX 25

I desire to wish all ranks of the British Armies in France everything good for Christmas and the New Year.

I know well what our troops have gone through. The bravery, the determination, and endurance evinced by them in all the heavy fighting that has taken place during the past year command my warmest gratitude and heartfelt admiration.

Our victories and successes have been very considerable, and, in combination with the efforts of our French Allies, might well have led to an early and complete victory, had it not been for the collapse of the Russian Government and the consequent disruption of the Russian Armies. It behoves us now to harden our hearts and steel ourselves for further effort.

I have every confidence that the same brilliant courage and cheerful determination, which has been shewn so unfailingly by one and all in the past, will avail in the coming year to meet any further demands that may be made on us for the safety of our hearths and homes.

D. Haig. Flu.

Commander-in-Chief,
British Armies in France.

General Headquarters,
23rd December, 1917.

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APPX 25
PRESS A-12/17.



SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

By FIELD-MARSHAL SIR DOUGLAS HAIG

K.T., G.C.B., G.C.V.O., K.C.I.E
Commander-in-Chief, British Armies in France.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
Date APPENDIX 25

CHRISTMAS MESSAGES FROM HIS MAJESTY THE KING AND HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

I send to all ranks of the Navy and Army my hearty good wishes for Christmas and the New Year. I realise your hardships patiently and cheerfully borne and rejoice in the successes you have won so nobly. The Nation stands faithful to its pledges resolute to fulfil them.

MAY GOD BLESS YOUR EFFORTS AND GIVE US VICTORY.

GEORGE R.I.

Our Christmas thoughts are with sick and wounded sailors and soldiers. We know by personal experience with what patience and cheerfulness their suffering is borne. We wish all a speedy restoration to health, a restful Christmastide and brighter days to come.

GEORGE R.I.
MARY R.

D. Haig. Flu.

Commander-in-Chief,
British Armies in France.

General Headquarters,
23rd December, 1917.

PRINTED IN FRANCE BY ARMY PRINTING AND STATIONERY SERVICES.

PRESS A-12/17.

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APPENDIX

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APPENDIX 26
 AUSTRALIAN
 MACHINE GUN COY.
 No.

HEADQUARTERS, AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.
 FRANCE 25th DECEMBER 1917.

On the occasion of our fourth Christmas on active service, I send my heartiest greeting to all members of the A.I.F. Another strenuous year is drawing to a close—a year in which the magnificent traditions of the A.I.F. have been fully upheld by the loyal and gallant service of one and all. During this period, Bapaume - Bullecourt Messines and Ypres have been added to the splendid list of honours, which begins with the landing at Gallipoli---Lone Pine---and later Pozieres—names which are indelibly recorded in the History of Australia, and which will never be forgotten.

At this season of the year, our thoughts go out especially to those who have fallen, and those now in hospital as a result of sickness and wounds. The memory of our gallant comrades who have made the supreme sacrifice can but strengthen our determination to achieve complete victory over our enemies in this struggle for the preservation of right, and the establishment of a peace under conditions which will permanently safeguard the freedom of the world.

I know that all in France will join with me in sending best wishes to our comrades in hospital for their rapid and complete recovery.

W. R. BIRDWOOD.

A.I.F. P.S.---389---M---12-17

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APPENDIX 27

Headquarters,
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.
25th December 1917

- 57th Battalion
- 58th Battalion
- 59th Battalion
- 60th Battalion
- 15th M.G. Coy.
- 15th A.L.T.M.B.
-



Y.M.C.A. Gifts.

The Australian Y.M.C.A. have presented every man in the Brigade with a leather wallet as an Xmas present. Units will arrange to draw these at once from the Brigade Supply Dump to enable the men receiving them on Xmas day. The Y.M.C.A. are desirous that a responsible officer in each unit undertake the issue of the wallets.

Xmas Greetings.

Following message has been received by General Hobbs from General Birdwood.
"Very best of Good Wishes for Christmas and coming year to you and all ranks of your Division who have fought so well and done so much during this last year.

Major General J.G. Legge C.B, C.M.G. has sent Xmas Greetings to the Brigade.

