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1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/8/29

Title: 8th Infantry Brigade

April 1918



AWM4-23/8/29

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955

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF
8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

FOR
April 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

W. M. ...
Battal ...

Signature of Officer Commanding

W. M. ...
Battal ...

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~ 8th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date 1918 | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|------------|--------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| VAUCHELLES | April | | | |
| | 1st | | <p>Day opened fine with fair amount of aerial activity. Training in battle formation is being carried out and all ranks are fit and well. G.O.C. and B.M. to 31st and 32nd Bns. and to 14th Inf. Bde. H.Qrs.</p> <p>War news is good, the New Zealand Division having done some very successful shows. We are still reserve to 3rd Army under 3 hours notice to move.</p> | No 1 |
| " | 2nd | | <p>Day was cloudy with intermittent showers. G.O.C. to 29th and 30th Bns. B.M. and S.C. to all units. Still no word of a move, but news has come to hand that the Corps should be down here very soon, and then we should get a job to do. Everybody is anxious to be busy but the period of waiting is having a good effect on the men generally.</p> | |
| " | 3rd | | <p>Day was wet. Training in Musketry and B.F. was carried out indoors. Word was received that the Corps was on its way down. News from the South is scarce but we appear to be holding the boche in conjunction with the French.</p> | |
| | 4/5th | | <p>Day wet. It was reported that we should move on 6th inst. At 3.40 p.m. word was received from G.S.O. 1 to stand by to embus at 7 p.m. Debussing point DAOURS destination AUBIGNY. Brigadier and Staff moved off at 5 p.m. and arrived at H.Q. 3rd Cav. Division at 6.30 p.m. Cav. Div. had no orders for us and Brigadier decided to use DAOURS and VECQUEMONT to billet troops for the night. Battalions arrived at 2 a.m. and by 3 a.m. were settled in billets. At 3.35 a.m. an Officer from 19th Corps arrived and instructed us to move to BOIS DE GENTELLES by march route. Bns. moved off at about 3.50 a.m. and Brigadier and Brigade Major by car to H.Q. 8 D.A. at T 9 b 9 0. Bns. arrived at 9 a.m. and concentration was complete at 10.30 a.m. We are now reserve to 19th Corps and will be used for counter attack purposes.</p> <p>At 6 p.m. orders arrived to effect that we were transferred to 58th Div. and to move H.Q. to St NICHOLAS. T 8 c and to relieve the 24th Div. in reserve line. 32nd Bn. were detailed for the work and relief was complete by 9.20 p.m. Brigade H.Q. was opened at T 8 c at 8 p.m. and Staff arrived back. Quiet night on front and our men had a good rest and are now quite fit again.</p> | No 2 |

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| St NICHOLAS | Ap1 6th | | <p>At 5 a.m. Brigade Staff of 175th Brigade arrived with orders to relieve us in the reserve line. Relief was carried on with and completed by 5.45 p.m. We have since come under orders of 18th Division and are to be used for counter-attack. Brigadier and B.M. to 18th Div. H.Qrs. where situation was discussed. 30th and 31st Bns. were detailed for the work and reconnaissance of the assembly positions was carried out. The 5th A.I.Bde. are now holding the line with 5th Division on the left. We are now in reserve to 18th Division. The 5th Brigade are attacking to straighten the line in front of BOIS de HANGARD tomorrow, and the operation should be successful. We junction with the French at HANGARD and they are fighting well.</p> | No 3 |
| " | 7th | | <p>Day opened fine with light showers of rain. Brigadier, Brigade Major and Staff Captain to all Bns. and 5th A.I.Bde during the day. Attack on BOIS de HANGARD by two companies of 5th A.I.Bde. partially successful. 30th officers and 140 o.r. prisoners. A boche attack on BOIS de HANGARD was anticipated by our attack by 5 minutes, which resulted in his attack being unsuccessful. At 4.30 p.m. G.S.O.1 5th Aust. Div. 'phoned that two Bns. of Brigade were to relieve 41st and 43rd Bdes. of the 14th Div. in the Northern portion of reserve line from about O 27 central Nth to R. SOMME as early as possible. The remainder of the Brigade were to be concentrated at BLANGY-TRONVILLE and the Brigade to come under orders of 5th Aust. Div. 30th and 31st Bns. detailed to take over reserve line. Brigadier, Brigade Major and C.O's. of 30th and 31st Bns. visited Brigade Commanders 41st and 43rd Brigades at BLANGY-TRONVILLE and arranged relief. All units on move by 6 p.m. 30th and 31st relief complete by 1 a.m.</p> | No 4 |
| BLANGY- TRONVILLE | 7/8th | | <p>Remaining units of Brigade settled in billets by 9 p.m. 8th M.Gun Coy. moved under orders of 5th Aust. M.G.Bn. to AUBIGNY. Move was carried out very quickly and without confusion. Situation quiet; intermittent shelling of rear areas. All ranks very fit and in good spirits.</p> | |

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| BLANGY-TRONVILLE | 8th April 1918 | | <p>During the morning 31st Bn moved Bn H.Qrs and one Company to VECQUEMONT. Brigade Major and Staff Captain to 30th and 32nd Bns, holding RESERVE LINE.</p> <p>In the afternoon Brigadier attended a conference at 15th Bde H.Qrs CORBIE. Corps, Divisional and 14th and 15th Bde Commanders were present. A Scheme for an attack by the Division on front of about 5000 yards and depth of 3000 yards against HAMEL was formulated and discussed. 8th and 14th Bde to carry out the operation each with three Battalions and one Battalion in support. Bde Major to Div. H.Qrs to discuss operation with G.S.O.1.</p> <p>Brigadier held a conference with Bn Commanders in the evening. The projected operation was discussed. It was decided that the 32nd, 30th and 31st Bns would do the attack, with 29th Bn in support. C.O's were instructed to make an exhaustive reconnaissance of the ground with as many officers and N.C.Os as time would permit.</p> <p>Day was very wet with poor visibility. All ranks in good spirits and very fit and well. Casualties for past 24 hours - 1 O.R. died of wounds, 3 O.R. wounded by shell fire.</p> | No 5 |
| CORBIE | 9th | 9/10th | <p>Weather overcast, poor visibility. Orders issued for 29th Bn to relieve 30th Bn in RIGHT Sector of NORTHERN Portion of RESERVE LINE. Arrangements for relief completed but move was held in obedience owing to intimation being received from Div. that the Bde would probably relieve 15th A.I.Bde in left sector Front Line tonight.</p> <p>Brigadier and Brigade Major made reconnaissance of ground in front of 15th A.I.Bde sector. Staff Captain to 15th Bde area to arrange positions for dumps etc. for projected attack by this Bde. Brigadier to Division during afternoon.</p> <p>At 6 p.m. verbal orders received for Bde to relieve 15th A.I.Bde in Left Sector, Front Line System tonight. Orders for same move issued and Bde on move by 7 p.m. 32nd, 30th and 31st Bns in line with 29th Bn in reserve, billeted in CORBIE. Bde H.Qrs in RED CHATEAU, CORBIE.</p> <p>Night was quiet. Relief completed by 2.47 a.m. No casualties reported to have occurred during the relief. All ranks are in good spirits and full of fight.</p> | No 6 |

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| CORBIE | 10th April 1918 | | <p>Day opened fine, with poor visibility. Orders for operation on about 11th April issued but later were cancelled on information being received from the Division to that effect. G.O.C. Division and B.G. R.A. 5th Aust. Div. visited Bde H.Qrs and during the afternoon discussed the defence of the Sector. Division intimated that a strong Defensive policy was to be adopted.</p> <p>Enemy shelled BOUZINCOURT at 4 p.m. causing casualties, otherwise very little enemy artillery activity on the front.</p> <p>All ranks are in good spirits and very fit.</p> <p>Casualties for past 24 hours -ended 12 noon 10/4/18 - 2 O.R. wounded.</p> <p>Intelligence Summary for past 24 hours is attached.</p> | No. 7.8 |
| | 11th | | <p>Fine day, only fair visibility. Brigadier to Centre and Right Bns during the morning. Bde Major to Left Bn in the afternoon, to discuss the defence of the Left Bn Sector. It was arranged that only a portion of BOUZINCOURT should be held and strong patrols should patrol the front of the village by night to deny it to the enemy. Staff Capt. to all line Bns during the afternoon.</p> <p>The dispositions as taken over from the 15th A.I.Bde were not consistent with the principle of defence in depth. Battalion Commanders were instructed to re-organize their defensive systems in order to remedy this defect.</p> <p>Enemy low flying aircraft were very active and bombing planes bombed back areas at night.</p> <p>Casualties for 24 hours ended 12 noon 11th -Killed 9 O.R., wounded Lieut N.H.PRETTY 32nd Bn 16 O.R., Missing 1 O.R.</p> <p>Intelligence Summary for past 24 hours is attached.</p> | No. |
| | 12th | | <p>Day opened very fine with exceptionally good visibility. Brigadier to Left Bn during the morning. Bde Major to Centre and Right Bns in the afternoon.</p> <p>Divisional Commander visited Brigade H.Qrs during the afternoon morning.</p> <p>G.S.O.1 Division and Brigade Major 14th A.I.Bde called in to arrange new inter-brigade boundary. The new boundary was arranged to run along FOUILLOY-WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT Road. A new site for Bde H.Qrs in the event of hostile shelling was reconnoitred on the Northern outskirts of CORBIE. Enemy aircraft was very active. One Gotha was reported as having crashed near BLANGY TRONVILLE. Casualties for past 24 hours ended 12 noon 12th. 2 O.R. killed, Lieut D. BREWSTER 30th Bn and 6 O.R. wounded. Intelligence Summary is attached.</p> | No. 8a No. 9.10 |

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| CORBIE | 13th April 1918 | | <p>Fine day with fair visibility. During the morning the Brigadier viewed sites suggested for alternative H.Qrs. It was decided to commence digging operations at once. Staff Captain to all front line Battalions. Division intimated that an enemy attack was expected on the Divisional front on the 14th Inst. Artillery concentration shoots were arranged to take place from midnight to 6.30 a.m. as a counter preparation</p> <p>Right Battalion carried out an inter-company relief.</p> <p>All ranks are very fit and well. Hot food is supplied regularly and is much appreciated. Casualties for past 24 hours ended 12 noon 13th - 5 O.R. killed, 10 O.R. wounded. Intelligence summary for past 24 hours is attached.</p> | No. 11 |
| | 14th | | <p>The weather was very uncertain. Bde Major to Left Battalion during the afternoon. The Divisional Commander called at Bde H.Qrs and emphasized the necessity of pushing on with defensive works. Defence of the Sector has been re-arranged so that the garrison are distributed in depth. Tactical and defensive wiring is being rapidly erected.</p> <p>The enemy shelled CORBIE with 5.9" H.E. during the afternoon demolishing several houses. All ranks are very fit and well and well prepared for any Boche attack. Casualties for 24 hours ended noon 14th, wounded 6 other ranks. Intelligence summary is attached.</p> | No. 12 |
| | 15th | | <p>Dull day with poor visibility. Brigadier and Staff Captain to Left Bn and Left Bn Observation Post during the morning. G.S.O.1 called in from Division, also G.S.O.2 from III Corps. The C.O. 5th Aust. Machine Gun Bn visited Brigade H.Qrs during the afternoon and discussed the siting of Vickers guns on the Left Bn sector.</p> <p>At 1.15 p.m. a fire broke out in CORBIE but was extinguished in half an hour by men from the Reserve Battalion.</p> <p>At 4.35 p.m. two of our fighting planes dropped five bombs and fired M.G. bursts into our support line, Right Bn sector.</p> <p>All front line Battalions are pushing vigorously ahead with wiring and strengthening of Strong points.</p> <p>Casualties for past 24 hours ended 12 noon 15th, 2 O.R. killed, 9 O.R. wounded. Intelligence summary is attached.</p> | No. 13 |

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| CORBIE | 16th April 1918 | | <p>Fine day with good visibility. Brigadier to Right and Centre Bns. A.A. & Q.M.G. Division called in and discussed "Q" matters with the Staff Captain. Two Staff Officers for Intelligence III Army visited Brigade Headquarters during the afternoon.</p> <p>Early in the afternoon intimation was received from Division that there were indications of an enemy attack on VILLERS BRETONNEUX developing. Several hundred of the enemy, including transport were observed by Bde O.P.'s on main road between CERISY and LAMOTTE during the afternoon. The artillery were informed and the road was bombarded at intervals during the afternoon and night.</p> <p>Artillery concentration carried out during the night on centres of activity and roads</p> <p>All ranks are very cheerful but are in need of clean underclothing. 130 O.R. were bathed today and every endeavour is being made to obtain the underclothing.</p> <p>Casualties for past 24 hours ended 12 noon 16th, 3, O.R. wounded.</p> <p>Intelligence summary is attached.</p> | No. 14 |
| " | 17th April | | <p>Day opened misty with intermittent light showers. Brigadier to Right and Centre Bns. Staff Captain to all Bns. during the day. Divisional Commander called in during the afternoon to discuss the re-allotment of boundaries. The Brigade are extending their front 2000 yards to the left across the SOMME. The 29th Bn. will take over the new portion of the line Nth. of the SOMME and 32nd Bn. and one Coy. 30th Bn. front will be taken over by 14th A.I. Bde. The 32nd Bn. will then become the reserve Bn. to the pde.</p> <p>VILLERS BRETONNEUX was subjected to a heavy gas bombardment throughout the day. The village was evacuated and about 86 casualties sustained. An examination of a prisoner captured near HANGARD WOOD indicates that an attack on VILLERS BRETONNEUX may be expected within the next few days.</p> <p>Two Companies of 29th Bn. were bathed during the day. All ranks are keen and ready to meet the boche if he attacks.</p> <p>Casualties for past 24 hours :- 6 o.r. killed: 9 o.r. wounded.</p> <p>Intelligence Summary is attached.</p> | No. 15 |

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| CORBIE | 1918 18th April | | <p>The day opened with light mist, but the visibility improved towards the afternoon. Brigadier to 11th A.I.Bde. headquarters and discussed the new area to be taken over by 29th Bn. Brigade Major and Staff captain to all battalions during the afternoon.</p> <p>Brigade Major 14th A.I.Bde. visited Bde. H.Q. and arrangements were made for 53rd and 54th Bns. to relieve 32nd Bn. and one company of 30th Bn. during night of 20/21st inst.</p> <p>VILLERS BRETTONEUX was again subjected to heavy concentration of gas during the morning. HAMELET and LEFT Battalion Headquarters at VAIRE were shelled at about 4.30 p.m. As a precaution against a gas bombardment the Company in VAIRE was withdrawn to CORBIE..</p> <p>All ranks are very fit and the health generally very good.</p> <p>Casualties for past 24 hours ended 12 noon 18th - 3 O.R. wounded.</p> <p>Intelligence Summary is attached.</p> | <p>No. 16</p> |
| | 19th | | <p>Day opened fine with very good visibility. The Divisional Commander called during the morning and discussed the pending adjustment of boundaries. When the adjustment has been completed two Battalions of the Brigade will be on the left bank of the SOMME and two on the right bank, one of the latter being in reserve to the Brigade. Orders for the operation were discussed.</p> <p>Brigade Major and Staff Captain to 11th A.I.Bde during the afternoon to arrange the taking over of the right Bn sector of the 11th A.I.Bde.</p> <p>C.O. 5th M.G.Bn discussed the question of the defence of the Canal with the Bde Major and arrangements were made for the allotment of a percentage of Vickers guns for Canal defence.</p> <p>CORBIE was subjected to a bombardment with 5.9" and 8" shells, a direct hit being obtained on the Church. Enemy artillery fire has slightly increased during the past few days and increased aerial activity has been most marked.</p> <p>All ranks are fit but, with the exception of the 29th Bn, feel the want of a bath and a clean change of underclothing.</p> <p>Casualties for past 24 hours ended 12 noon 19/4/18 - 1 O.R. Killed, 5 O.R. wounded.</p> <p>Intelligence summary for past 24 hours is attached.</p> | <p>No. 17.18</p> |

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| CORBIE | 20th April 1918. | | <p>At 11.15 p.m. a patrol from 32nd Bn, Commanded by Lieut TREASURE engaged an enemy patrol of 1 Off and 20 O.R.. Six of the enemy were killed and a wounded prisoner brought in. Prisoner belonged to 43 I.R. of 1st Division and gave quite a lot of useful information. Order of battle normal.</p> <p>G.O.C. and Staff Captain to Right Bn Headquarters and Brigade Major to Left Bn during day. The day was very fine with good visibility and enemy aircraft, in consequence, was very active. Three enemy aeroplanes were brought down by our 'planes. Hostile artillery fire was very active shelling roads and villages.</p> <p>The Battalions are pushing ahead with wiring and strengthening the defences in the forward area. A considerable amount of useful work has been done since the Bde took over the sector. Casualties for past 24 hours ended noon 20th - 3 O.R. killed, 9 O.R. wounded. Intelligence summary for past 24 hours is attached.</p> | No. 19 |
| | 21st | | <p>The day was fine with very good visibility. The Divisional Commander called during the morning and discussed the defence of the SOMME RIVER and CANAL with the Brigadier. It was decided to hold the bridge-heads with one company of Reserve Battalion, supported by Vickers guns distributed in depth along the CANAL for about 3,000 yards.</p> <p>Brigade Major to new Brigade Headquarters under construction. The tunnellers working on these Headquarters discovered some subterranean passages leading th in the direction of CORBIE CHURCH. Staff Captain to 11th A.I.Bde Headquarters.</p> <p>Both our planes and the BOCHE were very active today and several airfights took place. The famous air pilot Baron Von RICHTHOFEN was brought down by a Lewis gunner from the 53rd Battery 14th Aust. F.A.Bde. HAMLET was shelled with 50 rounds of "Green Cross" gas at 2.35 a.m. today but no casualties were caused.</p> | |
| | Night 21/22nd | | <p>The 32nd Bn and Right Coy 30th Bn were relieved by 53rd Bn and one Coy of 54th Bn; relief complete by 1 a.m. On relief 32nd Bn billeted in CORBIE. The 29th Bn relieved the 42nd Bn in the Right Bn sector of 11th A.I.Bde on the Right Bank of the SOMME River, relief complete by 10.45 p.m.</p> <p>The Brigade is now disposed as follows :- 30th and 31st Bns on left bank of SOMME River, 29th Bn Right Bank of SOMME River, 8th L.T.M.B. at VAIRE. No casualties occurred during the relief and night was very quiet.</p> <p>Casualties for past 24 hours ended noon 21st - 3 O.R. killed, 9 O.R. wounded. Intelligence summary for past 24 hours is attached</p> | No. 20 |

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| CORBIE | 22nd April 1918 | | <p>The ad day opened very fine with exceptionally good visibility. Between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. a party of about 30 boche were seen approaching a post of the Right Bn. They were driven off with Lewis Gun and Rifle fire. Later, a patrol found some Boche rifles and a Machine Gun belt and blood was seen on the ground.</p> <p>Brigadier to centre Battalion during the morning.</p> <p>One company 32nd Bn took over the defence of SOMME River and Canal from the 50th Bn, 13th A.I. Bde. The remainder of the 32nd Bn moved into position as Reserve Battalion supporting the 29th Bn, at dusk.</p> <p>At 9:45 p.m. information was received from Division from 4th Guards Division captured near VILLERS BRETONNEUX in night of 20/21st inst stated that his Division would probably attack VILLERS BRETONNEUX on 23rd April. All units were notified and special precautions ordered.</p> <p>The Brigade Major visited the front line system of the left Battalion returning at 2:15 a.m. The garrison of this sector are occupying the old French G.H.C. line which is well sited and well constructed.</p> <p>All ranks of the Brigade are in good spirits but with the exception of the 29th and 32nd Bns require a bath and clean underclothing.</p> <p>Casualties for past 24 hours ending 12 a.m. ww 22nd inst. <i>L.A. D. Skinner wounded 1.</i> Intelligence Summary attached. <i>P. R. wounded.</i></p> | |
| | Night 22/23 | | | |
| | 23rd | | <p>Day opened very bright and clear. Enemy artillery very quiet.</p> <p>At 5:30 P.M, enemy subjected the valley of the SOMME, HAMELET, CORBIE and AUBIGNY to a heavy concentration of gas shells chiefly 4.2" Yellow Cross. The shelling was continuous for about 2 hours. Several direct hits were obtained on Brigade Headquarters Chateau. 32nd BN were heavily shelled with gas but very few casualties were sustained. Bde. H.Qrs. moved to dugouts in I.35.c.3.5. and were fully established at 11:20 p.m.</p> <p>Casualties for past 24 hours <i>3 D.R. wounded</i> Intelligence Summary attached.</p> | No 21 No 22. |

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| CORBIE | 24th April 1918 | Night 24/25 | <p>At 3:30 a.m. the enemy put down a heavy barrage on the front line system of the 8th Div in the right but very little on our front. At 6 a.m. the enemy attacked with 4 divisions on a front of about 5,000 yards with VILLERS BRETONNEUX and BOIS de l'ABBE as his main objectives. It is reported that 6 tanks were employed in the attack. The enemy succeeded in pushing back the British troops after very hard fighting, to the outskirts of BOIS de l'ABBE.</p> <p>The 14th A.I. Bde on the right of our Division protected their exposed flank by moving up one of their support battalions and formed a defensive flank.</p> <p>At 5 a.m. an S.O.S. was fired by the right and centre companies of the left Battalion of our Brigade. The enemy had placed a heavy artillery and minenwefer box barrage around the right company and portion of the centre company and attacked with 200 or 300 men in two waves. The attack was broken up by the Lewis gun and Rifle fire. The enemy retired and after re-organising, again attacked and was again driven off in disorder. Our casualties were very slight. About 50 enemy were estimated to have been killed. At dusk a strong fighting patrol to gain identification from the dead but found that all marks of identification had been removed from the bodies.</p> <p>The artillery duel was fiercely intense through the day. One enemy plane was brought down by one of our fighting planes in the left Battalion sector.</p> <p>In order to capture VILLERS BRETONNEUX and restore the line held prior to the enemy attack on the 24th April the 15th and 13th A.I. Bde. counter attacked at 10. p.m., the former from the N.W. and the latter from the S.W. The intention was to envelope VILLERS BRETONNEUX and eventually link up along the old British line.</p> <p>The counter attack was successful, but owing to day breaking the 13 A.I. Bde were not able to connect with the 15th A.I. Bde. VILLERS BRETONNEUX was captured, heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy and about 600 prisoners, 25 M.G. and 2 Field Guns captured.</p> <p>The night on our Brigade front was fairly quiet.</p> <p>Casualties for past 24 hours were <i>10 M.F. killed wounded. 2 O.R. Killed 11 O.R. wounded 55 O.R. Gas.</i></p> | No 23. |

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|---------|-----------------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Corbie. | 25th April 1918 | | <p>Day opened fine with a fair visibility. Our own and hostile artillery were very active in the vicinity of VILLERS BRETTONEUX and BOIS de HANGARD.</p> <p>At 6:15 p.m. the enemy put down a heavy barrage along the front and support systems from SOMME River to South of VILLERS BRETTONEUX.</p> <p>All ranks are fit and well and the food excellent.</p> <p>Casualties for past 24 hours Lt. R. Cornish wounded 2nd Lt. D. Stuart wounded Capt S.A. Railton gassed, 6 O.R. killed 14 O.R. wounded 39 gassed.</p> <p>Intelligence Summary attached.</p> | g No 24 |
| | 26th | | <p>At 5:15 a.m. a creeping barrage was put down by our artillery as a diversion to an operation carried out by the 8th Division on the right, to regain the ground lost on the 24th April. The 13th A.I. Bde succeeded in establishing connection with the 15th A.I. Bde. but the operation carried out by the 8th Division was only partially successful.</p> <p>During the afternoon the visibility was only poor. Very little hostile artillery activity. The work in defences is progressing favourably.</p> <p>All ranks are very fit but the 30th and 31st Bn require a bath and clean change. Arrangements have been made to bath about 50 men a day from each Battalion.</p> <p>Casualties for past 24 hours ending noon 26/4/18 Lt. W. Nield wounded 2 O.R. killed 2 O.R. wounded 25 gassed.</p> <p>Intelligence Summary is attached.</p> | 25 |

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~. 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|--------|-----------------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| CORBIE | 27th April 1918 | | <p>Day opened very misty. Brigadier to 29th Battalion. Staff Capt. to all Battalions. The day was very quiet, hostile shelling mainly in the vicinity of batteries and Artillery -O.Ps. During the night artillery concentration shoots were carried out against new enemy works and centres of activity opposite the Brigade front. All ranks are cheerful and very confident. Casualties for the past 24 hours. 1 O.R. killed 4 O.R. wounded 2 gassed. Intelligence summary attached.</p> <p>Fine day and fair visibility. Brigade Major to Right, Centre and Reserve Battalions. G.S.O. 1 and A.A. and Q.M.G. called during the morning. The front line Battalions have been trying very hard for the past few days to obtain identification but up to the present have not been successful. very quiet day. Hostile artillery and air activity increased during the afternoon. The 32nd Battalion are carrying on with musketry training whenever possible on misty days. Casualties for past 24 hours 1 O.R. killed 3 O.R. wounded 1 O.R.M gassed. Intelligence Summary attached.</p> | <p>No 26</p> <p>No 27</p> |

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE-SUMMARY. 8th AUST. INF. BDE.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|--------|-----------------------|----------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| CORBIE | 1918 April 29th | | <p>Day was misty and cold- visibility poor. Enemy artillery was active during the day searching for our battery positions - B.M. to Centre Battalion front, wire was inspected and found to be satisfactory. General health of the men is good and arrangements have been made by Battalions to bathe and clothe their Coys, for past 24 hours.</p> <p>Intelligence for past 24 hours attached.</p> <p>Casualties for 24 hours Lt, W.D'ALTON killed 1 O.R. Killed 3 O.R. Gassed.</p> | No 28 |
| | 30th | | <p>Day was misty and cold.</p> <p>Capt. C.Q. TAPLIN staff captain trainee left for Fourth Army for training as G.S.O.3</p> <p>The 29th Battalion proposed to raid Boche post at J.35.a.50.30 and arrangements were completed. Enemy artillery was fairly quiet. The Boche appears to be making his front secure and no immediate offensive action seems imminent.</p> <p>Casualties for 24 hours 5 O.R. wounded.</p> | No 29. |
| | *5:34 | <u>GENERAL</u> | <p>During the month the Brigade moved a considerable amount and proved beyond doubt that that under any condition they were very mobile and always ready for instant action. At one period we were guarding the right flank of the British Army joining hands with the French near HANGARD. At present we are holding a front of approximately 4000 yards and considering the time our casualties have not been severe. Active patrolling has been carried out but the Boche has no fight in him. Identifications have been secured at intervals and the work of the patrols has been very creditable. All our men are in great spirits and when the Boche attack does come again we will certainly acquit ourselves as in the past and as we have reason to believe the enemy respects our fighting qualities at the present so will his respect and fear become greater as time goes on.</p> | |

WAR DIARY

APPENDIX

OF

8th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

FOR

191

APRIL 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

| No. | Subject. |
|-----------|---|
| April 1st | 1 Out post position for local defences. |
| 4th | 2 Brigade Order No 170 |
| 6th | 3 Dispositions in the Forward Zone of Defences |
| 7th | 4 B.M. wires 2 01-4 Move from BOIS de GENTILLES to BLANGY TRONVILLE |
| 8th | 5 Brigade Order 171 |
| 9th | 6 Order 172 |
| 10th | 7 Intelligence Summary. Brigade Order 173. <i>app. No. 8.</i> |
| 11th | 8a Intelligence Summary |
| 12th | 9 Intelligence Summary Operation Memp. No 1 (<i>app. No. 10.</i>) |
| 13th | 11 " " |
| 14th | 12 " " |
| 15th | 13 " " |
| 16th | 14 " " |
| 17th | 15 " " |
| 18th | 16 " " |
| 19th | 17 " " Brigade Order 174. (<i>app. No. 18.</i>) |
| 20th | 19 " " |
| 21st | 20 " " |
| 22nd | 21 " " |
| 23rd | 22 " " |
| 24th | 23 " " |
| 25th | 24 " " |
| 26th | 25 " " |
| 27th | 26 " " |
| 28th | 27 " " |
| 29th | 28 " " |
| 30th | 29 " " |

~~Index~~ ~~Index~~ ~~Index~~ 8
~~Index~~ ~~Index~~ ~~Index~~ 8

255
 Appendix No 1
 H.H.

SECRET.

