

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/9/14

Title: 9th Infantry Brigade

December 1917



AWM4-23/9/14

WAR DIARY

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.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BRUNE GAYE	1917. Dec.			
	1st		Quiet day.	
		7 p.m.	36th Battalion patrols met enemy patrols in PONT ROUGE BEND (U.29.b.) . Rifle and revolver shots were exchanged. 36th Battalion patrol suffered three casualties. Several enemy were wounded, but succeeded in getting away. Five enemy rifles, two caps and a gas helmet were brought in as a result of this encounter. A normal identification was established.	APPENDIX 139
	2nd		Brigade Major went round Left Battalion area with G.S.O. 11, 2nd Australian Division. Major W.A.S. DUNLOP reported to 9th Australian Infantry Brigade as Trainee Brigade Major.	APPENDIX 139
	3rd		Quiet day.	APPENDIX 139
			Brigadier and Trainee Brigade Major visited both Battalions in the line. (35th and 36th Bns).	APPENDIX 139
	4th		Quiet day. Work in line progressing satisfactorily.	APPENDIX 139
			Corps Commander, General BIRDWOOD, presented ribbons to all ranks who had won decorations, and who had not had them previously presented.	
		1 p.m.	Tests were carried out with S.O.S. Rifle Grenade signals. These proved unsatisfactory, and were not reliable at a greater distance than 500 yards, vide APPENDIX 138.	APPENDIX 138
	5th	4 p.m.	Small circular enemy balloons came over our line, and pamphlets in English and French were dropped from them, apparently by means of some mechanical contrivance. Pamphlets purported to be (a) from French inhabitants in occupied areas, giving casualties suffered by civil population as result of our bombing and artillery fire. (b) accounts of German successes and to helpless position of the Allies.	APPENDIX 139
	6th		Very quiet day. vide APPENDIX 139.	APPENDIX 139
	7th	5.30 p.m.	Special patrol of 36th Battalion, under cover of Artillery Bombardment examined the PONT ROUGE Bridge. Bridge was found to be crossable, but was very much damaged in the Centre. Details of reconnaissance are found in Intelligence Summary of 8th instant. see APPENDIX 139	APPENDIX 139
			Working parties of "C" and "D" Battalions living in Corps Line (C.8.d.) and FUSILIER TERRACE, placed under orders of O's.C. "C", and "D" and "B" Battalions for tactical purposes, and to be used by them as Supports and for local counter attacks - vide APPENDIX 140	APPENDIX 140
	night		Inter Battalion relief carried out vide APPENDIX 141	APPENDIX 141
	7/8th		Quiet day. Desultory shelling of front areas and battery positions.	APPENDIX 139
	8th		Quiet day. Desultory shelling of front areas and battery positions.	APPENDIX 139
	9th		Brigadier went round Brigade front with Corps Commander. Brig-General SMITH and Brigade Major.	
	10th		5th Brigade called reference coming relief. Major J.H.F. PAIN, M.C., reported to 9th Australian Infantry Brigade as Brigade Major vice Major G.F. WOOTTEN, D.S.O., transferred to Headquarters, 5th Australian Division.	APPENDIX 139

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BRUNE GAYE	Dec. 11th		Quiet day. Major G.F. WOOTTEN, D.S.O., left Brigade Headquarters to join Headquarters 5th Australian Division. Brigadier visited front line and support line trenches of the Brigade front accompanied by Brigadier of 5th Australian Infantry Brigade which will relieve 9th Australian Infantry Brigade on 14th and 15th December.	APPENDIX 139
	12th		Quiet day. Slight hostile shelling and M.W. on Front and Support lines vide APPENDIX 139.	APPENDIX 139.
	13th		Quiet day. Enemy aircraft more active than usual, a few bombs fell within the Brigade area causing several casualties to 5th Australian Divisional Artillery personnel. One enemy aeroplane brought down in flames by A.A. fire and 3 of our fighting machines.	APPENDIX 139.
	14th		Quiet day. 35th and 36th Battalions moved out of Brigade Reserve position ("C" and "D" Bn.) to camps at WATERLANDS, 36 B.21.c.3.2., and HOLLEBECQUE, B.19.b.6.7., replacing 20th and 19th Battalions respectively. The move was carried out undisturbed by enemy action during the afternoon. March of both 35th and 36th Battalions showed good march discipline and turnout. 19th and 20th Battalions then came under command of G.O.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade for tactical purposes, and were billeted at Le ROSSIGNOL Camp and PONT de NIEPPE respectively.	APPENDIX 139
	15th		Quiet day. A slight increase in hostile artillery activity nocturnal, particularly during early morning. No casualties were sustained. 33rd Battalion on the right (from River LYS to U.28.d.82.35) and 34th Battalion on the left (U.28.d.82.35 to U.23.b.45.80) of the Brigade front were relieved from 4 p.m. onwards by the 18th and 20th Battalions (5th Australian Infantry Brigade) respectively, under cover of darkness. The relief was conducted without incident and command passed of the Right Brigade Front from River LYS to U.23.b.45.80. passed from G.O.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade to G.O.C. 5th Australian Infantry Brigade. at 10.10 p.m. At this hour Brigade Headquarters closed at BRUNE GAYE and reopened at BLUE BALL Camp at STERNWERCK. Brigadier and Brigade Major motored to new Headquarters. Upon relief 33rd and 34th Battalion moved to billets at PONT de NIEPPE and NIEPPE respectively, vide	APPENDIX 139 APPENDIX 139
BLUE BALL Camp, STERNWERCK A.17.a.0.1.	16th	9.30 a.m.	Brigadier, Brigade Major and Staff Captain visited Battalion Camps and took notes in preparation for training of the Brigade which is expected will remain in training in the STERNWERCK Area for one month. Camps appear comfortable, and training facilities will be made adequate in about a week for proposed training scheme. 33rd and 34th Battalions marched from PONT de NIEPPE and NIEPPE during the morning to La MENEGATE and de SEULE Camps respectively. 33rd Battalion was seen on the march well turned out and displaying good march discipline. Afternoon devoted to final preparations of training programmes and schemes, vide APPENDIX 142.	APPENDIX 142
	17th	9 a.m.	Camps of Units visited by Brigade Major and site for proposed Brigade Physical Training and Bayonet Fighting School reconnoitred.	APPENDIX 142

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date 1917.	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BLUE BALL CAMP - STEENWERCK A.17.a.O.1	Dec. 17th	3 p.m.	Divisional Commander (acting) visited Brigade Headquarters to inform Brigadier that 3rd Aust. Division would probably be required to go into line South of River LYS on 19th instant, with 11th Aust. Infantry Brigade on Right and 9th Aust. Infantry Brigade on Left. Plans made in event of this being confirmed. Brigade Signal School which was to assemble 10 a.m. 18th December cancelled temporarily.	
	18th	8.30 a.m.	Brigadier and Brigade Major visited Brigade Headquarters 115th Brigade to make arrangements for proposed relief. Whole Brigade Staff and attached Officers confer with opposite members of 115th Brigade. Brigade Intelligence Officer visited line.	
		12.30 p.m.	Conference of C.O's. and O's.C. A.M.G. Coy. and A.L.T.M. Battery, and verbal orders issued for relief of 115th Brigade, from PEAR TREE FARM (right) to River LYS (North). Orders from Divisional Headquarters had arrived at Brigade Headquarters during morning.	
		5 p.m.	Orders for the relief issued, vide APPENDIX 143.	APPENDIX 143
	19th	8 am.	Brigadier and Brigade Major went round line with G.O.C. 115th Brigade, and saw preliminary part of relief in progress, very close liaison having been established by all Units overnight. Very little activity by either side.	
		10.50 p.m.	Relief of all Units complete as per 9th Australian Infantry Brigade Order No. 11 of 18-12-1917. Command of area and front passed to G.O.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade, dispositions being as follows :- 35th Battalion in line (right) 36th Battalion in the line (left) 33rd Battalion in support in subsidiary line, 34th Battalion in Reserve. Relief completed without incident. Situation very quiet.	
ERQUINGHEM	20th	7.30 a.m.	Night passed without incident. Apparent attempt by enemy to capture Post No. 2. One N.C.O. and 2 signallers from Post No. 2 encountered by enemy about 15 in number, whilst returning from Post No. 2 in the morning mist. The N.C.O. escaped, but the 2 signallers were reported missing. Two Officers went to post No. 2 where fire fight ensued in which 2nd Lieut. GARRY was killed. Fighting patrols went out into NO MAN'S LAND and inflicted several casualties on enemy patrol and obtained an identification (14th Regt. normal) from one body of enemy dead.	APPENDIX 139
		7.30 p.m.	One wounded enemy brought in from our parapet (14th Regt. normal) (vide Intelligence Summary APPENDIX 139) Thick fog during the day facilitated movement of patrols in NO MAN'S LAND. Except for the foregoing enemy quiet, except for slight trench mortar activity against Right Company of the Left Left Battalion (36th Battalion). to which our Artillery replied.	APPENDIX 139

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices	
ERQUINGHEM	Dec.	21st	<p>Report on patrol activity on 20th forwarded to Divisional Headquarters (both 38th and 3rd Aust. Division)</p> <p>6 a.m. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade came under orders of 3rd Australian Division which relieved 38th Division. (11th Australian Infantry Brigade went into line on our right during the night).</p> <p>10.30 a.m. Visit by Divisional Commander (Major-General J. MONASH, C.B., V.D.)</p> <p>2.30 p.m. Brigade Major visited line and scene of yesterday's patrol activity - all quiet and sentries on the alert. Several useful lessons were learnt. Ration carrying parties were noticed moving in pairs between advanced posts. It was brought to notice of C.O. 35th Battalion that all troops must move between outposts adequately protected. Many other points of interest discussed. Individual men all appear to believe we shall shortly dominate NO MAN'S LAND as usual. The enemy opposite us, 5th Bavarian Division, and 14th Division enterprising and energetic.</p> <p>3 p.m. Two Battalions and M.G. Coy. of 10th Australian Infantry Brigade carried out practice manning of ARMENTIERES defences successfully. These two Battalions and M.G. Company are held in readiness by the Brigade billeted in the vicinity of STEENWEROK for reinforcing the Division holding the ARMENTIERES defences.</p> <p>7.30 p.m. Brigade Major returned from trenches after visiting advanced posts, support line and C.O.'s.</p>	APPENDIX 139	
		22nd	<p>10.30 a.m. Brigade Major visited Headquarters of Brigade on our right (11th Australian Infantry Brigade) to arrange flank liaison. Visited Brigade boundary and decided necessity of having fighting counter attack patrols in the vicinity of the support line - this is occasioned by the present activity and enterprize of the enemy in entering our outpost line between posts.</p> <p>Enemy artillery much more active than usual damaging Headquarters Walk and LOTHIAN AVENUE during the morning.</p> <p>"Q" Branch of Division visited Headquarters of the Battalions in the line during the morning. Lt. Col. Macartney whose group of artillery (3rd Australian Divisional Artillery) will be covering the Brigade from 24th, visited Brigade Headquarters, and discussed plans for the future with the Brigadier. ARMENTIERES slightly shelled during the day.</p>		
		23rd	<p>9a.m. Situation quiet during the night, a few 4.2s. and gas shells fell on subsidiary line.</p> <p>9a.m. Brigadier and Assistant Brigade Major visited gun positions in neighbourhood of ARMENTIERES to reconnoitre ground in their vicinity for wiring. All round wiring of gun positions has been laid down as part of the Divisional Policy. - following on the CAMBRAI German Counter attack where</p>		APPENDIX 139

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ERQUING- HEM.	23rd (cont)	9 a.m. (cont)	our guns were taken and artillery unable to defend themselves when at close grips with hostile infantry. (NOTE: Our gunners have recently been re-equipped with rifles). Decided to connect up the wire defences of the gun positions with the wiring system of ARMENTIERES Defences, which will not draw attention of the enemy to gun positions localities.	
		11 a.m.	General CANNON Commanding 11th Australian Infantry Brigade on our right called in with reference to flank liaison. Arranged for liaison between Battalions and for a system of counter attack patrols to be held in readiness in or near the support line (vide APPENDIX 144)	APPENDIX 144
		12 noon	Order issued for the relief of the 35th Battalion by the 33rd Battalion on 25th and night of 25th/26th December - vide APPENDIX 145. During the afternoon the Staff Officer ARMENTIERES Defences visited Brigade Headquarters and was informed of our attention re wiring. Day quiet. Very little hostile activity. Aeroplane activity normal. A small patrol encounter took place early this morning against the 36th Battalion on our left. Hostile patrol repulsed, but no information or identification obtained as our S.O.S. machine gun fire prevented our patrols, who were in NO MAN'S LAND at the time, from operating freely. A quiet night.	APPENDIX 145.
	24th		Quiet day generally. Arrangements made for relief of 35th Battalion by 33rd Battalion on right	APPENDIX 139 APPENDIX 139
	25th		battalion front on night 25/26th December - vide APPENDIX 145. Xmas Day. Brigadier and Brigade Major visited Battalion Headquarters and inspected subsidiary line. The wiring round the gun positions at CHAPELLE d'ARMENTIERES was reconnoitred. About 400 yards of double apron low entanglement completed by working party of 34th Battalion during night	APPENDIX 145.
			24/25th December. Xmas Dinner being much appreciated by Battalions in the line and subsidiary line - (the subsidiary line has good accommodation and is comfortable). Slight Artillery and T.M. activity on both sides during the day - being chiefly confined to the left (36th) Battalion front; enemy fire was ineffective. Relief of 35th Battalion by 33rd Battalion carried out without incident during the a quiet night.	APPENDIX 139
	26th		Left Group Artillery Commander (Lieut-Col. H.D.K. Macartney) and Brigade Major visit Artillery O.Ps., subsidiary line and advanced posts of left battalion - front line in bad state of repair, due to policy adopted by our predecessors of holding front line by means of line of posts (strength of one or two sections each post with Lewis Gun) no attempt has been made to keep F.L. in a good state of repair. Six inches of snow lying on ground.	
		10.30 a.m.	Brigadier and Corps Commander visit subsidiary line moving along from right (CHAPELLE d'ARMENTIERES) to left (HOULINES) calling on the Headquarters of both Battalions in the line.	

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Place	Date Dec.	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ERQUINGHEM (cont)	26th	10.30 a.m.	During the day the left group artillery engaged enemy M.G. and T.M. positions covering Light Trench Mortar Battery shoot effectively (vide APPENDIX 139) Enemy reply, feeble, but a notable increase in hostile registration of our forward system was in progress during the afternoon. Steps taken by artillery and Infantry to be prepared for a possible raid against our posts in the EPINETTE SALIENT - no raid eventuated.	APPENDIX 139.
	27th	9.30 a.m. 12 noon 2 p.m. 3 p.m.	Assistant Brigade Major visited Right Battalion in the line. A quiet day. Our H.T.Ms. engaged hostile T.Ms. and strong points at midday. Arrival of orders for relief of 3rd Australian Division by 57th Division. G.O.C. 171st Brigade and Brigade Major visited Brigade Headquarters - relief discussed and arrangements made for advanced parties to visit our lines on 31st instant.	
	28th	11 p.m.	Left Group furnished with list of targets for shoot to take place on 29th instant. A quiet day - Frost. Operations as per Intelligence Summary, vide APPENDIX 139.	APPENDIX 139 APPENDIX 139.
		10 a.m.	During morning plans discussed for wiring CROSS CUT, (a drain with duckboarded track along its Eastern Bank) from CHAPELLE d'ARMENTIERS to HOUPLINES. It is desired to complete this work before the Brigade leaves the area upon relief by the 171st Infantry Brigade (57th Division) on 1/2nd January, 1918. C.R.E. and 9th Field Coy. consulted in this connection, and arrangements finalized. This work will strengthen the outer defences of ARMENTIERS considerably, and provide the framework of a 2nd subsidiary line.	
		12 noon	Arrangements made for Captain A.E. YATES, 35th Battalion, to visit 10th Australian Infantry Brigade School to pick up hints for our own Brigade School (to train N.C.O's. with view to this being commissioned at a later date, and to train Officers and N.C.O's. as signal instructors). Captain YATES is to be Second in Command of the School, Major R.J.A. MASSIE 33rd Battalion to be Commandant. Afternoon routine work.	
		12 mid- night	Enemy quiet.	
	29th	8 a.m.	Brigade Major and Assistant Brigade Major accompanied by O.C. 9th Field Coy. A.E. reconnoitred for wiring CROSS CUT and site selected. A few shells fell in HOUPLINES during reconnaissance.	APPENDIX 139.
		11.0 a.m.	G.O.C. and "G" Staff of an American Division visited Brigade Headquarters and discussed tactical questions, organisation, system of training etc. with Brigadier.	
		2 p.m.	Arrangements made for relief on 1st January and night 1/2nd January, 1918.	
		8 p.m.	S.O.S. Machine Gun barrage definitely decided on, and whole of enemy front line covered by a thin	

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ERQUINGHEM	29th (cont)	2 p.m.	barrage by our Brigade Machine Gun Company helped by 17 machine guns of Brigade on our left flank (5th Australian Infantry Brigade) North of River LYS.	APPENDIX 139
		12 mid-night.	Enemy quiet.	
	30th	9 a.m.	Order for relief completed, vide APPENDIX 146.	APPENDIX 146
			During night our working parties (450 other ranks) constructed a belt of double apron wire entanglement.	
		9.30 a.m.	Question of defective fuzes in Stokes Shells discussed, and decided to use Stokes shells fuzed by our own battery. The battery relieved by us appears to have adjusted fuzes too short for range required, bursts in air resulatory.	
		10 a.m.	Transport arrangements made for carrying forward angle iron pickets and barbed wire to continue work on CROSS CUT entanglement.	
		11 a.m.	Brigade Major visited line with G.O.C. 171st Brigade and his Brigade Major - called at Headquarters of "A" and "B" Battalions (33rd and 36th) and visited advanced post No. 4 (Right Battalion). A quiet morning except for slight H.T.M. activity at 12 noon on Left Battalion Area. During morning Brigadier attended presentation of medals at Divisional Headquarters by Corps Commander (General BIRDWOOD).	
			Afternoon and evening quiet except for usual light shelling and machine gun activity on both sides.	APP. 139
	31st	3.55 a.m.	Morning report "Situation quiet aaa artillery activity practically nil aaa wind N.E. 2 to 3 miles per hour aaa.	
		6 a.m.	Brigadier visited front and subsidiary lines with General KENNEDY, United States Army and Staff. Saw shoots of our Light Trench Mortars. American Officers visiting trenches for the first time very interested and surprised at the active condition.	
		10 a.m.	Advance parties of 171st Infantry Brigade called at Brigade Headquarters and given information regarding the line, and informed guides were awaiting them on outskirts of ARMENTIERES ARMENTIERES at rate of one per Battalion Headquarters and one per Company. Brigade Intelligence Officer and Signal Officer remain at Headquarters until remainder of 171st Infantry Brigade Headquarters arrive on 1st January, 1918.	
		12 noon	Plans for Brigade School discussed with Major R.J.A. MASSIE who will be Commandant of the School.	
		4.23 p.m.	Evening report - "Situation quiet aaa Hostile artillery activity below normal aaa wind N.E. 3 M.P.H."	
		4.30 p.m.	Work on CROSS CUT wiring continued by 3 Companies (1 from 34th Battalion and 2 from 41st	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PERQUINGHEM (cont)	31st Dec.	4.30 p.m.	Battalion - 11th Australian Infantry Brigade)	
		11.20 p.m.	Enemy opened brisk machine gun fire against left Battalion (36th Battalion) area with numerous machine guns, but without causing us any loss. This demonstration may have been carried out in order to conceal movement or noise, or may have been a form of New Year Greetings - The cause has not been definitely ascertained. Casualty Return for December attached - Appendix 147.	APPENDIX 139 APPENDIX 147

8/1/18.