Supplies.

Issues will be made tomorrow as follows:-

- 1st issue. 9.30 a.m. : 1st line transport.
- 2nd issue. 1 p.m. : 2nd line transport.

[Handwritten signature]

Captain.
Staff Capt.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

appx 27

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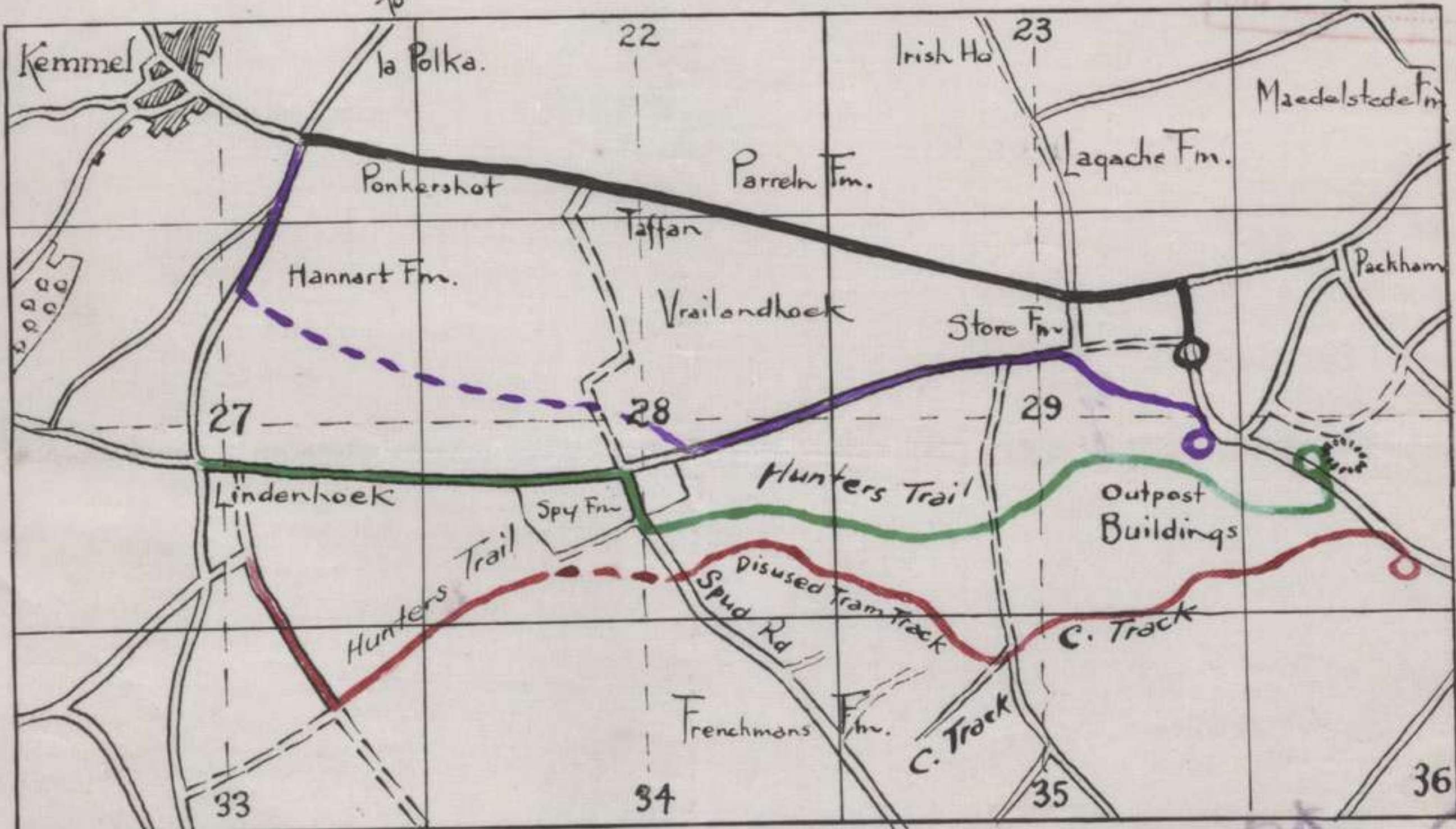
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Map to accompany N° S.G. 7/37
LEGEND Battalion routes shown thus

- 57th Bn. — (black line)
- 58th Bn. — (purple line)
- 59th Bn. — (red line)
- 60th Bn. — (green line)
- Incomplete Rd. - - - (dashed line)

15TH
AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN COY.
No. _____
Date _____



Part of sheet 28 Square N. Scale 1:20,000.