30th Bn
 31st "
 32nd "

1. Our approximate front line runs from DERNANCOURT Northwards through AVELUY WOOD, East of TRESNIL - BEAUMONT HAMEL - to East of HEBUTERNE.
2. The 8th A. I. Bde are concentrated as under :-

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Brigade H.Qrs | VAUCHELLES CAMP |
| 29th Battalion | do |
| 30th " | do |
| 31st " | LOUVENCOURT |
| 32nd " | do |
| 8th L.T. Batt. | VAUCHELLES CAMP |
| 8th M.G. Coy | do |
- 3-(i) For purposes of local protection, the 31st and 32nd Bns will arrange to put out Outposts on a general line 0 18 c - 0 11 central - I 35 d - I 36 a - i.e. ARMY Line.
 (ii) The part of the line allotted to the Bde will be from the LOUVENCOURT-ACHEUX Road (exclusive) to ARQUEVES-LEALVILLERS Road (inclusive) & S.E. & S.W. of LOUVENCOURT to LOUVENCOURT-ARQUEVES Rd (inclusive)
 (iii) The 14th A. I. Bde have arranged for local protection North of the LOUVENCOURT-ACHEUX Road.
- 4- All roads and lines of approach from LOUVENCOURT to LEALVILLERS, LOUVENCOURT to ARQUEVES and ARQUEVES to LEALVILLERS will be picqueted.
5. C.O. 32nd Bn will arrange for the above instructions to be carried out and for detailed orders to the Outpost Company Commander; also for inlying picquets at LOUVENCOURT, $\frac{1}{2}$ Coy to be employed.
6. The enemy, if met with, is to be vigorously engaged and the general line of the Outpost maintained.
7. The instructions issued to 30th Bn relative to Inlying Picquet at VAUCHELLES CAMP will hold until further notice.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

A. Madon
 Capt.
 Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

1st April 1918

Copies to :-
 29th Battalion
 5th Aust. Div.
 14th A. I. Bde
 B.G.C., 8th A.I. Bde
 8th M.G. Coy
 8th L.T. Batt.
 War Diary
 File.



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APPENDIX

216

Copy No. 15.....

SECRET.

8th AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

Order No. 170

April 4th 1918.

1. 8th A.I. Bde. Group will move to AUBIGNY by bus and march route today, 4th April.
2. (i) Units will embuss at 7 p.m. Busses will be drawn up on VAUCHELLES-LOUVENCOURT Rd. heads of busses at LOUVENCOURT facing South.
 - (ii) Order of embussing will be -

| | | |
|------------|---|---|
| 32nd Bn. | } | Guides with States will report to embussing officer at 6.30 p.m. on VAUCHELLES-LOUVENCOURT Rd. |
| 31st Bn | } | (entrance to LOUVENCOURT) |
| 30th Bn. | } | Guides with States will report on VAUCHELLES-LOUVENCOURT Rd. outside VAUCHELLES to embussing officer at 6.30 p.m. |
| 29th Bn | } | |
| 8th M.G.C. | } | |
| 8th LMB | } | |
| 18th AASC | } | |
 - (iii) Embussing Officers will be Capt. E.A.C. MACFARLANE, M.C. and Lieut C.L. LACEY, M.C.
 - (iv) Debussing point will be DAOURS. Units will proceed by march route to AUBIGNY. Protective precautions on the march will be taken, also on arrival at AUBIGNY.
3. Transport will move to AUBIGNY under orders (to be issued later) of Brigade Transport Officer.
4. Packs, blankets, etc. will be carried on the busses.
5. Brigade H.Qrs. will be at AUBIGNY until further notice.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

- | | |
|---------------|-------|
| 29th Bn. | 1 |
| 30th | 2 |
| 31st | 3 |
| 32nd | 4 |
| 8th M.G. Coy | 5 |
| 8th LMB | 6 |
| 8th F. Coy | 7 |
| 18th AASC | 8 |
| 8th Div. | 9 |
| 14th A.I. Bde | 10 |
| B.G.C. 8 Bde | 11 |
| Lt. BULL | 12 |
| File | 13 |
| War Diary | 14/18 |


 Captain,
 Brigade Major, 8th Inf Bde.

SECRET

dispositions in the forward Zone of Defence are as follows :-

1. 5th A.I.Bde hold front line
2. 2 weak Battalions 18th Div. in immediate support on right and centre.
1 Battalion 9th A.I.Bde for immediate support on left
3. 8th A.I.Bde Reserve - BOIS-de-GENTELLES.

(i) In the enemy attack s. of line U 8 - U 12 and penetrate our line, an immediate counter-attack will be made by Bn of 18th Div.

(ii) If enemy penetrate our line in strength a counter-attack will be carried out by 31st Bn (Right) and 30th Bn (Left) from valley U 15 and U 21, covered by the artillery barrage arranged for a Minor Operation to take place at an early date.

(iii) This counter-attack will re-establish the line from U 11 b to U 29 b (Junction with the French).

(iv) As far as the left centre is concerned the immediate counter-attack will be carried out by the Bn detailed from 9th A.I.Bde and on the first indication of attack on this front the 3 Bns of 9th A.I.Bde now at BLANGY-TRONVILLE have been ordered to move forward to BOIS-d'ABBE to await orders there.

(v) If Bns of 8th A.I.Bde are used for counter-attack Bde H.Qrs will move to the H.Qrs at present occupied by the 5th A.I.Bde at GENTELLES under arrangements made by 18th Div.

(vi) Reconnaissance of the assembly positions in U 15 b and c and U 21 will be made immediately by units concerned and, without unnecessarily disturbing troops, arrangements will be made to be ready to move forward to these positions in lines of small columns in echelon with screen of scouts in front on the first signs of an attack being evident sth of the line U 8. - U 12.

6/4/18

29th Bn.
30th "
31st "
32nd "
8th M.G. Coy
8th L.T.M.B.
18th Div.
5th Aust. Div.
File



J. M. Stanton
Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf Brigade

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. *Non deant*
 This message is on a/c of: Recd. at m.
 Sent Date
 At m. Service. Date
 To From
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO { 30 31 29 32 8th }
 { } { } { } { } { }

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
 *M12001. 7. AAA

30th and 31st Bataillon will
 relieve 41st and 43rd
 Bns of 14th Div.
 occupying the northern portion
 of Reserve line tonight AAA
 30th Bn will take over
 RESERVE line from 0.27
 central to road junction
 inclusive in 0.14.6 31st Bn
 from road in 0.14.6
 to North to R. SOMME AAA
 30th + 31st Bn will move at
 once Route Bois de
 GENTELLES - X roads T.2.d.
 - X roads N.28C thence to
 positions in RESERVE line
 AAA Report completion of relief

From to Bde H.Q. BLANSY TRONVILLE.
 Place SA 1 Bde
 Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) *Chapter Capt.*
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (11160.) Wt. W 492 M1647. 65,000 Pa.l.s. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

Prefix Code m. Words. Charge.
 Office of Origin and Service Instructions. *Non deant*
 This message is on a/c of: Recd. at m.
 Sent Date
 At m. Service. Date
 To From
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO { 29 32 30 31 8th }
 { 8 Ml Coy. 8 LT M Bde }
 { } { } { } { } { }

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
 *M12002. 7. AAA

8 A 1 Bde less 30 and 31 B^{ns}
 will move to BLANSY
 TRONVILLE today by march
 route Time of start 6 pm
 starting point T.10. a 0.0
 Order of march 29th 30th Bn.
 8 Ml Coy. 8 LT M Bde. Transport
 will move in rear of
 units AAA Normal distance
 for march will obtain
 AAA Completion of move
 will be reported to
 Bde H.Q. BLANSY TRONVILLE
 AAA Acknowledge.

From 8 A 1 Bde
 Place
 Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) *Chapter Capt.*
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (11160.) Wt. W 492 M1647. 65,000 Pa.l.s. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

APPENDIX

4
 18

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. *War Dept*

This message is on a/c of: Recd. at m.

Sent m.

At m. Service. Date.....

To..... From.....

By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....

TO { *18 AASC 8 Fd Ambulance*

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**

* *BM 2003* *7*

8 A1 Bde took less 30 & 31 Bns. will move to BLANZY TRONVILLE today and 30 and 31 Bns. to take over northern portion of RESERVE LINE from 0.27. Central to North to Somme today. and Advanced parties will report to Town Major BLANZY TRONVILLE and 18 AASC and 8 Fd Ambulance will move independently. AA Acknowledg.

From *8 A1 Bde*

Place

Time

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

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

* This line should be erased if not required. (11160.) Wt. W 492 M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

Prefix Code m. Words. Charge.

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. *War Dept*

This message is on a/c of: Recd. at m.

Sent m.

At m. Service. Date.....

To..... From.....

By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....

TO { *5 Aust Div 18 Div*

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**

* *BM 2004* *7*

8 A1 Bde took less 30 and 31 Bns. will move to BLANZY TRONVILLE today and 30 and 31 Bns. will relieve 41st and 43 Bde. 14th Div in northern portion of RESERVE line from about 0.27 central North to R. SOMME today. relief to take place as soon as possible. AA Bde HQ close at ST. NICOLAS at 6.30 pm. and open at BLANZY TRONVILLE on arrival.

From *8 A1 Bde*

Place

Time

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

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

* This line should be erased if not required. (11160.) Wt. W 492 M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

APPENDIX

4
19

SECRET.Copy No. ¹⁵.....

8th Aust. Inf. Brigade,

Order No. 171.

April 8th 1918.

1. (i) The 29th Bn. will relieve the 30th Bn. in the right sub-sector of reserve line of 8th Aust. Div. front on 9th inst.
- (ii) The 30th Bn. on relief will move into billets in BLANGY-TRONVILLE.
2. The usual protective precautions will obtain during relief.
- 3- All trench shelters, water tins, and tools not on charge to units will be handed over and receipts exchanged, duplicates being forwarded to Brigade H.Qrs. by last P.M. on 9th inst.
- 4- Details of relief will be arranged by C.O's. concerned.
5. Completion of relief will be reported to Brigade H.Qrs. at BLANGY-TRONVILLE.
- 6- ACKNOWLEDGE.

Distribution :-

| | | | | |
|----------------|------|---|---------------|-------|
| 29th Bn. | Copy | 1 | | |
| 30th " | | 2 | | |
| 31st " | | 3 | 8th Fld Amb. | 9 |
| 32nd " | | 4 | 8th Fld Coy. | 10 |
| 8th L.T.R.S. | | 5 | H.Q. 8th Bde. | 11 |
| 8th M.G.Bn. | | 6 | Staff Captain | 12 |
| 8th Aust. Div. | | 7 | War Diary | 13/15 |
| 14th A.I.Bde. | | 8 | File | 16 |

J. M. M. M.
 Captain,
 Bde. Major, 8th Inf. Brigade



8th Australian Infantry Brigade

Order No. 172.

Reference Sheet 62d

9th April 1918.

1. (i) The 8th A.I.Bde will relieve the 15th A.I.Bde in the Left Sector 5th Aust. Div. Front on the night 9/10th April
(ii) 15th A.I.Bde on relief will move into the position vacated by 8th A.I.Bde.
2. Reliefs and moves will be made in accordance with the attached Table.
3. Existing dispositions will be taken over exactly as they stand. Sketch maps showing Coy dispositions, position of R.A.Ps, dumps, H.Qrs etc. of Bn fronts will be forwarded to Bde H.Qrs by midday 10th Inst.
4. The 15th A.I.Bde have arranged for strong patrols to cover the front until relief of forward zone is complete.
5. Left Bn will detail 1 Off. to act as Liaison Officer with 11th A.I.Bde. Right Bn will detail 1 Officer for liaison with 14th A.I.Bde.
6. The usual protective precautions will obtain on the march. Bns will move by platoons at 50 paces distance.
7. All ammunition, trench shelters, picks and shovels, maps and any information relative to the sector will be taken over and receipts forwarded to Bde H.Qrs within 24 hours of relief.
8. Subject to the terms of this order, detail of reliefs will be arranged between C.O's concerned.
9. Bde H.Qrs will close at BLANGY-TRONVILLE at 7 p.m. and re-open at RED CHATEAU, CORBIE at the same hour.
10. Command of sector will pass to G.O.C. 8th A.I.Bde on completion of relief.
11. Completion of relief will be wired to Bde H.Qrs in code when command of sector will pass to G.O.C. 8th A.I.Bde.
12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. Nixon
 Capt.
 Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution.

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------|---------|
| 29th Bn | Copy No. 1 | 11th A.I.Bde | Copy 11 |
| 30th " | 2 | 15th A.I.Bde | 12 |
| 31st " | 3 | A.D.M.S. 5th Div | 13 |
| 32nd " | 4 | 8th Field Coy | 14 |
| 8th L.T.M.B. | 5 | 18th Coy A.A.S.C. | 15 |
| 5th M.G.Bn | 6 | No. 2 Sig. Sect | 16 |
| B.G.C. 8th A.I.Bde | 7 | War Diary | 17/19 |
| Staff Capt. | 8 | File | 20 |
| 5th Aust. Div. | 9 | | |
| 14th A.I.Bde | 10 | | |

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MOVE TABLE TO ACCOMPANY 8th AUST. INF. BRIGADE ORDER No. 172.

| Date | Units in order of march | To relieve | Route | Remarks. |
|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| April 9th | Brigade H.Qrs. | 15th bde. H.Q. | AUBIGNY FOUILLOY CORBIE | |
| | 31st Bn. | 58th Bn. LINE LEFT | AUBIGNY FOUILLOY CORBIE thence by tow path to VAIRE sous CORBIE | Guides will meet Bn. at BRIDGE CORBIE. |
| | 30th Bn. | 59th Bn. LINE CENTRE | AUBIGNY FOUILLOY HAMELET | Guides will meet Bn. at X Rods in 0 6 d. |
| | 3rd Bn. | 60th Bn. LINE RIGHT | AUBIGNY FOUILLOY | Guides will meet Bn. at X Roads in 0 11 a. |
| | L.T...B. | 15th L.T.B. LINE | AUBIGNY FOUILLOY | Guides will meet Btty. at BRIDGE CORBIE. |
| | 29th Bn. | 57th Bn. RESERVE CORBIE | AUBIGNY FOUILLOY | Guides will meet Bn. at BRIDGE CORBIE. |

Brigade H.Qrs. will move at 6.30 p.m.
 31st Bn. ditto 7.00 p.m.
 30th Bn. ditto 7.30 p.m.
 3rd Bn. ditto 7.05 p.m.
 L.T...B. ditto 7.20 p.m.
 29th Bn. ditto 7.25 p.m.

6/

APPENDIX
OF

From 6 a.m. 10/4/18 to 6 a.m. 11/4/18.

Reference Sheet 62d 1/40,000.

I. OPERATIONS. Our artillery was active throughout the period on enemy occupied and movement areas.

Our planes flying low fired on enemy lines at 12.50 p.m.

Patrols. Patrolling was very difficult owing to extremely dark night.

Right Bn. 1 Off and 10 O.R. left P 14 c 0 8 at 11 p.m. and returned at 1 a.m. Patrol moved out to small copse at P 14 a 7 0. Talking was heard in rear of copse. Flares were fired from a point about P 14 b 5 5.

1 Off and 10 O.R. left P 13 d 2 5 at 9 p.m. and proceeded along road to P 20 a 1 8. The road is in good condition. The patrol then moved up road towards VAIRE as far as P 14 c 5 5 and then continued across Coy front. An enemy M.G. was firing from about P 20 b 3 2. Patrol returned at 11 p.m.

Centre Bn. 1 N.C.O. and 6 men left P 8 b 2 5 at 7.30 p.m. and moved across open country on S. side of HAMELET-HAMEL Road to within 50 yds of the outskirts of HAMEL without seeing or hearing any enemy movement. Flares were fired from about P 9 c 5 5. The HAMELET-HAMEL Road at P 8 a 7 9 is slightly sunken and lined with small trees. Patrol returned at 11 p.m.

1 N.C.O. and 4 men left P 2 c 9 3 at 3 a.m. and returned at 5 a.m. Patrol moved within 100 yds of HAMEL without discovering any signs of enemy.

Left Bn. 1 Off and 20 O.R. left right flank of Bn at 9.30 p.m. and moved to P 2 d 1 2 then along road to P 9 a 9 9 and returned to the left flank covering Bn front. Patrol reported everything quiet, no sign of enemy posts.

1 Off and 20 O.R. left P 2 b 9 1 at 2.30 a.m. and moved along VAIRE-HAMEL road to P 9 b 2 8, then moved to left around outskirts of HAMEL. Enemy located approx P 9 b 5 9. Strength of post estimated at approx. 40 men on the number of voices heard when our shrapnel was bursting on them. Patrol reports probable line of defence among trees on N.W. edge of village. Voices were heard in house near P 9 b 2 8. No transport heard. Patrol returned at 4.30 a.m.

3. ENEMY SHELLING. Artillery. VAIRE was shelled at intervals during the period with salvos of 4.2 and 77mm.

From 5 am to midday there was some scattered shelling over the forward area. About 50 5.9" and a few 4.2 and 77mm falling rear of our lines.

1.30 pm 40 rds 8" and 5.9" on farm at J 34 central. Several direct hits

2 pm to 3.30 pm 21 rds 5.9" on HAMELET from MORCOURT.

3.30 pm 60 5.9" and 4.2" HE on P 13.

1 to 2 am 80 rds 4.2" HE on VAIRE.

Machine guns. M.G.'s fired at intervals during the night from HAMEL and in front on BOIS-DE VAIRE. E. M.G.'s in front of BOIS DE VAIRE fired very heavily on our planes.

Trench mortars. Nil

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE Very quiet with exception of artillery activity.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES Several men seen moving about trenches in P 16 b. 77mm Battery appeared to be firing from P 23 A or b.

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Enemy aeroplanes were very active during morning flying in large formations. 18 E.A. were over our lines at 9 am. Our planes were very active all day, flying very low. They were heavily engaged by enemy M.G.'s.

8. MOVEMENT. Several of the enemy were seen in HAMEL during the day.

7.30 a.m. 12 men moved into dead ground about P 3 c 8 3 from HAMEL. Parties of 2 & 3 men on ridge directly in rear of HAMEL.

At dusk a party of 5 enemy approached some dead bodies in front of our centre Bn. They were fired on by our L.G.'s and 1 was seen to fall.

An attempt was made to find the bodies during the night but they could not be found owing to the darkness.

9. MISCELLANEOUS. Smoke was seen in HAMEL during the day.

Fine day, but very dark night.

Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde

SECRET.

8th Australian Infantry Brigade

Order No. 173

Reference Sheet 68 D
1/40,000Headquarters
10th April 1918.

1. With reference to the plan of operations issued to those concerned assuming that the scheme to be carried out by 8th A.I. Bde in conjunction with 14th A.I. Bde is the RED Scheme, the following orders for the capture of the RED OBJECTIVE are issued so that units may make necessary arrangements.
1. (i) The attack will be carried out by the 5th Aust. Div. on or about April 11th. 58th Div. on the right may co-operate by advancing to the RED dotted line. 3rd Aust. Div. on left has been asked to render fire assistance and also to make a demonstration in addition thereto.
(ii) The 14th A.I. Bde will be on the right, 8th A.I. Bde on the left and 15th A.I. Bde in reserve.
(iii) On the right of 14th A.I. Bde ^{is} 175th Bde of 58th Div. and on the left of 8th A.I. Bde is 11th A.I. Bde of 3rd Aust. Div.
2. OBJECTIVES.
(a) The advance to the RED objective is to be carried out in one stage. The general line of the RED objective is shown on the map issued herewith.
The RED objective includes the capture of
BOIS DE VAIRE
BOIS DE HAILL
BOIS DE ACCROCHER
BOIS DE TAILLOUX
BOIS DE ACQUIARE
VILLAGE OF HAILL.
and wood known locally as the FLAT IRON Wood in P 5 c & d
(b) Troops will consolidate on the RED line under cover of protective detachments which will be pushed out when the objective is gained.
(c) S.O.S. lines East of the RED objective will be marked by smoke shell.
3. (i) The Bde will attack on a three Bn frontage; 32nd Bn on right, 30th Bn centre, 31st Bn left; 29th Bn in reserve.
Formations to be adopted have been issued to Unit Commanders concerned. Objectives, boundaries and direction are shown on the map issued herewith.
(ii) The O.C. 8th L.T.A. Batt. will allot 2 guns to each Bn to come under the orders of Bn Commanders in the attack.
4. FLANKS. The 32nd Bn will detail parties to establish connection with FLANK units at the following points between 8th and 14th Bdes :-
P 14 b 4 0 - P 15 c 0 5 - P 15 c 2 3 - P 21 d 84 90 -
RED LINE P 28 b 40 32.
Between 8th and 11th Bdes, the 31st Bn will detail parties to establish connection at P 5 b 5 5.
5. ASSEMBLY POSITIONS.
(a) The assembly position will be reconnoitred in advance and a tape line laid out on the night preceding attack both laterally on which the troops will form up and forward to give the right direction at the start. 30th, 31st and 32nd Bns will each detail 1 Officer and 4 NCOs for this work to act in conjunction with 15th Field Coy A.E. as already detailed. The line at which the leading waves will form up will be approximately as shown on the attached map.
(b) The routes which will be used for bringing up the assaulting Bns to the assembly positions will be selected and marked under Bde arrangements. 1 Officer and 4 N.C.Os per Bn will be detailed to reconnoitre routes and arrangements for marking them will be made by the Bde with 15th Field Coy A.E.
(c) All assaulting troops will be in their assembly position 45 minutes before ZERO.

6. ARTILLERY.

(a) The plan showing the allotment of artillery has been issued separately.

(b) Barrage fire will not be used for this operation. Prior to the attack the ordinary bursts of fire as laid down for the artillery programme for foggy weather will be fired and during these bursts of fire the "WHIPPET" tanks will be moved into position. A burst of fire will take place at ZERO hour. Subsequently the method of artillery support will be as laid down for open warfare. Batteries will be controlled by observed fire and pushed up into close support of the infantry but in case the visibility is obscured arrangements to support the attack are being made.

(c) H.A. support will be arranged by C.R.A. 5th Aust. Div. The probable barrage line of the H.A. will be AUBERCOURT - MARCELOAVIN - WARFUSSE - ABANCOURT - LAMOTTIN - EN-SANFERRE, thence along the valley N.E. of WARFUSSE-ABANCOURT to CHRISY GAILLY.

7. 8 "WHIPPET" tanks will be employed to follow the infantry and mop up strong points, woods, villages. Details as to their action during the action will be issued separately.

8. MACHINE GUNS.

O.C. M.G. Bn in conjunction with Brigade Commander will issue separate instructions for the employment of M.G. Bn.

9. STRONG POINTS.

S.P.'s will be constructed under arrangements of 8th A.I. Bde as under

| | | |
|-----|----|--------------|
| "D" | at | P 22 c 54 80 |
| "E" | " | P 16 c 8 3 |
| "F" | " | P 17 a 4 0 |
| "G" | " | P 16 b 6 4 |
| "H" | " | P 11 a 6 6 |

The Strong Points will be dug by the Pioneers under the supervision of Officers of the 15th Field Coy A.P. Pioneers will advance a quarter of an hour after the objective is gained and the points will be then dug, but will not be wired until night.

R.E. dump is at HAMELET, opposite the CHURCH O 6 d 7 9. A pontoon bridge is being swung into position at J 26 c 0 3 tonight by 8 p.m.

10. CONTACT AEROPLANES.

(a) The hours at which contact aeroplanes of the 3rd Squadron A.F.C. will be in the air will be notified later.

(b) Leading infantry will be ready to light RED flares in bunches of 2 at 25 yards distance at hours which will be notified later or as soon as aeroplane calls for flares by medium of klaxon horn or by firing white very lights.

(c) The special distinguishing mark for contact aeroplanes will be notified later.

11. SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Details of signal communications showing methods will be issued later.

12. H.Q. & REPORTS.

(a) Headquarters will be established as under:-

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| D.H.Q. | TRONVILLE CHATEAU | N 21 a 9 3 |
| 8th A.I. Bde H.Q. | | O 5 c 4 6 |
| 14th A.I. Bde H.Q. | | O 17 c 3 5 QUARRIES |
| 15th A.I. Bde H.Q. | | O 13 d central |

(b) Instructions with regard to reports will be issued later.