J. A. Stain
Bachmajo 9th Aust. Inf Bde

144

War Diary APPENDIX 138

SECRET.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
7-DEC. 1917
B.M. NO 35/34
A.I.F.

Brigade Headquarters,
7th December, 1917.

- 33rd Bn.
 - 34th Bn.
 - 35th Bn.
 - 36th Bn.
 - 9th M.G. Coy.
 - 9th T.M. Batty.
 - 7th Field Arty. Bde.
- } (for information)

11th M.G. Coy

1. The unsatisfactory result of the recent tests with S.O.S. light signals by day has made it necessary to arrange a system for the rapid and reliable transmission of the S.O.S. signal to the nearest reliable telephone centre. This will be taken as Battalion Headquarters of "A" and "B" Battalions respectively.

2. The S.O.S. signal will be sent back by two methods -

- (a) Telephone
- (b) S.O.S. light signal.

3. With regard to 2 (a), every Officer and Platoon Sergeant will carry the message "S.O.S. trench" made out ready for transmission. This message will be handed into the nearest signal office which may be -

- (a) Fuller phone stations (2 per Bn.) situated in the continuous line of posts at the following points :-
 - G.10.d.10.55
 - G.4.d.25.85
 - U.29.a.30.20
 - U.23.c.30.48
- (b) Front line Coy. Headquarters.
- (c) Support Coy. Headquarters.

This message will then be sent over the wire, and will take priority over all other messages awaiting or in course of transmission.

4. With regard to 2 (b) :-

- (a) S.O.S. light signals will be kept ready for use in each front line post.
- (b) The S.O.S. light signal by day has only proved reliable up to a distance of 500 yards. Repeating stations will therefore be necessary, at distances not exceeding 500 yards. For this purpose each Front line Company and Support Company Headquarters will be made a repeating station.
- (c) An additional repeating Station will be formed in "B" Battalion area at approximately U.22.d. 25.00 which will repeat signals fired from left Company Headquarters.
- (d) Right Company and Right Support Company of Right Battalion will repeat light signals fired from their front, but no repeating Station will be established between those Coy. Headquarters, as they are on the buried cable route, and therefore their telephonic communication should remain intact during any enemy action.

(P.T.O.)

(2)

5. On an S.O.S. message being received at, or observed from any repeating station, this station will immediately repeat the signal both by -

- (a) Light signal
- (b) Telephone (if telephonic communication has not been cut).

6. All S.O.S. Stations and S.O.S. repeating Stations must be manned and have observers posted continuously. Only reliable men will be detailed for this duty.

7. (a) On S.O.S. being called for the Artillery covering the whole Brigade front will open on its S.O.S. lines, and will continue to fire on these lines until sufficient information is available to allow of a concentration being made.

(b) Such S.O.S. artillery fire will cease after fifteen minutes unless S.O.S. signal has been repeated during the last five minutes.

8. In connection with S.O.S. it is to be impressed on all concerned that it is purely a signal for the fire of artillery and such machine guns as have S.O.S. lines laid out to bring fire in front of our line of posts. All this fire, however, falls on the Eastern bank of the LYS, and is therefore of no use in destroying enemy parties who may have made their way to the Western bank. The only effect of this fire would be to prevent the pushing forward of enemy reinforcements or to inflict casualties as the enemy attempted to escape to the Eastern bank of the River.

For this reason, except in case of an attack in force by the enemy, S.O.S. should not be called for by the Infantry, who must hold up the enemy by musketry fire, and endeavour to cut him off by pushing out strong fighting patrols on to and behind his flanks.

H. F. W. [Signature]

Major.
Brigade Major.
Ninth Australian Infantry Brigade.

(MR)

144
New diary

131

APPENDIX

Confidential.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No. 116
From 3 a.m. 30.11.17 to 6 a.m. 1.12.1917.

I. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Moderately active.
MOAT FARM and LA PETITE HAIE FME received 125 rounds
5.9 and 77 from the direction of DEULEMONT between 10 a.m. and
4 p.m.
U.29.a. received 50 rounds gas, between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.
and U.22.d. 100 rounds gas from 7 p.m. to midnight, both from
the direction of DEULEMONT.
IDA and KITTY Posts were also shelled.
At 8.40 p.m. from the direction of FRELINGHIEN enemy
fired about 30 rounds 77 in vicinity of DESPIERRE FARM.

Trench mortars. Enemy put 50 Pineapples in rear of Post 21 from
S. of DEULEMONT, and 30 rounds from I.T.M. in U.30.b. on FLAN-
TATION HOUSE.
U.29.a. received 60 rounds from I.T.M. in U.30.b.

Machine Guns. From FRELINGHIEN occasional bursts were fired
around LYS FME and Railway embankment C.10.a. Firing is
also reported from the BREWERY and SUGAR REFINERY.

Snipers. Active, but we had no casualties.

Aircraft. Quiet. An enemy plane was over our lines between
10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
A balloon was up behind DEULEMONT from 10.15 a.m.
to 11.30 a.m.

Communications. During raids by Brigade on left the following
signals were noticed on their front:

- 5.18 p.m. Numerous rockets breaking into two reds. Single reds also fired as far South as SUGAR REFINERY.
- 5.20 p.m. Numerous rockets breaking into two green; then red and green stars alternately at periods of two minutes.
- 3.40 p.m. Lights ceased.
- At 1 a.m. similar lights were seen.

Movement. Working party of 20 men at C.5.d.35.30 at 9 a.m. apparently making concrete works. Dispersed by Artillery.
At 9.45 a.m. two men (one wounded) seen to leave above place.
At 11.40 a.m. train observed at V.29.d.60.85.

II. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Between 11 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. Heavies had a
P.T.O.

a shoot on LAUNDRY. The first shots were on the target, thus securing the advantage of surprise. About 85 rounds fired; 25 O.K's; 8 duds; no very short shots.

Damage - Right tower superstructure blown away; several holes in main building and wall on left revealing enemy camouflage and dugout in rear. Our 4.5's opened on Trench Mortar at C.11.c.60.50 at our request at 4.5 p.m.; several direct hits on building. Hostile fire ceased.

Shelling on back areas continued at intervals during night.

A small fire, caused apparently by our artillery, seen in FRELINGHIEN at 4.15 p.m.

Machine Guns. Fifteen hundred rounds expended on roads C.11.c.80.80 and C.11.b.32.90 to 70.70.

At 5 p.m. 500 rounds fired in vicinity of DERIEZ FME.

Aircraft. A plane patrolled enemy lines at daybreak. Five machines over our own lines during the morning.

Patrol report. One of our patrols which went down the road towards BRIDGE HOUSE (C.11.c.55.85) reports sounds of transport and hammering in FRELINGHIEN.

A standing daylight patrol went to disused trench at C.5.a.20.10 and reported on the Heavies shoot on LAUNDRY. They also examined the River front in vicinity and report no sign of enemy having been there lately.

The patrol working from KITTY to PONT ROUGE reported a fire giving off large volumes of white smoke E. of PONT ROUGE about 1 mile away.

Searchlight opposite PLANTATION again active.

General. Heavy firing heard from the direction of ARMENTIERES at 11.15 p.m.

At 9.5 p.m. fire observed in rear of FRELINGHIEN.

G. Halford Lt

for

Brig. Gen.

G. O. G. 6th Aust. Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

JB.

ENCLOSURE SUB. 11

Between 14.00 and 15.00 hours on 11.11.1917

11.11.17

CONFIDENTIAL.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No 117
From 6 a.m. 1.12.17 to 6 a.m. 2.12.1917.

I. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. During the morning from 30 to 40 5.9 shells from DEULHONT fell just S.W. of LA CASSEIRE SUPPORT FARM in U.27.d., and one dugout was blown in.

In the vicinity of EMPIRE SUPPORT and EMPIRE DRIVE South fairly heavy shelling from 11.0 a.m. to 12.3 p.m. - our Artillery apparently silenced the enemy Batteries. Little damage resulted. Again from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. - when our batteries again silenced the enemy. This shelling was from the direction of TARNETON.

During the night the same area and front lines in U.20.a. and 23.c. were subjected to intermittent bursts of shelling from 4.2's and 77's mixed with a few gas. Slight damage to trenches but no casualties resulted.

The intersection of SCREEN and SIXTH AVENUES in G.9.b.70.80 was shelled with 30 rounds 77's at 7.45 a.m.

The vicinity of GASQUETTER CORNER and GUNNERS FARM also received intermittent shelling from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Trench Mortars. At 3.10 a.m. a few rounds from W.T.M. in FREL-INGHIEN fell harmlessly in NO MAN'S LAND in G.10.d. A Trench Mortar was located at G.5.b.47.62, and fired on G.4.b. and U.28.d., and another T.M. at U.29.b.50.10 in UNKNOWN FARM

Machine Guns. Active from DIE WORKS (in U.17.c.55.80) on the right front where gun fired from the middle of the building. Another located on Road 200 yards East of VIGNART FARM in U.24.a.

Snipers. Fairly active from G.11.c.55.55, but no casualties resulted.

Aircraft. Comparatively quiet. One plane during the morning and one at 3 p.m. were driven off by our M.G. and L.F. fire. - the second one replying briskly to our fire.

Patrols. With the exception of that mentioned below none were seen.

Communications. Opposite IDA POST (U.20.c.) lights were fairly active, 3 white lights going up in quick succession, but no definite action could be noticed.

At 12.15 a.m. immediately after shelling ceased enemy fired a green Very light opposite the SUGAR REFINERY at U.17.d.2.4.

After the enemy patrol retreated (see below) a green followed by a white Very light was fired from U.20.b.50.35.

P.T.O.

APPENDIX

139

B.I.S. 117.

(2)

2.12.1917.

II. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Counter-battery work during the day as men-
tioned above. Suspected cook-house at C.11.d.05.80
was shelled with 4 shots two of which were direct hits.
Working parties also dispersed as noted below.

Machine Guns. No. 2 gun searched the road and tramtrack
from C.11.a.95.20 to C.11.b.30.03 and the road from
this last point to C.5.c.75.10.

Snipers. No direct hits claimed.

Patrols. Our patrols working in vicinity of PONT ROUGE
as in came into contact with enemy patrol of about
20 men. Bombs and rifle firing exchanged the latter
immediately retired towards the River. Search being
made of the vicinity revealed no enemy dead but several
rifles and two caps were found, the latter giving normal
identification (10th Bav. J.R.).

Observation. Gun flashes observed C.5.c.80.95, C.5.d.
20.95, C.11.b.20.20, and C.12.a.40.45.

Enemy working party of 30 in STAFFERY DRIVE.
Artillery were notified.

Another in C.5.d.70.30 was dispersed by
our Artillery at 2.30 p.m.

*H. H. Dixon Capt
Brig. Gen.
G.O.C. 10th Aust. Infantry Brigade A.I.F.*

appendix 139

CONFIDENTIAL.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No 118
From 6 a.m. 2.12.17 to 6 a.m. 3.12.1917.

I. CUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. PETITE HAIE FME received 50 rounds from the direction of U.30.a. between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. The F.L. in U.29.a. and area immediately behind were shelled from direction of G.5.d. at intervals during the night. The above were 77's.

The whole of the enemy shelling reported by our Right Battalion comes from the direction of BRELINCHIEU.

Trench Mortars. Both heavy and Light T.M.'s at C.11.c.60.50 silenced by our Artillery (See "Our Artillery"). Between 2 p.m. and 4.20 p.m. enemy fired 30 Pineapples in U.20.a.c. and b. from U.30.b. or d. (See "Locations").

Machine Guns. Active from BREWERY and DYE WORKS. From DOLLS HOUSE and U.30.b.09.46 Machine Guns were active with a low sweeping fire along the front line.

Aircraft. Two planes were over our lines between 4.30 a.m. and 7.30 a.m. and were driven off by our A.A. and M.G. fire.

Movement. Suspected cookhouse C.11.a.95.25 which was fired on by our Artillery was again emitting smoke (at 10.15 a.m.).

A well-beaten track is visible from G.5.d.35.30 running E. to G.5.d.95.36.

At 1.30 p.m. two men seen near a new trench at G.5.c.00.40. At 1.44 p.m. 4 men at G.11.b.40.59 with rifles & equipment.

At 2.30 p.m. one man was seen leaving rear of LAUNDRY and going in direction of DURIEZ FME.

Works. Fresh earth visible immediately N. of DURIEZ FME where trench is evidently being repaired.

A large amount of rubble has been heaped on to the top of the building forming the left part of DURIEZ FME.

II. CUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. For the fourth time we asked for a counter-battery shoot on M.W. at C.11.c.60.50. This was at 4 p.m. and was again successful in silencing the M.W.

A few rounds from the Heavies dropped in vicinity of LAUNDRY.

There was also some firing into U.30.b.

Machine Guns. Two thousand rounds were expended on CELIA SUPPORT, Cross-roads C.11.c.90.40 and CELIA LANE.

Suspected M.G. at C.11.c.47.04 was engaged.

Road from C.11.b.32.90 to C.11.b.70.70 was searched also DURIEZ FME and vicinity. Two hundred and fifty rounds fired on enemy plane.

P.T.O.

APPENDIX.

139.

I.S. 118.

(2).

3. 12. 1915.

Patrols. The usual battle and reconnaissance patrols were out during the night but did not encounter the enemy, but report machine gun activity from BREWERY and DYE WORKS.

Locations. Pineapples were fired from T.B. 80° from U.29.c.10.35. Exact location not yet obtained.

At U.30.b.40.50 two guns were seen flashing at 1.45 pm.
At C.6.c.90.10 flashes of two guns seen at 4 p.m. They fired 14 rounds 5.9 into vicinity of C.10.central.

Visibility. Very good.

G. Halford Lt

for Brig. Gen.

C. O. C. 9th Aust. Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

12.

CONFIDENTIAL.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No 119
From 6 a.m. 3.12.1917 to 6 a.m. 4.12.1917

I. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. At 4.30 p.m. during relief of Companies in front line an enemy plane was patrolling NO MAN'S LAND. UMPIRE DRIVE SOUTH, up which the men were moving, was shelled with 4.2's and 77's; four men were slightly wounded. He continued shelling here and UMPIRE AVENUE at intervals in bursts of 10 rounds up to 7 p.m.

At 2.30 p.m. light salvos of 77's from direction of DORIEZ FIE and 4.2's from FRELINGHIEN were fired on UFA SUPPORT and F.L. in vicinity.

KEWI STREET was blown in about 100 yards from F.L. by 4.2's from direction of D.2.c. at 2.40 p.m.

A bearing along the track of a "dud" gives T.E. 93° from C.4.a.85.00.

Enemy had a destructive fire between 4.10 p.m. and 5.15 p.m. from the direction of DEULMONT. He used 15 cm. shells firing about 8 rounds per minute. UFA TRENCH, KEWI STREET, and CECIL SUPPORT were all damaged.

Trench Mortars. A Light Trench Mortar fired on NAPOO AVENUE from direction of FRELINGHIEN at 3.10 p.m.

Machine Guns. From DEULMONT and U.30.b. M.G.'s fired bursts on our F.L. and support lines at intervals during the night.

Aircraft. At 11 p.m. bombs dropped in vicinity of MOAT FARM. Plane patrolled NO MAN'S LAND from 2.30 p.m. to 3.15 p.m.

Movement. 3.30 a.m. to 4 a.m. - Wheeled traffic heard on road running S.E. from DEULMONT.
11.25 a.m. - Two men at C.5.b.35.30 seen carrying planks.
7.30 a.m. - Eleven of enemy seen going from ruins at C.11.b.40.95 to ruins at C.11.b.30.85.
9.30 a.m. - Smoke again visible at C.11.a.95.20.
9.45 a.m. - Three men entered dugout at V.25.d.90.65.
11.15 a.m. - Six men seen at C.11.b.20.45.
2.30 p.m. - Enemy trench train at D.1.c.30.30.
3.15 p.m. - About 20 men seen at C.12.c.60.65 walking towards Cemetery.

Works. New earth visible at C.12.c.60.65; also working party of about 20 men.

II. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our counter batteries engaged targets behind DEULMONT.

H.T.M. at C.11.c.30.50 was again silenced by our artillery at 4.40 p.m. and 5.50 p.m.

P.T.D.

APPENDIX 139

I.S. 119.

(2).

4.12.1917.

Machine Guns. Three thousand rounds expended on roads and trenches in C.11.c. and d. and C.17.a. Cross-roads and tramways in U.30.c. and U.24.a. and c. also received 3,000 rounds. Enemy planes also engaged.

Patrols. Battle patrol lay up at U.22.b.25.70 and reconnoitred dugouts near. The patrols on our front did not encounter the enemy.

Locations. Two M.W.'s suspected at C.11.b.20.35.

Aircraft. At 12.15 a.m. about 12 explosions in DEULTMONT were heard and seen - apparently bombs from planes.

G. Hayward Lt
for

BRIG.-GEN.

G. O. C. 9th Aust. Infantry Brigade I. F.

JR.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
Summary of Intelligence No. 12
From 6 a.m. 4.12.17 to 6 a.m. 5.12.17.

I. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. 5.9 gun at D.7.b.55.95 was firing on C.10.d. at 2 p.m. and on C.9.d.85.35 at 3.30 p.m.

Two guns firing from a position over TWIN FARM observed from SURREY FARM.

At 1 p.m. 75 firing from about D.8.a.80.10 on to our F.L.

150 rounds 4.2 fell in vicinity of PAPER HOUSE and Post No. 13 from FRELINGHIEN between 2 p.m. and 2.30 p.m.

U.25. and vicinity received 90 rounds 75 from S. of DEULEONT between 6 a.m. and 11 a.m.

ALLEN CORNER and KEWI STREET were shelled with bursts of 4.2 H.E. and shrapnel (15 to 20 at a time) from FRELINGHIEN during the morning and between 9 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Trench Mortars. A Minenwerfer about C.11.b.25.30 was firing on our front line at 3.20 p.m.

From U.30.b. enemy put 50 r.t.m. rounds into vicinity of F.L. in C.4. Most of them fell into NO MAN'S LAND.

A Heavy Trench Mortar in DEULEONT fired 7 rounds on Post No. 20 between 6.45 a.m. and 7 a.m.

45 rounds from H.T.H. at U.29.b.95.10 fell into NO MAN'S LAND between 2 p.m. and 5.15 p.m.

Machine Guns. From a gun not exactly located enemy is enfilading NICHOLSON AV. near DESPIERRE FUE.

Aircraft. At 3.15 p.m. and 3.40 p.m. enemy planes flying low over our lines were driven off by A.A. M.G. fire.

Movement. At 9.30 a.m. two men seen at C.5.d.35.30 from which point there is a track leading to SOAF HOUSE.

What looked like railway trucks were seen at U.30.c. 70.25. Men were also seen at this point.

A light motor was heard in FRELINGHIEN. Also the dumping of what sounded like iron rails.

Communications. At 4.25 p.m. two red rockets were fired. Immediately after four enemy balloons came down.

At 3.50 p.m. a pigeon rose from about U.30.a.20.10 and flew North

Works. With reference to DURIEZ FUE: more rubble has been thrown on the top and part of the building on the left is missing.

Our patrols report considerable work going on in the LAUNDREY and on the right and left of the same. The work could be heard all night.

II. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. At 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. 4.5 Hows. fired on the DYE WORKS.

There was considerable firing during the early part

P. T. O.

I.S. 120.

(2).

5. 12. 1917.

Artillery. of the night in the direction of DEULEMONT and targets
(contd) S. of DEULEMONT.

At 7.15 p.m. the artillery shelled the road leading to
PONT ROUGE as transport had been heard there.

Machine Guns.

3,000 rds fired on Road C.11.d.35.30 to C.12.c.40.30.
1,500 - - - - - CELIA SUPPORT.
1,000 - - - - - tramways in C.5.d. and vicinity of
DURJEZ PNE.
1,000 - - - - - Roads and tramways in U.24.c.
500 - - - - - enemy planes.

Aircraft. Our planes were active patrolling our lines.

Patrols. A reconnoitring patrol examined the river bank from U.29
b.92.46 to U.30.a.25.52 and reports no track along this side of
the river, nor does the ground appear to have been used lately.
Voices were heard in the vicinity of URAL HOUSE.

Patrols in the region of PAPER HOUSE report work going
on in CERTAIN TRENCH.

The bridge at U.4.a.55.35 was examined. It was found
that the tram rails there were disconnected and had fallen into
the river. The supporting piles are broken. No enemy move-
ment noticed whilst our patrol was there.

Small clouds of dense yellow smoke are reported coming
from C.11.a.60.30 between 11.15 a.m. and 11.30 a.m.

Locations. M.W.'s located at:

C .11.b.25.30

U.30.a.40.30

J.20.b.95.10

A sniper located at C.11.a.52.15.

Searchlight working from U.30.b.

Visibility. Poor up to 3 p.m.; better later.

G. C. C.
Brig-Gen.

G. C. C. 9th Aust. Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

14A *copy*

Appendix 139

CONFIDENTIAL.

6th December 1917.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No. 121
From 6 a.m. 5.12.17 to 6 a.m. 6.12.1917.

I. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. During the afternoon the enemy put 150 rounds 4.2 on UNA AVENUE and F.L. in U.29.c. from direction of FRELINGHIEN. One man was killed and two wounded. The F.J. in U.23.c. received 150 rounds 77 from S. of DEULEMONT, 50 rounds T.M. from the vicinity of PONT ROUGE, 50 rounds 5.9 and 60 rounds 4.2 from DEULEMONT between 7.20 p.m. and 7.40 pm. This time coincided with that of the firing reported South of our front.

Our Right Battalion sector was very quiet. Twelve rounds 4.2 H.E. from the direction of FRELINGHIEN fell in the vicinity of MOTOR CAR CORNER.

Trench Mortars. NO MAN'S LAND near PONT ROUGE was shelled with Light and Medium M.W's.

Enemy seems to be paying considerable attention to NO MAN'S LAND owing to our active patrolling. (See "Locations").

Machine Guns. Quiet during the day. Very active at night from DEULEMONT and across PONT ROUGE.

Aircraft. Planes very active on the front during daylight. Six observation balloons up.

From 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. seven pear-shaped balloons are reported to have passed over our area travelling S. to N.. Papers were dropped from them.

Enemy plane destroyed one of our observation balloons near BESSINES.

Movement. Patrols report hammering at DURIEZ FME. Wheeled traffic heard in FRELINGHIEN during the evening.

Enemy movement was observed at barrier at about U.29.b.85.00.

12.35 p.m. - Smoke ascending from C.11.d.20.00.

1.40 p.m. - Trench train seen D.9.a.12.20.

9.15 a.m. - Working party (10 men) in trench at C.11.b.28.80.

10.25 a.m. - Six men ran from C.5.b.35.30 and disappeared behind ruins.

Communications. The heavy enemy artillery fire (at about 7.30 p.m.) on the S. of our front was apparently in answer to a signal of two green and two red lights.

Again enemy balloons went down immediately after a signal of two red lights.

Works. Trenches in U.29.d. and U.30.a. are being repaired. Enemy heard working at building immediately S.E. of PONT ROUGE during the morning.

(P.T.O.).

APPENDIX. 139

I.S. 121.

(2)

144
6.12.1917.

II. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. BombarDED H.W. positions during the night. At 9 p.m. and again at 6.50 p.m. DEULMONT - FRELINGHIER Road was shelled.

Machine Guns. 5,500 rounds fired on roads, tracks and tramways in G.11.b., G.5.d. and G.6.c. Also 1,000 rounds on road U.3.c.22.65 to U.3.c.80.12. 1,000 rounds expended on enemy planes.

Aircraft. Two of our planes patrolled out front during the morning and three (at times four) during the afternoon.

Patrols. Our patrol working from G.5.a.33.12 to North of WHITE FARM reports an enemy post of 7 men at G.5.a.42.62.

LAUNDRY is reported by patrol working from 4.40 p.m. to 7.45 p.m. to have been absolutely quiet.

The river bank on our side from G.5.c.5.60 to WHITE FARM was examined by our patrol. It is reported as fairly firm and grassy.

Our battle patrols, working in the vicinity of PONT ROUGE, did not encounter the enemy.

The Western bank of the LYS North from PONT ROUGE was again examined as far as U.3.c.a.40.50. A few footprints were visible but no track. Rushes are growing near the water. It is therefore practically certain that the enemy comes over PONT ROUGE.

Locations. H. M.W., firing a fan-tail projectile, is suspected somewhere in front of DURIEZ FME.

Visibility. Very good.

General. One of our Posts on the extreme right flank reports cries of "Mercy Kamerade!" and an explosion S. of our line. Suggestive of a silent raid and the placing of an explosive charge on enemy works by the Battalion on our right flank.

G. Halford
Brig. Gen.

G.O.C. 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. A.I.F.

ENEMY OPERATIONS:

Artillery: Very little activity. A few rounds 77 came from the direction of FRELINGHIEN to vicinity of DESPIERRE FARM.

Trench Mortars: 20 H.V. rounds from C.5.b. and 20 from U.30.b. fell in U.23.c. 15 rounds H.V. were fired in vicinity C.4.d.80.90 from FRELINGHIEN. One fire bay was slightly damaged. C.10.d.10.40 and vicinity was also shelled by M.Ws. Those rounds came from direction of C.11.c. 60.80.

Machine Guns: Very little activity except against our planes. A.A. M.Gs. active were in C.5.b. and U.30.b. Some firing on our left Battalion area.

Snipers: Shooting again from C.11.a.52.15.

Aircraft: Three enemy observation balloons were up. Planes were patrolling WOMAN'S LAND and enemy trenches from 8.15 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Movement: Working parties heard hammering in trenches in U.29.d. and U.30.a.
 8.15 a.m. two men shovelling at C.5.d.35.30
 9.15 a.m. working party of about 10 men at C.11.d.28.80 pulling at a rope attached to something heavy.
 12.5 p.m. Same party in the same place carrying planks.

Works: At DURIEZ FARM more brickwork on the left has been removed and placed on top of supposed dugout. At C.11.b.25.75 there are 3 new posts sticking up about 3 feet.

OUR OPERATIONS:

Artillery: Enemy post immediately S.E. of POIT ROUGE and vicinity were fired on by our 18 pounders and 4.5" Hows. in conjunction with one of our patrols (see "Patrol B")
 Intermittent firing took place well in the rear of DEULEMONT.
 Between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. our 4.5" Hows. fired on FRELINGHIEN.
 At 4.25 p.m. 18 pounders fired 100 rounds on "W" positions in FRELINGHIEN - Flares and dust observed.

Machine Guns:

2,000	rounds	were	fired	on	CELIA AVENUE.
2,000	"	"	"	"	Track & Rly. C.5.d.38.80
3,000	"	"	"	"	to C.6.c.28.45.
1,000	"	"	"	"	roads and tramways in
1,000	"	"	"	"	C.6.a. and c.
	"	"	"	"	road in U.30.c.
	"	"	"	"	Cross roads V.25.c.00.68.

Trench Mortars: Our H.T.Ms. engaged DURIEZ FARM at 11.45 a.m. Fire shots were fired but no O.Ks. obtained.

Aircraft: Very active. Between 8 a.m. and 5.45 p.m. from 2 to 5 of our planes were over the F.L. and vicinity.

(P.T.O.)

(2)

OUR OPERATIONS:
(cont)

Patrols:

In co-operation with our artillery a patrol went out towards POUT ROUGE, but were unable to examine the bridge owing to one of our Hows dropping short rounds. The artillery fire effectively silenced the enemy guns in the vicinity of the bridge.

Patrol working near SOAP HOUSE reports a concrete structure in the building; also 8 barrels (2 of which were fastened together) obviously for crossing the River.

How 9.11.b.20.55 appears to contain a dugout. Two of our patrols went out to wait for the enemy patrol reported yesterday at 0.5.a.40.55. There was, however, no sign of the enemy.

Locations:

L. at 0.5.d.55.50 firing into 0.4.d.
Gun firing on MOTOR CORNER at 2.35 p.m. was over 0.11.e.75. from SURREY FARM.

Enemy firing on our front line at 9 a.m. was over 0.5.d.90.70 from SURREY FARM. Gun shelling 0.10.d. 55 a.m. from about D.8.a.10.90.

G. Halford

Brig-General.
S.O.C. 9th Australian Inf. Brigade.

MILITARY

[Faint, mostly illegible text, possibly a list or report, with some words like 'Very active' and 'Between 8 a.m.' visible.]

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144

war diary

Appendix 135

CONFIDENTIAL.

8th Decr. 1917

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No. 123
from 6 a.m. 7.12.1917 to 6 a.m. 8.12.17.

I. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Practically the whole of the enemy activity was confined to 4.2 shells. Fifty rounds 4.2 fell near PLANTATION FARM from N.E. FREILINGHIEN between 8 a.m. and noon. 190 rounds 4.2 H.E. fired in rapid succession from FREILINGHIEN into U.28. and G.4., between 6.30 a.m. and 9 a.m. 77 gun about D.8.a.K.80 again active (1.45 p.m.) firing into C.10.b. Enemy counter-battery work seems to be coming from the BRICKFIELDS area.

Trench Mortars. H.W. at C.11.c.55.55 fired six shots while the patrol were out between 12 midnight and 2 a.m. Vicinity of G.10.b.90.70 received 30 rounds L.M.W. from SOAP HOUSE between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m.

Machine Guns. M.G. at C.5.b.15.15 fired in vicinity of WHITE FARM and gun in SOAP HOUSE fired bursts into our wire between midnight and 2 p.m. Gun at DURIEZ FME fired several bursts at 10 p.m. and active during the day on our planes. M.G. in BREWERY sweeping BARKETHAM AVENUE was active. Gun at C.11.a.60.30 was also firing.

Aircraft. Enemy planes flew over at intervals during the shell-ing of PLANTATION FARM. At 3.15 p.m. an enemy plane fired several bursts on to our F.L. Enemy experienced difficulty in approaching our lines owing to our superiority in numbers.

Movement. Light transport was heard on GEMETRY DRIVE during the night. This was followed by the noise of handling of iron and then by the returning transport. During the same period talking was heard near the active H.W. in the DYE WORKS. Enemy observed carrying something (apparently ammunition) to light railway U.30.c.05.80 at 8.30 a.m. 9.20 am. to 10.20 am. Enemy occasionally seen passing C.11.b.50.40. 9.45 a.m. Two men walked from C.11.b.30.90 to 20.30. 1.15 p.m. Two men entered building at C.11.b.40.90. 2.0 p.m. Seven men (working party) at C.11.b.10.45. 3.30 p.m. Three men entered building at C.11.a.90.40.

Communications. Two large yellow lights were sent up from C.17.a.50.50. Immediately after a machine gun fired in the direction of TOUL HOUSE from C.17.a.20.70.

Works. In the LAUNDRY there were sounds of pumping and other work going on during the night.

(P. T. O.)

I.S. 123.

(2).

8.12.1917. 144

II. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. At 5.30 p.m. our 18-pdrs. and 4.5 Hows. fired on barricade S.E. of PONT ROUGE and important points in the vicinity to enable one of our patrols to examine the bridge. The firing was accurate and enabled us to gather considerable information. (sec. "Patrols"). No enemy reply is reported.

New L.M.W. fired from C.11.a.90.10 at 11a.m. Our artillery obtained two O.K's.

At 11.30 a.m. two men were seen to leave the above position limping and two others were seen carrying a man away on a stretcher.

One man was seen to leave house at C.11.a.90.40 immediately after our artillery obtained two O.K's on house

Machine Guns.

3,000	rounds fired on	CEMETERY DRIVE.
1,000	" " "	vicinity of SCREENED FARM.
2,000	" " "	Road U.30.c.18.68 to 80.12.

Aircraft. Very active. From one to six of our planes were patrolling our line and NO MAN'S LAND during the day.

Patrols. At 5.30 p.m. one of our patrols examined PONT ROUGE whilst the artillery engaged enemy strong points in the vicinity. The patrol met with no opposition and obtained the following particulars:

- a. The Bridge is much damaged; about 10 to 12 feet has been destroyed about two-thirds of the way over, the longer remaining portion being on our side.
- b. The gap would be passable with the aid of a plank or portable bridge.
- c. There was no evidence of much walking on our side of the bridge.

It was impossible to make a detailed examination of the top of the bridge owing to splinters from our 4.5's which were falling on the enemy barrier on the S.E. side of the bridge. The artillery shooting was excellent and must have done considerable damage to enemy works.

The patrol working South of WHITE FARM reports enemy M.G. and M.W. activity, work in the LAUNDRY, and transport on CEMETERY DRIVE.

The ground between PONT ROUGE and PAPER HOUSE, which is between the river and the contour line on the map, is very boggy and difficult to travel over.

The patrol working North of PONT ROUGE reports searchlights in DEULEMONT and one from the direction of DURIEZ FME.

Locations. L.M.W. firing from C.11.a.90.10 into C.10.b. at 11.0 a.m.

Searchlight working from the direction of U.30.a. 20.10.

G. Halford Lt

for Brig.-Gen.

G.O.C. 9th Aust. Inf. Bde. A.I.F.

144

APPENDIX. 139

144

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Amendment to Summary of Intelligence No. 123.

Page 2, "PATROLS".

line "c".

Delete word "no".

appendix 13

CONFIDENTIAL.

9th Decr. 1917.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
SUMMARY of INTELLIGENCE No. 124
From 6 a.m. 8.12.17 to 6 a.m. 9.12.1917.

I. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Between 5 a.m. and 11 a.m. 54 rounds 4.2 fell in U.29.a. and U.23.c. from the direction of DEULEMONT. An enemy 4.2 gun on a T.B. of 70° from U.29.a.35.23 was firing on U.23.c., U.28.d., U.29.a. and c. during the morning. C.4. and vicinity were shelled with 4.2's from the direction of FRELINGHIEN between 5.15 a.m. and 9.45 a.m.