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APPENDIX. 28

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.

Headquarters,
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.
13th November 1917



- 57th Battalion
- 58th Battalion
- 59th Battalion
- 60th Battalion
- 15th A.L.T.M.B.

In the event of hostile attack the general line for assembly of the Brigade will be N.36.A. Central to N.29.B. Central. Units will be in position from right to left as follows 59th Battalion-57th Battalion-60th Battalion-58th Battalion with L.T.M.B. about STORE FARM (N.29.A.7.2), *all* ready to move on MESSINES or WYTSCHAETE as may be required.

Units will forthwith reconnoitre all routes, to and forward of this assembly position.

15TH AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
No. *Recd*
Date. *16/11/17*

SP

[Signature]

Major.
Brigade Major.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

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Headquarters,
15th Aust. Inf. Bde.

APPENDIX 28
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SECRET.

18th November 1941

15th AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COY.
No.
Date.

Ref. ATTACHED MAP

ACTION OF RESERVE BRIGADE IN CASE OF ATTACK

- The following policy in connection with the employment of the Reserve Brigade in case of an attack has been decided upon by the G.O.C. Division.
- The reserve Brigade will be used to assist the Brigades in the line in case the enemy should attack with the object of re-capturing MESSINES or WYTSCHAETE.
- The Reserve (15th Australian Infantry) Brigade is disposed as follows :

Brigade Headquarters	-	KEMMEL (N.21.C.9-5.)
57th Battalion	-	ROSSIGNOL CAMP.
58th Battalion	-	KEMMEL VILLAGE.
59th Battalion	-	LINDENHOEK CAMP.
60th Battalion	-	RAMILLES CAMP.
15th I.T.M.B.	-	KEMMEL VILLAGE.
- In the case of an attack the Reserve Brigade will move to the first position of assembly (General Line N.36.A. Central to N.29.B. Central) as under :

UNIT	FROM	TO	ROUTE.
59th Bn.	LINDENHOEK CAMP	N.30.C.4-4.	AS PER
60th Bn.	RAMILLES CAMP	N.30.C.1-7.	ATTACHED
58th Bn.	KEMMEL VILLAGE	N.29.D.7-7.	MAP.
57th Bn.	ROSSIGNOL CAMP	N.29.B.7.3	

The 15th M.G.Coy. and 15th L.T.M.B. will move to STORE FARM (N.29.A.)

- From these positions forward movement will depend on the situation but all Officers and N.C.O's must make a thorough reconnaissance of all routes forward - both to the right and left Brigade Sector.
- The following action will be taken with regard to working parties :-
 - Parties working East of the MESSINES - WYTSCHAETE ridge will always have their rifles and bandolier with them and in the event of hostile attack will act in conjunction with the troops on the spot.
 - All other parties will be warned (in the event of a concentration being ordered) under Battalion arrangements and steps will be at once taken to ensure that all detached parties know where to concentrate and the best routes to the position.
- Upon receipt of orders to concentrate Brigade Headquarters will move to REGENTS DUGOUTS (N.29.C.3-2) and Units will move to assembly positions mentioned in para 4.
- ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signature]
Major,
Brigade Major,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Distribution :-
57th Battalion
58th Battalion
59th Battalion
60th Battalion
15th M.G. Company ✓
15th A.I.T.M.B.

No. 4 Signal Section.
8th A.I. Brigade.
14th A.I. Brigade.
5th Aust. Division.
Staff Captain.
War Diaries (3 copies)
File.

APPX 28