13. Detailed Administrative arrangements have been issued.

14. SYNCHRONISING WATCHES. Watches to be synchronised under instructions to be issued separately.

15. A.A. DEFENCE. Special arrangements will be made by Bde Commander for dealing with low flying aircraft.

16. ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

[Signature]
Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Capt. 270

Issued at 5.30 p.m.

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| 29th Battalion | Copy No.1 |
| 30th " | 2 |
| 31st " | 3 |
| 32nd " | 4 |
| 6th L.T...B. | 5 |
| 5th ...G.Bn | 6 |
| 15th Field Coy A.M. | 7 |
| 5th pioneer Bn | 8 |
| 13th F.A. Brigade | 9 |
| 14th F.A. Brigade | 10 |
| 5th Aust. Div | 11 |
| R.G.C. 8th A.I. Bde | 12 |
| Staff Captain | 13 |
| 14th A.I. Bde | 14 |
| 15th A.I. Bde | 15 |
| 11th A.I. Bde | 16 |
| No. 2 Sig. Section | 17 |
| A.D...S. 5th Aust. Div | 18 |
| Bde R.C. | 19 |
| Bde Gas Officer | 20 |
| War Diary | 21/23 |
| File | 24. |

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APPENDIX

217
8

8th Aust. Inf. Brigade Order No. 173 is Cancelled.

J. M. Down
Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf Bde.

10/4/19

Issued to all recipients of
Brigade Order No. 173.



255
8a
8th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
DAILY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

APPENDIX 8a 28

From 6 a.m. 11/4/18 to 6 a.m. 12/4/18.

1. OPERATIONS. Our artillery was very active during the day and night on enemy occupied areas. Enemy movement was also shelled. Our snipers claim several hits on parties moving along road running S.W. in P 9 d, also at P 2 b 1 6.

Patrols.

Right Bn. 1 N.C.O. & 10 men left P 13 b 8 3 at 11 p.m. and made a thorough search of N.M.L. and returned at 1.30 a.m. Voices were heard about P 14 b 4 0. No enemy was seen.

3 other patrols were out during the night and report no enemy encountered. Sounds of digging were heard coming from about P 14 d 2 4.

Centre Bn. 1 N.C.O. and 6 men left P 8 d 3 9 at 11.30 p.m. and moved in direction of HAMEL. Sounds of men walking were heard at P 9 d 1 9 but no enemy was seen. Patrol returned at 1.45 a.m. Road at P 8 d 4 7 is slightly sunken

1 N.C.O. and 6 men left P 8 d 3 9 at 3.45 a.m. and moved in a S.E. direction. A listening post is suspected at P 9 c 9 0. Talking was heard here. Enemy was also driving in stakes about P 9 central. Patrol returned at 5 a.m.

Left Bn. 1 Off and 15 O.R. left P 2 b 7 3 at 2.45 a.m. and moved down VAIRE-HAMEL Road. Patrol reconnoitred locality at P 9 b 5 9 but could not hear enemy or discover any trench.

1 Off and 20 O.R. left P 3 a 7 9 at 9 p.m. and moved out to P 3 b 9 2, then to J 34 c 1 1 and returned to P 3 a 7 9 at 11 p.m. No enemy posts or hostile movement was seen.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 1st Grenadier Rgt, 11th Coy. A disc was taken from a recently dead body in P 8 b.

3. ENEMY ARTILLERY has been active during the day and night; mostly 4.2 and 5.9. The bombardments were mostly of about 20 minutes duration, during which about 30 shells were sent over on our front and support areas in P 13 d and b. During the day about 250 4.2 fell on VAIRE.

About 20 5.9 fell in CORBIE during the afternoon.

Trench mortars. A L.M.W. was firing from P 14 d 2 5 at 7 p.m. 8 rds fell in P 13 d

Enemy snipers fired on any movement on Road in P 7 c and P 13 a. Enemy M.G.'s in BOIS DE VAIRE fired very heavily on our low flying aeroplanes. During the night enemy M.G.'s swept the forward areas of our Centre Bn.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet, and does not patrol, but artillery is active with harassing fire.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy occupied posts on the outskirts of HAMEL during the night. Enemy occupies trench in front of BOIS DE VAIRE at P 14 b 6 2 during the day.

2 M.G.'s fired from about this point during the night. Another M.G. fires from P 20 a 8 7. 2 Granatenwerfers and a L.M.W. have been firing from BOIS DE VAIRE

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. E.A. were very active at 10 a.m., 3 p.m., 5 pm to 8 pm flying low over our forward areas. They were engaged by our A.A., Lewis and M.G.'s. 3 E.A. flew low over CORBIE at 7 p.m.

7. MOVEMENT. During the whole day there was considerable movement at P 15 central. H.Q. is suspected.

At dusk parties seen in front of HAMEL and along the road running E. and W. in P 4 c apparently moving out to posts. During the afternoon a little movement near a small trench at P 15 a 2 5. There was much movement at P 1 c 5 1 (approx) at 4.50 p.m. Apparently a working party.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. The clock face on HAMEL Church was either removed or destroyed by shell fire between 4 pm and 5 p.m. It may be used as an O.P.

Signals. Flares were fired from both in front and behind BOIS DE VAIRE. Day was fine and warm. Visibility good.

Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde

255
9
8th Australian Infantry Brigade
DAILY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
From 6 a.m. 12/4/18 to 6 a.m. 13/4/18.

APPENDIX 9²⁹

1. OPERATIONS. Our artillery was very active throughout the day on enemy occupied areas. Enemy parties were successfully engaged in P 16 b and P 22 a. 2 direct hits were obtained by our 6" Hows on enemy post at P 14 d 3 6. Sounds of transport in HAMEL ceased after our bombardment at 3.15 a.m.
Trench mortars. 8 p.m. 15 rds Stokes fired on E.M.G. at approx P 8 d 7 0 and silenced it; sounds of greans were clearly heard. At 5 a.m. another 15 rds were fired.
Patrols.
Right Bn. 1 Off and 10 O.R. left right of Bn at 11 p.m. and move out to road at P 14 c 5 4; an old gun pit was found here but there was no signs of occupation. A party of 4 was seen between this point and the wood but on patrol moving forward to surround them they disappeared into BOIS DE VAIRE. Much noise was heard coming from the wood; patrol then moved to P 14 b 5 5 and returned to our lines at 1.15 a.m.
3 other patrols were out and report no enemy movement and very little E.M.G. activity.
Centre Bn. 1 N.C.O. and 6 men left P 8 b 4 4 at 9.30 p.m. and moved to P 9 a 5 5. No sign of enemy was seen but sounds of digging heard in front of HAMEL; wheeled transport was heard in the village, also men calling loudly to one another. Patrol returned at 12 midnight.
3 other patrols were out during the night and report no sign of enemy, but much movement heard in HAMEL.
Left Bn. 1 Off and 20 O.R. left P 3 a 1 8 at 10.30 p.m. and move in direction of HAMEL and searched thoroughly the ground to left of VAIRE-HAMEL Road as far as P 3 d 1 9; no enemy or posts were seen. Patrol returned at 1.30 a.m.
Another fighting patrol of 1 Off and 20 O.R. was out over this area between 2.30 a.m. and 4.45 a.m. No enemy was seen. BOUZENC and vicinity was thoroughly patrolled throughout the night but no sign of enemy was seen.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS Nil
3. ENEMY SHELLING. Enemy shelling was not as active as usual on our forward left sector but right and centre sectors received considerable attention. VAIRE was shelled at intervals during the 24 hours with 77mm and 4.2" - about 100 rds chiefly from direction of P 17 a. A few 4.2" fell in J 32 a
12.30 p.m. 8 5.9" fell in HAMEL
1.5 p.m. 12 rds 4.2" Gas shells fell in P 8 a
3.20 p.m. 10 rds 4.2" HE fell in P 8 a and P 7 b
6 p.m. 4 rds 4.2" Gas shells in O 12 b
New work in P 7 c was lightly shelled with 5.9 during afternoon.
Trench mortars. 8.10 p.m. 20 Granatenwerfers fell in P 13 b
Machine Guns. Generally quiet, occasional short bursts on our support line. Enemy A.A.M.G.'s very active.
4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet during the period. Enemy is working on his defences in the BOIS DE VAIRE in front of HAMEL.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. A.A. 1.6' located at P 4 d 5 9 and P 4 d 1 3. The crew could be plainly seen. Enemy has wired the trenches in P 10 a & c. New camouflage seen at P 14 c 3 4 (suspected E.M.G)
6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. E.A. very active over our lines during the morning. A plane with our markings dropped 4 bombs in P 2 b at 3.30 a.m. Several E.A. crossed our lines after dark and passed over CORBIE moving towards our rear; engaged by our A.A. and M.Guns. Our planes were very active over BOIS DE VAIRE and along E. front
7. MOVEMENT Enemy trenches at P 22 a 35 85 are the centre of much movement. Movement was seen in HAMEL during the day. There was much movement all day in P 10 b, P 16 a and P 17 a & d.
6.35 p.m. about 50 men & limbers moved along road in P 13 c in direction of WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

MOVEMENT (continued)

from 6.30 p.m. until dark there were great numbers of small parties moving in WARFUSEE-ABANCOURT.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. At 3.30 p.m. 2 Enemy balloons on the ground T.B. 1140 and 108° from I 30 a 6.2.

There appears to be an enemy aeroplane landing ground in Q 15.

A number of white chain lights were fired from P 4 c at 10.55 p.m. while our artillery was firing. No apparent results. Visibility good.

[Handwritten signature]
Brig. Genl.
Commanding 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

10
SECRET10
7
Copy No. 7.

8th Australian Infantry Brigade

OPERATION MEMORANDUM No. 1.
-----Reference Sheet 62 D
1/40,000Headquarters
12th April 1918.

1. (a) On a day "Z" and at an hour to be notified later an attack is to be carried out by the Division on our right. The object of the attack is to straighten out the re-entrant in our line running from W 29 b 88 80 - U 17 - U 11 - U 6 to V 1 central and to establish a line running from U 29 b 88 80 - U 24 central - V 13 central - V 7 d 00 30 - V 1 b 8 0; V 1 b 8 0 is the Northern limit of the attack.
- (b) The attack will be made under cover of
- A creeping Field Artillery barrage
 - A standing Field Howitzer barrage
 - A back barrage of Heavy Artillery
 - A machine gun barrage.
2. The 5th Aust. Div. will co-operate in the above attack by
- (1) An artillery barrage to cover the left flank of 18th Div.
 - (2) By a Chinese Attack to be carried out by guns of 5th Aust. Div.
 - (3) A machine gun barrage to cover left flank of 18th Div. against counter-attack.
3. Watches will be synchronised on "Y" day at times to be notified later. On no account are watches to be synchronised by telephone.
4. ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signature]
Capt.
Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde

| | | |
|----------------|------------|-----|
| 29th Battalion | Copy No. 1 | |
| 30th | " | 2 |
| 31st | " | 3 |
| 32nd | " | 4 |
| 8th L.T.M.B. | | 5 |
| 15th Field Coy | A.E. | 6 |
| War Diary | | 7/9 |
| File | | 10. |

1. OPERATIONS. Our artillery was active during the day. HAMEL and BOIS DE VAIRE were shelled by our 18 pdrs. During the night our artillery was very active.
At 8.15 a.m. the L.T.'s fired 30 rds on a suspected .G. post at P 8 d 6 5.
Patrols. Night was dark and wet and patrolling was difficult.
Right Bn. 1 Off and 10 O.R. left P 13 d 9 7 at 11 p.m. and moved out to road at P 14 c 3 4, then turned N. to P 14 a 4 6. No enemy seen or heard. Lights similar to electric torches were seen in the BOIS DE VAIRE. Patrol returned at 1.50 a.m.
1 Off and 10 O.R. left P 14 a 2 5 at 8.30 p.m. and moved out to P 14 a 5 5 and searched N.W. to P 14 c 4 1 and patrol returned to P 13 d 9 5 at 10.30 p.m. No enemy seen.
4 other patrols were out during the night but nothing was seen or heard of enemy. E.G. and rifle fire nil.
Centre Bn. 1 Off and 2 O.R. left P 8 c 5 6 at 3.33 a.m. to examine 2 trenches about P 8 d 35 45; they searched the forward post and found it unoccupied and from there bombed the other post; they was no reply or movement.
1 M.C.C. & 4 O.R. left P 2 d 6 3 at 8.15 p.m. and moved down road towards HAMEL from P 3 c 3 0; transport could be heard in HAMEL at 9 p.m.; patrol returned at 9.30 p.m. to P 2 d 75 00; no enemy seen 2 other patrols were out but report no sign of enemy.
Left Bn. 1 Off and 20 O.R. left P 3 a 1 3 at 3.30 a.m. and moved out via VAIRE-HAMEL Road to outskirts of village. Owing to darkness and strong wind, patrol was unable to locate enemy post; patrol returned at 5 a.m.
1 Off and 15 O.R. left P 3 a 4 8 at 1 a.m. and moved to road at P 3 c 9 7 and along it into P 4 c and returned at 2.30 a.m.; no posts were located; enemy was very quiet.
During the night the houses in BOUZENCOURT were thoroughly searched and patrols pushed out in front. No enemy seen.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS Nil

3. ENEMY SHELLING. Enemy artillery, on our left Bn front, was fairly active, elsewhere quieter than usual. VAIRE and HAMELET were shelled with salvos of 4.2" at intervals during the day and night. BOUZENCOURT J 33 b and J 34 a were also shelled with salvos. During the night intervals between salvos was about 8 minutes.
N. bank of Canal near VAUX SUR SOLLE received considerable attention during the night, all harassing fire.
During the day an occasional 8" shell fell near cross roads in P 13 c
Machine guns Occasional bursts at long intervals opposite Right Bn front only.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Enemy very quiet except for artillery activity on our left Bn front.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. No new works observed opposite Bde front. Trench at P 8 d 35 45 found to be unoccupied.

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Large formations of enemy planes flying high at 3 p.m. Engaged with A.A. fire.
6.30 p.m. 4 H.A. driven off by our M.G's and A.A. gun fire.
Our planes were active during the day firing .G's into BOIS DE VAIRE and 2 bombs were also dropped.

7. MOVEMENT. Odd movement seen in P 16 a during the afternoon. They appeared to be carrying R.E. material
Small parties at dusk leaving HAMEL and entering BOIS DE VAIRE
Working parties seen in wood in P 14 b & d. Dispersed by our L.G. and rifle men.

12.15 p.m. 3 men left trench at P 10 d 45 and moved into HAMEL
11.5 a.m. smoke coming from house at P 10 a 00 30 (HAMEL)

8. MISCELLANEOUS. Very misty all day. Visibility bad. Rain fell during the night.

Brig. Genl.
Commanding 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

8th Australian Infantry Brigade
DAILY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
From 6 a.m. 14/4/18 to 6 a.m. 15/4/18.

1. OPERATIONS. Our artillery was active during the day and night on HAMEL, BOIS DE VAIRE and strong posts in front of Wood. Enemy S.P. in small copse in P 14 c 8 7 was shelled by our 13 pars. Our M.G.'s and snipers fired on enemy working parties moving along road from HAMEL to BOIS DE VAIRE (P 9 d)

Patrols.

Right Bn. 1 Off & 10 O.R. left P 13 d at 3 a.m. and moved out into N.M.L. about 500 yds and then turned N. and worked across Bn front; patrol reports no sign of enemy occupying any posts other than those immediately in front of the BOIS DE VAIRE. N.M.L. was thoroughly searched and patrol returned at 5.15 a.m.

3 other patrols were out during the night and report everything very quiet. No sounds of enemy heard and no movement seen.

Centre Bn. 1 N.C.O. and 4 O.R. left P 2 c 8 3 at 3.45 p.m. and moved along road towards HAMEL to P 3 c 3 0; thence N. to road P 3 c 3 7; the area between these two roads was thoroughly searched but no movement or any sign of enemy was seen. Patrol returned at 9.50 p.m.

Another patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 4 men went over this area from 4.45 a.m. to 5.15 a.m. and no sign of enemy was seen or heard.

Left Bn. 8.30 a.m. 2 Off and 1 N.C.O. made a daylight reconnaissance of BOUZINCOURT. They moved along Canal to J 34 d 2 5 and enemy could be seen working on trench at P 4 b 7 7.

During the night BOUZINCOURT was patrolled 3 times; no enemy seen.

At 12.50 a.m. an enemy patrol of about 14 moved up the HAMEL-VAIRE Road towards our posts at P 3 c 3 4; they were challenged by the post and receiving no answer post opened fire, causing the enemy to scatter with considerable squealing as if some were hit; search was immediately made for any wounded but none were found. 1 Off. and 20 O.R. left at 1.30 a.m. and searched both sides of HAMEL-VAIRE Road to P 3 c 4 7 but no enemy were seen. Patrol returned at 3.30 a.m.

1 Off and 20 O.R. left P 33 d and moved along road in P 4 a towards HAMEL; patrol then moved to P 4 b 4 8 and halted. 2 of the enemy were seen; patrol moved towards them but enemy ran in direction of HAMEL. Patrol endeavoured to out them off but were unsuccessful; enemy were then fired on but got away. The intense darkness made movements of patrol difficult.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS Nil

3. ENEMY SHELLING. Enemy artillery was not as active as usual on our forward areas during the day but increased during the night; bursts of 4.2" HE at about 3 hour intervals on the front line of our right Bn. About 40 rds 5.9 HE fell in CORBIE during the day; this shelling was scattered. VAIRE was shelled with 4.2" at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 12.30 p.m., 5 p.m., 11 p.m. and 1 a.m. BOUZENCOURT and Canal in J 34 a shelled at 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. with salvos of 4.2" 11.20 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. 50 rds 4.2" on HAMELET from BOIS DE ARQUAIRE 11.15 p.m. 17 rds 77mm gas shells in P 2 c BOIS DE ARQUAIRE 1.30 a.m. to 2.20 a.m. P 2 c & d and P 8 a 80 42 Trench Mortars 1.30 a.m. 12 M.M.W's on front line of Right Bn from BOIS DE VAIRE. Machine Guns. 1 M.G. fired across the Centre Bn front at intervals during the night, no location can be given.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Very quiet during the day. One enemy patrol met opposite our left Bn. More flares were used last night than previous nights.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Posts in P 9 a are occupied. Trench at P 4 b 7 7 was being worked on yesterday. An H.Q. is suspected at P 10 d 7 7.

(contd)

APPENDIX

12

(3)

6. ARTILLERY MOVEMENTS. None.

7. MOVEMENTS. Enemy could be seen in posts in P 9 a., about 6 men in each post.
 1. 1st Coy. 8 wagons thought to be ambulances moved from P 11 cent. to P 11 0 0.
 2. 1st Coy. 3rd Coy, parties of 3 and 3 moved from HAMEL to BOIS DE VAIRE, and BOIS DE HAMEL; rest parties appeared to be varying positions.
 3. Movement that started on road running S.E. from HAMEL and back to P 10 d.
 4. During the afternoon a stretcher was seen being carried by four men from P 9 d 0 1 to BOIS DE VAIRE.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. Visibility poor during the day. Night very dark with strong wind.
 Gun flashes seen on a T.D. 133° from I 60 a 0 2.

A. M. Dwyer
 Brig. Genl.
 Commanding 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

5th Australian Infantry Brigade

DAILY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 15/4/18 to 6 a.m. 16/4/18.

1. OPERATIONS. Our artillery was active during the day in enemy occupied areas and harassing enemy movement particularly in P 10 d. During the night practice shoots were fired. Our heavies obtained some good bursts on south edge of BOIS DE VAIRE.

Patrols

Right Bn. Lieut MCCOY and 10 C.R. left P 13 c 3 5 at 9.30 p.m. and moved out about 450 yds into N.M.L. and approached a small copse near P 14 b 8 9, when two enemy patrols were seen, both about 15 strong. One party moved from copse towards our patrol and the other party was 50 tds away on the left. On our patrol moving forward the enemy right party at once commenced to retire; both parties were then fired on and scolded by our patrol. Both enemy parties took cover and they were lost to sight; the enemy threw a few stick bombs. It is thought that some of the enemy were hit as cries were heard, but Lieut MCCOY and a few men went forward and searched but no signs of enemy were found.

A large working party was heard at P 13 b 3 3

Lieut MATHER and 8 C.R. left P 14 a 2 5 at 9.30 p.m. and moved to chalk pit at P 14 c 8 6, then to a small copse West of the B. DE VAIRE. No enemy movement was seen. Dugouts in chalk pit examined and found unoccupied. Noise of much work was heard from front edge of BOIS DE VAIRE.

Centre Bn. Lieut STUART and 5 C.R. left P 8 b 4 2 at 10.15 p.m. and proceeded along road running S.E. to about P 3 d 3 8; from there to P 8 d 25 25 and examined all ground in the vicinity; a snipers post was found unoccupied in the road; no sign of enemy seen or heard.

Three other patrols were out during the night and report all quiet and no enemy seen.

Left Bn. Sgt BAKER and 11 C.R. patrolled BOUZENCOURT from 10.30 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. and 3.30 a.m. to 4.45 a.m. Houses were searched and found unoccupied. Patrols pushed out in front and no enemy were seen or heard.

Lieut LARNACH and 15 C.R. left P 3 a 0 2 at 11.45 p.m. and moved out about 500 yards along VAIRE MAMEL rd. to P 3 d 0 0 then turned Nth. and searched N.M.L. opposite Bn. front. No hostile patrols were seen and enemy were very quiet. Patrol returned at 3 a.m. to P 3 a 9 9.

Two other patrols were out during the night but report no enemy movements seen or heard; enemy very quiet.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS: Nil.

3. ENEMY SHELLING: Enemy artillery was active during the night with 77 mm. and a few 4.2" on front line of right Bn. Bursts of 10 shells at intervals of 40 minutes.

VAIRE and BOUZENCOURT were shelled continually during the night with 4.2's.

Nth. bank of canal through J 25, 32 and 33 were shelled with 4.2's. and 5.9's. from direction of GERISY.

6.45 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. 15 5.9's. on P 7 a and b from WARFUSEE ABANCOURT. 8.45 a.m. to 5 p.m. 50 4.2" on road in P 8 a and c from BOIS de TAILLOUX.

10 p.m. 10.40 p.m. 38 4.2" Gas shells on P 3 c from BOIS DE TAILLOUX.

Trench mortars. A M.H.W. fired a few rounds on P 8 c from P 14 b 9 2. A few Granatenwerfers were fired from P 14 d 4 8 on right Bn. front posts.

Machine guns A.A. Machine guns only were active during the period.

Snipers. Enemy snipers are now active from front edge of BOIS de VAIRE.

1918

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE: There is no change in enemy's attitude. Enemy artillery was active during the night.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. New enemy wire from P 4 d 1 2 to P 20 d 5 3. A strong point at P 14 c 95 20 is strongly wired and contains several M.G.'s., enemy appears to be digging a continuous line of trenches in front of BOIS DE VAIRE (in P 14) with a few posts about 100 yds in advance. An enemy party of 25 seen working on trench at P 15 d 8 7 at 8.40 a.m.
6. AERIAL ACTIVITY: Enemy aircraft nil. One of our planes dropped 4 bombs near an enemy A.A. machine gun immediately in front of BOIS DE VAIRE at 6 p.m. This gun has not been fired since.
7. MOVEMENT: The dead ground P 17 b is the centre of a great deal of movement. Small parties of two and three were seen throughout the day behind HAMEL particularly P 10 d 7 8. Sunken rd. in P 10 d is much used as approach to HAMEL. At dusk a man was seen 150 yds. out by our post at P 8 b 3 0 and was shot at and fell; three others were then seen and a L.G. opened on them; all appeared to be hit (no trace was found by patrols but a sniper's post was discovered unoccupied). 6 p.m. 13 men crossed fields in direction of HAMEL and disappeared into P 17 b. Movement was seen on West edge of BOIS DE VAIRE; engaged by our snipers; several hits are claimed. Arms and Equipment. Objects that appear to be wireless masts at P 10 d 7 8.
8. MISCELLANEOUS: During harassing shoot on enemy at 3.20 a.m. enemy fired a white flare bursting into two greens from HAMEL; no action followed. Weather, dull. Visibility only fair.

A. McDonald
Brigadier General,
Commanding 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Ref. Sheet
62d 1/10000

From 6 a.m. 16th April to 6 a.m. 17th April 1918.

1. OPERATIONS: Our Artillery was active throughout the period. Enemy movement was engaged by our field guns. During the afternoon movement in Q 14 a, b and d was effectively shelled by our Heavies. During the night concentrated shoots were carried out on enemy defences.

Our snipers were active on small parties of enemy seen in BOIS DE VAIRE.

PATROLS: The usual liaison patrols were carried out.
Right Bn.

Lieut. WAKELIN and 10 o.r. left P 14 a 3 9 at 8.30 p.m. and moved out into N.M.L. and patrolled to the right across Bn. front. A working party was heard about P 14 b 9 3 but no enemy were seen. Patrol returned at 10.30 p.m.

Lieut. JOHNSON and 8 o.r. left P 14 a 0 3 at 1 a.m. and moved up close to the BOIS DE VAIRE, then moved South and returned to P 13 d 9 0 at 3 a.m. No enemy seen; all quiet.

Four other patrols were out and report night unusually quiet; except for working party heard early in night nothing was seen or heard. No flares were fired and no M.G. activity opposite this Bn. front.

Centre Battalion. Lieut. WELLS and 4 o.r. left P 8 c 8 4 at 3 a.m. and moved down into Valley in P 8 d. About 300 yards out a German pack was found marked J.R. 157; it was impossible to state how long the pack had been there. It only contained two towels; a V.M.G. tripod was also found in the shell hole. No enemy were seen and patrol returned at 5.5 a.m.

Cpl. CATCH and 3 p.r. left P 3 d 90 75 at 3.30 a.m. and moved out close to a lone tree at P 9 a 50 95 and watched this point as it was a suspected listening post; later patrol moved up and examined post and found it unoccupied; no sign of enemy seen or heard.

Two other patrols were out and report everything very quiet, with exception of artillery activity.

Left Battalion.

Sgt. BAKER and 3 o.r. searched the village of BOUZENCOURT from 10.40 p.m. to 1 a.m. and 3.15 a.m. to 5.55 a.m. and returned through N.M.L. to J 34 a 4 2. No enemy seen but sounds of stakes being driven in at P 4 d and P 5 e were heard.