Trench Mortars. Heavy M.W.'s in C.11.c. are reported active. Light M.W. in DEULEMONT fired on U.23.c.50.05 at 4 p.m. and on U.23.c.80.35 between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m. Heavy M.W. at U.29.d.55.22 fired shots, at long intervals between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. into C.4.b. Heavy M.W. near DURIEZ FME also shelled our P.L. in C.4.b.

Machine Guns. Gun near DURIEZ FME active whilst patrols were out between 10 p.m. and midnight, firing in vicinity of WHITE FARM.

Machine gun in DYE WORKS again firing.

Aircraft. Between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. an Albatross battle plane flew over our lines and fired on UNA AVENUE. Three enemy balloons in the direction of U.24.b., U.30.b. and C.6.d. were up from 3 p.m. until dusk. An enemy plane appeared to be directing the fire of guns by signals from its M.G.

Movement. Noises of hammering were heard throughout the night at DURIEZ FME.

Searchlight again reported active at URAL HOUSE.

A party was working opposite WHITE FARM, evidently wiring.

At 6.15 p.m. light transport, which seemed to be coming from DEULEMONT, was heard in FRELINGHIEN.

Behind DYE WORKS there were signs as of shovelling bricks.

A light engine came into FRELINGHIEN at 7.30 p.m. and left at 8.20 p.m.

At 8.35 a.m. seven men walked from ruins at C.11.a.90.10

12 noon - Two men seen carrying long black oblong box from C.5.a.85.60 towards LAUNDRY.

1.30 p.m. - Trench train seen drawing trucks at D.8.a. 10.35 which is in the centre of the BRICKFIELDS gun pits area.

Communications. The same signal as reported yesterday - two yellow lights - was seen and was followed by M.G. fire, this time from the DYE WORKS.

Works. New work is visible C.5.b.42.63 to 50.79.

P.T.O.

I.S. 124.

(2).

9.12.1917.

II. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. The principal firing noticed was as follows:

10.25 a.m.	42 rounds	4.5	were fired into	FRELINGHIEN.
10.45 a.m.	133	"	6" H.E.	" " C.6.b.
1.0 p.m.	50 r	"	" " "	" " "
12.45 p.m.	10	"	18-pdr.	" in vic of TWIN FARMS
9.0 p.m.	20	"	"	" in rear of LAUNDRY.
9.30 p.m.	30	"	60-pdr.	" into FRELINGHIEN.

Machine Guns. 5,500 rounds were fired on enemy trenches, roads and communications during the night. 250 rounds were expended on an enemy plane.

Aircraft. Our planes were very active and many balloons were up. Two patrols of five planes each were over our lines at intervals during the day.

One of our planes dropped four bombs in vicinity of LAUNDRY.

Patrols. Our patrols were working as usual in NO MAN'S LAND. The information gained is put under the various headings of this report.

One of our patrols reports seeing two men at C.10.d.73.51. A thorough search was made but no further trace was found. Machine gun and rifle fire came from DURIEZ FME.

Locations. The emplacement at U.29.d.55.22 previously reported as a H.G. position is to-day reported as an active Heavy M.W. emplacement. Cross bearings were taken whilst the gun was in action.

A Light M.W. is reported on a T.B. of 95° from U.29.a.35.23.

Flashes 77 battery seen at C.18.a.80.50. The gun was firing on GUNNER FARM.

G. Halford Lt

for

Brig.-Gen.

G. O. C. 9th Aust. Inf Bde.

144
war diary

appendix 139³⁰

CONFIDENTIAL.

10th Decr. 1917.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
Summary of Intelligence No. 125
from 6 a.m. 9.12.17 to 6 a.m. 10.12.17.

I. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery.

At 1.45 a.m. and 2.30 pm. Enemy fired 4.2 on MOTOR CAR CORNER from V.26 area.
Between 2 pm and 4.30 pm. Enemy fired 4.2 in vicinity of C.10.b.2.6 from BRICKFIELDS area
4.2's are also reported as coming from T.B. 77° from U.29.a.35.23. on to vicinity of UNA AVENUE.

Trench Mortars. A Medium MW. fired from U.29.d.55.22 on to PLANTATION FARM and vicinity. was active
A Light MW. from DEULEMONT Six rounds from behind DYE WORKS on to vicinity of C.10.b.20.30.
fall

Machine Guns. Between 5.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. the M.G. in DYE WORKS was again active, also one from DURIEZ FME.
M.G. at C.5.c.70.20 reported active
" " C.17.a.20.74 " "
New MG. at C.11.c.40.08 " "
M.G. at DURIEZ FME " "
New MG. at U.29.d.70.30 " "
M.G. at DOLLS HOUSE " " along road N.W. from PONT ROUGE.

Movement. Again there were sounds of iron being dumped in rear of DYE WORKS.
At 6 p.m. transport was heard on GEMETERY ROAD and in FRELINGHIEN.
Sounds of shovelling heard - probably in CERTAIN TRENCH
Sounds of the driving in of iron pegs near SOAP HOUSE.
A searchlight was again active; this time it is reported as moving in U.30.a., b. and c. - probably on the railway
Chopping wood and driving of stakes was heard North of DURIEZ FME.
Working party in vicinity of URAL HOUSE heard driving wooden pegs and moving iron sheets and rails. This party was dispersed by our artillery at 6.15 p.m.
In U.24.d. horse and motor transport was heard.
6.30 a.m. - 20 men seen at U.29.b.80.12 chopping wood and driving stakes.
8.30 a.m. - 2 men walked from C.11.b.00.31 to C.11.b.30.95.
8.45 a.m. to 9 a.m. - Smoke rising from C.11.c.85.95.

Communications. A light was seen flashing in DEULEMONT Church between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Works. Enemy was busy wiring at C.5.b.10.20.
At 5.30 p.m. a tree was chopped down near DURIEZ FME.

II. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our artillery dispersed working party in vicinity of URAL HOUSE at 6.15 p.m.

P.T.O.

I.S. 125.

(2).

10.12.1917.

Artillery. (contd.). Between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. 55 18-pdr. rounds were fired into the front of DEULEMONT.

Between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. 12 rounds 6" H.E. were fired on to SOAP HOUSE.

FRELINGHIEN was fired on by 18-pdrs. and 4.5 Hows.

Thirty rounds 6" H.E. were fired into rear of LAUNDRY.

Artillery obtained two O.K.'s on MW. at C.11.a.85.10.

A large explosion was caused by our artillery in C.5.d.

Trench Mortars. A Heavy T.M. fired six rounds on DURIEZ FME obtaining one direct hit. Four of the rounds fell between SCREEN FARM and DURIEZ FME. Enemy fired four shrapnel in vicinity of gun, otherwise there was no reply.

Machine Guns.

2,000	rounds fired on	CEMETERY AVENUE
1,500	"	Tramlines and trenches in C.11.d.
1,500	"	" from C.5.d. to C.6.c.
1,000	"	" & trenches in U.30.c.
1,000	"	SCREENED FARM and vicinity.
1,000	"	Road S.E. of PONT ROUGE, to prevent enemy movement here between 4.30 p.m. and 5.30 p.m.

Aircraft. A patrol of five planes was over during the day.

Patrols. The inlet from the River at C.10.d.75.42 was examined by one of our patrols. This region is now flooded so that the exact location of the inlet was not possible. Nor could the track leading from here to the River be found. No lights of any kind were seen by this patrol. Enemy M.G.'s were very active and rifle shots are reported coming from DURIEZ FME. No signs of enemy patrols.

The patrols working in Left Battalion portion of NO MAN'S LAND also report a good deal of M.G. fire.

Locations.

M.G. at C.11.c.40.08.

L.MW. is reported at about U.30.a.30.10. This may be the same as previously reported at U.30.a.40.30.

MV. at C.11.a.85.10.

General. At 2.20 p.m. from C.5.b.20.10, blood-red ball of fire rose about 20 feet. It is reported as appearing 2 ft. in diameter.

G. Halford Lt
for Brig.-Gen.

G. O. C. 9th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

CONFIDENTIAL.11th Decr. 1917.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Summary of Intelligence No. 126

From 6 a.m. 10.12.1917 to 6 a.m. 11.12.17

I. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. From 11.30 p.m. to 2.45 a.m. 230 rounds 77 and 4.2 H.E. and gas on U.28.b.00.20 from ST BAZIE and V.26. areas.

The above fire was very concentrated, 150 rounds being fired at 11.30 p.m. and 80 rounds at 2.15 a.m.

At 2.20 a.m. over 100 gas shells fell in vicinity of LONG AVENUE and UNA AVENUE.

84 rounds 5.9 H.E. were fired on MOTOR CAR CORNER between noon and 2 p.m. from LA BARBE area.

8.45 a.m. - LE BIZET shelled with 5.9's from BRICKFIELDS area.

3.35 p.m. 5.9 firing into LE BIZET from D.7.c.50.10.

Trench Mortars. MW. near DOLLS HOUSE fired 3 rounds about U.29.b.30.90.

Pineapples reported coming from U.29.d.85.90 on to PLANTATION FARM.

9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. - 31 rounds L.MW. were fired into C.4.b. from SCREENED FARM. A Heavy MW. also fired from here.

From 8 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. about 200 rounds from Light and medium MW. were fired into C.10.a. and C.10.central from the VATS, the DYE WORKS and BRIDGE HOUSE. Some rounds seemed to come from wood in rear of LAUNDRY. Most of the rounds gave off gas irritating to the eyes.

Machine Guns.

M.G. active at BREWERY in response to yellow light signal.

" " " BRIDGE HOUSE, enfilading road.

" " " U.29.b.65.20.

" " " near C.11.c.40.10 again

" " " at LAUNDRY.

M.G. activity was greatest during MW. shoot at 8 p.m.

M.G. at DURIEZ FME used sweeping fire along our parapet in C.4.b. at 4.30 p.m.

Snipers. Reported at U.29.b.60.20.

Aircraft. Planes very active. A Gotha dropped four bombs at B.9.d.7.3. at 2.30 p.m. No damage reported.

Our trenches were fired on by an enemy plane.

Observation balloons were up at about D.2.d., D.9.c.,

V.21.c.

Movement. Transport heard in DEULMONT between 4.30 p.m. and 9 p.m.

The searchlight near URAL HOUSE was again active.

In FRELINGHIEN loading of bricks and metal and transport over paved road was heard. The light trench railway here was also in use.

Work reported at DURIEZ FME. The noises ceased when our artillery fired on the farm.

Noises of handling iron in rear of LAUNDRY.

Ten men seen to leave building at U.30.b.00.90. Noise of hammering metal was heard here.

It is evident that a good deal of work is being done at DURIEZ FME. Trucks heard moving on the tramway in the rear of the above.

P. T. O.

I.S. 126.

(2).

11.12.1917.

Movement. Enemy train seen at D.1.c.30.38 travelling towards
(contd). BRICKFIELDS. Another train seen at C.12.b.30.30.
At 1.40 p.m. 30 of the enemy seen at C.12.a.05.60. M.G.'s
fired on them and artillery obtained three c.k.'s. At 2.30 p.m.
small parties of 2 and 4 seen slinking away from the above place;
M.G.'s again fired on them.

Communications. Again on the appearance of the yellow light, M.G.'s
became active. It went up from C.17.a.07.78.
From WARNETON long strings of white lights, occasionally
bursting into bunches of lights.
Enemy wireless message re gas was intercepted at about
11.50 p.m. (See Enemy "Artillery").

Works. Newly-made slit in cement wall at C.11.b.00.58.

II. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. The night firing is reported by our patrols as being
very effective in preventing work on enemy defences.

Thirty rounds 4.5 were fired into FRELINGHIEN during
MW. activity about 8 p.m.

About 9 p.m. 18-pdrs. engaged traffic on FRELINGHIEN
road and working party at C.5.a.95.20.

6" and 4.5 Hows. fired on SCREENED FAN, TURIEZ FIVE,
rear of LAUNDRY and back areas.

18-pdrs. fired on targets in and to the rear of FREL-
INGHIEN and DEULEMONT.

Machine Guns.

2,000 rounds on trenches and tracks in C.11.b.

500 " " road junction V.19.c.02.00.

1,000 " expended on enemy planes during the afternoon.

500 " on road junction and Battery at U.30.b.40.65.

A small party of the enemy were fired on at C.11.b.

23.56; the party doubled away. (See also "Movement").

Patrols. Patrols working from PAPER HOUSE to PONT ROUGE and N.
of the bridge report very little M.G. activity.

The usual enemy working party immediately S.E. of
PONT ROUGE was not heard. (See "Artillery").

On our Right Battalion front patrols report enemy
work continuing as usual.

Ground from C.10.b.30.20 Eastward to road (to BRIDGE
HOUSE) difficult to traverse. Road in good condition. There
is a breastwork and wide ditch on the N. side and a duckboard
track on the S. side. Ground on S. side of road under water
for about 100 yards. The road is unfiled by M.G.'s from
BRIDGE HOUSE and DYE WORKS and covered by M.G. at the ARCHES.

Locations. Pineapples reported coming from U.29.d.85.90.
MW. reported in BRIDGE HOUSE.

Two 4.2 guns at C.12.d.90.85 seen flashing.

5.9 gun flashes at D.7.c.50.10.

General. Small fire observed in FRELINGHIEN but was quickly
put out.

G. H. H. H.

Brig.-Gen.

G. O. G. 9th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE No 127

From 3 a.m. 11th Dec. to 6 a.m. 12.11.17
-----ENEMY OPERATIONS

Artillery. Between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. 48 rounds 42 and 10 rounds 77 fell in U.23.c. from direction of DEULEMONT. From the same direction 30 rounds Gas Shells fell in U.29.c. and 90 rounds 42 in U.29.c. LE BIZET was again shelled from BRICKFIELDS Area.

Trench Mortars: Light M.Ws. in WIGART F.M. put 160 rounds about the E. end of UMPIRE DRIVE SOUTH. At 11.15 a.m. 20 rounds were fired along the E. bank of the LYS in C.16.b. from a M.W. in DYE WORKS. This gun ceased fire on our Artillery engaging a target in C.17.c. Two rounds were fired from the above position into C.10.d.15.50.

Machine Guns: M.G. at DOLLS HOUSE fired on road to POINT ROUGE between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. M.G. at BREWERY was active.

M.G. at LAUNDRY was active.

M.G. at DURIEZ F.M. was active.

There was a marked decrease in M.G. fire.

Aircraft: No activity reported.

Movement: Transport heard in rear of BRICK DEULEMONT. Between 5.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. a small working party was heard near U.29.d.85.90. Light transport could be heard in FRELINGHIE and trucks in rear of LAUNDRY. Work still continues in FRELINGHIE, DURIEZ F.M., and SCREENED F.M. Transport was also heard near SCREENED F.M.

Movement of rails and sheet iron could be heard in the ARCHES.

Smoke seen ascending from rear of DURIEZ F.M. at D.12.b.50.15 - light train seen at 2.15 p.m.

3. OUR OPERATIONS:

Artillery: Between 12 noon and 1 p.m. 30 rounds 6" were fired near WIGART F.M. and at 9 p.m. 20 into DEULEMONT. 18 pdrs. fired on O.P. at C.11.b.25.57 and on emplacements at C.11.a.80.10. Traffic in the vicinity of FRELINGHIE and DEULEMONT was engaged by our 18 pdrs. Between 8.45 and 9.30 p.m. about 60 rds. of 4.5" were fired into FRELINGHIE.

Machine Guns: 3500 rds. were fired on roads, tracks and trenches in C.11.b.

3000 rds. were fired on DURIEZ F.M. and SCREENED F.M.

2000 rds. were fired on trenches and road near U.30.c.18.65.

Party of three men at D.12.a.05.60 dispersed by our fire.

Aircraft: At 2 p.m. one of our planes flew low over vicinity of POINT ROUGE and dropped two bombs without attracting hostile fire.

Patrols: Our patrols were out in NO MAN'S LAND as usual. The enemy was not encountered.

About twelve unexplained thuds were heard at C.4.b.80.60 which sounded like "dud" hand grenades.

The River is reported to be rising.

A line of barbed wire runs parallel to road W. from FRELINGHIE. It is about 5 yards from the road and on the E. side.

Duckboards have been placed across this Brigade (C.11.c.45.90) which is to be examined again to-night.

A searchlight was working from rear of DOLLS HOUSE.

E. Haffner
Brig. General.
Commanding 5th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

war diary
144 CONFIDENTIAL.

appendix 139 35

15th Decr. 1917.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
Summary of Intelligence No. 138
from 6 a.m. 12.12.17 to 6 a.m. 13.12.17

I. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. U.22.b. received 80 rounds 5.9 from the direction of DEULMONT at 8 a.m. At 1 a.m. 40 rounds were fired. From 7.45 a.m. and 8.15 p.m. enemy shelled U.21, and U.22.c. with 170 rounds 5.9 and 4.2 from direction of FRY - HIGHTEN. From 9.30 p.m. to 9.50 p.m. 35 rounds 4.2 H.E. were fired on vicinity of DEUL LAINE and Support, from V.26 area.

Trench Mortars. MW. at DURIEZ FIE was firing towards our F.L. From URAL HOUSE and DEULMONT Light MW's were active. From URAL HOUSE gas shells were fired in U.29.a. From DEULMONT the rounds fell in salvoes of 3 in U.27. c.90.61. About 200 rounds were fired. MW. in WICART FIE was also active.

Machine Guns. M.G.'s active in BREWERY, SOAP HOUSE, N. of DURIEZ FIE, the ARCHES, near UNKNOWN FARM and BRIDGE HOUSE (during the morning).

Aircraft. At about 10 a.m. an enemy plane patrolled our lines. Hostile planes, Gothas and others, flew over our lines at about 2.30 p.m. One of the Gothas was seen to be in flames and fell at C.11.a.55.42. When it fell an explosion occurred, caused apparently by the bombs carried.

Movement. Transport could be heard in FRYLINGHIEU and behind SCREENED FARM. Work was going on in the LAUNDRY, DURIEZ FIE, SOAP HOUSE, and in UNKNOWN FARM. Traffic on GENTERY DRIVE was apparently successfully engaged by our artillery as they were heard to depart quickly when our artillery opened. Light trench railway in use near SCREENED FARM; the dumping of shovels was also heard. Smoke and movement seen at CERTIFIED SWITCH.

Communications. A green light was fired from SCREENED FARM: no resultant action observed. Again two yellow lights drew machine gun fire. The enemy is apparently using a signal of two red lights as a call for counter-battery work.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our Heavies fired on FRYLINGHIEU and the back areas, and the 12ndrs. put 12 rounds in the BRICKFIELDS area. FRYLINGHIEU, traffic on the FRYLINGHIEU-DEULMONT road and on the FRYLINGHIEU-LA MOULLETTE ROAD were fired on by 12ndrs and 4.5 Hows.

Machine Guns. Our machine guns engaged three men at C.11.b. 30.35; the men disappeared into a trench. During the night 1,000 rounds were fired on C.12.a. C.3.64 where a great deal of enemy movement has been reported. 4,000 rounds were expended on road leading to SOAP HOUSE, and 2,000 rounds on cross-roads at U.30.c.18.66 and vicinity.

P.T.O.

I.S. No. 128.

(2).

13.12.1917

Aircraft. Our planes patrolled our lines, being fired on occasionally by enemy A.A. guns, and reconnoitred enemy positions.

Patrols. One of our patrols reports that the bridge (C.5.a.33.58) could not be crossed. The bridge referred to in yesterday's Intelligence (which should read C.5.a.30.40 and not C.11.c.45.90) was again examined and is reported to be capable of being usable if timber was taken to span the space between the piles which are still standing. The bridge is about 8 ft. wide. Aeroplane photos of this bridge show clearly a large amount of driftwood which has collected on the South of the bridge.

A searchlight (TRIAL HOUSE) was again active opposite our Left Battalion front where very little enemy movement is reported.

G. Hulford Lt
for

Brig.-Gen.

G. O. C. 5th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

JB

144

war diary

Appendix 139

CONFIDENTIAL.

14th Decr. 1917.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
Summary of Intelligence No 129
from 6 a.m. 13.12.17 to 6 a.m. 14.12.1917.

I. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. 18 rounds 5.9" from the direction of DEULMONT
fell in U.23.a.20.35.
Between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. U.23.c. and U.23.d.
were shelled with 5.9's and 4.2's from the direction of
DEULMONT.
U.28.c. and U.29.a. were heavily shelled with
4.2 from the same direction.
The enemy put up a barrage lasting from 4.10 pm.
to 4.15 pm. on EMPIRE DRIVE SOUTH.

TRENCH MORTARS. Light MW. in WIGANT FIE was very active,
shelling U.23 b. and c.
From C.5.b. 15 rounds gas shell were fired on
to U.29.a.26.50 and 30 rounds on to U.29.c.30.25.
C.10.b.10.60 received 30 pineapples from FRENCH -
INGHIEU.
From behind DYE WORKS exceptionally heavy MW.
shells were fired in vicinity of LONG AVENUE and HOREKAU
AVENUE.

Machine Guns. M.G.'s were active from the ARCHES, DYE WORKS
DURIEZ FIE, UNKNOWN FARM, LAUNDRY and SOAP HOUSE.
The M.G. at DOLLS HOUSE was firing on road lead-
ing to PONT ROUGE.
Less activity than usual.

Aircraft. Nil.

Movement. Working parties heard near DYE WORKS and in
DURIEZ FIE.
Movement was heard in FRELINGHIEU.
Wiring could be heard between C.11.a.60.13 and
C.11.c.58.86.
Trucks again heard moving near SCREENED FARM.
During the day a man was seen to enter here.
Heavy transport could be heard coming S. from
DEULMONT.
None heard talking at LAUNDRY.

Communications. An enemy observer was located at C.11.b.13.60.

II. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. At 7.30 p.m. our artillery fire caused the
cessation of the noise of work in FRELINGHIEU.
DEULMONT was shelled both day and night by
our 18-pdrs.
The Heavies shelled vicinity of UNKNOWN FARM.
18-pdrs. and 4.5" Hows. fired on the BRICKFIELDS
area.

P.T.O

I.S. No. 120.

(2).

14.12.1917.

Artillery. Our artillery engaged LAUNDRY and SOAP HOUSE.
(contd) Our 4.5" Hows. shelled MW. emplacements at DURIEZ FIVE
and in FRELINGHIEN.

Trench Mortars. Between 11.30 a.m. and 12.15 p.m. our H.T.M. fired
5 rounds near DURIEZ FIVE and three between there and the
LAUNDRY.

Machine Guns. 1,000 rounds were fired on LAUNDRY and SOAP HOUSE.
3,000 rounds were fired on roads and communications
during darkness.

Aircraft. At 10.25 a.m. five of our planes flew towards enemy
country but were apparently turned back by A.A. guns.

Patrols. Our patrol working near the bridge opposite FREL -
INGHIEN (C.11.e.45.90) reported an enemy post at C.11.a.60.50 from
which point rifle shots were fired.

The inlet from the river in C.10.d. was again exam-
ined. On the N. side there is a track 10 ft. wide. It is
very wet and overgrown with grass but is usable.

During the night the enemy movement opposite our
Left Battalion front was less than usual.

The searchlight at URAL HOUSE was not in operation.
For the first time a searchlight was in operation at DURIEZ FIVE.

General. Visibility was poor, but sound carried for a long
distance.

G. Halford Lt -
for Brig.-Gen.

G. O. C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade.

144

war diary

Appendix 139³⁹

CONFIDENTIAL.

15th Decr. 1917.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Summary of Intelligence No. 170
from 6 a.m. 14.12.17 to 6 a.m. 15.12.17.

I. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Sixty rounds 4.2 fell in U.22. and U.28. from the direction of FRELINGHIEN. between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
U.23. and U.22. were shelled with 15 cr. and 10.5 cr. from the direction of DEULÉMONT. 70 rounds being fired.
At 8 p.m. a yellow light went up from FRELINGHIEN. One minute later another similar light was seen. Six bursts of shrapnel were fired over the back areas from BRICKFIELDS Area immediately after.

Trench Mortars. Active during the day especially on the extreme right of our front. MW's in FRELINGHIEN shelled our F.L. in C.10. during the morning.
MW's in DURIEZ FME and SOAP HOUSE were also active.

Machine Guns. M.G.'s active in WIGART FME, URAL HOUSE, and DURIEZ FME, etc.

Movement. Party of six of enemy were seen at C.11.b.85.60. Artillery obtained 2 o.k.'s on the position. About 50 of the enemy seen going from C.11.c.90.95 down GUNTERY DRIVE. Light train seen at V.21.d.40.45. Searchlight again seen at DURIEZ FME. Enemy artillery fire was observed to cease soon after the appearance of a golden rocket. Transport was heard in FRELINGHIEN.

II. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our Field Artillery fired on targets in DEULÉMONT, and our Heavies on targets in FRELINGHIEN and DURIEZ FME.
At 9.40 a.m. a party of about 20 of the enemy was engaged by the artillery. Four o.k.'s were obtained on spot where the enemy took cover. Fifteen minutes later 5 more o.k.'s were obtained.
MW's were silenced by our artillery fire.
An enemy party was seen dumping ammunition at a spot about 100 yds. S. of DURIEZ FME. Another party was carrying it to the FARM. Our 18-pdrs. fired on the FARM and some of the party took shelter behind a brick wall. This wall was then smashed by several direct hits. No further movement was observed here during the day.

Machine Guns. 1,500 rounds were fired on GUNTERY DRIVE and 1,500 on cross roads C.11.b.33.93.

Patrols. One of our patrols examined PLANTATION FARM and found it to contain a large concrete dugout, the entrance to which has been choked with rubble for some time. The inside is quite dry and in excellent condition.
A large shell-hole at U.29.b.66 shows signs of having been used by the enemy at one time, as a listening post. This is evident from the track leading to it.
There was the usual patrolling of NO MAN'S LAND. None of the enemy was seen.

General. The snipers near the ARCHES were again active.

G. O. C. 9th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

war diary

appendix 139 ⁴⁰

CONFIDENTIAL

27th Dec. 1917.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 132.
from 6 a.m. 19th Dec. to 6 a.m. 20th Dec.
1917.

1. OUR OPERATIONS:

Artillery: Our activity was mostly winter Battery work.

Trench Mortars: 15 rds, were fired on "G. at 0.25.e.80.75"
20 " " " " " I.17.a.50.75"
20 " " " " " I.11.a.40.30"
5 " " " " " I.5.d.20.30"
9 rds. of salvaged ammunition were fired on to I.5.d.20.15. Four bursts were obtained.

Machine Guns: Very little activity. The relieving "G. Company did not engage in night firing.

Aircraft: Our planes patrolled enemy lines at high attitudes and were engaged by A.A. guns.

Snipers: Two hits obtained, one at I.11.a.70.97 and another at 0.29.a.83.92.

Patrols: Our Right Battalion established listening posts.
The Left Battalion sent out reconnoitring patrols who heard talking in enemy trenches, but report very little activity.

2. HOSTILE ACTIVITY:

Artillery: Between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. enemy sent a steady fire of 77's and 4.2's into ARBENTERS. About 100 rounds were fired.

Machine Guns: Enemy Machine Guns reported active immediately after "stand-to"

Trench Mortars: At 3 p.m. a medium "G. fired a few rounds in rear of post at 0.22.d.88.56.
6 Light "G. Shells fell near I.10.d.40.50
3 " " " " " " I.5.e.30.40
3 Pineapples " " do

Aircraft: An enemy plane flew over post at 0.17.e.40.18 and dropped signal lights. The plane remained over for a quarters of an hour from 7.35 a.m. Another plane was over ARBENTERS during the morning.

[Handwritten signature]

MAJOR
Brigade Major
9th Australian Infantry Bde.

144
War Diary

appendix 139

CONFIDENTIAL

21st Decr. 1917.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 137.
from 6 a.m. 20th Dec. to 6 a.m. 21st Dec.
1 9 1 7.

OUR OPERATIONS:

Artillery: At 4.55 p.m. our 18 prs. fired 12 rounds into M. emplacement at I.5.d.65.84. It was difficult to see the result owing to mist. 3.P.L. in I.5.b. was fired on by our 18 prs. about 30 - 40 rounds being fired.

Trench Mortars: The 6" T.M. fired 10 rounds on Target about I.5.d.20.40.

Our Stokes fired the following:-
5 rds. on I.17.a.31.50 - working party dispersed.
10 " " I.17.a.35.52 - communication trench.
20 " in I.11.a.
50 " on 3.P.L. 3.2".c.83.77 to 92.55.

Machine Guns:

1000 rds. fired on Railway in I.12.c.
1000 " " " road at I.17.b.50.26.
500 " " " Trench and tramway junction at I.12.b.12.04.

Snipers: Shots were fired at enemy movement - one hit is claimed.

Aircraft: nil.

Patrols: At 7.30 a.m. 1 N.C.O. and 2 linesmen encountered a hostile patrol (about 10 men) near post at I.11.c. 10.53. Our party endeavoured to retire but only the N.C.O. succeeded in doing so. Nothing is known of the linesmen, but a prisoner captured later said that there was a rumour in enemy lines that two Australians had been captured.

Immediately after the return of the N.C.O., an officer went out to the Post to see the Officer in charge, and to find out what the situation was. Before he actually arrived at this post, he saw the enemy on each side of the post. One was seen to retire towards the enemy lines. On the Officer's arrival at this post a fight ensued between them and the enemy party who were in shell holes.

At 5.25 p.m. a fighting patrol (1 Officer 11 O.Rs.) went out to search for the missing men, to examine the ground and to obtain identifications.

This patrol also encountered an enemy patrol of about 20 men and a fight ensued, the enemy suffering casualties. Three were seen to fall. One dead man was brought in (Normal Identification 14th I.R.). Enemy patrols retired towards their own lines. It was not thought advisable for our patrols to press forward owing to the proximity of a hostile N.C.

At 7.15 p.m. one of our Officers lying on the parapet observed one of the enemy who was immediately shot through the shoulder and captured (Normal Identification). A further search did not reveal the enemy.

The prisoner stated that they were out looking for an Officer and a man missing after this morning encounter. Our left Battalion patrols report no enemy movement.

HOSTILE ACTIVITIES:

Artillery: Very quiet. Three 4.2s. are reported as falling in I.5.c. from the direction of FRELINGHIM.
Between 7.45 and 8.10 a.m. 12 - 5.9s. fell in ANKERTRES.

(P.T.O.)

(2)

* Intelligence Summary No. 173 (cont)HOSTILE ACTIVITY (cont).

Trench Mortars: Slight activity reported, firing chiefly in I.10.d. 30 pineapples were put into C.28.d. between 4 p.m. and 4.15 p.m. Our Artillery fired on these active guns.

Machine Guns: Active during the early morning and again when darkness fell.

Snipers: Active whenever any of our men showed themselves.

Aircraft: n i l.

Movement: Two men seen at 2 p.m. in front of our post at I.10.b.90.20. They were fired on and one was seen to retire. Nothing is known of the other. Working party heard at I.17.a.31.30. At 8 a.m. five of the enemy were seen near enemy wire in C.17.c. They were dispersed by our fire.

Locations: M.G. in crater at I.11.c.70.30.

General: Visibility very poor owing to fog.

C. Halford
for

Brig-General.
Commanding 9th Australian Inf. Bde.

(MIR)

CONFIDENTIAL.22nd December, 1917.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 134.
 from 6 a.m. 21st Dec. to 6 a.m. 22nd Dec.
 1 9 1 7.

1. OUR OPERATIONS:

Artillery: Our 18 prs. engaged working party at C.17.c.90.30 - C.Ks. were obtained and party scattered. Counter battery work was successfully undertaken. (see "Hostile Artillery")

Trench Mortars:

20 rds. L.T. fired on H.G.E. at I.11.a.40.10.
 15 " " " " I.5.d.20.05
 15 " " " " H.G. at C.17.c.88.60
 15 " " " " O.29.a.45.03.
 20 " " " " suspected T.M. at C.17.d.00.70.
 Enemy replied heavily with T.Ms. and Field Guns.
 15 rds 6" Stokes were fired into INANE AVENUE.

Machine Guns:

4,500 rds. fired on Farm and track S. of Railway. in I.11.d.
 4,500 " " " Trenches and tracks in C.29.d. and b.

Snipers: Four of the enemy were seen moving from parapet to shell hole at I.11.c.30.30 (where M.G. was reported yesterday) Our Snipers claim two hits.

Aircraft No activity reported.

Patrols: Listening posts report a quiet night. Patrolling was difficult owing to frosty ground and moonlight. The patrol working in vicinity of yesterday's encounters (I.11.c.10.55) report no enemy seen. They heard a working party at I.11.c.70.75 a rifle & M.G. fire from I.17.a.20.70. A fighting patrol took up a position at C.29.c.55.30. and report an enemy wiring party about C.29.c.90.23. They also heard trollies and the movement of iron rails at about I.5.b.30.50. Bursts of M.G. fire came from about C.29.c.80.60. A patrol at I.5.c.75.60 saw three of the enemy about 100 yards in front of them at 6.15 p.m. The enemy immediately disappeared and were not seen again.

2. HOSTILE ACTIVITY:

Artillery: Enemy artillery was very quiet during the day, but more active at night in reply to our T.M. fire.

At 6.40 p.m. there was a brisk fire from 77s from the direction of FRILINGHIEN on our extreme left. We had one O.R. killed and 4 wounded. Our artillery was informed and they opened fire, and enemy shelling ceased at 7.15 p.m.

Trench Mortars: Heavy H.W. fired on IRISH AVENUE and F.L. in vicinity, at about 7 p.m.

In rear of post at I.5.c.10.40 some rounds fell from H.M.W. situated near I.6.a.30.50.

Machine Guns: Active during darkness with bursts of sweeping fire. They were particularly active immediately after "STAND TO".

Snipers: Active on the extreme left.

Aircraft: Very little activity. Four planes came towards our lines at a great height at 2 p.m., but immediately returned.

139.

(2)

Movement: At 3 p.m. a listening post observed a party of 12 of the enemy leave their trench about C.29.a.70.50 and re-enter soon after. At 7.30 a.m. 3 of the enemy were seen in N.H.L. (about I.17.a.05.00). They disappeared immediately and nothing further was seen of them.

At 6.30 a.m. noise of the driving in of posts was heard about I.11.c.50.50.

At 4.15 a.m. an enemy patrol of about 9 men was seen at I.5.c.75.50. They were fired on and disappeared. Movement seen near dugout at I.5.b.30.50.

About noon a train was heard at I.11.c.55.20.

Work: Work is going on in E.F.L. in C.17.c.

Addenda: The following was inadvertently omitted from yesterday's Intelligence Summary.

Casualties: One Officer killed in the morning patrol encounter. One O.R. Div. Signal Coy. killed: probably by sniper.

G. Haeford
for

Brig-General
Commanding 9th Australian Inf. Bde.

(MR)

war diary

CONFIDENTIAL.

27th December, 1917.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 135
from 6 a.m. 22nd Dec. to 6 a.m. 23rd Dec.
1 9 1 7.

OUR OPERATIONS:

Artillery: Our 18 prs. engaged working parties at I.11.a.40.30 and I.11.c.60.40. Counter Battery shoots were carried out by the heavier during the day at intervals.

Trench Mortars: Our 6" Stokes engaged EFL and wire in I.9.c. and d at 2.30 p.m. About 20 good hits observed. A sniper post with two steel loopholes was destroyed. A large shell hole about I.5.c.90.70 which was suspected of containing an enemy post was also engaged.