Lieut. SKINNER and 15 o.r. left P 3 a 0 2 at 10 p.m. and moved along VAIRE HAMEL Rd. to Cross roads in P 3 e where a flare was fired by enemy; patrol worked to right of the point but saw no sign of enemy or defences; patrol then moved on to within 200 yds of HAMEL; another flare was fired from about P 9 b 1 9; patrol could not locate the enemy. Patrol returned at midnight.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS N i l.

3. ENEMY SHELLING: Enemy artillery has been active over the whole Brigade front during the past 24 hours. There appeared to be more guns active opposite this Brigade front since 14/4/18.

VAIRE was shelled with 4.2s. and 5.9s. during day and night.

3 p.m. 40 4.2s. H.E. and Shrap. on BOUZENCOURT.

6 p.m. 30 4.2s. H.E. on BOUZENCOURT from Q 14.

6 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. 50 4.2s. on P 8 a and b from BOIS DE ARQUAIRE.

2 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. 13 5.9s. on HAMELET.

2 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. 4 8" on HAMELET.

At 5.10 a.m. to 5.45 a.m. enemy put down barrage on our front and support lines, 77 mms. 4.2s. and 5.9s. H.E. and Gas Shell.

There was considerable number of "Sneezing" Gas Shells used in this bombardment.

Trench mortars. 9.30 p.m. 6 M.M.W's. fell on P 13 d from BOIS DE VAIRE.

Machine guns. With exception of A.A. fire very quiet.

P.T.O.

Lester

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. No change in enemy attitude.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. New wire has been put up at P 10 d, thence N.E. over ridge. New belt of wire in P 16 b running into dead ground in P 11.
6. ENEMY MOVEMENT. During the afternoon Q 14 a, b and d was the centre of a great amount of movement. Men, horses, transport and motor transport were engaged by our Howitzers.
Towards evening a great deal of movement in vicinity of HAMEL - BOIS de VAIRE - P 17 b and P 10 d.
There was some train movement in vicinity of MORCOURT during the afternoon. (4.15 p.m.)
3.30 p.m. two loaded pack horses led over ridge in P 19 d in S.E. direction.
4.50 p.m. parties of men moving in pairs from P 10 d to HAMEL.
6.8 p.m. 30 or 40 men in parties of 6 moved from P 17 b into dead ground in P 11 d.
7. AIRIAL ACTIVITY.
4.30 p.m. 3 E.A. flew over our lines at P 33.
An enemy balloon was up from 3 p.m. to 4.35 p.m. on T.B. of 103° from P 8 a 35 40.
Our planes were active during the day.
8. MISCELLANEOUS. Smoke was seen issuing from house in BOIS DE VAIRE during the day. It is thought a headquarters is situated here, Visibility fair - fine day.

Brigadier General,
Commanding, 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

255
15
REF MAP
Sheet 38d
1/40,000

Intelligence Summary

From 6 a.m. 17th April to 6 a.m. 18th April 18.

1. OPERATIONS: Our Artillery was active throughout the period. During the night concentrated shoots were carried out at frequent intervals. The BOIS DE VAIRE received considerable attention. Several direct hits were obtained on enemy M.G. positions and strong posts. Our 6" Hows. fired on enemy strong posts at P 10 and P 16 with good results; some casualties were inflicted. Our snipers were active on small parties seen in the L. DE VAIRE.
 - PATROLS:
 - Right Battalion. Lieut. WILLINGTON and 8 o.r. left P 14 a 1 3 at 8.30 p.m. and moved out into N.M.L. about 500 yards and then turned Nth, working parties were heard in the forward edge of the BOIS DE VAIRE; transport was also heard in the Wood. Patrol returned to P 8 c 3 4 at 10.30 p.m.
 - Lieut. TREASURE and 10 o.r. left P 14 a 1 3 at 3 a.m. and moved out towards the wood. Working parties were again heard, but owing to our artillery bombardment direction could not be ascertained. Patrol returned to P 13 d 9 1 at 5.15 a.m.
 - 8 other patrols were out during the night and report no sign of enemy seen; all patrols penetrated N.M.L. to a depth of 500 to 800 yards. Bad visibility and our artillery bombardment made patrolling difficult.
 - Centre Battalion. Lieut. HAIGH and 3 o.r. left P 8 d 5 4 at 3.45 a.m. and moved across Br. front about 250 yards from outpost line. No movement or sign of enemy seen or heard. Patrol returned at 4.40 a.m.
 - Cpl. BROOME and 4 o.r. left P 3 d 8 6 at 3.30 a.m. and patrolled through P 3 c, P 9 a and c and P 8 d. Patrol returned without seeing any signs of enemy.
 - Left Battalion.
 - Lieut. SKINNER and 15 o.r. left P 3 a 0 2 at 3 a.m. and proceeded along VAIRE HAMLET Rd. as far as VAIRE CERISY Rd. (P 3 c) then to P 3 c 6 4 and returned through P 3 a and b. No sign of enemy or defences were seen, but work was hampered by very bad visibility.
 - Sgt. BAKER and 3 o.r. patrolled BOUZENCOURT at 3.30 p.m., 11 p.m. and 3.30 a.m. to 5.5 a.m. Patrol went through village to approx. P 4 b 6 6 then returned to our lines through J 34 c 9 5. All quiet; no sign of enemy seen or heard.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS: N i l.
3. ENEMY SHELLING. Enemy artillery was active throughout the period, particularly on our Right Bn. area, 5.9", 4.2" and 77 mm being used, nearly all H.E. but a few shrapnel and gas shells. Our forward posts in P 3 a received some attention by 77's. VAIRE and BOUZENCOURT were shelled with 4.2s. and a few 77s. during the period.
 - 10.10 p.m. 5 4.2" s. Gas shell fell in HAMLET.
 - 11.30 p.m. to 3 a.m. 40 4.2" H.E. in HAMLET from BOIS DE ARQUAIRE.
 - 11.25 p.m. 43 5.9 and 4.2 H.E. and Gas on P 2 c from BOIS DE ARQUAIRE.
 - Trench Mortars. A H.M.W. has been active on our right Bn. front line firing from P 14 b 2 6.
 - Machine Guns. A.A. machine gun fire only with exception of slight activity during night opposite right Bn.
4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet and is apparently consolidating his position. Artillery and trench mortars active.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy parties observed in P 16 a; apparently wiring. The posts in front of BOIS DE VAIRE are being connected up to form a continuous line. M.Gs. located at P 14 d 35 80, P 14 a 45 95, P 14 b 90 30, P 20 b 10 20, P 14 d 5 5 (house in wood).

15/20

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Between 2 and 2.30 p.m. two E.A. crossed our line but returned on approach of our planes.

No. 13 plane again fired bursts of H.G. fire behind our right bn. front line at 5.50 p.m.

Our planes were active all day and when fired on by enemy A.A.-H.Gs. in BOIS DE VAIRE dropped three bombs.

7. MOVEMENT. A small party was seen in trench at P 9 a 9 2 at 5.15 a.m. on 17th., watching the effects of the enemy bombardment on our line. They disappeared when fired on by a L.G.

Small party moving about mound at P 4 a 5 C (approx.) at dusk. 10.30 p.m. noise of transport heard on west edge of BOIS DE VAIRE. Our L.Gs. fired in the direction of the sound.

Continuous movement of small parties near BOIS DE ARQUAIRE during the day.

12.55 p.m. 4 men carrying man on stretcher from P 17 a to P 23 a.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. During enemy bombardment on morning of 17th inst. it was noticed that most of the shells fell along road running through P 2 a to P 3 a thence back along ridge P 7 b. Heaviest concentration being P 2 c 8 5.

Visibility was poor during the day. Light rain during the afternoon and night.

J. M. Donnelly
Brigadier General,
Commanding, 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

1. OPERATIONS: Our Artillery was active during the 24 hours, particularly on the BOIS DE VAIRE. Shoots were carried out on M.G. positions in P 14 b 5 5, P 14 b 5 0, P 14 b 9 5, P 14 b 9 1 at 4.30 p.m. Several direct hits were observed.
Sniping: Our snipers were active on good targets in the B.de VAIRE.
PATROLS:
Right Bn. Lieut. TREASURE and 18 o.r. left P 14 a 0 1 at 8.30 p.m. and moved to P 8 b 9 2 then turned and moved Sth. down the valley in P 14 a and c to the WARFUSEE ABANCOURT Rd. at about P 20 a 6 4 where a noise of coughing was heard. Lt. TREASURE moved forward and saw what appeared to be the heads of two of the enemy. As he returned to the patrol, a shell burst killing one and wounding three of the patrol, necessitating the return of the patrol at 0.00.
Lt. NEILD and 10 o.r. left P 14 a 1 3 at 2.45 a.m. and inspected a copse in P 14 c then moved up valley to P 14 b 0 4 where a party of 4 were seen and fired on, but no trace of enemy could be found when patrol searched the ground.
Our Artillery activity prevented noise of working parties etc. being heard. Patrol returned at 5.15 a.m.
Centre Bn. Lt. WELLS and 9 o.r. left P 8 c 6 3 at 11 p.m. and moved to a sunken road in P 8 d; there it was held up by M.G. fire from about P 8 d 7 7. Patrol attempted to approach further but was unable to do so as it formed a good target against the skyline. patrol returned at 12.30 a.m.
Cpl. BROMLEY and 5 o.r. left P 8 b 9 9 at 12.30 a.m. and moved along road towards HAMEL, then returned along VAIRE HAMEL Rd. through P 3 c; no enemy seen or heard. Patrol returned at 2 a.m.
Left Bn.
Lt. SKINNER and 25 o.r. left post in P 3 a 0 3 at 10.30 p.m. and moved astride road in direction of HAMEL. An unoccupied post was found about 50 yards Sth. of cross roads at P 3 c 3 7. Patrol halted at road junction P 9 a 9 9; some of the patrol then moved up close to the first house, but nothing was seen or heard of the enemy. patrol returned at 12.30 a.m.
BOUZENCOURT vicinity was patrolled at intervals during the night; everything very quiet.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS: Nil.
3. ENEMY SHELLING: Enemy artillery was not as active as usual. VAIRE was shelled at intervals during the day with 4.2s.; one direct hit on left Bn. H.Qrs.
BOUZENCOURT received two 2-minute bombardments of 77s. at 3.30 a.m. and 3.45 a.m.
P 13 and P 7 c and d were shelled at intervals with 4.2s. and a few 5.9s. and 77s. The majority of the 77 mm shells were blind.
5 p.m. 50 4.2s. fell in P 2 d from BOIS DE ARQUAIRE.
11 to 11.45 p.m. 40 4.2s. fell in HAMELET from WARFUSEE ABANCOURT.
Trench Mortars. 5.30 p.m. 6 M.M.W. and 18 Granaterwerfers fell near P 8 c 0 0.
Machine Guns: Occasional bursts only over P 8 a and c during the night but fired on the fighting patrol of our centre Bn.
4. ENEMY ATTITUDE: Quiet but alert opposite our centre Bn.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES: Enemy post with two M.Gs. at approx. P 8 d 7 7 (patrol). Wire has been put out from house at P 14 d 5 5 to the Sth end of Wood.
6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Between 6.45 a.m. and 7.30 a.m. 3 flights of 6, 5 and 4 E.A. attempted to cross our lines from behind HAMEL; our A.A. guns fired on them and they turned Sth. Many enemy planes crossed our lines during the early part of the night. Our planes were active from 6 p.m. to midnight.

7. MOVEMENT. Small parties were seen in BOIS DE VAIRE all day particularly near the house at P 14 d 5 5.

Some movement near post at P 22 a 3 8 from 4.20 p.m. to 5 p.m. There was very considerable movement of transport and personnel all day in the vicinity of MERICOURT.

5.30 p.m. 50 men in small parties apparently carrying wire through P 18 and P 17 to BOIS DE ARQUAIRE.

7.45 p.m. 8 motor lorries passing Nth. through MERICOURT.

8. MISCELLANEOUS: Weather dull and misty, with an occasional light rain. Visibility poor.

Location :- The Company of the reserve Bn. in VAIRE moved back to CORBIE. Whole of reserve Bn. now in CORBIE.

A. M. J. O'Connell
Brigadier General,
Commanding, 8th Aust. Inf. Brigade

From 6 a.m. 19/4/18 to 6 a.m. 20/4/18.

1. OPERATIONS: Our Artillery was active during the day on enemy defences and movement areas. During the night concentrated shoots were carried out.

Trench Mortars. At 2.30 a.m. our Stokes fired 60 rounds on enemy work at P 14 b 7 7 and on dead ground from P 9 a 0 0 to P 14 cent.

Sniping. Our snipers were again active on movement in B. de VAIRE.

Patrols:

Right Battalion. Lieut. TREASURE and 12 o.r. with a Lewis gun left right of Bn. sector and moved S.E. along road in P 20 a to about P 20 a 8 8 where an enemy patrol of 1 off. and 20 o.r. was met. Our patrol at once engaged them; the patrol Officer shot enemy officer with his revolver and our L.G. opened on them and killed six and wounded one who was sent back to our line;

Remainder of hostile patrol made off and could not be seen. Our patrol advanced and searched ground but could not locate them, but came under fire from enemy front line posts. Patrol then moved to the left and returned at 1.40 a.m. Moon had set and night was very dark.

Centre Bn. Lieut. WELLS and 3 o.r. left p 8 b 3 1 at 11.35 p.m. to reconnoitre enemy post at P 8 d 7 7; patrol moved down road towards B. DE VAIRE. At about P 8 d 45 70 enemy has placed a belt of wire across the road; wire is not strong. Near this point a recently occupied sniper's post was found containing a stick bomb. Enemy post at p 8 d 7 7 could not be seen through the wire. While patrol was examining the Strong point 6 enemy were seen in rear of the wire on left of the road. Patrol waited half an hour and was then attacked by 15 of the enemy with a light M.G. from the right. Patrol threw all their grenades and then retired followed for about 100 yards by the enemy using the light M.G. Patrol returned safely at 1 a.m.

Two other patrols were out but report N.M.L. clear of the enemy and no sound of working parties heard. Until midnight moon was very bright.

Left Bn. Lieut HILL M.C. and 25 O.R. left J 34 d 2 9 at 11.35 p.m. and moved in three parties through BOUZENCOURT to P 4 b 9 4 where sound of working was heard. Patrol worked round below a ridge to P 4 b 4 6; a post was discovered at about P 4 b 4 4. It appeared to be either a night M.G. post or a post for 10 rifles. It was impossible to get closer owing to the bright moonlight. Patrol then moved to J 34 d 3 9 at 3.40 a.m.

Sgt. MCGREGOR and 12 men left J 33 c 8 1 at 1.45 a.m. and moved towards HAMMEL, then across Coy. front to J 33 d 9 8. A hostile party of about 10 was seen in direction of P 3 d 9 1 and patrol was fired on from post in this direction. Patrol returned at 3.30 a.m.

Three other patrols were out but report no sign of enemy.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS: Wounded prisoner of 43rd I.R. 1st Division captured at P 20 e.

3. ENEMY SHELLING: Enemy artillery was active during the period.

VAIRE was shelled between 1.5 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. with 47 4.2s. and again with 60 4.2s. between 10.20 and 11.20 p.m.

Left Bn. posts were lightly shelled at intervals with 77 mm H.E. and a few gas shells.

Enemy appeared to be registering with 5.9s. and 77 mm on the front line posts of the right Bn.

Cross roads in P 13 e were shelled at frequent intervals throughout the period with 5.9s., 4.2s., and 77s.

CORBIE was shelled with 10 8" between 5 and 5.15 p.m.; two direct hits on church.

35 4.2s. and 20 5.9s. fell in HAMMEL during the period from direction of MORCOURT.

P.T.O.

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APPENDIX 17

- 2 -

3. ENEMY SHELLING (continued)

Trench Mortars. Enemy M.W's. were again active during the day.

20 M.M.W's. fell in P 14 a during the night.

2.45 a.m. 4 M.M.W's. on P 8 a 3 5 from T.B. 110° from P 8 a 35 40.

Machine Guns active on our right Bn. sector, elsewhere quiet with exception of heavy A.A. fire.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE: Enemy patrols more active than usual, otherwise no change.5. ENEMY DEFENCES: Enemy post at P 8 d 7 7 appears to be held in strength (patrol).

More wire and stakes erected near posts P 16 b, P 11 b, P 10 b and d.

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY: E.A. were active between 5 a.m. and 7.30 a.m., 6.30 p.m. and 7 p.m. 5 E.A. patrolled behind his lines.

Our planes were active during the day and were heavily fired on by enemy A.A. machine guns in the BOIS DE VAIRE.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT: Enemy movement was very marked particularly in vicinity of MERICOURT, Enemy appears to be making a dump near huts in front of MERICOURT.

There was again considerable movement all day at P 16 b, P 17 d and P 10 b and d.

4.10 p.m. Infantry, motor transport and wagons moved through Q 16 in direction of CERISY.

7.15 to 7.50 p.m. 150 men walking in pairs carrying barbed wire and stakes from P 12 a to BOIS DE ARQUAIRE at P 16 d. Some of these were scattered by our shrapnel.

5.30 a.m. motor transport and wagons, also small parties, seen on MARCELCAVE-WARFUSEE Rd.

10 a.m. a wagon apparently carrying hay left HAMEL by the MARCELCAVE Rd.

8. MISCELLANEOUS: Visibility fair; occasional sleet storms. Bright moonlight till midnight, later very dark.

R. Anderson
Brigadier General,
Commanding 8th Inf. Brigade

Order No. 174.

Reference Map
62d 1/40,000

Headquarters
19th April 1918.

1. Consequent upon the Southern boundary of III and Aust. Corps being adjusted to run from P 19 central Westwards along Grid line to N 24 a 0 0 along BLANGY TRONVILLE Road (inclusive to Aust. Corps) Railway at N 22 c 4 2, along Railway to N 24 a 8 9 and the Northern boundary between 5th and 3rd Aust. Divisions to run from J 34 c 7 0 Westwards along Grid line, there will be a re-arrangement of frontages of 8th, 14th and 11th A.I. Brigades.
2. (a) 14th A.I. Bde are taking over 8th A.I. Bde front as far North as P 5 b 5 0 on the night 21/22nd Inst.
(b) 8th A.I. Bde will take over 11th A.I. Bde front as far North as J 24 c 7 0 on the night 21/22nd Inst. and the Reserve area J 27 a on night 22nd/23rd Inst.
(c) Reliefs and moves will be made in accordance with attached Table
(d) The boundary between 8th and 14th A.I. Bdes will be from P 5 b 5 0 to P 5 b 0 5 thence on an East and West line.
3. All maps, aeroplane photographs, S.O.S. signals, gas appliances will be handed over and taken over respectively and receipts forwarded to Bde H.Qrs.
4. No movement of troops will take place before 8.15 p.m. Precautions against hostile aircraft will be observed.
5. Units being relieved will arrange to have strong covering parties out on the front of their sectors until relief is complete.
6. Subject to the terms of this order details of relief will be arranged between C.O's concerned.
7. Completion of relief will be wired to Brigade H.Qrs at RED CHATEAU O 5 c 5 6 by priority code wire.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

A. Midon

Capt.
Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued at 11 p.m.

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| 29th Battalion | Copy No. 1 |
| 30th " | 2 |
| 31st " | 3 |
| 32nd " | 4 |
| 5th L.T.M. Batt. | 5 |
| 5th Machine Gun Bn | 6 |
| 15th Field Coy A.E. | 7 |
| No. 2 Sig. Section | 8 |
| B.G.C. 8th A.I. Bde | 9 |
| Staff Captain | 10 |
| 5th Aust. Div. | 11 |

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| 14th A.I. Bde | Copy No. 12 |
| 15th A.I. Bde | 13 |
| 11th A.I. Bde | 14 |
| 13th Bde A.F.A. | 15 |
| 14th Bde A.F.A. | 16 |
| 290th Bde R.F.A. | 17 |
| Area Commandant CORBIE | 18 |
| 18th Coy A.A.S.C. | 19 |
| War Diary | 20/22 |
| File | 23. |

P.T.O

MOVE TABLE TO ACCOMPANY 8th Australian Infantry Brigade Order No.174

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APPENDIX
18

| Date | Unit | From | Moves. | To | Relieved by | In relief of | Remarks. |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|--------|---|---|--------------------------|--|
| Night 21/22nd April | 32nd Bn | Line RIGHT | | CORBIE | Right Line Coy by Coy 54th Bn Remainder of Bn by 53rd Bn | | |
| ditto | Right line Coy of 30th Bn | Line CENTRE | | VILLERS Line | Coy of 53rd Bn | | |
| ditto | 2 guns of 8th L.T.M.B. | Line RIGHT | | Battery H.Q.s | | | |
| ditto | 29th Bn | CORBIE | | Line LEFT Advance parties will move into line night 20/21st April | | 44th Bn, 11th A.I.Bde | Bn H.Q. J 28 a 7 8. Dispositions 1 Coy OUT- POST LINE, 2 Coys MAIN LINE, 1 Coy SUPPORT. All details of relief to be arranged by C.O's concerned. |
| Night 22/ 23rd April | 32nd Bn | CORBIE | | Reserve Area J 27 a | | 41st Bn 11th A.I.Bde | Bn H.Q. J 21 c 4 3 Advance parties to go forward 10 am 22nd Inst. Movement by day not more than parties of 2 at 100 paces interval. |
| ditto | 2 guns 8th LTMB | Battery H.Q. | | LINE LEFT | | 2 guns 11th LTMB | |

2556

ADDENDUM to 8th AUST. INF. BDE. Order No. 174.

Ref. Map
Sheet 62d
1/40,000

SECRET

21st April 1918.

1. The 32nd Bn. on the night 22/23rd April will relieve :-
 - (a) All nucleus garrisons supplied by the 41st Bn. South of the grid line running East and West through J 24 and J 30.
 - (b) The four Lewis guns and teams of the 41st Bn. in the valley in J 28.

2. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued at 6 p.m.
to all recipients of
8th A.I.Bde. Order No. 174.

Captain,
Brigade Major, 8th Inf. Bde.

SECRET

AMENDMENT NO.1 to 8th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO.174.

For para.3 (d) Read.

2.

- (d) The boundary between 8th and 14th Aust. Inf. Bdes will be as follows P 8 b 5 0 to 0 5 c 7 7, then West along Southern bank of Canal (inclusive to 8th Infantry Brigade) to 0 10 a 0 9. Chateau at 0 5 c 5 6 is inclusive to 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

19/4/18

James
Capt.
Brigade Major 8th Aust. Inf. Bde

Issued to all recipients of 8th Aust. Inf. Bde Order No.174.

Ref. Sheet 62d
1/20,000.

Intelligence Summary.

From 6 a.m. 20/4/18 to 6 a.m. 21/4/18

1. OPERATIONS: Our Artillery was active throughout the day on enemy defences and movement. During the night concentration shoots were carried out.

French mortars. At 1.30 a.m. our Stokes fired 110 rounds of special incendiary shells and 110 rounds H.E. on Copse at P 14 central. The incendiary shells burst well and caused two large fires which continued to burn all night. Several parties of enemy were seen to scatter and run in all directions, some of whom were engaged by our Lewis gunners and the remainder disappeared under the H.E. Stokes barrage which had been put down in rear for that purpose. This shoot was very effective, and at least 10 casualties are claimed.

2.30 a.m. 30 rounds H.E. Stokes were fired on enemy strong post and wiring party between P 4 b 8 2 and P 4 b 4 8.

PATROLS:

Right Bn. Lieut. WAKELIN and 14 o.r. with a L.G. left P 13 d 8 2 at 11 p.m. and moved along road to enemy wire at P 20 a 70 10 thence along wire to Copse at P 14 central, thence across Battalion front and returned to P 14 a 1 9 at 1.30 a.m. Enemy wire is about 3'6" high, single apron style on wooden stakes. In places there is more wire between 150 yards to 300 yards in rear along western edge of BOIS DE VAIRE.

Three other patrols were out during the night and report hearing sounds of limbers in B. DE VAIRE. No enemy seen.

Centre Bn. Lieut. WELLS and 12 o.r. left P 8 b 2 2 at 11.30 p.m. and moved along road towards F. DE VAIRE and examined the wire in front of enemy post at P 8 d 7 7. Wire is in good condition; on reaching the wire patrol was fired on from the post, so before returning they fired 10 rifle grenades into post. Enemy fired M.Gs. and threw stick bombs but did not venture out of his trench. Patrol returned at 2.5 a.m.

Usual reconnaissance patrols were out during the night and report hearing voices and wagons moving from HAMEL to road through P 9 c. Enemy heard digging near road junction at P 9 a. Our Artillery shelled these areas.

Left Bn. Lieut. HILL and 26 o.r. moved from J 34 d 3 8 at 2.20 a.m. to within striking distance of enemy post at approx. P 4 b 4 4. Lieut. HILL then moved forward and almost immediately came on what appeared to be an enemy listening post. He heard sounds of enemy hurrying away and at once went back for his party and brought them forward, but on coming up to the position found it unoccupied; it was apparently a night position with accommodation for 7 men on either side of the road. Patrol searched surrounding country but could not find any trace of enemy; further investigation was prevented by our artillery shoots. Patrol returned at 4.15 a.m.

Two other reconnaissance patrols were out but report no sign of movement.

IDENTIFICATIONS: N 1 1.

ENEMY SHELLING: Enemy artillery was very active during the day, and at intervals during the night in retaliation for our concentration shoots.

12.20 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. 120 5.9" and 4.2" on CORBIE.

1.30 p.m. 30 77 mm on VAIRE.

8.15 p.m. to 11.15 p.m. 115 4.2" and 77mm on VAIRE. Salvoes.

10.30 p.m. to 11 p.m. 100 4.2" on VAIRE.

12.5 a.m. and 1.40 a.m. 175 4.2" H.E. and 40 Gas Shells on VAIRE and J 31 c and d.

1.30 a.m. 18 4.2" on J 31 c and d on a T.B. of 120° from P 8 a 35 40.

12 midnight 50 77mm Gas shells in HAMELET.

The following areas were shelled at intervals during the period, chiefly 4.2" and 5.9" H.E. and a little Shrapnel :- P 7 c and d, P 13 a, b, c.

In all enemy bombardments a proportion of 77 mm was used.

Right and Centre Bns. report that the enemy is using an 18 pdr. Bett. against their outpost and support lines.

3. ENEMY SHELLING (continued)

Trench Mortars. About 70 M.M.W. fell in P 8 c between 12 noon and 5 p.m. apparently registering, but no direct hits were obtained on our posts.

2.45 a.m. 3 M.M.W. on P 8 a 5 2 from B. DE VAIRE.

Machine Guns. Enemy M.G's. heavily engaged our low flying planes; quiet during the night.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE: Enemy artillery was more active than usual. Enemy snipers are active on centre Bn. front.5. ENEMY DEFENCES: Enemy appears to evacuate forward posts West of HAMEL at dawn and retires to village.

More wire has been put up in front of B. DE VAIRE from centre Sth. edge. There is now a thick belt along the edge of the wood.

20 men were seen during the day working on trenches from P 5 d through P 12 a and c to P 18 a.

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. E.A. were very active during the day. There were about 8 E.A. over our lines all the morning, and at 12.15 p.m. they fired into our posts. About 6.30 p.m. 6 of our planes engaged 9 E.A's. Two planes fell in flames, apparently one of our and one E.A. S.E. of B. DE VAIRE.

Four of the E.A. were triplanes and painted red completely. Our planes dropped bombs in rear of B. DE VAIRE.

Our L.G's. fired heavily into enemy planes which were making excellent targets.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT. 11.30 a.m. and from 12.30 to 1.30 p.m. long column of transport travelling Sth. from MERICOURT.

6.50 p.m. 40 men moving about forward edge of Wood at P 22 a 4 6.

7.9 p.m. a travelling kitchen drawn by 4 horses left road at P 18 b and disappeared into Wood at P 16 d.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. 8.4 p.m. flashes from a 5.9" battery on T.B. of 108^o and 109^o from I 30 a 5 2. These were engaged by our heavies and silenced.

Weather :- day fine visibility good. Foggy night.

Chassey Lt

for Brigadier General,
Commanding, 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE.
Intelligence Summary.Ref. 62d
1/40,000

From 6 a.m. 21/4/18 to 6 a.m. 22/4/18.

1. OPERATIONS: During the night the 32nd Bn. and the right Line Coy. of the 30th Bn. in the right sector and right half of centre sector were relieved by 53rd and 54th Bns.

29th Bn. relieved the 42nd Bn. in sector Nth. of Canal; relief was complete by 12.40 a.m.

Our Artillery was again active during the period, Concentration shoots being carried out during the night.

PATROLS:

Right Bn. Lieut. BRAGG and 11 o.r. left P 9 d 9 0 at 11.15 p.m. and moved out to the VAIRE HAMEL Rd. then moved up to within 15 yards of enemy wire in front of post at P 9 a 9 9. Immediately patrol reached this position a flare was fired and enemy continued on the alert and ceased digging. The wire is strongly staked-in, and is of the concertina pattern standing about 4.6" high, it was impossible for patrol to move further forward so lay in wait for any enemy parties, but none were seen up till 12.30 a.m. when party returned.

Centre Bn.

Sgt. FOSTER and 10 o.r. left J 33 c 9 0 and moved out to road in P 4 a. A large wiring party was heard at approx. P 4 c 7 5. Patrol attempted to work around their flank and moved across to P 19 a 3 7 near village where sounds of talking were heard; patrol returned at 12.15 a.m.

Lieut. KNOWLES and 15 o.r. left at 1.30 a.m. and followed the same route but found no sign of enemy.

Lieut. HILL, R.C. and 15 o.r. patrolled through BOUZENCOURT at 10.30 p.m. and moved out to P 4 b 7 7; movement was seen at a distance but owing to visibility it was impossible to get within striking distance. Patrol returned at 11.40 p.m.

Left Bn.

Lieut. CORNISH and 15 o.r. left J 30 a 5 3 and patrolled down road through J 30 c to J 35 b 8 9, and then patrolled the low-lying ground in this vicinity. No enemy were seen or heard but a M.G. fired on patrol from about J 36 a 1 5. Ground is dry with very few shell holes. Patrol returned at 4 a.m.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS: N 1 1.

3. ENEMY SHELLING. Enemy artillery was less active during the 24 hours; there was practically no shelling on our forward post. in J 24 and J 33. 4.50 p.m. to 1.15 a.m. 75 rds. 4.2s. on VAIRE.

8.30 p.m. 30 rds. 77 H.E. and gas along VAUX-SAILLY 1e Sec Rd.

3 a.m. 15 rds 77 Gas along VAUX-SAILLY 1e Sec Rd.

9.45 to 11.40 p.m. 50 rds 4.2s. on p 7 b (searching)

11.25 p.m. 100 rds 4.2" Gas shell on HAMELET.

Trench Mortars. N 1 1.

Machine Guns; Enemy M.Gs. are quiet.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Generally quiet. Appears to be working hard on his defences.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES: Enemy Strong Post at road junction P 9 a 9 9 is well wired. More wire been put up at P 16 b 25 50.

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Enemy aeroplanes were active throughout the day. During the morning an E.A. was brought down at J 19 b. 6.10 a.m. 22nd. an E.A. was forced down by one of our planes at J 26 b 8 3; Our planes were also very active all day dropping bombs and firing M.Gs. onto enemy occupied areas.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT: 11.20 a.m. about 20 men in field P 17 b and P 18 c. 1.30 p.m. Considerable movement of transport going Sth. from MERICOURT.

P.T.O.

ENEMY MOVEMENT (continued)

- 1.3 p.m. 6 motor lorries in MORCOURT going East.
- 1.40 p.m. A great number of horses loose in fields at Q 12, 13 & 24.
- 2 p.m. Train going South from MERICOURT.
- 7.15 p.m. 10 men carrying bags left P 17 b and went to P 17 d.
- 8.45 p.m. wagons thought to be field kitchen heard in P 4 d.

3. MISCELLANEOUS:

The road running through P 17 c and d appear to be used each night as fresh wheel tracks show up each day.
 Visibility fair; slight ground mist. Moonlight night.

Attempted Enemy Raid. At 4 a.m. enemy attempted to raid our post at P 2 D 9 0 moving up both sides of the HAMEL rd. in two waves - strength about 40 and 2 M.G. Our Lewis guns and rifles opened at 60 to 70 yards range. Enemy dropped bombs, rifles and ammunition and bolted. A patrol went out from post but although signs were found of wounded no identification was obtained.

Patrol collected some rifles and box of M.G. ammunition.

A. M. ...

Brigadier General,
 Commanding, 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

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8th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADEW.D. 52
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APPENDIXref.
Sheet 82d
1/40,000Intelligence Summary.

From 6 a.m. 22/4/18 to 6 a.m. 23/4/18.

1. OPERATIONS: Our Artillery very active throughout the period/on enemy particularly positions, roads and movement. BOIS de VAIRE, SAILLY LAURETTE, and trenches in P 10 b and d were shelled.
12.10 p.m. our Heavies shelled P 30 c and d and Q 19 c and d and enemy were seen running away from area.
- PATROLS:
- Right Battalion. Lieut. BRAGG and 12 o.r. left P 2 d 9 0 at 10.30 p.m. and patrolled ground in P 3 c and P 9 e; patrol report enemy very alert in post at P 9 a 9 9; a M.G. fired on patrol from this point, but no movement was seen; patrol returned at 4.45 a.m.
Reconnaissance patrols were out during the night and report the enemy very quiet and no movement seen.
- Centre Battalion.
Lieut. LARNAOH and 15 o.r. left J 33 c 9 1 at 9.15 p.m. and patrolled through P 3 b, J 34 c and P 4 a and report no sign of enemy in N.M.L. Two flares were fired from trees North of HAMEL; enemy very quiet; patrol returned at 12.5 a.m.
Lieut. JENNINGS, L.O. and 14 o.r. left J 34 d 4 9 at 11.30 p.m. and moved through BOUZENCOURT thoroughly searching village, then patrolled round the outskirts of the village. No sign of enemy was seen. Patrol returned at 2.30 a.m.
BOUZENCOURT was again patrolled between 1.15 a.m. and 5.5 a.m.
Three reconnaissance patrols were out during the night and report no enemy seen or heard.
- Left Battalion.
Lieut. CORNISH and 15 o.r. with a L.G. left J 30 a 3 4 at 9.30 p.m. and moved down J 30 e about 200 yards East of road to approx J 36 a 5 7 then down to the SAILLY-le-Sec-SAILLY LAURETTE Rd. then to J 35 a 5 5. Enemy M.G's. fired on patrol from ridge at approx. J 19 d 8 4, at K 25 a 5 5 and another from in front of cemetery at J 38 c 7 6, rifles were also fired from this point. Disused posts in N.M.L. were searched but patrol found no sign of enemy occupation. A quantity of Mills grenades was collected. Patrol returned at 12.30 a.m.
Lieut. SHEEHAN and 15 o.r. with a L.G. left J 35 a 1 1 at 1.30 a.m. and moved out parallel to the wood along the canal. About 500 yards from outpost at J 35 d 1 2 a party of 5 enemy were seen. Patrol attempted to cut them off but was unable to move to a position in rear as post was seen with men walking about it at about J 35 d 7 5. Patrol remained in position for a short time to try and locate the exact position of enemy post, but had to retire owing to our artillery programme. Enemy quiet.
- IDENTIFICATIONS: N 1 1.
- ENEMY SHELLING: Enemy artillery was active on our left Bn. sector.
8 am to 4 pm 250 rds 77mm on J 28 a and d from CHIPILLY.
8.30 am to 12 noon 69 rds 77mm on SAILLY-le-Sec and front line posts from CHIPILLY.
9.55 am to 1.50 pm - 40 rds 4.2" on VAIRE Cemetery J 31 d.
10.5 am to 11 am - 61 rds 4.2" on J 33 c and d and P 3 a.
10 to 11.15 am - 70 rds 4.2" and 77mm on P 8 c and d.
1.10 pm to 2.20 p.m. 36 rds 4.2" on VAIRE.
6.45 pm 30 rds 4.2" on J 33 c and d.
6 pm to 9.30 pm - 130 rds 77mm on J 22 a.
6.45 pm to 7.20 pm - 40 rds 4.2" from J 31 d to P 1 a and HAMELET.
11.5 pm to 11.30 pm - 18 rds 4.2" on HAMELET (harassing).
Trench Mortars. N 1 1.
Machine Guns: Very active at P 9 a 9 9 firing down road running through P 2 c and d.

P.T.O.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Artillery active, otherwise no change in enemy attitude.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES: M.G's. reported by patrol at approx. K 19 d 6 1, K 25 a 5 5 and West edge of cemetery at SAILLY-LAURETTE.
6. AERIAL ACTIVITY: E.A. very active during the morning; engaged by our A.A. and M.G's.
Our planes were very active throughout the day, as many as 30 planes being over at one time. There were several combats but no results could be reported.
7. ENEMY MOVEMENT: 11.57 a.m. 12 men moving about trench at P 12 c.
11.50 a.m. enemy working party of 15 seen in P 23 b; evidently repairing road.
Great amount of movement observed all day along road to WARFUSEE in P 18 and 24.
Considerable movement in BOIS DE ARQUIRE, B. DE HAMEL and between these woods at 2.15 p.m.
2 men carrying stretcher along track in P 12 a and b. This track (Sth. of road) is used considerably. Limber seen on it at dusk and at various times men in twos and threes.
3.25 p.m. 30 horses in field at Q 9 d.
Left Bn. report Lewis Gunners fired on party of enemy leaving SAILLY LAURETTE: several casualties claimed.
8. MISCELLANEOUS: Three yellow lights seen at Sth edge of HAMEL at 8.30 pm.
A number of 77 mm shells are ricocheting and not exploding.
Weather - Visibility fair. Light rain set in at 10 p.m. and continued till 6 a.m. Night fairly bright.

C. H. ...

Brigadier General,
Commanding, 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Intelligence Summary 6 a.m. 23/4/18 to 6 a.m. 24/4/18

Ref. Map sheet 62 D. 1/40000.

Operations.

Our artillery was active during the day on enemy occupied areas and defences. Some movement targets were also engaged. During night our counter battery guns were in action frequently. Programme shoots and counter preparations were fired during the night.

Trench Mortars

At 1 a.m. our Stokes fired 50 rounds of Special Incendiary and 50 rounds H.E. shells on E.M.G. positions and works in P.9.a. 10 rds Incendiary and 10 rounds H.E. were also fired into HAMEL. Immediately after first few rounds were fired an enemy working party of about 20 men seen at approx. P.9.b.0,4. A gun was at once turned on them and 5 rounds burst in their midst and enemy scattered in all directions. In the meantime HAMEL had been set on fire and was burning fiercely.

This made observation easy and a party of 25 were seen to run from village to wood in P.9.b. The clothes of several of these men were alight. Two guns were turned on this party and they were heard to yell and shriek frantically. Several direct hits were observed on E.M.G. at P.9.a.9.9. and it did not fire again during the night.

Enemy Attack First Report

At 5 a.m. an S.O.S. was fired by the right and centre companies of the left Battalion. At this time all communication - both forward and rear of Battalion H.Q. including communication with artillery was cut.

About 300 to 400 enemy attacked Right company of the Bn coming on in two waves. This attack was beaten off with severe casualties. Enemy retired and reformed and again attacked, this was again beaten off with considerable loss to the enemy. Our casualties believed to be slight.

Patrols

Right Battalion. Lieut. Bragg and 11 O.R. left P.2.d.9.0. at 10.45 p.m. remaining out till 4:45 a.m. with exception of 3/4 of an hour for artillery shoot. The whole of N.M.L. opposite Bn front was covered but no enemy movement seen. An E.M.G. was located at P.Q.b.1.5. this M.G. sweeps the HAMEL-HAMELET Road and also fires into HAMELET.

Another patrol of 6 O.R. under Lieut Wells was out till 12 midnight to 3:45 a.m. and reports no sign of enemy seen or heard.

Centre Battalion 1 Officer and 12 O.R. left J.34.c.3.6. at 12 midnight and patrolled down road running through J.34.c. and P.4.a. Patrol returned at 2 a.m. Reported no sign of enemy seen or heard. 3 other patrols were out during the night and report no enemy activity in N.M.L.

Left Battalion Lieut. Sheehan and 15 Other Ranks left the left post and moved out to the sunken track immediately in front, then turned to the right and searched the gullies in P.30.a. and c., P.31.a. and came in through P.35. d. Taking advantage of the light from a dump burning in enemy rear Patrol watched the skyline, but there was no enemy movement. An E.M.G. fired over the heads of the patrol from the top of the hill in J.30.b., but its position could not be located. Patrol returned through post in J.35.d.1.5. Another Fighting Patrol under Lieut. CORNISH was out from 1 a.m. to 4 a.m. and reported no sign of enemy seen. E.M.G. were very quiet.

Identification.

N i l .

Enemy Shelling. From 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Enemy artillery was not as active as usual.

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 10 a.m. | 50 rounds | 4.2" | J.25.a. from WARFUSSE. |
| 10.45 to 1 p.m. | 50 | " | 4.2" in SAILLY le SEC from MORCOURT. |
| 4 p.m. | 15 | " | 4.2" in J.22.c. " " |
| 4.5 to 5.30 p.m. | 22 | " | 4.2" in VAIRE |
| 5.30 to 5.45 p.m. | 20 | " | 4.2" in HAMELET |
| 5.50 to 6.20 p.m. | 1000 rounds | 4.2" and 77 mm. | Gas Shells (Mustard Gas) |
| 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. | Enemy bombarded the SOMME Valley from J.25 to CORBIE. | | |

This bombardment consisted mainly of 77 mm. Gas Shells but some 4.2" H.E. fell in CORBIE.

Intelligence Summary 6a.m. 24/4/18 to 6a.m. 25/4/18.

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

Operations

Our Artillery was active through out the period particularly on SAILLY LAURETTE CREISY K.25. HAMEL. BOIS de VAIRE and wood in P.9.b.

Enemy movement areas were shelled during the day and during the night. Enemy roads, tracks and all communications and concentration areas were heavily shelled.

Trench Mortars

5 a.m. on the 24 th inst our Stokes fired 25 rds. on S.O.SQ lines from J.30.g.5. to J.30.a,70.30.

Patrols

Right Bn Sgt. Bradshaw and 3 men left P.2.d.9.0. at 2 a.m. and moved through P.3.c. and P.9.a. Patrol returned at 2:45 a.m. and report no sign of enemy seen or heard.

Two other patrols were out and report all quiet and no enemy movements in N.M.L.

Center Bn 1 Off and 15 O.R. left J.34.c. 4.9. at 1:30 a.m. and moved through P.4.a and P.43.b. and report no sign of enemy or sounds of movement. Patrol returned to P 33.d.5.4. at 3:30 a.m.

One Off. and 13 O.R. left J.34.d.3.8. at 11:15 p.m. and moved down road running East through P.4.b. Patrol reports enemy working parties at approx. P.4.b.9.1. at P.5.a.2.1. and P.4.b.4.4. in small parties of 4 and 5 men. Owing to brightness of night patrol could not advance to within 100 yds. of these parties. Patrol waited in hope of meeting enemy patrols but none were seen and finally retired to J.34.d.3.8. at 2:10 a.m.

Three other fighting patrols were out and report no sign of movement beyond 1 party at P.4.b.4.4. already reported.

Left Bn

Lt. D'Alton and 15 men left the extreme left of sector at 1:45 a.m. and crossed the road then turned to the right and moved down the gullie. These they thoroughly searched as far as the SAILLY LAURETTE road as far as J.36.g.3.6. Patrol then returned through the right post no enemy were seen. Several deserted posts were examined and found unoccupied.

Lt. Cornish D.C.M. and 4 O.R. left K J.35.c.8.8. at 9:30 p.m. and moved forward to the road where a dead German was found. He was searched for identification but everything of that nature had been removed. Lt. Cornish then gave orders to follow him across the road, the party was then fired on from the far bank of the road, about 10 rifles were fired. One of the patrol was killed and Lt Cornish D.C.M. was wounded. Another of our patrols then came up and all the casualties were brought in. No further signs of the enemy were seen.

Identifications. Nil.

Enemy Shelling.

Enemy artillery was very active on our left Bn area also on I.35.c. & I.34.d. Our Right Bn also received considerable attention 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. 250 rds. 4.2" on P,34.g.

VAIRE and HAMELET were shelled at intervals during the day. J.27 was shelled steadily during the morning with 4.2" H.E. and Gas shells.

I.34.d. and I.35.c. were shelled all day with 4.2", 77mm, H.E. and Gas. At midnight enemy again shelled this vicinity with 4.2" and 5.9" H.E.

Enemy Attitude

With exception of hostile party meet by one of our left Bn patrols enemy was quiet.

Enemy Defences.

During enemy barrage early on the 24th Inst. M.W. fired from Sunken road in J.36.c.

AERIAL ACTIVITY Very little aerial activity during the day. A few of our Planes were over at 6 p.m.

Movement. Between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. many stretcher parties between BOIS de HAMEL and Bois de ACCROCHE. Observation was very difficult on account of very poor visibility.

Miscellaneous On the morning of the 24th many different coloured flares were fired but it was impossible to trace the action which followed.

Misty day. Visibility bad. Rain fell from 3:30p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

25/4/18

Chacey. Lt of Brig. General
Commanding 8th Aust Inf Bde

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 6 a.m. 25/4/18 to 6 a.m. 26/4/18.
Ref. Map Sheet 62. B. 1/40,000.

OPERATIONS. Our Artillery was very active during the period, particularly on SAILLY LAIRETTE, HAMEL and BOIS de VAIRE. Enemy concentration in P.9. and P.14. were broken up. 5.30 p.m. Ammunition Limbers moving along road from P.12.a. to Q.7.b. Three direct hits. During the night special shoots were carried out.

FRENCH MORTARS. During the day 30 rounds 6" Newton were fired on targets in J.36.c.

PATROLS. Right Bn. Lieut. WELLS and 11 O.R. left P.8.b.9.9. at 11.30 p.m. and made their way to Sunken Rd. at P.9.central. Patrol then moved in front of HAMEL to P.9.a.95.25. Patrol then moved back again in front of HAMEL but no sign of enemy was seen or heard. Patrol returned 2.15. a.m.

Two other Patrols were out but no sign of enemy was seen.

CENTRE BATTALION. 1 Off. and 14 O.R. left J.34.d.5.8. at 10.30 p.m. and moved through BOUZENCOURT. 2 of the enemy were seen at J.34. d.5.2. and the patrol split in two parts to try and surround them but the enemy had evidently seen the patrol as they immediately bolted back to their lines. Patrol then moved towards enemy post at P.4.b.4.4. with intention of rushing it, but in spite of all their precautions the enemy listening post gave the alarm and ran into the post. Our patrol was then unable to approach closer because of the good visibility. Many other patrols were out in front of our Sector during night but no other enemy were seen.

Left Battalion. Lieut. D' ALTON and 15 O.R. left J.39.a.2.5. at 1.15 a.m. and moved out across the front to J.35.c.8.8.

The enemy were heard coughing some distance out but could not be seen owing to the steepness of the banks of the gully here. Patrol was unable to approach closer and patrol was in danger of being cut off if they proceeded far up the gully. Elsewhere everything was very quiet. Patrol returned at 4.30 a.m.

Another Fighting Patrol of 15 O.R. under Lieut. SHEPHERD was out from 8.30 p.m. to 12.30 a.m. and report nothing seen or heard of the enemy.

IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

ENEMY SHELLING. Enemy Artillery was not very active on the forward area of our Left and Centre Bns.

SAILLY le SEC, BOUZENCOURT, VAIRE, HAMELET and CORBIE were all shelled at interval with 4.2" and 77 mm.

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------|-----------------|---|
| 9. a.m. to 11 a.m. | 160 rds. | 4.2" and 77 mm. | on P.8.a. and O.6.c and d. |
| 9. a.m. | 500 " | " " | " J.21.b. and J.27.b. |
| 10 a.m. | 20 " | " " | " J.22.d. |
| 12.15 to 2. p.m. | 59 " | 4.2" | " O.6.c. |
| 3. p.m. | 30 " | 77 mm. | " J.29.a. |
| 6.15 to 6.40 p.m. | 30 " | 4.2" and 77 mm. | " O.6.c. (Gas) |
| 6.39 to 7.30 p.m. | 75 " | " " | " VAIRE and Front Line. |
| 9.59 to 12.45 p.m. | 350 " | " " | " 10045 VAIRE and vicinity. (Destructive) |
| 11 p.m. | 30 " | 5.9" | on J.28.b. |
| 1 to 1.40 a.m. | 35 " | 4.2" | " HAMELET and vicinity. |

During enemy barrage on our Right Bn. front line from 7.15 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. enemy used their M.M.W. from front of BOIS de HAMEL. There were some Gas Shells fired in this barrage.

MACHINE GUNS. M.G's. at P.10. c.5.5. and P.9.b.2.9. fired intermittently on our Right Bn. front.

Enemy attitude. Quiet.

ENEMY DEFENCES. Concertina Wire observed in front of enemy posts at P.3.c.3.3. to 3.9.

Enemy working on trench appear to be connecting at posts in J.36.b. Appears to be occupying shellholes in J.36.b. 2.4. 77 mm. Batty. in action at Q.1.a.3.5.

P.T.O.

48273

AERIAL ACTIVITY.

E.A's. were over frequently during the day flying low in the mist. 6.5 p.m. after mist cleared 4 E.A's. over HAMELET. Our Planes were not as active as usual.

ENEMY MOVEMENT.

12.15 p.m. Enemy working on trench in J.36.b. engaged by our L.S's. and scattered.
3.30 p.m. 16 Ammunition Wagons on road from Q.7.b. to P.12.a. Returned at 5.30 p.m. and were engaged by our guns. Three direct hits were obtained.
6 p.m. 11 Wagons along road in K.26.a. and c. from SAILLY LAURETTE
4.15 p.m. A Coy. of men about 150 strong from GERISY and disappeared in valley in P.5.c.
There was considerable movement all day between BOIS de HAMEL and and 3. de ACEROCHE.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At 12 midnight our Artillery caused a fire in HAMEL.
12 midnight enemy gas drifted back down SOME Valley through SAILLY le SEC and over enemy lines. Enemy Gas Sings were heard.

WEATHER.

Fine during day but misty. Light rain during night. Visibility poor.

28/4/18.

J. C. Hacey, Lt
Brig. Gen. Comd. 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

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27/25

8th Australian Infantry Brigade.

APPENDIX 23

Intelligence Summary 6 a.m. 26/4/18 to 6 a.m. 27/4/18

Ref Map sheet 62 D. 1/40,000.

Operations

Our artillery was normally active carrying out usually harassing destructive and preparation shoots. SAILLY LAURETTE HAMEL and BOIS No VAINE received most attention.

At 11 p.m. enemy transport was heard in HAMEL just prior to a programme shoot on the village. Between 9:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. enemy working party at J.35.b.2.9. scattered by our artillery.

Our Lewis guns fired on enemy movements during the night and scattered them.

Patrols.

Our patrols were very active. Many fighting patrols in addition to usual reconnaissance patrols were out during the night.

Our patrols have complete control of M.M.L. and enemy is rarely seen. Lt WELLS and 7 O.R. with two Lewis guns left P.8.b.5.5. at 11:45 p.m. and moved down to P.8.d. and then through P.9.a. to P.3.c. 7.1. When patrol was about three to four hundred yards out the enemy fired a flare from a post about 100 yds E.E. of the patrol. Our patrol then fired 2 flares and by this light were able to see about 8 of the enemy moving about his wire, but did not move out to investigate the flares. Patrol then moved on to vicinity of the crucifix at P.3.c.65.00. and searched for an enemy sniper which had been active from about this point. No enemy were seen. Patrol returned at 2 a.m.

Another fighting patrol of 12 O.R. under Lt. GRACE, operated from 2 a.m. to 3:30 a.m. without seeing any enemy movements and reports no work being done by the enemy.

Senior Battalion. Lt. Hill M.C. with 7 O.R. with a Lewis Gun left J.34. d.1.9. at 3 a.m. and moved through BOUZENCOURT to J.34. d.5.3. from where an enemy party was seen at P.4.b.25.90. under cover of the sunken road, it was impossible to use the Lewis Gun with effect from its present position on account of the cover afforded to the enemy by the sunken road, and patrol moved to J.34.d.30.35. but enemy was not visible. Patrol waited until daylight but enemy had retired. Patrol returned at 5 a.m.