At 4 p.m.	10 rounds Light Stokes	were fired on	I.17.a.28
At 8.45 a.m.	15 "	"	I.11.a.40
At 7. p.m.	21 "	"	Suspected
At 3 p.m.	70 "	"	at C.29.a.45.00
			M.W. at
			C.27.d.00.50

From the last two, very good shooting was reported.

Machine

Guns: 9000 rounds were fired on roads, tracks, trenches and tram line in J.11.c, J.11.b., J.12.a., C.17.a., C.27.b., C.28.d and b., and C.7.c.a. 1000 rounds were also expended on enemy planes.

Snipers: 1 hit is claimed. Enemy evidently is being very much more careful to avoid presenting a target.

Aircraft: At 2.70 p.m. one of our planes brought down an enemy plane in flames. It came down on our right and just succeeded in reaching enemy territory. Active all day over ARMENTIERS and over enemy lines

Patrols: The patrol working in front of post at I.11.a.05.70 reports tins fastened on to our wire, apparently for an alarm. The party searching the ground where the patrol encounters took place (21st December) found nothing but an enemy gas respirator. When the patrol was assembled (at post I.11.c.10.53) 10 minutes before going out (4.50 p.m.) 5 of the enemy were seen about 100 yards away going towards their own trenches. They were fired on but the result could not be observed. Just as our patrol was leaving several heavy M.W. rounds and a number of Granatenwerfers were fired on the post - This was repeated at 7.15 a.m. No damage or casualties. It appears that the enemy is trying to deal with the patrol as they are starting out or returning. The sentry at post at C.27.a.16.18 heard movements at 3.70 a.m. but could see nothing. The patrol at this point attempted to cut off the enemy but were unsuccessful.

ENEMY ACTIVITY:

Artillery: At 8.30 p.m. and at intervals later, SQUARE FARM and vicinity was shelled with 42 H.E. from PERENCHES area. ARMENTIERS was shelled with 42's and 5'9's, throughout the day from PERENCHES area. Between 3 and 4 p.m. 70 rounds 5.9 fell in rear at SUBSIDIARY line in I.4.a. coming from PERENCHES area. 77 shrapnel fell in C.22.b. and C.16.d. from the direction of FREILINGHIM between 9.70 and 10.70 a.m.

Trench Mortars: Medium M.W. was firing from C.25.d.25.70 into C.22.d. between 2.70 p.m. and 4 p.m. H.M.W. was firing from C.7.c.a.45.22 into C.28.d. between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.

ENEMY ACTIVITIES

Trench

Mortars The latter is a new location and is close to a (Contd) machine gun emplacement. (See also "Patrols")

Machine
Guns

Active during the night

Aircraft : One plane brought down in flames (See our Aircraft). 3 observation balloons up during the day

Movement : Working party could be heard at I.11.c.80.40 which is opposite the scene of the recent patrol encounters (21st December).

Between 9 p.m. and 10.30 p.m. the movement of iron rails was heard near I.5.d.15.70. The observer suggests the construction of a dugout. Work was heard at 9 p.m. behind enemy lines opposite our post No 7. in C.29.c., suggestive of timber being unloaded from trollies.

Smoke was seen ascending from I.18.a.80.95, I.19.c.40.70., I.17.b.90.50 and 63.40., I.23.b.05.15., I.11.c.95.55., I.70.c.30.23. The following movement was seen :-

7 men walking at	I.11.d.85.95	-	No rifles or equipment
5	do	J.5.c.50.70	- do
7 men	do	I.17.b.50.20	- With do
4	do	I.11.a.30.70	-
3	do	I.17.b.53.50	-

See also our Artillery.

Locations : See enemy trench mortars.

G. Halford Lt

for G.O.C. 9th Australian Inf Bde

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 136
 from 6 a.m. 23rd Dec. to 6 a.m. 24th Dec.
 1 9 1 7.

OUR OPERATIONS:

Artillery: At 11.30 a.m. our 18 prs. fired shrapnel over E.F.L. in C.23.b. and d. At about the same time shells were bursting in J.23.d. From 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. we were shelling back areas. Five rounds 18 prs. were fired in M.Ws. at I.5.d.70.90 and silenced them. Our Artillery opened on to a working party at I.5.d.20.30 and immediately shouts and the ringing of gongs and bells were heard.

Trench Mortars:

At 9 a.m. 10 rds. Light Stokes on I.17.a.35.10 - Registration.
 " 4.15 p.m. 20 rds. " " " I.11.c.30.30 M.G. 3. crater
 " 8 a.m. 15 rds. " " " 8 O.Ks.
 " 2.30 p.m. 20 rds. " " " I.11.a.42.30 E.F.L. dugout.
 " 2.30 p.m. 19 " " " M.W. at C.29.a.83.75 (This may be "Web")
 " 2.30 p.m. 20 " " " M.W. at C.23.d.00.65.
 " 2.30 p.m. 20 " " " suspected M.W. at C.17.d.00.70.

Machine Guns:

1500 rds. were fired on LA HONORE FM. I.11.d.92.02.
 1250 " " " " I.12.a.26.69.
 1500 " " " " Farm at I.17.b.31.52.
 1000 " " " " Railway & track I.11.b.09.11 to
 I.12.c.53.78.
 1000 " " " " Cross Roads I.22.b.98.76.
 1000 " " " " Road I.5.b.70.85 to I.6.a.30.35.
 1000 " " " " CENSUS DRIVE Trench.
 1000 " " " " THE VATS C.17.a.40.80.
 350 " " " " Enemy planes.

Snipers: Again very few targets presented themselves particularly opposite our Right Battalion.

Aircraft: About 4 p.m. two of our planes flew low over E.F.L. several times, firing into trenches. They were fired on, but returned safely. Our planes also dropped bombs behind Enemy lines.

Patrols: At 3.20 a.m. Post at I.5.d.46.80 saw five of the enemy about 70 yards in front of the post. Immediately the Lewis Gun opened fire - two of the enemy were killed and one N.C.O. wounded. The party which went out to search brought in the two killed and one wounded, but could not find any others. The identifications were normal (14 J.R.). On being approached the prisoner called out "AUSTRALIA, AUSTRALIA". All three had Iron Cross ribbands. We sustained no casualties. Our patrols do not report having seen the enemy in other parts of N.M.L, but a good deal of work seems to be going on in enemy lines.

ENEMY ACTIVITY:

Artillery: Between 8 a.m. and noon 10 rds 4.2s fell in C.23.a. and
 " 8 a.m. " " 7 " 77s " " J.17.c.
 " 8 a.m. " 4 p.m. 20 " 4.2s. " " do -
 C.28.
 Generally, artillery was quiet.

(P.T.O.)

(2)

ENEMY ACTIVITY (cont.)Trench Mortars:

Between 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. 15 rds. L.M.W. fell in J.17.a and
 " 3 p.m. " 4.30 p.m. 12 " " J.22.b. from C.23.
 " 3 p.m. " 4.30 p.m. 12 pineapples fell in C.23.a.
 " 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. 12 rds. H.M.W. fell in C.28.b. & d.
 from C.30.a.

Machine Guns: Enemy is showing increased activity on areas
 behind the F.L. at night. (see "Locations")

Aircraft: Active all day but at great altitudes. One
 observation balloon was up.

Movement: At 6.10 a.m. 5 of the enemy were seen entering
 trench at I.11.c.40.40. Traps again heard at I.11.c.60.70.
 Working parties were heard about 1.23 d. where our
 T.Ms. were shooting yesterday.
 Not much movement was seen. Visibility was poor.

Communications: H.C. at I.5.d.60.43 was located by scouts.
 " " suspected at C.17.d.60.70.

General: At 9.10 a.m. a pear shaped balloon about 2 ft
 diameter at widest part fell near GROW BRIDGE house. It
 was weighted with a sandbag, but this contained no papers
 or anything whereby the balloon could be identified.

G. Haeford Lt

C.O.C. 9th Australian Inf Bde.

144 *was day*

CONFIDENTIAL.

25th December, 1917.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 137
from 6 a.m. 24th Dec. to 6 a.m. 25th Dec.
1917.

OUR OPERATIONS:

Artillery: Very quiet. Apparently counter battery work between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m.

Trench Mortars:

At 4.30 p.m. 20 rounds 3" Stokes were fired on I.17.a.75.10
" 4.15 p.m. 10 " " " " " " " I.11.a.40.10

Machine Guns: 3,500 rounds were fired on trenches, farms and communications in I.17.b., I.12.a. and c., I.11.b. and d., G.17.a and G.29.d and b.

Snipers: Sniper near Post at I.11.c.10.52 claims one hit. Another claims to have hit a periscope.

Aircraft: Nil.

Patrols: The patrol working near the HOBBS FARM resort N.M.L. to be muddy and sticky.
The whole of N.M.L. from G.29.a. to G.17.d. was patrolled by us, but none of the enemy was seen.
Our Right Battalion patrolled from I.10.d. to I.5.c., but here also everything was quiet.

ENEMY ACTIVITY:

Artillery: Very quiet all day. Some 77s fell in G.22.a. and b. and G.16.d. from direction of J.1.

Trench Mortars: 2.15 p.m. 10 rds. L.M.W. fell in I.10.d.
9.45 p.m. 4 " " " " " " " G.29.a.

Machine Guns: Very active across N.M.L. during the night. The increased activity is suggestive of less patrolling on the enemy's part.

Aircraft: Very little activity. One plane over our lines at 2.30 p.m.

Movement: A party carrying what may have been M.W. shells was seen at 10 a.m. near I.5.d.20.35. At 7 a.m. a large working party was heard at I.11.a.70.40.
At 11 a.m. a working party is reported on top of ~~xxxxxx~~ concrete O.P. at G.17.b.15.20.

Communications: At 7.15 a.m. a signal light was seen flashing in PERMICHIES at MB. 152° from I.10.b.85.90. A similar light was seen in ARMENTIERES on MB. 305° from the same place and at the same time. The lights only lasted for a very short time, and were not read. These places are being watched.

Locations: M.W. is suspected at I.5.d.25.30.

Amendment: to Intelligence Summary No. 136, for "Communications" read "Locations".

G. Halford Lt
Trig-General.
Commanding 9th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

(EMR)

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 138.
from 6 a.m. 25th Dec. to 6 a.m. 26th Dec.
1 9 1 7.

appendix 139

A.R. OPERATIONS:

Artillery: Generally quiet. Our 18 prs. silenced M.Ws. in C.29.a. at 12.10 p.m.

Trench Mortars: At 3.30 p.m. 15 rds, 3" Stokes were fired on I.17.a.20.35.
At 3.45 p.m. 15 rds. 3" Stokes were fired on I.17.a.35.10.
" 1.0 p.m.
to 3.30 p.m. 55 " 3" " " " " I.15.d.20.05
The enemy replied to the last with 3 rounds H.M.W.

Machine Guns: 6,000 rounds were expended on Cross Roads and light railways in I.22.b., I.17.b., S.11.b., S.12.a., T.5.b. and I.6.a.

Aircraft: Three planes were over our lines at 8.30 a.m. and one at 2.30 p.m.

Patrols: Five standing patrols were put out by our Right Battalion between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m., and again between 10 p.m. and midnight. The moonlight was very brilliant, but none of the enemy was seen.

One of the patrols working between C.29.c. and C.17.a. reports that a party of 6 of the enemy left E.F.L. at C.29.a. 50.30 at 9 p.m., but did not come beyond C.29.a.50.40. They returned at 10 p.m.

ENEMY ACTIVITY:

Artillery: Slight shelling from BRICKFIELDS Area with 4.2s on S.22.c. and C.28.a.
At 3 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. shells (5.9) from QUESNOY Area fell in I.4.a.
At 5 p.m. gas shells fell near SQUARE FARM from PERENCHIES area, and between 7.30 p.m. and 9 p.m. gas shells fell in the same area from FREINGHIEN.

Trench Mortars: At noon 10 rds. L.N.W. and 9 pineapples from C.29.a. fell in C.28.b. near F.L. These were silenced by 18 prs.

Machine Guns: Again active as soon as darkness fell across N.W.L.

Movement: A small working party was observed opposite our post at C.27.c.15.30 and was dispersed by our rifle and Lewis Gun fire. Smoke was seen ascending from - C.24.a.90.40 - E.19.c.75.87 - D.20.d.50.80 - C.30.a.47.89 - ~~C.24.a.90.40~~ D.25.a.12.77 - J.18.c.90.18 - C.30.a.55.20 - J.18.d.30.40 - C.18.d.28.20.

Locations: Dugout with red cross sign at C.30.c.95.95. Large box in fork of tree (probably O.P.) at D.19.b.60.45.
At 12.5 p.m. flash of 77 (which was firing on CLOSTER AV) seen at D.14.a.15.95. - M.G. located at J.18.b.10.26 - H.M.W. located at C.30.a.42.20. Suspected M.W. at I.5.d.25.30.

General: At 3 p.m. 2 of the enemy were seen opposite outpost at C.11.a.02.75 wearing caps with black peaks, a light band and brass badge in front. These are quite different from those generally seen.

G Halford
for
Brig-General,
Commanding 9th Australian Inf. Brigade.

(ESR)

144

27th December, 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL.

war diary

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLECTUAL SURVEILLANCE NO. 139
from 6 a.m. 26th Dec. to 6 a.m. 27th Dec.
1 9 1 7.

Appendix 139

OUR OPERATIONS:

Artillery: Our 18 pns and heavies engaged targets in PERENCHIES:
At 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. our Artillery fired on M.W.Es.
in C.23.c., C.29.a. and C.30.a. The shooting was good.
One shell bursting near Heavy M.W.E. at C.30.a.45.22 sent
pieces of M.G. bolts flying into the air. These were pro-
bably from the M.G.E. at C.30.a.45.15.

Trench Mortars: The 3" Stokes fired 95 rounds in conjunction with
Artillery, in M.W.E., and 14 rounds on M.Gs. Also 30 rounds in
traversing fire along INGENSE Support.

Machine Guns: 1,000 rounds were fired on each of the following
M.W.E. - C.29.b.90.90 - C.30.a.42.22 and C.23.d.25.65, and
1,000 rounds on suspected M.G.E. at C.11.d.38.00. 1,500
rounds were fired on E.F.L. in C.17.c. and C.23.c. at
midnight.

5,250 rounds were expended on enemy planes.
4,500 " " " " " roads, tramways,
Trenches and buildings.

Aircraft: Our planes patrolled our own and enemy lines.

Patrols: Owing to the brightness of the moon our movement was
curtailed, and some of our patrols formed listening posts.

At midnight an enemy party of 12 men in C.17.c. was
dispersed by our M.G. fire.

Listening post at C.29.a.10.30 reports that the enemy
comes into the open from his trenches at a point opposite
to the above. He walks along for about 20 yards before
re-entering the trench.

ENEMY ACTIVITY:

Artillery: The enemy has apparently been registering his guns
on an area bounded by L'EPINETTE fm, S.P.Y., C.28.d.70.18,
C.29.c.20.30. He used 4.2 H.E. and 7.5 H.E. from LE MESSIER
area, 5.9 H.E. from QUESNOY area, and 4.2 H.E. from
PERENCHIES. On S.P.Y. 50 rounds L.M.W. were fired from
about I.5.b.70.79. From PERENCHIES area the enemy was
shelling between CHAPELLE D'ARMENTIERES and ARMENTIERES with
4.2s and 5.9s. at 10 p.m.

Trench Mortars: (see "Artillery")

At noon a few rounds L.M.W. fell in C.28.b. xxxix and
again at 3.30 p.m.

Machine Guns: Gun at I.11.a.55.10 is reported active; Also
M.G. fire seems to come from I.11.c.50.00 and I.11.c.60.50.

Aircraft: Balloon ascended at 1.25 p.m. on a T.B. of 71° from
C.27.b.70.75.

Planes very active during the afternoon. At 2.30 and
3 p.m. two planes flew low over our trenches. Between 3 and
4 p.m. a red plane flew over our trenches.

Movement: Smoke was seen ascending at the following points -
D.20.a.85.80 - C.24.c.12.10 - D.20.d.60.35 and C.29.c.90.79.
Movement was observed as follows :- 3 men at D.19.a.40.95,
3 men at C.13.a.35.85 - 10 men at E.13.a.40.45 - 2 men at
D.20.a.20.90 and 20 men D.26.a.70.80.

Red Cross wagon seen 12.50 p.m. moving N.W. along road
in D.19.a.. Working parties were heard at I.5.c.30.15 -
C.29.d.00.29 and I.11.c.45.06. New earth is visible at
C.29.c.97.75.

(P.T.O.)

(2)

ENEMY ACTIVITY (cont)

Locations: Building with Red Cross sign at D.20.d.38.85.

General: Visibility good.

Amondment to Intelligence Summary No. 138 :-

In Our Trench Mortars "I.15.d.20.05" should read "I.5.d.20.05"

In General "3.11.a.02.75" should read "I.11.a.02.75".

G. Halford Lt
for

Brig-General.
Commanding 8th Australian Inf. Bde.

(EMR)

144

war diary

Appendix 139

CONFIDENTIAL

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 140
 From 3 a.m. 27th Dec. to 3 a.m. 28th Dec. 1917

DAY OPERATIONS :

Artillery : In the vicinity of CAMBRIDGE HOUSE about 20 4.2 shells from the direction of QUENNON at 9.30 a.m. At 9.10 a.m. the Cemetery in C.28.a. was shelled with 4.2 H.T. and GLOUCESTER AVENUE at 7.15 p.m. During the morning and up to 3 p.m. 75 c.m. Guns fired about 200 rounds on C.18.d. and 17.c. from the direction of LA VACHIERE PNE in C.18.a. About 10 rounds of 5.9's fell in ARMENTIERES from the direction of FRENCHIES, also 25 rds on CHARENTAIS.

Trench Mortars : From 11.45 a.m. to 2 p.m., evidently in reply to our shoot, W.W. and Pineapples were very active from C.27.d. on to C.23.a. 10.72 and HESSE AVENUE to C.22.d. A flash was noticed from W.W. about C.24.c. 30.20 at 5.5 p.m.