5 other patrols including 2 Officers' Fighting patrols were out but report no enemy seen or heard.

Left Battalion. Lt. SHEEHAN and 16 O.R. left J.35.c.8.8. at 1a.m. with intention of locating a suspected enemy post at J.35.d.4.5. Patrol moved through the wood parallel to the canal for 300 yds. without seeing any signs of the enemy but immediately on facing the open country 10 of the enemy were seen against the skyline at J.35. d.6.8. but were only visible for a few seconds. Patrol waited for about 10 minutes but saw no further signs of the enemy. Patrol returned at 4.35 a.m.

Lt D'ALTON and 16 O.R. left J.30. a.4.0. at 9:30 p.m. and moved out along the gully in front of the left Coy. sector then down along weed road running S.E. From this road an enemy working party could be seen and heard on the skyline. Some of our shells fell in the midst of the party which ceased work. From J.36.d.2.5. patrol saw what appeared to be a ration party of about 8 men returning from the canal. A Lewis gun opened on them and all dropped promptly to the ground. A canal just prevented patrol seeing if any casualties were inflicted. Patrol returned at 12:30 a.m. through post at J.35.c.8.8.

Trench Mortars 6" Howtons fired 30 rounds on enemy post at J.36.c.5.5. and J.36.c.6.8. During the night at 10:30 p.m. transport was heard on the road at J.36. c. 5.5. and 5 rds. were fired on to this point.

Identifications Nil.

Enemy shelling During the day until 5 p.m. enemy shelling was practically nil.

- 5:40 p.m. 30 rds. on 5.9. on J.22.b. from LANGTIE
- 6 p.m. 50 rds. 77 mm on J.22.d. fired in rear of SAILLY LAURETTE
- 6 to 7:50 p.m. 80 rds 5.9 on SAILLY le SEC from MOURCOURT.
- 9:30 to 9:45 p.m. 36 rds of 4;2 on VAINE and J.33.c.
- 12:45 a.m. 4 rds 4.2 on VAINE and J.33.c. (Destructive)
- 3:45 a.m. 36 rds. 77 mm and 4.2 on P.8.b.

Trench Mortars Nil

Machine Guns Inactive.

Enemy Activity. With exception of slight artillery activity during the night enemy was very quiet throughout the period.

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APPENDIX

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Attitude.

Enemy Shelling (contd)

Enemy does not venture to patrol N.M.L.

One of the enemy opposite our left Bn waved his arms to our post

He was answered by rifle shots and disappeared quickly.

Enemy Defences

77 mm Battery in quarry in P.S.d. 25.18 .

Enemy line through J.36.a and G. is wired and appears to run down to the canal bank through the wood.

Post at J.36.d, 4.6. is held by day. Post at J.36.a. 2.1. is a night post only.

Suspected night M.G. position at J.30.d.5.2.

Shell holes at J.36.b.3.9. held by day.

New post reported at P.S. d, 8.9.

Aerial Activity.

Nil

Movement.

Men working in 2 and 3 on road between K.31.6 7.7. and K.31. b. 8.8. all day.

7:30 p.m. enemy seen moving from position at J.30. d.6.3. towards SAILLY LAURETTE carrying what appeared to be M.G. belt case.

4:30 p.m. small parties seen along road from J.36. c.3.4. to SAILLY LAURETTE.

Movement was seen during the day near White House in HAMEL P.9. b.1.7.

From 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. slight movement near trench in P.18.a and c.

Miscellaneous

signals. 8:50 p.m. lamp signals as follows sent from G.3.b.6.f

"SA MOHPSIT MAAAAE NSNAA ----- STEISBESSEPIRIO TENKNO KA I WEARL MAZT KAAA"

Visibility bad. Misty all day but bright moonlight night.

[Handwritten signature]

Brig-General,
Commanding 8th Aust Inf Brigade

27/4/18

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8th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Intelligence Summary for 27/4/18 to 6 a.m. 28/4/18.

Ref Map Sheet 82 D. 1/40,000.

Operations.

Our artillery activity was normal, the usual programme shoots being carried out. Through out the day our heavies fired on back areas.

SAILLY LAURENTE HAMEL and BOIS de VAIRE were again shelled by our field guns.

French Mortars.

9:45 p.m. 10 rds. 6" Newton on J.36.c.5.3. to 5.6. Good bursts.

12:30 a.m. 50 rds. H.M. Stokes on E.M.W. at P.4.b.5.2.

1:45 a.m. 10 rds. H.M. Stokes on works at approx. J.35.d.2.4.

1 a.m. 10 rds 6" Newtons on J.36.c.5.5. to 5.6.

4:30 a.m. 10 rds Newtons on J.36.c.5.5. to 5.6.

Enemy did not retaliate.

Patrols.

Right Battalion. Lt DAVINS and 11 O.M. left P.3.b.9.9. at 11:30 p.m. and moved along on south side of road towards HAMEL at P.3.b.3.0. Patrol turned North and then examined all the ground between the roads in the vicinity of the crucifix. A flare was fired from a point about 80 yds. S.E. of the crucifix but patrol was unable to locate the shell hole from which it was fired. Patrol then moved down through P.9.a. then returned at 2:10 a.m. No enemy were seen and all was very quiet while patrol was out.

Two other patrols were out during the night and report N.E.L. clear of the enemy.

Centre Battalion. One Officer and 14 O.M. left J.35.d.6.4. at 1:45 a.m. and moved through P.3.b. and P.4.a. to about P.4.b.7.6. then returned through P.3.central. when at approx. P.4.a.8.0. patrol was within 100 yds of enemy wire but no sign was seen or heard of the enemy. Patrol returned at 3:30 a.m.

1 S.O.C. and 10 men left P.3.a.0.2. at 12:30 a.m. and moved S.E. along road towards HAMEL. when in vicinity of P.3.c.0.4. patrol could hear whistling coming from outskirts of HAMEL. No further sign of the enemy was heard.

3 other patrols were out during the night but all report that N.E.L. is entirely clear of the enemy.

Left Battalion. No 1 Picquet commander Lt Whitelaw left his picquet at J.35.c.8.8. at 9:30 p.m. with a Lewis gun and crew and 3 Rifle Grenadiers and moved forward to try and scupper the enemy post at J.3.d.4.5. when in position Rifle Grenadiers fired on the post. Enemy immediately opened fire from an advanced post with a M.G. The Lewis gun at once engaged the M.G. and a very hot exchange took place. The enemy then threw up 3 flares which fell very near the Lewis gun. At the same time the enemy ~~also~~ opened with M.G. from J.36.a.4.6. and another from the canal bank. The patrol then withdrew with some little difficulty but without casualties.

at about 10:30 p.m. Lt. D'Alton and 15 O.M. made another attempt to reach the post but was again engaged by M.G. from 2 posts and had to retire.

A fighting patrol of 15 O.M. under Lt Sheehan patrolled the whole of the Battalion front from 1 a.m. to 4:30 a.m. and report no enemy seen in N.E.L. Sounds of hammering were heard coming from about J.36.a.9.9.

Identifications. Nil.

Enemy Shelling.

7:45 a.m. to 12 noon 70 rds 77 mm on J.29. b and d. from SAILLY LAURENTE. 58 rds of 4.2" on J.29.b and d. from M. MOURE.

10:50 a.m. 50 rds. 4.2 on J.27.b. from BORGOURN.

10:45 a.m. 30 rds 5.9" and 4.3" on O.6.a. from Bois de ARJAIN.

12:30 to 1:30 p.m. 50 rds of 4.2" on J.29. b and d. from Morcourt.

4:30 p.m. 10 rds 5.9. on SAILLY LE SEC

10:10 p.m. to 12.5 a.m. 40 rds 4.2. on P.1.c and d. direction VARSUSSE ARSECOURT.

10:10 p.m. 10 rds of 4.2 on VAIRE from rear of HAMEL

2 a.m. 10 rds of 4.2 on P.3.c

Through the night VAIRE was slightly shelled at regular intervals with 4.2"

Machine guns inactive on the right and centre bn. but fired heavily on the patrols of our left bn.

Enemy Attitude. Quiet but very alert opposite the Left bn.

Enemy References.

Enemy H.Q. post at J.36.a.4.6. (quarry). J.35.d,4.6.

J.35.d.35.45. (Listening post)

The quarry at P.4.b.5.9. has a sap leading into the S.E. end of it. What appears to be enemy front line trench runs across front of it. 100 men were seen going into quarry at dawn of the 27th inst. Evidently garrison of trench lived there during the day. A new sap has been dug through ridge K.25.c.1.9. leading to post on forward slope.

A new belt of wire from approx. P.4.d.3.2. South towards HALL.

Aerial Activity.

Enemy aeroplanes were active through the day on our lines over

9:30 a.m. 5 Triplanes were over Left bn sector.

6:10 p.m. 6 B.A. over Right bn sector engages by A.A. fire.

Our planes were also active during the day.

Enemy Movements

There was considerable movement of transport in the vicinity of CHASTY all day.

After our artillery shoot at 8.30 a.m. 4 men with white arm bands moved about near the MALARD WOOD.

Considerable amount of transport heard on road from SAILLY LAURETTE to canal. Artillery were notified.

4:30 p.m. small parties seen in trench at P.10.d.6.7.

4 p.m. 2 men left trench in P.11.a. and went to White House on outskirts of HALL. P.10.a.70.68.

4.15 p.m. 2 men left the White House carrying what looked like our hot-boxes.

From midday onwards many stretcher parties left the Bois de VAIRS going to the BOIS de ACCROCHE.

Miscellaneous.

9:30 p.m. orange flares fired from near SAILLY LAURETTE and repeated back. 9:32 p.m. 2 red flares, at 3:5 p.m. orange flares repeated back from same place. No action followed.

Chacey

Brig-General.
Commanding 8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

22/4/18

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8th Australian Infantry Brigade.

APPENDIX

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Intelligence Summary from Ca.m. 28/4/18 to Ca.m. 29/4/18
Ref Map Sheet 82 D 1/40,000.

Operations.

Our artillery was very active during the night concentration and S.O.S. shoots being fired.

During the day live targets, transport, were engaged. SAILLY LAURETTE, HAMEL and Bois de VAIRE were again engaged. French Mortars.

- 3 a.m. 10 rds 6" Newton on S.O.S. line (good bursts)
- 5 a.m. 10 rds 6" Newton on J.36.c.5.3. (3 direct hits on S.P.)
- 5 a.m. 10 rds 6" Newton on P.5.a.1.3. (quarry)
- 10 p.m. 40 rds 3" Stokes on enemy post at J.30.d.1.0., J.36.b.2.8. and a M.C. at J.30.d.1.1. which was silenced.

Machine Guns. 1000 rds fired on J.36.b.1.9. to J.36.b.2.7.

Patrols.

Right Bn. Lt Wells and 9 O.M. with a Lewis gun left P.2. d.8.0. at midnight and out to P.9.a. as the patrol was passing the cutting at P.3. c.3.1. they saw 3 of the enemy moving in their direction. They approached to within 50 yds of patrol who were lying down then suddenly turned about and made off for their own lines. The Lewis gunner at once opened fire and two of the enemy dropped but the third continued. The patrol then fired an incendiary bomb and then moved forward after a short wait. On searching ground where two Muns had dropped their rifles only could be found both of which were badly damaged by bullets hits. Patrol searched the neighbourhood thoroughly but no further sign of the enemy was found. One rifle had stamped on the plate "B.S.R.I". Patrol returned at 2:15 a.m.

Centre Bn. One officer and 14 O.M. left J.34.d.2.8. at 11:30 p.m. and moved through BOUZENCOURT and along road as far as P.4.b.8.2. without seeing or hearing any sign of the enemy. Patrol returned at 2:35 a.m.

Three other fighting patrols were out and report N.M.I. clear of enemy who was very quiet.

Left Bn. Lt SHREHAN and 15 O.M. moved out from the left of the Bn sector at 1 a.m. and crossed road running S.W. through J.30. c. Some telephone wire found at J.36.a.6.6. was brought in. This was apparently running to some of the occupied posts out in front. Owing to the artillery shoots patrol came into centre posts at 3:5 a.m. and left at 3:25 a.m. While at J.36.a.2.4. 3 rifle shots were fired. On crossing the road at J.36.b.8.0. movement could be seen at J.35.d.3.6. The Lewis gunners at J.35.c.3.3. were infirmed and the enemy was fired on. No further activity of the enemy was seen.

At 9:30 p.m. while Lt D'Alton was making his final disposition of his fighting patrol before moving out to attack enemy post at J.35.d.4.1. and P.M.C. opened fire and Lt D'Alton was severely wounded. This operation was accordingly cancelled.

Identifications. Nil.

Enemy Shelling. Enemy artillery activity has quietened SAILLY LE SEC and HAMEL were lightly shelled but VAIRE received more attention during the day and night.

- 9:30 a.m. 12 rds of 77 mm on J.35.b.
- 10:20 a.m. 10 rds 4.2" on J.29.b. from MORGONNE
- 3: p.m. 24 rds 4.2" on J.27.b. from SE CHAISE
- 4 p.m. 30 rds 4.2" on P.8.a.
- 4:40 p.m. 13 rds 4.2" on VAIRE from CHAISE
- 4:50 p.m. 40 rds 77 mm on J.36.a, b, and c.
- 6:45 p.m. 31 rds 4.2" on VAIRE
- 10:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. 78 rds 4.2 on HAMEL from MORGONNE (Harrasin)
- 10:40 p.m. 20 rds 4.2. on O.S.d.
- 10:45 p.m. 90 rds 4.2 on VAIRE
- 12:50 a.m. 50 rds 4.2" on VAIRE from rear of HAMEL
- 3:45 a.m. 80 rds 4.2" on HAMEL from MORGONNE

Machine Guns. Enemy M.G. fired heavily during the day on our low flying planes. Short bursts during the night to harass our patrols.

Enemy Attitude- etc quiet but alert.

Section

Enemy Defences. The quarry mentioned in yesterday's summary has now been accurately located at P.5.a.1.3. All outlets from this quarry are under observation. Posts located at J.30.d.1.0. and J.36.b.2.8. There is a M.C. in the former post.

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Enemy Defences (contd.)

Short sap from road at K.31. d. 10.95. to K.31.c.90.95. Post at J.30.d.45.40. this is not occupied during the day but men were seen leaving just before dawn.

Small S.P. at K.31.c. 25.90. and J. K.31.c. 75.55. not occupied by day. Strong Post at J.33.b. 20.93. M.M. fire has been reported from this post direction. Men seen leaving post early in morning.

Aerial Activity . . . E.A. were not as active during the day. One E.A. crossed our lines and flew over the Battery area in I.35.a. Our planes were active, flying low on account of ground mist. Movement. During the morning several men wearing white armbands seen on road in K.36.a. they appeared to be directing some work and making observation of our front.

7.50 to 7:40 a.m. small party working on trench in P.17.d.

12:20 e.p.m. working party at P.12.d.

2:50 p.m. working party on ridge in Q.9.

Transport was heard in HAMEL during the night. Artillery informed.

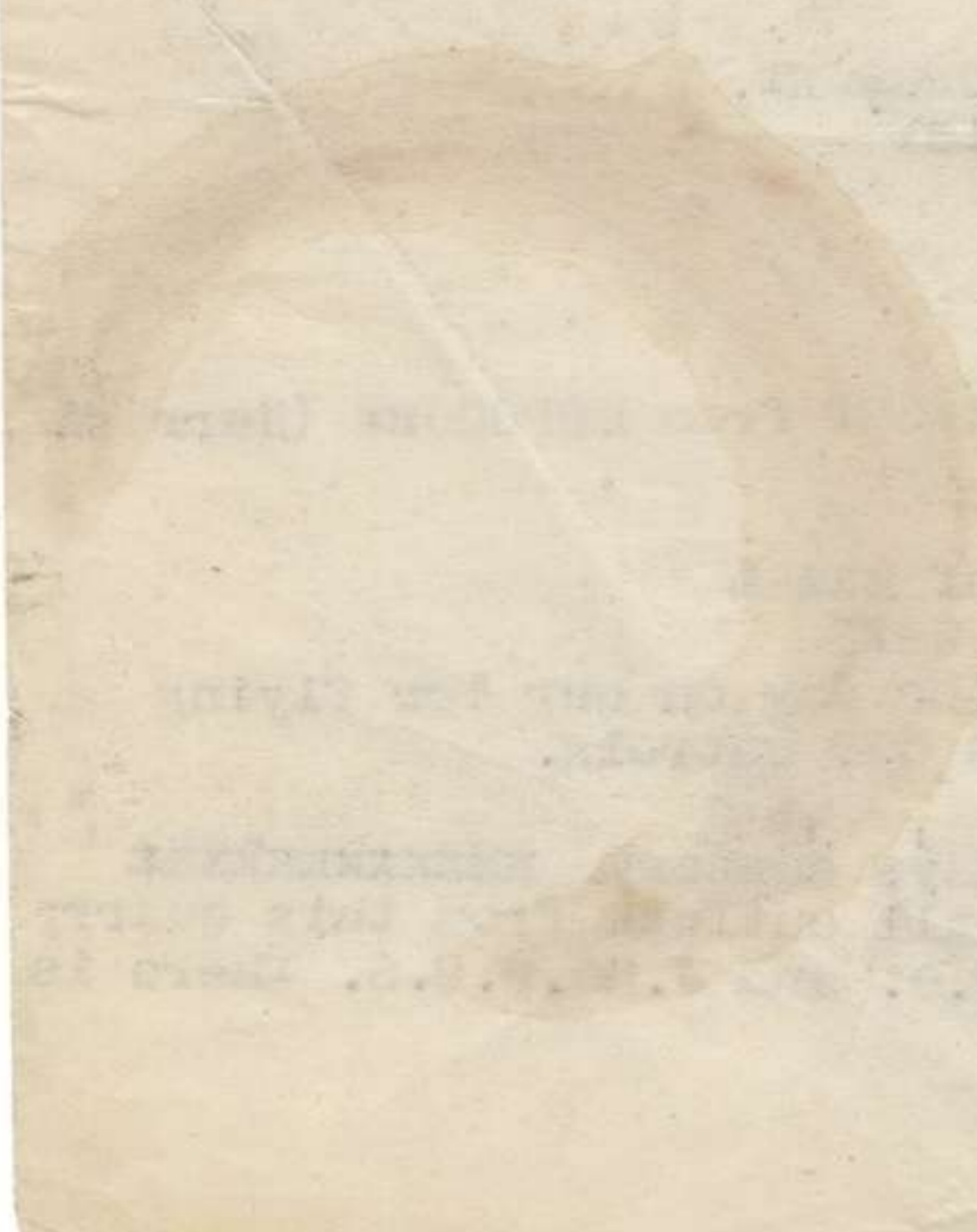
Miscellaneous.

Weather dull and cloudy. Visibility bad. Light rain from 6 p.m. till midnight.

Following message read by left Battalion sent from G.S.A. 3.9. (approx)
"OIR QMS DEL BY T AIR A NUR W 35 08 IN 181 10 ER IRONB 35588 111
SGH 111 111 111

Brigadier General
Commanding 8th Aust Inf. Bde.

28/4/18



Intelligence Summary from 6 a.m. 29th to 6 a.m. 30/4/18

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

Operations. Our artillery was active throughout the period on movement areas. During the day our 60 pds. engaged several transport targets. Our 18 pdrs. and 4.5 How. shelled enemy forward positions and occupied areas.

During the night the usual harassing fire and programme shoots were carried out.

Trench Mortars. 6" Newtons.

11 a.m. 5 rds 6" Newtons on J.36, c.8.4. Good bursts.

10 rds do on P.5.a.1.3. 8 direct hits.

Stokes Mortars. 13.15 a.m. 55 rds H.E. Stokes on posts at J.30.d.45.40. J.30.d.1.0. J.36.b.20.95. E.M.G. at J.30.d.1.1. Very good shooting.

Machine Guns.

4,000 rds fired on J.36.d.2.4. Sniper active whenever target appears. Enemy does not show himself as much as he did 4 days ago.

Patrols Right Bn. Lt. Wells and 11 O.R. left P.2.d.8.0. at 10.45 p.m. and patrolled N.W.L. in P.8.b. and P.9.a. covering practically the whole of this area. No sign of the enemy was seen or heard. Patrol returned to our line at P.2.d.8.0. at 2 a.m.

Two other patrols were out during the night but no enemy movement was seen. An E.M.G. fired from about P.5.d.3.2. at 4 a.m.

Centre Battalion. Two officers and 11 O.R. left J.34.d.3.8. at 9.45 p.m. and proceeded through SOUZENCOURT then took up a position at P.4.b.2.9. in order to waylay any enemy patrol that came that way, but at 4.15 a.m. after waiting close up to his line for over 6 hours patrol returned without having seen or heard any sign of the enemy.

Two other fighting and two reconnaissance patrols were out during the night and N.W.L. in P.3.a,b, and c. and P.4.a ~~was~~ were thoroughly searched and no sign of the enemy was seen.

Left Bn. Lt. Harper M.C. and 15 O.R. left J.35.c.8.6. at 1.30 a.m. After moving forward some distance the patrol leader and 3 others pushed on ahead of the remainder and then crawled to within 40 yds of enemy post at J.35.d.4.5. The garrison which could be heard talking was estimated to be about 8 or 9 men. Some flares were fired from this post. Ground in vicinity of this post is swampy. There does not appear to be any wood in front of this post. After waiting for about an hour the party rejoined the patrol and continued along the Bn front. No other sign of the enemy was seen or heard. Patrol returned at 4.25 a.m.

Another patrol of 15 O.R. under Lt. Sheehan was out from 9.15 p.m. to 10.35 p.m. but no enemy movement was seen. Flares were fired from a post of wood at about J.35.d.5.2.

Identifications. Nil

Enemy Shelling. Enemy artillery was not very active during the period. but HAMELET and the Left Bn area came in for some attention.

The church spire at SAILLY LE SEC was knocked down.

9.40 a.m. 29 rds of 4.2 on P.8.a.

11.35 a.m. to 11.50 a.m. 12 rds of 4.2 on J.35.c. from WARFUSSE ABANCOURT

10 a.m. to 12 noon 100 rds 5.9 on J.31. from GERISY.

11 a.m. to 11.20 a.m. 26 rds of 4.2 on HAMELET

12.50 p.m. to 3.15 p.m. 45 rds 4.2 on HAMELET

2 p.m. to 3 p.m. 150 rds of 5.9. on J.21 from GERISY

4.30 p.m. 50 rds of 5.9. on J.15.

4.30 to 6.30 p.m. 25 rds 4.2 on P.8.a.

5.30 to 6.30 p.m. 40 rds 4.2 on J.29 from GERISY.

6.50 p.m. 19 rds 77mm on Vaire.

10.55 to 11.10 p.m. 90 rds 4.2 on HAMELET.

10.40 to 11 p.m. 50 rds 4.2 and 77 mm on Vaire

Enemy A.A. Guns were active through the day.

Trench Mortars Nil.

Enemy attitude. With the exception of artillery activity quiet but alert.

Enemy defences. There is an enemy A.A. Gun in SAILLY LAPOSTOLLE. Our 6" Newtons got 8 direct hits in quarry in P.5.a.1.3. Gas could be effectively used on this quarry.

Shell holes at J.36.b.3.9. appear to be occupied.

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Aerial Activity.

A few E.A. were over our line during the morning flying low. From 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. two formations of 8 planes each patrolled our right Battalion sector. Engaged by our A.A. and M.Guns*.

Our planes were active throughout the day.

11.40 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. bombs were dropped by our planes on P.9.d. and P.9.b. }
}

Enemy engaged all our planes with heavy M.G. fire.

Enemy Movements. Continuous movement in trenches in rear of HAMEL at P.10. d.7.8. near which appeared to be a wireless station. This spot is evidently a H.Grs*. Linessen have been seen running lines from this point into HAMEL and also Eastwards across the ridge.

6 a.m. limbers going South on road at Q.15.a.3.5.

6.15 a.m. artillery limbers on road between P.18.b.7.9. and Q.8.a.6.8.

7.45 a.m. to 9.45 a.m. bodies of men about 40 strong marching from the south to MORGOUNT. About 12 platoons counted. These were followed by a number of wagons.

Road from SAILLY LAURETTE through K.31. b,c, and d. is much used and is being repaired.

Miscellaneous- 10.45 p.m. Morse lamp signalling from Q.9.c.6.3.

Day fine but cloudy. Visibility fair. Night very dark until moon rose.

[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

[Handwritten signature]

30/4/18

Brig-General.
Commanding 8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Intelligence Summary 6 a.m. 30/4/18 to 6 a.m. 1/5/18

Map Ref. 62 D 1/40,000.

Operations. Our artillery has been active through out the period on enemy defences, movement and occupied areas, SAILLY LAURETTE, HAMEL, and BOIS de VAIRE were centres of attention.

Our heavies dealt with enemy movement in rear 12 battery areas. French Mortars. 11 p.m. 3 rds. 6" Newtons on Quarry P.5.a.1.3. good bursts.

2 a.m. 10 rds 6" Newton on J.38.c.1.9. to ~~search~~ J.38.a.2.2. searched for E. . . . 5 rds 6" Newton on J.35.d.8.7.

5 a.m. 7 rds. 6" Newtons on Quarry P.5.a.1.3.

Snipers. At dawn an occasional target was engaged by our snipers. One claimed by our left Bn. Range about 900 yards.

Patrols. Right Bn.

Lt. Bragg and 12 O.R. left P.2.b.9.9. at 10.45 p.m. and moved astride road towards HAMEL to P.3.c.6.2. then moved down to P.2.a.7.4. Patrol reports no sign of enemy in H.M.L. and there appears to be no work going on behind his line. Enemy very quiet. Patrol returned before our 1.25 a.m. shoot.

Centre Bn One officer and 11 O.R. left J.34.d.3.8. at 8.30 p.m. and moved through BOUZENCOURT in two parties, one moving along canal bank and the other astride the road running S.E. When the latter party had reached J.34.d.5.5. approx., 4 of the enemy were seen coming along the road towards them. The patrol immediately took cover and allowed the enemy to approach with the idea of capturing them. When the enemy were within 40 yds. one of the patrol let off his rifle and the enemy turned and ran through a hedge. A search was immediately made for some distance, but only 2 rifles were found. Patrol then moved on to P.4.d.9.9. but nothing further was seen of the enemy. Patrol returned at 10.15 p.m.

Four other patrols were out during the night across the front and report enemy very quiet. Enemy did not appear to be working on his defences.

Patrols were hampered by our artillery shoots.

Left Battalion. Lt. Harper M.C. with an officer and 8 O.R. made a special reconnaissance of enemy post at J.35.d.4.6. They left our post at J.35.c.8.8. at 1.30 a.m. and moved to within 100 yds. of enemy post and watched it until 4.15 a.m. Owing to the bright night it was impossible to approach closer than 100 yds. At 3 a.m. 5 enemy approached the quarry from direction of SAILLY LAURETTE Road, jumped in and remained there. Two flares were fired from this post but no further movement was seen.

Lt. Lambden and 14 O.R. moved out from the left of the Bn. at 9.30 p.m. and crossed the road, then moved down the valley towards the canal. At about J.36.a.5.5. several flares were fired and one of the enemy was heard to shout and whistle. Patrol returned to J.35.b.8.9. at 12.30 a.m.

A fire which was burning in SAILLY LE SEC lit up H.M.L. very brightly and made it very difficult for the patrol as otherwise the night was dark.

No further enemy activity was observed.

Identifications. Nil.

Enemy Artillery. Enemy artillery was not as active as usual on our forward areas. SAILLY LE SEC and VAIRE received most attention.

8 a.m. 15 rds of 4.2 on VAIRE from HORGOURT.

9 a.m. 18 rds 5.9 on J.39.d. and J.35.b. from EURENNE.

12.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. 100 rds of 4.2 on HAMEL.

4 p.m. to 5 p.m. 30 rds of 5.9. on SAILLY LE SEC from EURENNE.

7.20 p.m. to 8.20 p.m. 80 rds of 6.9. on L.3.c.3.4. (Destructive) 130' approx. from L.39.c.6.5.

8 p.m. 60 rds of 4.2 on J.32.d. to J.21.c. from HORGOURT.

11 p.m. 10 rds of 4.2 on SAILLY LE SEC from HORGOURT.

11.30 p.m. to 3.35 a.m. 50 rds of 4.2 on Vaire.

2.40 a.m. 30 rds of 5.9 on post at P.2.b.8.6. (Destructive) 113' E. from P.3.a.35.40.

3.40 a.m. 303. a.m. 112 rds of 77mm and 4.2 on VAIRE.

Trench Mortars. 9.15 a.m. 4 H.M.W. fell in J.35.a. (U.S. not located yet.

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APPENDIX 29
APPENDIX

253
P. 8

Enemy attitude. - Enemy quiet, artillery was not as active as usual on our forward posts but some destructive shoots were carried out.

During the night enemy South of Canal did not appear to be working on his posts. From movement seen a relief was suspected.

Enemy Defences. Large mounds of new earth on side of road K. 31. c. 8. 6. Strong post in course of construction as in K. 30. a.

Aerial Activity. Nil.

Enemy Movements. 5.45 p.m. 10 horse drawn limbers moving S.E. along road between Q. 8. a. 5. 7. and P. 18. b. 7. 9.

6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. parties of enemy 50 in all carrying packs entered the BOIS de VAIREL.

7.30 p.m. 3 parties of 8 entered HAMEL from rear.

6.45 p.m. 12 men carrying packs from BOIS de ARCHAIRE to Bois de HAMEL.

7.15 p.m. 79 enemy carrying packs went from BOIS de ARCHAIRE to BOIS de HAMEL in parties of 10 at 50 yds interval. They were fired on by our 18 pdr when in 2, 15. d.

7.45 p.m. 50 men went from P. 18. b. to P. 17. c.

7.55 p.m. 6 men went down sunken road in P. 10. d. into HAMEL.

8 p.m. 32 men left road at P. 18. b. and went to reentrant at P. 11. d.

Stretcher parties with wounded were seen at 7 P.m. at P. 15. d. and at 7.45 p.m. from BOIS de HAMEL.

at 5.15 a.m. the last 3 mornings heavy transport heard on road N. of SAILLY LAURENTE through K. 31. continuous for half an hour.

Miscellaneous. Only a few white flares were fired during the night.

10.5 p.m. 1 red flare fired by enemy opposite our right flank Bn.

A light barrage followed.

Day very misty. Visibility very bad. Cleared considerably in the evening but night very dark until midnight.

W. Mason
Brig-General.

Commanding 8th Aust. Inf. Bde.

1/5/18

Service Date
 To To To To
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By
 TO 29 30 31 32
 18th Coy 82nd T.M. Bde
 * Sender's Number Day of Month In reply to Number A A A
 101 39 4/4/18

Units will stand by
 to move immediately and
 Details will be forwarded
 as soon as they arrive

From SA 2 Bde
 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.

(3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

255
 At To From
 To To To To
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By
 TO 29 30 31 32
 18th Coy 82nd T.M. Bde
 * Sender's Number Day of Month In reply to Number A A A
 101 39 4/4/18

Transport will move under
 Bde Transport officer to a
 point with 24 (fuel 62d 14,000)
 area they will be issued with
 wood and avoid further orders
 over of march 32 of 31 to 20
 29th Bde 18th Coy and
 head of column will pass
 2 Bde at 6 pm

From SA 2 Bde
 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.

(3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

APPENDIX.

69

TO { 29 to 31 32 8mg by 8LT Major
 8th Inf 150, 150c

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**

* 11192 4/4/18

8th Inf will move to
 AUBIGNY by bus and march route
 at 7 p.m. and will encamp at
 VAUCHELLES LOUVERCOURT Rd
 at 7 p.m. and give reports to
 and reports to Superior offices
 at LOUVERCOURT VAUCHELLES
 respectively at 6.30 p.m. and that
 will depart at 10.00 a.m. and march
 to AUBIGNY and the HQ will
 be at AUBIGNY and few items
 will be taken on the buses and
 packs and blankets will be
 carried on CO's. Bn will
 be in charge of column and
 acknowledge

From SA & Bde
 Place
 Time

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

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorized 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.)

NO. of Messages 1023

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of

URGENT
 OPERATION
 PRIORITY

At... m.
 To...
 By...

Recd. at... m.
 Date...
 From...
 (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { 8th Inf

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**

* G3875 4th 4/18

5th Divisional H.Q. will move at 10 pm to
 BLANGYTRONVILLE 62D N22 central aaa They will
 eventually take over from 3rd Cav. Div. aaa
 As far as known line held by 3rd Cav. Div.
 is from J32 central, to P.2 central, P8 central,
 P13 central, 030a and d., 036 central, V6a*
 and c, U17b and d. central, U28 central to
 HANGARD aaa French Army on right 3rd Aust. Div.
 on left aaa Every unit responsible for taking
 own precautions.

* U 6 A

From 5th Aust. Div.
 Place
 Time 9.25 p.m.

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

Lt-Col. G.S.

APPENDIX.

40

Army Form C. 2121. (In pads of 100.)
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Prefix..... Code..... m Words. Charge. No. of Message.....
 Office of Origin and Service Instructions. *255* This message is on alc of: Recd. at m.
 Sent Service. Date.....
 At..... m.
 To..... From.....
 By..... (Signature of "Frankist Officer.") By.....

TO { *8th Brigade H.Q.*

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**
 * *A 76* *5/4/18*

Reference relief tonight
 One officer per Coy
 visited the reserve line
 today. Coys have moved
 out for relief but
 the relieving battalion vacated
 trenches before our Coys
 arrived. These Coys must
 have vacated the trenches
 about 7.30pm and Battalion
 H.Q. are remaining in their
 old position as they
 would only have been
 in the mud if
 they had taken over
 the ~~trenches~~ vacated by
 the reserves Battalion. Another

From *runner* will be sent to
 Place
 Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (7)

At..... m. Service. Date.....
 To..... From.....
 By..... (Signature of "Frankist Officer.") By.....

TO { *(2)*

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**
 * *A 76* *5/4/18*

to Brigade H.Q. as
 soon as reports have
 been received that Coys
 are in position this
 of course will take
 some time as communication
 to Coys is only
 by runner and message-
 merits are now being
 made to get into
 communication by telephone
 to Brigade H.Q. and
 Map reference of Bats H.Q.
 T. 17. D. 11. and sections of the line were
 allotted to Coys before leaving and
 C.O. *2nd Col.*
32nd Battalion

From
 Place *9.20pm*
 Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
 Censor. *R. A. W. White*
 Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (3198.) Wt. W 12957/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 818.)

APPENDIX.

41

Form 14 Army Form 2123 (In books of 100)
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS No of Messages.....

Prefix..... Code..... Words 142 Received..... Sent, or sent out..... Office Stamp.....
 Charges to Collect 555 From AYE At..... m.
 Service Instructions BY DR To.....
 By.....

Handed in at YEH Office..... m. Received 11.30 a.m.

TO 8th Australian Bde

*Sender's Number 92 Day of Month 5/4/18 In reply to Number AAA

8th Australian Bde has been placed by 19 Corps under GOC. This div to take over right sub sector reserve line this evening from 24 Div GOC 8th Australian Bde will on receipt of this order establish his HQ at T8C Central HQ now occupied by 17th Inf Bde and take over sub-sector of line mentioned from GOC 17th Inf Bde GOC 174 Inf Bde on arrival will now only take over left sub-sector reserve line GOC 175 Bde on arrival will be concentrated at Bois Gentelles with HQ at T8C central in conjunction with

FROM

253

Charges to Collect 255 From..... At..... m.
 Service Instructions By..... To.....
 By.....

Handed in at..... Office..... m. Received..... m.

TO

*Sender's Number Day of Month 5/4/18 In reply to Number AAA

8th Austln Bde HQ and will make all preparations for take over right sub sector reserve line from 8th Austln Bde GOC 8th Austln Bde 174 Bde 175 Bde by 24 Div repltd 19th Corps GOC acknowledge

FROM

TIME & PLACE

58 Div 4.45 pm

*This line should be erased if not required

U.S.R. 7800 Wt W14892/M1625 100.000 3/17 (R980) Form G/5123

APPENDIX

72

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of:

255

Sent Recd. at m.

At m. Date.....

To..... Service.....

By..... From.....

(Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....

TO { 20' 30 31 32
5th M.G. Coy 8th L.T.M. Bn
158 Div.

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**

* BM 60 5/4/18

Warning order aca 8th A.I. Bde
will relieve units of 2nd Div
in reserve line right Subsector
tonight aca 3rd Bn will
relieve 1st Royal Fusiliers in
reserve line from T 30 B cont.
to CACHY - GENTELLE Rd.
inclusive aca Relief to be
complete by 9pm aca Bde.
Roads will open at
T 8 C south of 8pm and
report of relief complete will
be sent to Bde. Roads by
D.R. aca acknowledge and
added. 3rd Bn, reported 5th Div
and 5th Div.

From 8th A.I. Bde.

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.

(11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of:

To..... From.....

By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

By.....

TO { 32nd Bn
58th Div 5th Div Det.

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**

* BM 60 5/4/18

Warning order aca 8th A.I. Bde
will relieve units of 2nd Div
in reserve line right Subsector
tonight aca 3rd Bn will
relieve 1st Royal Fusiliers in
reserve line from T 30 B cont.
to CACHY - GENTELLE Rd.
inclusive aca Relief to be
complete by 9pm aca Bde.
Roads will open at
T 8 C south of 8pm and
report of relief complete will
be sent to Bde. Roads by
D.R. aca acknowledge and
added. 3rd Bn, reported 5th Div
and 5th Div.

From 8th A.I. Bde.

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.

(11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

255

APPENDIX

73

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message.....

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|----|--------|---------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Prefix..... | Code..... | m. | Words. | Charge. | This message is on alc of: | Recd. at..... | m. | |
| Office of Origin and Service Instructions. | | | | | | Service. | Date..... | |
| 2551 | | | | | Sent | | | |
| | | | | | At..... | m. | | |
| | | | | | To..... | | | |
| | | | | | By..... | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") | | |

TO { 29th Div 30th Div 31st Div
8th MG Coy 8th CLTA Part.

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * 1311 61 | 5/4/18 | | |

8th A.I. Bde will release units of
 2nd Div in reserve line night
 Subsector tonight and 3rd Div
 release Royal Fusiliers in
 reserve line from T306 cont.
 to CACHY-GENTELLE Rd inclusive
 relief to be completed
 by 9 hrs. and remaining units
 remain in their present positions
 under orders of 5th Div and
 Bde. Signal Coy at T80 cont.
 at 8 hrs. and 8 hrs. and acknowledge.

| | |
|--|---|
| From | 8 th A.I. Bde. |
| 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. | |

(11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

| | |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| To..... | From..... |
| By..... | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| TO { 58 Div 5 th Div | | | |
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * 1311 61 | 5/4/18 | | |

8th A.I. Bde are now
 disposed as follows and
 Bde HQ ST NICHOLAS T&C
 29 30 31 8th MG Coy 8th Div
 BOIS DES GENTELLES and
 32nd Bn Reserve line right side
 from T306 cont. to CACHY-
 GENTELLES Rd incl and
 8th A.I. Coy T9a 8th Div
 18th ASC BLANCY TRONVILLE and
 address 58th Div 5th Div
 8th Div

| | |
|--|---|
| From | 8 th A.I. Bde |
| 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. | |

(11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

APPENDIX.

44

To _____
 By _____ (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { ~~8th Australian Inf Bde~~
 8th Australian Inf Bde

Sender's Number * 9135 Day of Month 5/4/18 In reply to Number AAA

On detachment two Bns should
 move to Wood N 34 C one battalion
 to Wood N 31 a and Bde HQ
 to Boves T & C central HQ
 occupied by 8th Australian Inf Bde
 are an Reserve Line Regt subject
 as detailed in 00102 para 1(b) should
 be recommended and you should be
 prepared to receive 8th Australian Inf Bde
 in this line tomorrow and address 175 Bde

From 58 Bde (Repeated 8th Australian Inf Bde)
 Place 1400
 Time 10.30 PM

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.
 292146—W. & S. Ltd., London.—W 14142/641—90,000—4/15. Forms C 2121/10.

25/5

To _____
 By _____ (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { 8th Australian Inf Bde

Sender's Number * 9137 Day of Month 5/4/18 In reply to Number AAA

Is relief 2nd Div completed

From 58 Bde
 Place
 Time 11.45 PM

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.
 292146—W. & S. Ltd., London.—W 14142/641—90,000—4/15. Forms C 2121/10.

APPENDIX

75

253-

| | | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Office of Origin and Service Instructions. <i>Urgent open</i> <i>Priority</i> | | This message is on a/c of: | | Recd. at..... |
| Sent | | Service. | | Date..... |
| At.....m. | | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") | | From..... |
| To..... | | By..... | | |
| By..... | | | | |
| TO | 5 Australian Division | | 24 Div. | |
| | 8 Australian Brigade | | 3 Cav Div. | |
| | 18 Division | | | |
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA | |
| * 9576 | 5/4/18 | | | |
| <p>The 8 Australian Bde on arrival at AUBIGNY will continue its march to a position in the Bois de GENELLES or in the valley running south of it the ⁱⁿ T17 + T22 where it will be in support to the right of the line on the Corps front and on arrival in position the 8 Australian Bde will send an officer to 18 Div HQ. at BOVES through whom orders to the brigade may be sent if necessary and acknowledge and addressed 8 Australian Brigade repeated 5 Australian Division 18 Div 24 Div 3 Cav Div.</p> | | | | |
| From | 19 Corps | | | |
| Place | | | | |
| Time | 12:55 am | | | |
| 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. | | | | |
| 700,000. W 8188-M508. E. W. & V., Ltd. 5/18. | | | | |

Orling
10/1/18
to Bde

255
 Atm. Service. Date.....
 To From
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO { 8th Ausi. Brigade

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. A A A
 * 526 5/4/18 -

Situation permitting - 1st
 Div (1st 8th Div
 Bde group) will take
 over the section of
 the Corps front from
 main road in P250+0
 to the SOMME from
 the 3rd Cav Div
 and attached troops tonight
 under arrangements to be
 made between Divs concerned
 direct via the 3rd
 Cav Div on relief
 will be concentrated at
 N340 and will be
 in Corps reserve via
 The 16th Div MG.

From
 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.
 (3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 818.)

20
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO { 2

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. A A A
 * 9526 5 -

in this section of
 the line will be
 relieved by the 5th
 Div tonight and
 on relief will be
 concentrated at LONGUEAU where
 they will receive orders
 via the relieved troops
 of the 14th Div
 will be concentrated in
 the reserve line of
 the left section (north
 of BOIS L'ABBE) with
 the remainder of their
 division under GOC 14th
 Div who will retain
 command of the reserve

From
 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.
 (3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 818.)

APPENDIX.

By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....

TO { 3

Sender's Number. * 4526 Day of Month. 5 In reply to Number. A A A

Line in this sector
 18th Div will be
 relieved tonight and will
 begin their division work
 at the SOMME area
 the GOC 18th Div
 will retain command of
 the night sector of
 the line from HANGARD
 (included) to ~~the~~ main
 road in P2504 and
 will have at his
 disposal the 5th Bde
 2nd Aust Div and
 4th Bde 3rd Aust
 Div and he will

From
 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.
 (3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 818.)

253-

By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....

TO { 4

Sender's Number. * 4526 Day of Month. 5 In reply to Number. A A A

Arrange to relieve the
 18th Div in the
 line tonight with the
 5th Aust Bde and
 will advance his line
 tomorrow to the BOIS
 DE HANGARD as already
 ordered GOC M.G. Coy
 58th Div which detached
 at LONGUEAU this morning
 is placed at the
 disposal of the 18th
 Div forthwith GOC the
 8th Aust Bde now
 at BOIS DE GENTELLES
 is placed at the
 disposal of GOC 58

From
 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.
 (3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 818.)

APPENDIX.

78

To: _____
 By: _____ (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { 5- _____

Sender's Number. * 526 Day of Month. 5 In reply to Number. A A A

Div for relieving the
 24 Div in the
 most sector of the
 reserve line pending the
 arrival of the 5-8 Div
 Div will be concentrated in
 the BOIS DE GENTELLES
 area area 51 Div
 M.G. now in the
 reserve line will remain
 in position until completion
 of reliefs to be
 reported area Acte by
 wire area added 51
 last Div 3 Cav-
 Div 14 Div 18

From _____
 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.
 (3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 818.)

255-

To: _____
 By: _____ (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { 6 _____

Sender's Number. * 526 Day of Month. 5 In reply to Number. A A A

Div 24 Div 58
 Div relphd all
 concerned

From 19 Corps
 Place _____
 Time 2:40 pm

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.
 (3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 818.)

APPENDIX.

49

By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { 8th B Squadron

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA

* 1121 5-4-18

All Corp in position
all correct

From 11pm
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.
(3198.) Wt. W 12957/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 818.)

By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { 5th Div

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA

* 1121 6/4/18

The will be released in
right of seats of reserve lines
to be by 175 Pds of 58 Bw and
was sent down under order
of 18th Div

From 8th Bde

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.
(11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

100-10

APPENDIX

80

255

255

"C" FORM. MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C, 2125. (In books of 100.)

No. of Message.....16

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------|
| Prefix | Code | Words..... | Received. | Sent, or sent out. | Office Stamp. |
| | £ s. d. | | From..... | At.....m | K+D 6.4.18 |
| Charges to Collect | | | By..... | To..... | |
| Service Instructions | | | | By..... | |

Handed in at.....Office.....m. Received.....m.

TO

~~175 Inf 5th Div 5th Div~~

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| * Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| 4143 | 6/4/18 | | |

| | | | |
|----------------|--------------|-----------|------------|
| third | corps | not | yet |
| decided | whether | you | believe |
| 8th | div. | Inf | 3de |
| today | aaa | action | should |
| therefore | be | concluded | to |
| reconnaissance | of | | line |
| preparatory | to taking | | over |
| units | remaining in | | localities |
| assigned | to them | aaa | address |
| 175 | Inf | regtd | 8th |
| div | Inf | 3de | |

FROM

58 Div.

PLACE & TIME

4.30 am

* This line should be erased if not required.

Form C. 2121.
(In Iss of 100.)

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....

TO { 8th Anzac Bde

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA

* CH. 2- 6/4/18

1/2 rd- Bde have left
here but Bde and
staff of 17th Bde
have not yet arrived
aaa In event of
hostile attack would you
be good enough to
inform me and I
will report to you
for instructions aaa.

From for 17th Bde

Place

Time 12:35 am.

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

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., Ld. (E. 1187.)

Prefix *ST 29* Code *77* m. Words. Charge.

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. *Priority* Sent *YCH*

This message is on a/c of: Recd. *12:10*

At m. Service. Date *6-4-18*

To From *YCH*

By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By *11*

TO *58th Aust Inf Bde*

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA

* *G144* *6/4/18*

175 *Inf Bde* will
take over night sub
sector of the reserve
line from 8th Aust
Infy Bde aaa Relief
will be carried out
as early as possible
aaa 8th Aust Infy
Bde has been placed
at a disposal of
18th Div aaa GOC
8th Aust Bde will
report to HQ 18th
Div aaa added 175
Bde 8th Aust Infy Bde
repts 17th Infy Bde
18th Div 2nd corps

From

Place *58 DIV*

Time *11:30 am*

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

APPENDIX.

8th Impy Bde. 5th W
Apr 1918 DW

Please 2 yps 2 copies
pages 83 - 93

Vol 255

5th W DW
Miss Dennis

To.....
 By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....
 TO { ASKEW ARCH AUGUR
 ACTIVE

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
 * 14/4/18

Further information of
 message captured or left
 on front door of house
 of 51 who lost their
 house in series of raids
 during 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th
 in front door of the party
 very few except
 added with 478
 I.R. last night
 added to the
 copies of the

From ACID
 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.
 (11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

253-

To.....
 By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....
 TO { ACTIVE ASKEW ARCH
 AUGUR

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
 * 14/4/18

Enemy attempted to raid post
 of Capt. R. Light. P.O. at approx
 11.20 a.m. 7th 10.30 p.m. night
 13/4/18 saw Post. Lewis Gun
 in post opened fire on tanks
 who retreated. One wounded
 prisoner captured and at least
 5 of the enemy believed to have
 been killed also. Enemy is
 apparently after identification
 dead. Askew Arch Augur
 reply active

From ACID
 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.
 (11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

APPENDIX.

83

By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { ASKEN ARCH AUGUR
AWLS ACTIVE

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
* BM 129 16/4/18

TOOLS arrived and every indication of evening attacks on VILLERS/PRETONNEUX today and tomorrow ranks to be particularly alert.
ASKEN ARCH AUGUR
AWLS ACTIVE

From Acid

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) J. M. [Signature]
Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
(11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

253

To..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { ASKEN ARCH AUGUR
AWLS ACTIVE

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
* BM 129 17/4/18

Every indication that evening will attack VILLERS PRETONNEUX tomorrow morning

From Acid

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) J. M. [Signature]
Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
(11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

APPENDIX.

84

By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....

TO { 5th Aus Div

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA

* BM 153 27/4/18

Enemy attempted to raid our post P2 d. 9.0 at 4 AM AAA. Enemy approached along both sides of road in two waves strength about 40 and MG AAA. Post opened fire range 60 or 70 yards. AAA. Enemy dropped bombs, rifles and ammunition and halted. AAA. Patrol collected enemy rifles and box MG ammunition. no identification. AAA

From ACID

Place

Time

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

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

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

To..... From.....

By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....

TO { ACTIVE ASSEN ARCH AWLS
AUGUR

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA

* BM 150 23/4/18

Examining posts on all roads forward will be established at suitable positions behind the front line to prevent straggler people moving forward without authority and to prevent anybody ignorant of the line from straggling across the line and back to the front.

From [Signature]

Place

Time

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

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

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

855

APPENDIX.

855

255

To..... From.....
By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....

TO { 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60
1 Party Seal in Gas Hood

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
* 10159 29/4/18

Attention is called to fact
that gas from today's
shelling will use when
exposed to sunburned
and all precautions will
be taken accordingly.
Also all trucks should be
warned. Food can be
be offered

From..... 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.
(11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

255

255

To..... From.....
By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By.....

TO { AGN

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
* 10160 29/4/18

Division during AAA failing anything
letter you establish you
H.Q. both 8th Bde
Remun will act as
guide AAA. Arrange to
Colonel all lines through
AAA Man to be
left at old H.Q.
to direct anyone to
H.Q. locate at
I 35042

From AGN Place..... Time 4:35 am

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.
(11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

APPENDIX.

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"C" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message.....

Army Form C. 2123.
 (In books of 100.)

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------------|---------------|
| Prefix..... | Code..... | Words..... | Received | Sent, or sent out | Office Stamp. |
| 235 | £ s. d. | | From..... | At.....m. | |
| Charges to collect | | By..... | To..... | | |
| Service Instructions. | | By..... | | | |

Handed in at..... Office.....m. Received.....m.

TO Academy of Arts V.B.

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----|
| *Sender's Number | Day of Month | In reply to Number | AAA |
| 368 | 24/4/18 | | |

59 at 100 will be preparing
 to counter attacks along the
 spine running through Ob 7 28
 29 any 30 aca being
 forming impromptu patrols as far
 as grid line running
 north any south between squares
 28 any 29 aca the
 should have communication via
 57 Bw primary companies
 to you by visual any
 wire if possible can get
 if wire being prepared for
 but the shorted lines delay
 part moving off aca and
 going through the reserve line
 which should not be British

FROM

Service Instructions. To..... By.....

Handed in at..... Office.....m. Received.....m.

TO

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----|
| *Sender's Number | Day of Month | In reply to Number | AAA |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----|

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| troops on night 9 | 57 |
| Bw the the are being | |
| forward to redoubt line | |
| Case of counter attack | |
| aca the will be prepared | |
| shorted route with gaps in | |
| wire at once aca aca | |
| 59 Bw night 57 Bw | |
| 158 Bw any 60 Bw | |
| Tools 8th 14th Bw aca | |
| acknowledged for information | |

FROM Bw
 PLACE & TIME at 50 PM

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (B 8070) Wt. w. 7496-M357 250,000 Pads. 10/16 H & S (E436.) Forms/C.2123/3.

255

APPENDIX.

84

253-

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APPENDIX.

Words 70 received

£ s. d. From 2/4 Sent, or sent out Office stamp

Charges to collect By 2/4 At 7:15 m.

Service Instructions. 2 of 4 addo. To Block. Army By 2/4

Handed in at 2/4 Office 7:15 m. Received 7:15 m.