Machine Guns : During the day not very active but from 5 p.m. onwards considerable traversing fire along our front line in both sub-sectors.

Sniping : Nothing to report

Aircraft : Between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. 2 B.A. flew very low over out F and S.T. and were fired on by our M.G.'s. Between 10 p.m. and 12 midnight one B.A. flew over NOUVEAU-HOUILLES signalling with a light

Movements : At 5.30 p.m. train was heard leaving FRENCHIES. At 7.10 p.m. enemy were heard using trench tramway in I.11.a. At 8.30 p.m. a working party in I.5.a. 60.20 was dispersed by M.G. fire.

Observation : Fire reported at C.24.c. 50.07. Smoke from Dugout at C.18.d. 28.20 at 7.20 a.m. without rifles At 8.30 a.m. 5 enemy in great coats were noticed walking along a track in I.11.d. 8.0. At 10.40 a.m. one man marching up and down in CHARENTAIS TRENCH at C.18.b. 93.20. At 11.35 dense smoke down D.O. at C.24.a. 75.75. During the afternoon visibility was very poor.

NIGHT OPERATIONS :

Artillery : Our 12 pndrs during morning were firing on C.18.a. and ranged on QUENNON FARM (C.24.a). At 7 p.m. the 4.5 Howitzers were called against 75 c.m. guns at C.18.a. The explosion followed and enemy ceased firing almost immediately. H.T. at C.30.a. 45.22 was fired on with 45 rounds from our 4.5 Hows. from 7.45 p.m. to 4.15 p.m.

Trench Mortars : No 1 gun fired 10 rounds on W.W. at I.17.a. 18.60 at 7.30 a.m. and another 10 at 2 p.m. Several shots fell on target. No 2 also fired 30 rounds on W.W. at I.17.a. 52.10. At 11.30 a.m. No 6 cur fired 20 rounds on I.17.W. position at C.23.a. 60.65. Nine of these were short bursts. The 3" T.M. fired 20 rounds on C.27.d; with orientation of three rounds which fell short - in our support lines - the shooting was good. At 2 pm. H.T. opened up on E.T. and fired 10 rds with good results.

Machine Guns : Our Machine Guns fired 1000 rounds on cross roads and Tram Junction in I.17.b. 28.10, RAILWAY and TRACK from I.11.b. 20.00 to I.12.c. 57.78, on FARM at I.12.a. 42.00, on vicinity of W.W. position in C.20.b. 00.00 and C.30.a. 42.22 and 2000 rounds on S.O.S. lines and enemy patrol at 3.15 a.m.

Lewis Guns : Enemy Working party fired on at 5.30 a.m. and 2 hits were claimed.

OUR OPERATIONS Contd. :-

Aircraft : Nothing special to report.

Patrols : Owing to brightness of night very little active patrolling was carried out, but listening posts and standing patrols were formed. Nothing was seen or heard of enemy patrols on the 101 sub-sector. In the right 5 of the enemy were seen about 50 yards in front of their line in I.S.B. 10.55 but very soon disappeared.

What appeared to be a miners position was discovered in at I.S.B. 75.55 and it seemed to have been recently used.

H. H. Dixon Capt

pro Brig-General
G.O.C. 9th Australian Inf Bde.

JF.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 141.

from 6 a.m. 28th Dec. to 3 a.m. 29th Dec.

1 9 1 7.

appendix 139

OUR OPERATIONS:

Artillery: During the morning our 18 pps. fired on concrete building G.23.d.17.15, but, although several direct hits were obtained, not much impression was made. CURIST TRENCH in G.24.c. was shelled by 4.5 How., and the latter also fired 8 rounds on Heavy H.V. position at G.30.a.45.22; otherwise no great activity.

Trench Mortars: The L.T.M. fired 10 rounds at 2.15 p.m. and another 10 rounds at 2.45 p.m. on H.V. emplacement at I.11.d.50.10, but several shots fell short.

Other targets engaged were Snipers post at I.15.d.20.25 - 20 rounds on H.V. position in INCANDESCENT SUPPORT at I.11.b.07.92.

Our H.T.M. bombarded H.V. positions, but no definite results were observed.

Machine Guns: Fairly active during night on Trench - G.29.c. and G.30.c. - vicinity of Battalion Headquarters in G.11.c.00.75 Farm RUELLÉ DE LA BLANCHE - I.17.b.31.52, and on enemy tracks, roads and tram lines.

H.A. also fired on frequently during the day.

Sniping: Snipers lying up just in front of our line in G.29.a and c. claim one hit from 3 enemy who crossed their parapet about G.29.a.40.13.

Aircraft: Active throughout day in front of HOUPLINES, though subjected to vigorous fire from A.A. guns. Not active opposite SPINETTE front.

Patrols: Active patrolling interrupted with, but as before standing patrols and listening posts were established forward of our OLD FRONT LINE. Nothing special to report, except in case of one which located an enemy sniper about I.11.a.60.50. firing at No. 4 Post at I.11.a..

Observation: 8.45 a.m. About 50 of enemy digging new trench from G.24.a.70.25 to G.24.d.30.93.
9.40 a.m. About 12 men walking along road from G.18.c.00.25 to CENTURY TRENCH.
10.30 a.m. Movement in SHAGRI TRENCH in G.18.b.95.15
2.40 p.m. Road running N.W. at I.13.c.90.75 used frequently by enemy in small parties.

ENEMY ACTIVITY:

Artillery: Light shelling during the morning on our SUPPORT LINE in G.22.b. by 77 mm. and 4.2 from direction of BRISFIELD in G.12.a. From 8.30 a.m. to 9 a.m. 50 rounds 4.2 were fired in I.2.c. and I.1.d. from direction of PRINCE'S.
During afternoon area between PLANK AVENUE and CENTRAL AVENUE in I.4.c. and d. was bombarded with 77 mm. and 4.2 H.V., shelling being scattered. Slight damage to trenches. CAMBRIDGE HOUSE in G.22.c. and WESSEX AVENUE G.22.d. were lightly by 4.2 from direction of G.18.d.

Trench Mortars: Enemy fired 3 rounds from H.V.M. on I.9.d.50.90. about 10 a.m., but position could not be located.
L.T.M. fired 10 rounds on SUPPORT LINE and vicinity in I.10.d. from position in I.17.a.

Machine Guns: Very active against our Aircraft, but nothing special to report otherwise.

(P.T.O.)

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 142
from 6 a.m. 29th Dec. to 6 a.m. 30th Dec.
1 9 1 7.

appendix 139

war diary

OUR OPERATIONS:

Artillery: Again our 18 prs. put direct hits on Farm building at 0.25.d.95.15, and in the afternoon fired on F.L. trenches and LES 4 MALLETS FIE in 0.23.d.

At 6.30 p.m. the 4.5 How. and 18 prs fired on Headquarter dugout at I.5.d.50.70 - result could not be observed.

Trench Mortars: The 6" Mortars fired in the I.C. referred to above, several shots fell short in N.W.L. 3-inch Stokes was inactive on left, but on right 20 rounds were fired on N.W. position at I.11.b.15.85, and 30 on Snipers Post at I.5.d.20.25.

Machine Guns: Normal firing on various targets including trench on From 0.29.c.95.95 to 0.30.d.95.05 from two positions; on ROAD TRAMWAY and building at I.12.a.26.69, and on TRAMWAY TRACK from I.5.d.22.20 to I.11.b.32.95.

Sniping: On right no targets offered themselves, but on left one hit was claimed.

Aircraft: At 11 a.m. one plane, and at 2.15 p.m., 2 planes flying low fired bursts on enemy trenches; otherwise quiet.

Patrols: Visibility prevented active patrolling in N.W.L., but Listening Posts and Standing Patrols report a working party of 12 (see "ENEMY MOVEMENT").

ENEMY ACTIVITY:

Artillery: Only moderate amount of shelling on Left Sub-Sector. ARTILLERIES was fired on by 10.5 cm. and 15 cm. during morning - about 60 rounds fell in all. 20 rounds from 15 cm. fell in vicinity of ASYLUM I 7.b. and similar number in CHAPELLE d'ARTILLERIES, both these shots from PERENCHIES. The Road near CEMETERY was shelled by 10.5 cm. from QUESNOY at 0.30 a.m., and again at 2 p.m.

About 20 - 27 cm shells fell on W.L. trenches near HOBBS FARM in 0.23.a. from PRICKETTS.

Trench Mortars: From 7 - 7.30 p.m. about 35 Pineapples fell close to SUPPORT LINE in I.10.d. and I.10.b., and 30 in I.11.c. near MUSERON, but practically no damage resulted.

Machine Guns: Quiet during day, but from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. fairly active traversing our parapet, and also on SUPPORT LINE in both Sectors.

Aircraft: Nothing special to report.

Patrols: None seen or heard.

Movement & Works: At 1.40 p.m. sounds of hammering on iron and sawing heard at I.11.a.35.25. L.C. gun fire turned on the spot and sounds ceased. Sounds of work heard in F.L. in 0.23.b. all through the night. Digging party of 7 seen in 0.24.a.70.25 to 0.24.d.55.95. At 6 p.m. a party of 12 enemy seen working in their own wire at I.5.b.15.55 was dispersed with L.G. fire.

Communications: At 7 p.m. 3 pale green lights were fired with very flat trajectory and landed behind our SUPPORT LINE.

H. J. L. Moran (Capt)
Brig Gen.

G.O.C. 9th Australian Inf. Bde.

(RMR)

144

war diary

appendix B9 58
31st Dec. 1917

CONFIDENTIAL

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE
Intelligence Summary No 142
From 6 a.m. 30th Dec to 6 a.m. 31st Dec.
1917

OUR OPERATIONS :-

Artillery : From 9 - 10 a.m. our 6" How. fired 15 rounds on PERENCHIES, evidently counter-battery work. The 18 prs and 4.5 How. at about 12.30 p.m. silenced L.V.W. from C.29.d. with 50 rounds: an explosion occurred - most probably an ammunition dump.

Trench Mortars: At 8.40 a.m. H.T.W. near LOTHIAN AV. fired 8 rounds in direction of trenches in I.17.c., but most fell about 100 yards in front of No. 1 Post in I.10.d.
At 12.5 p.m. 6" Mortar fired on L.V.W. positions and trenches in C.27.d. and C.24.c.. These shots chiefly fell short: two proved effective. H.T.W. fired 12 rounds on TRAFFIC ALLEY, and 16 rounds on H.W. position in I.11.b.15.55, and Working party in C.23.d.10.50 with good effect.

Machine Guns : Usual programme of 1000 rounds of harassing fire on various targets including :
TRENCHES in C.29.c.95.95 to C.30.d.85.05
TRAMWAY from I.17.b.60.37 to I.17.b.22.03. and I.11.b.20.90 to I.12.a.10.85. and
ROADS and TRACKS indicated in previous Summaries.

Lewis Guns : Active on right, firing 7,000-8,000 rounds on F.E.P. trenches, Wire and working parties.

Aircraft: nil.

Patrols: Whole front well searched during night. On the left one patrol found foot-prints of recent date, and followed them towards enemy wire, but the tracks disappeared in mud. Patrols on right located M.G. positions. One got within about 7 yards of * (enemy W.P.) of about 30 strong and were challenged, but got away without casualties. *(covering party of enemy W.P. at C.29.c.87.25.)

ENEMY ACTIVITY:

Artillery: No great activity during the day, but during latter part of night 105 mm and 77 mm fired at intervals on areas in I.9.b. and I.10.c.: 50 to 60 rounds in all, but no damage resulted. CAMBRIDGE AVENUE, DURHAM AVENUE and EDMEDS AVENUE were shelled with 77 mm from 12.15 p.m. onwards, shells coming from PERENCHIES. Some of heavy calibre fell in PERENCHIES.
During afternoon 20 rounds 77 mm. shells from WEZ M SQUART fell along Sub. line in I.10.b. and d. without damage. Vicinity of Battalion Headquarters in I.3.d.20.70 received about 20 H.E. mixed with a few gas shells.

Trench Mortars: During the morning and up to 3 p.m. H.W. at C.29.c and d. and I.5.d. fired occasionally on our Support Line in I.5.a. and c, but no material damage resulted. About 20 L.V.W. shells fell in the vicinity of Company Headquarters in EDMEDS AV. probably in reply to our H.T.W. shoot.

Machine Guns: Fairly active opposite our lines in I.10.b. and I.5.c. sweeping N.M.L. and our wire. ~~Positions of machine guns were located as firing from I.17.a.35.85 - I.11.c.40.20 - I.11.a.62.56 and I.11.a.64.45. (see "COMMUNICATIONS") and C.29.c.50.73.~~

(P.T.C.)

(2)

ENEMY ACTIVITY: (cont.)Snipers: Fired at periscope on No. 1 Post wounding one man.Aircraft: n i l.Works and Movement: Enemy appears to be working actively on the defence of his trenches, the sounds giving the impression of considerable amount of revetting.

Working parties were located by patrols at I.11.c.

38.25 - I.5.b.20.35 - " C.29.c.83.25 and C.29.d.

Sounds as of a caterpillar tractor at 7.30 p.m. in I.3.d. and of a gas engine in C.29.b. Train heard coming into PEREMCHIES at 7.45 p.m.

Communications: Enemy fired numbers of white search lights, many of them with culminating point but very brilliant. Two of his M.G. positions were shown up clearly by means of these.

Y. H. Dixon Capt

Brig General.

Commanding 9th Australian Infantry Bde.

(EIR)

SECRET.NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.
-----Brigade Headquarters,
7th December, 1917.

Headquarters -

33rd Bn.	
34th Bn.	
35th Bn.	
36th Bn.	
9th A.M.G. Coy.) (for information)
9th A.L.T. Coy. Batty.	
3rd Aust. Division	

Reference this office B.M. 30/3 of 20-11-17, para 7 - the working parties of "C" and "D" Battalions quartered in RESERVE AVENUE and FUSILIER TERRACE will now be available to O's.C. "A" and "B" Battalions for employment in case of emergency, and will be treated as part of "A" and "B" Battalions for tactical purposes in case of enemy attack.

These parties will therefore not now form nucleus garrisons for the Subsidiary line. The garrisoning of the Subsidiary line is allotted to the Reserve Brigade. Front line Brigades are responsible for the defence of the line of posts and support line only.

The Brigade defence scheme will be issued shortly.

Pending the issue of the Brigade Defence Scheme "C" and "D" Battalions on receipt of the instructions "STAND TO", will immediately assemble all ranks in full fighting order, and will be ready to move immediately on receipt of instructions to do so. 1st Line Transport of these Battalions will be prepared to move with their Battalions should the above circumstances arise.

G. H. Hart

Major.
Brigade Major.

144 war diary

SECRET

Copy No. 21

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO 9.

Brigade Headquarters,
5th December 1917.

Reference map : HOUPLINES
 PLOEGSTEERT } 1/10,000

1. (a) On the night 7th/8th. December the 33rd Battalion will relieve the 35th Battalion and the 34th Battalion will relieve the 36th Battalion in the line.
 (b) The 35th and 36th. Battalions on relief will occupy quarters at present occupied by 33rd and 34th Battalions respectively.
 (c) Advanced parties will move into the line on the night of the 8th instant.
2. All Trench Maps, Trench Stores, Aeroplane Photographs and Log books, will be handed over on relief.
3. Details of reliefs will be arranged by C.O's concerned.
4. The relief of working parties and taking over of work will be arranged so that no loss of time ensues and continuity of work is uninterrupted.
5. Attention is directed to Divisional Trench Orders, paras. 4 to 14 inclusive.
6. Completion of all reliefs will be reported to Brigade Headquarters by wire in code.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

G. H. Trotter

MAJOR.
Brigade Major
9th Australian Inf Bde.

Issued through Signals at p.m.

Distribution.

Copy No	1-4	Brigade Headquarters
	5	9th Brigade Signal Section
	6	33rd Battalion.
	7	34th do
	8	35th do
	9	36th do
	10	9th Machine Gun Coy.
	11	9th A.L.T.M. Battery
	12	7th Field Art. Bde.
	13	10th Inf. Bde.
	14	115th Inf. Bde.
	15-16	3rd Australian Division
	17	C.R.A.
	18	9th Field Coy Engineers
	19	C.R.E.
	20	869th Coy A.S.C.
	21-23	War Diary
	24	File

WJF.

SECRET.

Copy No. 25

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 10.

Brigade Headquarters,
12th December, 1917.

1. The 9th Australian Infantry Brigade will be relieved by the 5th Australian Infantry Brigade on the 14th and 15th December, 1917.
2. Command will pass to the G.O.C. 5th Australian Infantry Brigade on completion of relief.
3. The relief of "A" and "B" Battalions will be carried out on the night 15/16th December.
4. Upon relief the Brigade will move to the STEINWERCK Area in accordance with the March Table overleaf.
5. 11th A.M.G. Company will be relieved by 5th A.M.G. Company on 14/15th December, and will proceed to LOCKE Area on 15th December, where it will rejoin 11th Australian Infantry Brigade.
6. Subject to the terms of this Order, reliefs of Battalions and Machine Gun Company will be carried out under arrangements to be made mutually by Commanding Officers concerned.
7. Completion of reliefs will be reported by wire, in code where necessary, to Brigade Headquarters.
8. All maps, defence schemes, work policies etc. will be handed over on relief.
9. Separate instructions will be issued covering the relief of the 9th Field Company and 9th Field Ambulance.
10. The Staff Captain will issue separate Administrative Instructions.
11. The Courses in progress at the Brigade Musketry School and Physical Training School will terminate on the 14th and 15th December respectively. Personnel, including instructors, will then return to their Units.
12. The 9th A.M.G. Company will furnish 2 Vickers Guns for Anti-Aircraft Defence on COMBAUGHT DUMP from 15th instant inclusive, in relief of 2 Vickers Guns at present being provided by the 5th A.M.G. Company.
13. A C K N O W L E D G E.

H. J. Cain

Major,
Brigade Major,
Fifth Australian Infantry Brigade.