TO Block. Army

*Sender's Number 369 Day of Month 24 In reply to Number AAA

both Bns will be prepared
to counter attack along the
spur running through 016.C
018.C 0.5 distance along the
track through 024B 019.C
025B aaaa being forward
independent patrols as far
as grid line between 018
and 024 aaaa They should
have communication between 57
Bns forward companies to open
by visual and wire if
possible aaaa You will
recomm. shortest route with
safe in wire at once
aaaa aaaa 60 Bns reply for
information to 57 Bns 58 Bns and

FROM 59 Bns 5th Aust Div. 8th 14th Bns.

PLACE & TIME Block 5.5 AM.

* This line should be erased if not required.
(B 8070) Wt. w. 7496—M357 250,000 Pads. 10/16 H&S (E436.) Forms/C.2123/3.

"C" Form.

Army Form C. 2125.
(In books of 100)

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message

Year 1918 Code 222 Words 222 Received. Sent, or sent out. Office Stamp

£ s. d. From 440 At 5:30 m. To 440 By 440

Charges to Collect

Service Instructions Priority

Handed in at ago Office m. Received 5:30 m.

TO Acid

*Sender's Number Com 410 Day of Month 24th In reply to Number AAA

Amendment No 1 to Order No 16/12 to date. Attacks will now be made in accordance with my original scheme Bn 368 and 369 Aaa. The 57th Bns then making an attack simultaneously by an enveloping movement along the railway south of VILLERS BRETTONEUX Aaa. The final objective will be our original front line east of the village junction with the 59th Bn about its centre the road junction on P 25 C 0.3 at its right connecting with 13th Aust Inf Bde about the point of the spur on O 36 B 500 yds from left point Aaa. The

253

Handed in at Office m. Received m.

TO

*Sender's Number Day of Month In reply to Number AAA

8th Div will make the attack with the 13th Aust Inf Bde. Attached to it who will move south of BOIS L'ABBE and BOIS D'AUQUENNE on the monument Aaa Troops will cross the line on the FOILLOY - CACHY road at 8 pm tonight 24/25 Aaa. Attacks will be carried out as a night operation and while Am Band will be worn Aaa. All rules for night operations will be enforced until dawn Aaa. Careful reconnaissance to be made as far possible as forward by all officers and compass bearing to be taken to guide column.

FROM

PLACE & TIME

*This line should be erased if not required.
(27802) Wt. W14832/M1523. [E 930] 100,000 Pads-3/17. M.R.Co., Ltd. Forms C./2123.

APPENDIX.

89

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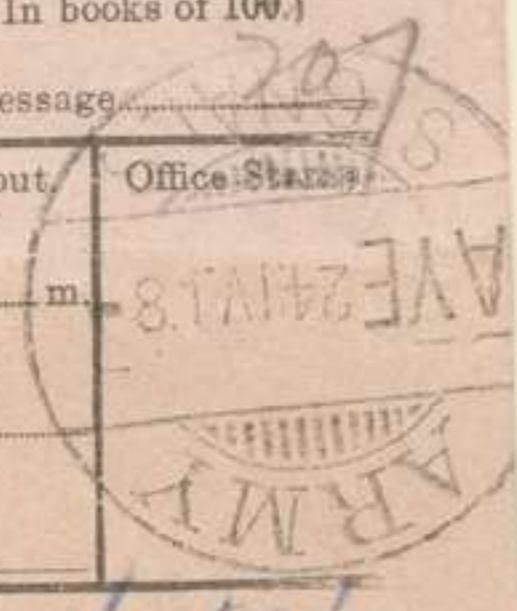
91

APPENDIX.

"C" Form.

48 Army Form C. 2123.
(In books of 100.)

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message 207

| | | | | | |
|--|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Prefix <u>6</u> | Code <u>52</u> | Words <u>52</u> | Received. | Sent, or sent out | Office Stamp |
| | | | From <u>200</u> | At _____ m. |  |
| Charges to Collect <u>5</u> | | | By <u>200</u> | To _____ | |
| Service Instructions <u>any out of operation</u> | | | | By _____ | |
| Handed in at _____ | | | Office <u>6 30</u> | Received. <u>6 40</u> | |
| TO <u>5th Artillery</u> <u>8th Inf Bde</u> | | | | | |
| *Sender's Number <u>Bm 412</u> | | Day of Month <u>24</u> | In reply to Number | | AAA |
| Re <u>Bm 410</u> | cross | aaa | troops | | |
| <u>will</u> | <u>the</u> | <u>the</u> | <u>line</u> | | |
| <u>on</u> | <u>at</u> | <u>FOUILLOY - CACHY</u> | <u>and</u> | | |
| <u>road</u> | <u>5pm</u> | <u>10pm</u> | <u>therein</u> | | |
| <u>not</u> | <u>aaa</u> | <u>is</u> | <u>should</u> | | |
| <u>stated</u> | <u>aaa</u> | <u>to's</u> | <u>let</u> | | |
| <u>and know</u> | <u>give</u> | <u>new</u> | <u>before</u> | | |
| <u>think</u> | <u>shortly</u> | <u>before</u> | <u>making</u> | | |
| <u>and</u> | <u>map</u> | <u>use</u> | <u>of</u> | | |
| <u>additional</u> | <u>by</u> | <u>further</u> | <u>reconnaissance</u> | | |
| <u>since</u> | <u>advised</u> | <u>all</u> | <u>receipts</u> | | |
| <u>Bm 410</u> | | | | | |
| FROM <u>200</u> | | | | | |
| PLACE & TIME <u>6.30pm</u> | | | | | |

*This line should be erased if not required.

(27802) W. 14832/M1523. [E 930] 100,000 Pads - 3/17. M.R.Co., Ltd. Forms C. 2123

No. of Message

| | | | | | | | |
|--|------|----|-------|--------|--|----------|----|
| Prefix | Code | m. | Words | Charge | This message is on a/c of: Service. | Recd. at | m. |
| Office of Origin and Service Instructions. | | | Sent | | | Date | |
| URGENT OPERATIONS PRIORITY | | | At | m. | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") | From | |
| | | | To | | | By | |
| | | | By | | | | |

TO { 8th Inf Bde Acad

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * G969 | 24 | | |

VILLERS BRETONNEUX will be captured by a converging attack on the N and S sides and joining in the old British front line system at P.31.b.6.0 AAA The 15th Aust.Inf.Bde less 1 company will attack from the north AAA The 13th Aust.Inf.Bde will attack from the South AAA Jumping off line for both Bdes will be the general line of the road from CACHY to FOUILLOY AAA The 15th Aust.Inf.Bde will attack in a S.E. direction so that when the objective is reached their right flank will join up with the 13th A.I. Bde at the point previously mentioned namely P.31.b.6.0. AAA The limit of the advance will be the old British front line system AAA "A" Battery R.H.A. and 8 Vickers M.Gs are allotted to 15th A.I.Bde for the attack AAA Zero hour will

From

By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| TO | -2- | | |
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |

be 10 p.m. AAA Signals will synchronise watches with 15th A.I.Bde, 3rd Corps, 8th Div., 13th A.I.Bde., and Artillery AAA There will be no artillery barrage AAA Addsd 15th A.I.Bde., repeated 3rd Corps Aust.Corps, 8th Div, 4th Aust.Div, 3rd Aust.Div, Div.Art, 13th A.I.Bde and all inter-divisional units.

| | |
|--|---|
| From | 5th AUST.DIV. |
| 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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253 P511. / 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2359.)

APPENDIX.

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QUESTION
PRIORITY

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sent | Date |
| At . . . m. Service. | From |
| To | By |
| By | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") |

TO: TOULS [unclear]

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * B19.162 | 24-4-18. | | |

at 11.30 am enemy put heavy
 barrage on right Coy front left tanks
 were destroyed etc. shrapnel on support
 line and box barrage around N-1
 post at 12.30 am. SALLY Lt SFC
 all tanks were destroyed at 12.30 am put
 all our shells out around in two
 weeks shell 7300 in case of 5000
 was used in N-1 post from 5.0.5 am
 down with 2 tanks going with 100
 Casualties were being killed and
 not much was left of forward
 position. Heavy mortar and
 light mortar in rear. Heavy mortar
 carried in trucks. Heavy mortar
 forward on road. 1000 shells used.

From: Head
 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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

255

| | | | |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Value of Origin and Service Instructions. | Sent | This message is on a/c of: | recd. at . . . m. |
| | At . . . m. Service. | | Date |
| | To | | From |
| | By | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") | By |

TO: TOULS [unclear]

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * B19.162 | 24-4-18. | | |

at 4.2 am enemy put heavy
 barrage on right side in the HF.
 shrapnel on support line and box
 barrage on N-1 post also shrapnel also
 bombarded and at 4.30 am he put new
 enemy shells and came over his
 nose strength between 2 am and 3 am
 N-1 post put 5.0.5 am and opened with
 2 tanks and shrapnel. Casualties were
 being killed and not much was
 left of forward position. Heavy mortar
 and light mortar in rear. Heavy mortar
 carried in trucks. Heavy mortar
 forward on road. 1000 shells used.

From: Head
 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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

255

APPENDIX.

958

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. *URGENT*
operation
Priority

This message is on a/c of: _____
 Sent _____ Date _____
 At _____ m. _____ Service. _____
 To _____ From _____
 By _____ (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By _____

TO *Pg 20 21 22 22 TR Path*

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**
 * *164* *24*

*8th Div have fallen back on
 14 Bde have firing round to DIG AB
 and join up with left of 16 Bde who
 are at the VILLERS BRET
 FOUILLOY road through DIG C 16 Bde
 15 Bde ordered flame and machine gunning
 to join up with 8th Div Troops
 wherever possible as 16 Bde RHA
 have been ordered to proceed to 013d*

From *SA & Bde*
 Place _____
 Time _____
 The above may be forwarded as not corrected. **(Z)**
 Censor. *[Signature]* Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

*This line, except **AAA**, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0:0 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. *Priority*
255

This message is on a/c of: _____
 Sent _____ Date _____
 At _____ m. _____ Service. _____
 To _____ From _____
 By _____ (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By _____

TO *ASKEW*

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**
 * *165* *24*

*Keep close touch with
 your right flank and keep
 me advised of position
 from time to time*

From *Acw*
 Place _____
 Time _____
 The above may be forwarded as not corrected. **(Z)**
 Censor. *[Signature]* Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

*This line, except **AAA**, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0:0 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

APPENDIX.

94

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| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sent | Date |
| At m. Service. | From |
| To | By |
| By | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") |

TO 20 21 29 82 82 m Bally

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * PM 166 | 24 | | |

Indications go to show that attacks may be expected from south and west of VILLERS PRETONNEUX many tanks have been sighted

From *ASD*

Place

Time

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

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

*This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0.0 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sent | Date |
| At m. Service. | From |
| To | By |
| By | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") |

TO 29 21 82 82 m Bally

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * PM 167 | 24 | | |

Original line of 5th Aust Div restored and 8th Div counter attacking to recapture VILLERS PRETONNEUX and Defences have been formed by our Reserve troops

From *ASD*

Place

Time

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

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

*This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0.0 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

APPENDIX.

95

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of: Recd. at m.

Sent

At m. Date

To Service.

By From

(Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO: 20 21 29 32

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**

*Am 168 24

from BLOCK as line of sight on river
 Picoo - there through point 104 m
 out to about 200 yds South of Cross
 roads in area and message from
 Pde on right of Pongau on light of BLOCK
 states line river out with 0350
 based on 15 am as line reported
 continuing along front near Pde
 on right of BLOCK to complete attack from
 SOUTH and WEST side line of Pongau
 on right of BLOCK river out to 0200g 7
 Address 20 21 29 32

From SA & Pde

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, except **AAA**, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of: Recd. at m.

Sent

At m. Date

To Service.

By From

(Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO: 20 21 29 32

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**

*Am 169 24

from BLOCK as Reserve Bn of
 Pde on right preparing to continue
 attack through 021 and 030 am
 evening reported by Pde on right to
 be continuing and tension in area
 situation unchanged as ends

From SA & Pde

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, except **AAA**, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

1615

APPENDIX.

96

Urgent
Special
ph

| | | |
|------|----|------------------------------------|
| Sent | | Date |
| At | m. | Service. |
| To | | From |
| By | | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") |

TO 29 30 31 32
L m Burt

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|

Pm 170
8 Bm report enemy
massing on their front along
S.O.S. sent up four guns
have been up fired

From
Place
Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0.0 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

| | | | |
|--|----|------------------------------------|--|
| Office of Origin and Service Instructions. | | This message is on a/c of: | |
| Sent | | Date | |
| At | m. | Service. | |
| To | | From | |
| By | | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") | |

TO 29 30 31 32
L m Burt

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|

* Pm 171
8 Bm report a/c Ca. 8th
watch is held and some troops
right Bm. Two holding and we
O.S. band C O.S. O.S.C. a/c
Some German VILERS PRAT
moved up with our troops and
left Burt on opp. line O.S. &
unoccupied O.S. 2 & O.S. 53
Point 104.

From
Place
Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0.0 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

APPENDIX.

94

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. **Code** **m.** **Words** **Charge**
 This message is on a/c of: **Reed. at** **m.**
Sent **Date**
At **m.** **Service.**
To **From**
By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") **By**

TO 29 20 21 22
 from Barb

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**
 * 172 24

8. Barb report as enemy has penetrated
 the western outskirts of VILLERS BRETT
 23. Barb will call attack at once
 and receive the command ^{early} ~~later~~ ^{at} ~~of~~
 of VILLERS BRETT ~~structure~~
 through the town from 0350 8/2
 morning 9 am 2 Barb will soon
 touch with 25th Barb which has
 been thrown back to also 103rd & 0
 can B A Barb going are moving
 in BLANCY TRONVILLE

From SA Barb
 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, except **AAA**, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. **Code** **m.** **Words** **Charge**
 This message is on a/c of: **Reed. at** **m.**
Sent **Date**
At **m.** **Service.**
To **From**
By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") **By**

TO 29 20 21 22
 from Barb

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**
 * 172 24

from Barb times 1.10 pm am
 50th Barb had a line through over
 the river. Barb will be 100 yds
 directly in front of them holding
 position. Barb will also be
 right hand to Barb half way
 through wood. Barb will be
 Barb will be full marching
 order 1 am Barb will be located
 Approx at 0347 8

From Barb
 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, except **AAA**, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

APPENDIX.

Sent At m. Service Date
 To From
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer")

TO 29 20 21 22
 Bombath

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
 * 1717 21

MILITARY PERSONNEL will be captured by a continuing attack on the M... S... and... with the... put... further... as P... B... 15... the... with attack... the... will... off... the... of the... from... to... will... that... these... 13... will... further...

From Place Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorized to telegraph in his name.

*This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is sent by...
 Sent At m. Service Date
 To From
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer")

TO 29 20 21 22

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
 * 1717 21

S.O.S relay Station will be established if not already done and two cases have been reported today where signals have not been seen and... will cooperate with... to establish Stations to the...
 H.A.

From Place Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorized to telegraph in his name.

*This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

2551

APPENDIX.

99

Prefix..... Code..... m. Words Charge.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of: Recd. at..... m.
Sent Date.....
At..... m. Service.
To.....
By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

URGENT
operator
priority 7

TO 29 30 31 32

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
* 10M75 24

5 April 1918. Commenced 3 Corps
for counter attack operations on
1500 Y.P. with attack from
Mount of Drie Capras with SE
direction and depth to cut the
line commencing from the
VILLERS BRITTONNEUX
WARRISSE HANGCOURT Road
and extending to Point (L) and
EAST of VILLERS BRITTONNEUX and
The attack will be done in conjunction
with the S. Division 15 Div will be
supported by a Part P.M.A. 2 sections
whenever possible 15 Div. command
The Hanglek O.S.C.S.

From Acid
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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Prefix..... Code..... m. Words Charge.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of: Recd. at..... m.
Sent Date.....
At..... m. Service.
To.....
By..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

RLS

TO 29 30 31 32 LT 17 13

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
* 10M75 24

From dusk onwards until
midnight Artillery will
fire bursts of fire @ 600 yds
East of old British front
line and

From Acid
Place
Time 8 15 PM

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

29 30 31

APPENDIX.

1070

CRUS

| | | | |
|------|----|----------------------------|----------|
| Sent | | This message is on d/c of: | Reed. at |
| At | m. | | Date |
| To | | | From |
| By | | | By |

TO 29 30 31 32 LTM B^{1/2}

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * ce 176 | 24 | | |

22nd Div (Pioneers) is placed
under command of GOC 10th
Inf Bde. to be used in conjunction
with counter attack to mop up
VILLERS-BRETONNEAUX

From _____
Place _____
Time 8.30 AM

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) _____
Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

*This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

29.3.18

| | | | |
|------|----|----------------------------|----------|
| Sent | | This message is on d/c of: | Date |
| At | m. | | Service. |
| To | | | From |
| By | | | By |

TO 29 30 31 32 LTM B^{1/2}

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * 177 | 24 | | |

21 AM report 2 tanks
at P 10 b and P 20 A are
short on petrol
unchanged

From _____
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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

APPENDIX.

101

| | | | |
|----------|--|---|------------|
| At | | Service | Date |
| To | | From | |
| By | | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By | |

TO 29 30 31 32 ~~WARR~~

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * 307 178 | 24 | | |

Programme night from 24/25
 9:37 pm 10:5 pm 10:40 pm 11:8 pm
 11:20 pm 11:50 pm and midnight
 Batteries will be burst off for
 one minute on SOS line + 200 a/c
 at 11:15 on SOS plus 200 to plus 500
 for 5 minutes a/c Rate of fire 18 pds 3 rounds
 per minute horizontal 2 rounds per
 minute a/c

From Heid

Place

Time 11:25 PM

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

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

*This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

| | | | |
|------------|--|---|------------|
| Sent | | Service | Date |
| At | | From | |
| To | | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By | |

TO 29 30 31 32 LITM 12/15

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * 307 179 | 24 | | |

14th Pde Liaison Officer
 when a/c Normal
 identification obtained on this
 Pde front a/c at eleven ten
 four objective of the attack
 apparently taken

From Heid

Place

Time 11:25 PM

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

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

*This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

2055

APPENDIX

102

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of: 10.

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sent | Date |
| At m. Service | |
| To | From |
| By | By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") |

TO 29 30 31 32
 82nd Air Bn

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| * B17180 | 25 | | |

At 2.15 am SA Bn took
 possession of 029 b area
 Operation progressing
 favourably.

From SA Bn
 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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0.0 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of: 11.

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sent | Date |
| At m. Service | |
| To | From |
| By | By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") |

TO 29 30 31 32
 82nd Air Bn

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| B17181 | 25 | | |

from 029 b area the officer
 and patrol from 60th Bn sent
 back to SA Bn the report as
 follows: SA Bn within 300
 yards of their objective and
 all the gap between them and
 SA Bn will now be being filled
 in by SA Bn and SA Bn will
 be in contact with SA Bn
 captured area.

From SA Bn
 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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0.0 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

29/30/31/32

APPENDIX

103

Office of Origin and Services. This message is on a/c of: Sent Date: At m. Service. From: To: By: (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO: **TOOLS**

Sender's Number: * **Am 183** Day of Month: **25** In reply to Number: **AAA**

Situation quiet nothing to report as a result of air

From: **Acad** Place: Time:

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) Signature of Addressee or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

*This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required. Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Office of Origin and Services. This message is on a/c of: Sent Date: At m. Service. From: To: By: (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO: **TOOLS**

Sender's Number: * **Am 183** Day of Month: **25** In reply to Number: **AAA**

Tool was patrolled continuously with reports from Rpt. center. This report is for emergency. Patrol of both in west out to cover the border of Acad from the circumstances in the morning but were prevented by enemy fire. A report was provided but it had been dropped by the enemy. A note was made.

From: **Acad** Place: Time:

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) Signature of Addressee or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

*This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required. Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

2055

APPENDIX.

104

At m. Service. Date
 To From
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO 29 30 31 32
 52 m BATH

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
 * 9114 23

150 A.P. are new
 British line P19 P25
 P31 are French handcock
 prisoners and 25 machine
 guns taken and slight
 resistance by the enemy as
 attack was complete
 surprise was the report from
 130 A.P. Hord

From
 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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0.0 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Sent
 At m. Service. Date
 To From
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO 29 30 31 32
 LOMBALL

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA
 * 91185 25

Situation reported by 15 A.P. to
 be a perhaps new change
 that there is a large number
 of enemy still in the
 BRETONNEUX and Centre P.
 Can be dealt with with
 in front of main BRETONNEUX
 road and latter has patrole out
 lying low land and left by of
 (and Pde) which attack from
 the South can be seen to be
 covered up and in some degree
 system of fort zone. W. 1/4
 W. 1/4 has been intended to clear
 W. 1/4 BRETONNEUX road of main
 HANCOCK road to be in being
 detailed under by 15 A.P. by the
 SA & BA

From
 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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0.0 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

29/31

APPENDIX.

105

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of: Recd. at

Sent At m. Service. Date

To From

By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO 19 20 21 22
L. T. M. B. A. H.

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA

* 18m186 25

15 POW estimate 300
persons captured together
with 25 mgs of m.w.
Specs given as VILLERS
BRETONNFUX lettered with
dead code.

From Place Time

Acad

The above may be forwarded as not corrected. (Z)

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

*This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

2555

Sent At m. Service. Date

To From

By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO Pte Santal

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA

* 18m157 25

I refer to 203
received to HQ as soon as
you can see also without
the Register & Passing of day
are with you. If on duty, at
OP have been released
and instruct them to provide
D.H.Q.

From Place Time

SA 2/10

The above may be forwarded as not corrected. (Z)

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

*This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

APPENDIX

106

and Service List

This message is on a/c of: Recd. ...

Sent _____ Date _____

At _____ m. _____ Service. _____

To _____ From _____

By _____ (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By _____

TO *19 20 21 22*
Ltm Bost

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**

** 11188 25*

*BERKS rep making
good progress MILLERS
PRETORIA area
approx 150 prisoners
taken*

From _____
Place _____
Time _____

S. A. 27/28

This above may be forwarded as now corrected. **(Z)**

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

* This line, except **AAA**, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0.0 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

URGENT OPERATION
Priority

Sent _____ Date _____

At _____ m. _____ Service. _____

To _____ From _____

By _____ (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By _____

TO *10025 ARON*
Rank Pte. ACTIVE

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**

** 11188 25*

*Right B. address enemy
concentrating P. G. and
P. H. area. Address
address area 10025
rept. ARON ACTIVE
Active*

From _____
Place _____
Time _____

Acid

This above may be forwarded as now corrected. **(Z)**

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

* This line, except **AAA**, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,0.0 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

255

APPENDIX.

104

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. *URGENT OPERATION 17/2*

This message is on a/c of: Recd. at m.

Sent Date

At m. Service.

To From

By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO *10025 MACH ACTIVE*

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA

* *10025* 25

*attch of book down under
our article, only find
part line report 2:00 PM
evening seek to scatter
and take cases and
some making excellent
shoots and reflecting
casualties P25*

1/17/18

From *Head*

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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. *URGENT*

This message is on a/c of: Recd. at m.

Sent Date

At m. Service.

To From

By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO *10025 MACH ACTIVE*

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA

* *10025* 25

*Ref. to reports further development
our book appears there
taken care of by DE VATHRE
and HANDEL*

1/17/18

From *Head*

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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

25-5

APPENDIX.

108

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

URGENT
OPERATION
MILITARY

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| This message is on a/c of: | | Recd. at m. |
| Sent | Service. | Date |
| At m. | | From |
| To | | By |
| By | | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") |

TO: TOOLS Hamel Pdes

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| *M194 | 25 | | |

150 of enemy moving toward Hamel
along CERISY HAMMEL
Road at present in P12 area
Much movement on road
between CERISY and P12
was indication of a
relief in progress

From: ACID

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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Prefix Code m.

URGENT
OPERATION
MILITARY

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| This message is on a/c of: | | Recd. at m. |
| Sent | Service. | Date |
| At m. | | From |
| To | | By |
| By | | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") |

TO: TOOLS Hamel Pdes

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----|
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| *M194 | 25 | | |

Situation on front quiet and
Enemy movement reported
on Cerisy HAMMEL Rd towards
HAMMEL and horse transport
and infantry moving into
SAILLY LAURETT area
with SE mobility force

From: ACID

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, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

255

APPENDIX

109

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. *This message is on a/c of:* Reed. at m.
 Sent Date
 At m. Service
 To From
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO *29 20 21 9 2*
LM Pat

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**
 * *HM 197 23*

*Line up the mine and junction
 with punch Uga 58 Urd 70
 Umb 58 Urd 29 Xions
 Usp Urd 53 also pots to
 USA 50 can then line to U5686
 when cap to U56 b. 2 is being
 filled due to then to P. 20
 Hence original part line are
 ULLERS MKT. Shows entirely
 in our hands as can be seen
 indicate our retained
 pots Ubc 2.0 & sent of
 MONUMENT U6 a*

From *S.A. Pat*
 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, except **AAA**, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Prefix Code m. Words Charge. *This message is on a/c of:* Reed. at m.
 Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Sent Date
 At m. Service
 To From
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.") By

TO *29 20 21 9 2*
LM Pat

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **AAA**
 * *HM 198 23*

*Following from Army begins
 was understood for
 progress that Special
 Ordinance called ALL BOLIN
 is issued to help as possible
 record every by yellow
 Cross G. 2.0. 1.0. 1.0. 1.0.
 important to obtain samples
 can make*

From *S.A. Pat*
 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, except **AAA**, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

29 20 21 9 2

APPENDIX.

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| | | | |
|---|---------------|------------------------------------|-----|
| To | By | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") | By |
| TO | 10025 | | |
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA |
| *Muro | 26/4/18 | 9860 | |
| All road forward are blocked and strong wire obstacles | | | |
| From | Acria | | |
| 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, except AAA, should be erased if not required. | | | |
| Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.) | | | |

| | | | | |
|--|---------------|------------------------------------|------|----|
| To | By | (Signature of "Franking Officer.") | From | By |
| TO | 29. 20. 1918 | | | |
| Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA | |
| *Muro | 26/4/18 | | | |
| Reports received in front of position. General on front of 8" low U.S.A.S. to be held by our tank is being maintained with fuel on right and 15 H 1 on left | | | | |
| From | S.H. 1918 | | | |
| 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, except AAA, should be erased if not required. | | | | |
| Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.) | | | | |

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APPENDIX.

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