(EIR)

(P.T.O.)

DISTRIBUTION:

Issued at 5-0 p.m.

Copy No. 1-4	Brigade Headquarters
5	9th Bde. Sig. Section.
6	33rd Bn.
7	34th Bn.
8	35th Bn.
9	36th Bn.
10	9th M.G. Coy.
11	11th M.G. Coy.
12	9th A.L.T.M. Batty.
13	9th Field Coy.
14	9th Field Ambulance
15	11th Field Ambulance
16	7th A.F.A. Brigade
17	5th Aust. Inf. Bde.
18	10th Aust. Inf. Bde.
19	118th Inf. Bde.
20	869th Coy. A.A.S.C.
21-22	3rd Aust. Division.
23	C.R.A.
24	C.R.E.
25-27	War Diary
28	File.

MARCH TABLE

Issued with 9th Australian Infantry Brigade
Order No. 10. Copy No. 75.

144

Serial Number	Date	Unit	From	To	Route	Remarks.
1	Dec. 14th	55th Battalion	POUT DE NIEPPE	WATERLANDS	no restrictions	Replacing 20th Battalion.
2	" 14th	56th Battalion	LA ROSSIGNOL	Emo HOLLEBEQUE	via NIEPPE	" 19th Battalion.
3	" 15th	9th A.L.T.M. Batty.	POUT DE NIEPPE	(Sh. 53) A.18.d.3.5	" NIEPPE-PAPOE	" 5th A.L.T.M. Batty.
4	" 15th	9th A.M.G. Coy.	POUT DE NIEPPE	WATERLANDS CAMP (Sh. 53) B.15.b.2.3	" NIEPPE-PAPOE	move to be complete by 12 noon
5	" 15/16th	53rd Battalion	LINE ("A" Bn)	POUT DE NIEPPE	NIEPPE-PAPOE	on relief by 20th Battalion
6	" 15/16th	54th Battalion	LINE ("B" Bn)	NIEPPE	NIEPPE-PAPOE	on relief by 19th Battalion
7	" 16th	55rd Battalion	POUT DE NIEPPE	1e HENEGATE	" NIEPPE	Not to enter NIEPPE before 10.30 a.m. Distance of 500 yards between Co's.
8	" 16th	54th Battalion	NIEPPE	de SEULE	" PAPOE	To be clear of NIEPPE by 10.30 a.m. Distance of 500 yards between Co's.

(EMR)

APPENDIX 142. 64

144

SECRET.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 10.

Brigade Headquarters,
19th December, 1945.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS.

1. The 5th Battalion will send 1 Officer and 4 N.C.O's. to report to Town Major, NIENPE, at 9.30 a.m. 17th instant, to arrange for billeting of the Battalion for night of 17/18th instant.

2. Supplies for 55th and 56th Battalion will be delivered by supply wagons direct to new camps on 17th instant. Supplies for 53rd and 54th Battalions, 9th A.G. Company and 9th E.T. Battery will be delivered to new camp on 18th instant.

3. Gum boots will NOT be handed over to relieving Units unless further instructions are issued. Any boots now in possession of Units surplus to actual requirements must be returned to Boot Store immediately.

4. Transport Lines and Q.M. Stores in STEPHENSON Area are as follows :-

Brigade Headquarters	A.18.b.8.4.
53rd Battalion	E.19.b.2.7
54th Battalion	B.7.d.9.9
55th Battalion	B.20.d.3.2
56th Battalion	B.19.b.8.9
9th A.G. Company	D.13.b.2.8

[Handwritten signature]
Captain.
Staff Captain.

Fifth Australian Infantry Brigade.

DISTRIBUTION:

Issued at 10.30 p.m. to :-

Copy No. 1-4	Brigade Headquarters
5	9th Bde. Sig. Section
6	53rd Bn.
7	54th Bn.
8	55th Bn.
9	56th Bn.
10	9th A.G. Coy.
11	11th A.G. Coy.
12	9th A.L. Coy. Batty.
13	9th Field Coy.
14	9th Field Ambulance
15	11th Field Ambulance
16	7th A.F.A. Bde.
17	5th Aust. Inf. Bde.
18	10th Aust. Inf. Bde.
19	115th Inf. Bde.
20	869th Coy. A.A.S.C.
21-22	3rd Aust. Division.
23	C.R.A.
24	C.R.E.
25-27	War Diary
28	File.

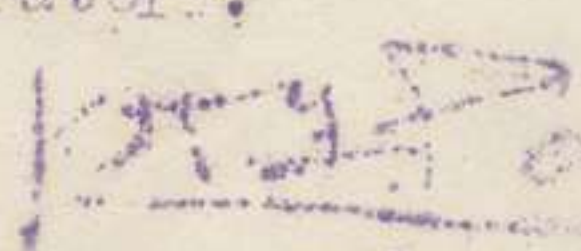
(MR)

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 11.

Brigade Headquarters,
18th December, 1915.

Reference Map: Sheet 33 N.7.

1. (a) The 9th Australian Infantry Brigade will relieve the 115th Brigade in the Brigade Area South of the River LYS on the 18th and 19th December.
(b) The front extends from PEAR TREE FARM on the right to the River LYS on the left.
2. Command will pass to G.O.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade on completion of relief on the 19th instant; when Brigade Headquarters will close at BLUE BALL Camp and Room at TROUWEN (U.I.d.3.7)
3. The relief will be carried out in accordance with the Move and Relief Table attached.
4. (a) The Left Boundary of the Brigade follows the River LYS (inclusive) to G.15.d.C.2; thence a straight line to C.19.b.C.5; along the River LYS to B.23.d.60.C5; thence along the road B.23.c.64.41 to B.27.c.1.6.
(b) The Right Boundary runs from I.16.b.20.52 in the front line to I.2.c.8.C; thence to the River LYS at H.4.b.45.35.
(c) The inter Battalion boundary is a straight line running East and West through G.29.c.20.45 and G.28.c.00.45.
5. Arrangements for the relief of the 9th Field Company and Medical Units are being made by the C.R.E. and A.D.V.S. respectively.
6. Defence Schemes, Maps, Aeroplane photographs, Log Books etc. will be taken over on relief.
7. Details in connection with the relief will be arranged mutually by Commanding Officers concerned.
8. (a) On moving from their present lines, the 35th and 33th Battalions will hand over to the incoming Battalions of the 10th Australian Infantry Brigade, all defence schemes, plans and orders in connection with the defence of ARMENTIERES. The 9th Aust. Machine Gun Company will hand over to the 10th Aust. Machine Gun Company similarly.
(b) Machine Gun Anti-Aircraft defences at present furnished by the 9th Aust. Machine Gun Company will be handed over to the 11th Aust. Machine Gun Company.
9. The G.O.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade will assume Command of the Defences of ARMENTIERES on completion of relief.
10. The 23rd Aust. Machine Gun Company which provides nucleus garrisons for the defence of ARMENTIERES is placed under the Orders of the G.O.C. 9th Australian Infantry Brigade, and will report for orders to the Staff Officer, ARMENTIERES Defences, at B.30.d.4.1 at 10 a.m. 19th December.
11. Administrative Instructions will be issued separately by the Staff Captain.
12. Instructions regarding the relief of Working Parties in the STREWERCK Area will be issued separately.
13. ACKNOWLEDG E.


Major,
Brigade Major,
Ninth Australian Inf. Brigade,

DISTRIBUTION:

Issued at

p.m. to :-

Copy No. 1-2

3rd Aust. Division.

Brigade Sig. Section.

33rd Bn.

34th Bn.

35th Bn.

36th Bn.

9th A.M.G. Coy.

9th A.L.T. Batty.

9th Field Coy.

339th Coy. A.A.S.C.

9th Field Ambulance

38th Division.

115th Brigade

23rd A.M.G. Coy.

10th Aust. Inf. Bde.

11th Aust. Inf. Bde.

5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Staff Officer, ARMENTIERES Defence.

Town Major, ARMENTIERES

A. P. [unclear]

22-24

War Diary

25

Retained.

141

MOVE AND RELIEF TABLE TO ACCOMPANY 9TH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 11 - 18.12.17

Serial No.	Date	Unit	From	To	REMARKS.
1	Dec. 18th	Advanced Parties - 33rd, 35th, 36th Bns.	STEINWERCK Area	115th Bde. Area	To proceed to "C", "A" and "B" Battalions respectively as already ordered.
2	18th	9th A.I.G. Company	WAILANDS CAMP	LINE	In relief of 115th I.G. Company.
3	18th	9th A.L.T.V. Batty.	WENEGATE	LINE	In relief of 115th L.T.V. Battery.
4.	18th	9th Aust. Inf. Bde. Headquarters	BLUE BALL CAMP	ERQUINGHEI	March at 2.30 p.m.
5.	19th	35th Battalion	WATERLANDS	LINE	In relief of "A" Bn. Head of column to arrive SANDBAG CORNER I.1.d.7.4 at 4.15 p.m. Not to reach Road Junction B.27.d.2.7 before 2.30 p.m.
6	19th	36th Battalion	HOLLIBOQUE	LINE	In relief of "B" Bn. Head of column to arrive LEVEL CROSSING C.27.a.2.1 at 4.15 p.m. To be clear of Road Junction B.27.d.2.7 by 2.15 p.m.
7	19th	35th Battalion	WENEGATE	SUB-LINE	In relief of "C" Battalion. Two days to arrive at each following points
8	19th	34th Battalion	de SEULE	LAUNDRIES, H.5.a.	In relief of "D" Battalion. Move to be complete by 2 p.m. Not to enter LAUNDRIES before 1 p.m. [at 5.30 p.m. - C.27.a. 2.1 and I.1.d.7.4.]

NOTE: A distance of 100 yards between platoons and 200 yards between Companies will be maintained on the march.

(BR)

APPENDIX

143.

144
SECRET.

23
Copy No.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Reference Map:
38 N.W. 1/20,000.

Brigade Headquarters,
18th December 1917.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS.

With reference to Brigade Order No. 11 of even date.

BILLETS.	Brigade Headquarters	..	ERQUINGHAM	H.4.i.30.70.
	Reserve Battalion HQ.			H.5.b.80.60.
	Billets four Companies	..	LAUNDRIES	H.5.a.50.65.
	Machine Gun Company	..		H.6.a.28.82.
	Trench Mortar Battery	..		C.25.c.75.52.

TRANSPORT LINES and Q.M. STORES
Transport lines and Quartermaster Stores will remain as at present until further orders.

SUPPLIES.
Rations. Supply wagons to Q.M. Stores, thence first-line transport to
TISSAGE and SYDNEY DUMPS - Left Sector
SQUARE FARM & FOCKABER DUMPS Right Sector
thence from these Dumps by trench tramways to line.

AMMUNITION. BRIGADE AMMUNITION DUMPS.

<u>HOURLINES Sector</u>			
	CHATEAU ROSE	..	C.21.d.5.2.
	TISSAGE DUMP	..	C.27.b.55.70.
	SPAIN	..	C.28.a.60.45.
	GLoucester	..	C.28.a.60.95.
	CAMBRIDGE	..	C.22.a.55.60.
<u>EPINETTE Sector.</u>			
	SQUARE FARM	..	I.9.b.05.35.
	MIDDLE STORE	..	I.3.d.60.70.
	QUALITY STREET	..	I.4.a.45.72.
	BUTERNE FARM	..	C.28.c.69.11.
	Support Battalion Headquarters.		
	Reserve Battalion Headquarters.		
	Brigade Headquarters.		
	Contents of Dumps to be issued later.		

WATER SUPPLY.

RIGHT SECTOR

Four	and two 100-gallon tanks		SQUARE FARM
do.	do.		Right Coy. H.Q.
			in Support line
do.	do.		Centre Coy. HQ.
			in Support line
do.	do.		WILLOW WALK.

LEFT SECTOR.

Two	50-gallon tanks at	TISSAGE.	Railway to cookhouse
do.		C.28.a.80.35	
One	50-gallon tank at	C.28.a.75.27	
Two	50-gallon tanks at	C.28.a.70.30	
One	50-gallon tank at	C.28.c.70.10	
do.		C.28.c.70.20	
do.		C.22.c.68.70	
Three	50-gallon tanks at	C.22.a.55.73	
One	50-gallon tank at	C.27.b.65.75	

RESERVE RATION DUMPS.

RIGHT SECTOR.

	SQUARE FARM	..	I.9.b.85.25
	BUTERNE FARM	..	C.28.c.70.25
	S. P. Y.	..	I.4.b.99.70
	WILLOW WALK	..	I.4.b.40.37
	PORT	..	I.4.c.75.48

RESERVE
SECTION
DUMPS.
(contd.)LEFT SECTOR.

CAMBRIDGE AVENUE	...	G.22.a.74.70
EDWARDS AVENUE	..	G.22.a.80.46
GLoucester AVENUE	..	G.22.c.35.27
SPAIN AVENUE	..	G.28.a.65.4
FRY PAW	..	G.22.d.48.50
S. P. Z.	..	G.28.d.89.20

Contents of these Dumps will be issued later.

MEDICAL.

RIGHT SECTOR.

R. A. P.	SQUARE FARM	..	I.9.a.8.5.
R.A.M.C. Posts:			
	SQUARE FARM	..	I.9.a.8.5.
	LIEBH WALK	..	I.9.c.8.8.
	AUCKLAND ROAD	..	I.4.b.2.7.
A. D. S.	BRICFIELD	..	I.8.b.3.7

LEFT SECTOR.

R. A. P.	TISSAGE DUMP	..	G.27.b.7.3.
R.A.M.C. Post.	do.	..	do.
Car collecting point		..	do.
A. D. S.	MOUVEI HOUPLINES		G.26.b.8.1.
N. D. S.	FORT ROUPE		H.7.d.6.3.

MEMORIES.

CITE BON JEAN.

GUN BOOT
STORES and
DRYING
ROCKS.

SQUARE FARM
TISSAGE DUMP.

Further instructions for supply of gun boots to be issued later. Advance parties may draw requirements from above Dumps.

BATHS.

Brigade Baths at LAUNDRIES. H.5.a.7.5. Allotment will be made through Brigade Routine Orders.

SOUP
KITCHENS.

SQUARE FARM.
TISSAGE DUMP.

DUTIES.

34th Battalion will detail the following personnel to relieve 115th Infantry Brigade personnel by 12 noon 19th inst

For soup kitchen	SQUARE FARM	..	4 men.
soup kitchen	TISSAGE DUMP	..	4 men.
Gun Boot Store	SQUARE FM.	..	1 NCO. and 3 men.
Gun boot store	TISSAGE DP	..	1 NCO. and 3 men.

N.C.O's sent to Gun Boot Store are to be instructed that they are to take over all gun boots handed to them, give receipt for same, and forward numbers taken over direct to staff captain.

SUPPLIES.

Supplies will be delivered to all units, with the exception of Brigade Headquarters, to present Q.I. Stores.

BAGGAGE
WAGONS.

Baggage wagons for 33rd and 34th Battalions will report to unit Headquarters at 9.30 a.m. on 19th inst.

[Signature]

CAPTAIN
Staff Captain

9th Australian Infantry Brigade A.I.F.

Distribution.

As per Brigade Order No. 11.

SECRET.Copy No. 20NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 12Brigade Headquarters,
23rd December, 1917.Reference Map: HCUHLINETS 1/10,000
BOIS GRENIER 1/10,000.

1. (a) On the 25th and night 25/26th December the 33rd Battalion will relieve the 35th Battalion in the right Battalion Area.
(b) Upon relief the 35th Battalion will move to the Subsidiary line and occupy the accommodation at present occupied by the 33rd Battalion.
(c) Advanced parties ^{33rd Bn.} will move into the line on night 24/25th December.
2. All Trench Maps, Trench Stores, Aeroplane Photographs and Log books will be handed over upon relief.
3. Subject to the terms of this Order, details of the relief will be arranged mutually between Commanding Officers concerned.
4. The relief of all working parties will be arranged so as to ensure continuity of work on the lines laid down in the Brigade Policy.
5. Attention is directed to 3rd Australian Division Trench Orders Nos 4 to 14 inclusive.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. J. [Signature]

Major,
Brigade Major,
Ninth Australian Infantry Brigade.

DISTRIBUTION:

Issued at	p.m. to :-
Copy No. 1-2	Brigade Headquarters
3	Staff Captain
4	De. Sig. Officer
5	33rd Bn.
6	34th Bn.
7	35th Bn.
8	36th Bn.
9	9th M.G. Coy.
10	9th A.I.T. P. Patty
11	7th R.A. Bde.
12	11th Aust. Inf. Bde.
13	5th Aust. Inf. Bde.
14 - 15	3rd Aust. Division.
16	C. R. A.
17	C. R. E.
18	9th Field Coy.
19	869th Coy. A.A.S.C.
20-22	War Diary
23	File

(EMR)

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 17.Brigade Headquarters,
30th December, 1918.Reference Maps: Sh. 27 1/40,000
Sh. 36A 1/40,000
Sh. 28 S.W. 1/20,000
Sh. 36 N.W. 1/20,000.

1. The 9th Australian Infantry Brigade will be relieved by the 171st Infantry Brigade in the Left Brigade Area of the Divisional Front on the 1st and night 1st/2nd January, 1919.
2. (a) On relief the Brigade will move to hutments in the STEINWEROK Area.
(b) Outgoing Units will, as far as possible, use overland routes leaving the normal lines of approach to the forward system available to Units of the 171st Infantry Brigade.
(c) On the 2nd January the Brigade will move to the METTEREN Area.
(d) These moves will be carried out in accordance with the relief and move table attached.
3. Command will pass to G. O. C. 171st Infantry Brigade on completion of relief, when Brigade Headquarters will close at EROUINGHEM and re-open at METTEREN at the same hour.
4. (a) The two platoons of the 34th Battalion, and all guided and guards employed in connection with the ARMENTIERES Defences will remain and carry out their present duties until 4th January, when they will rejoin their Units, under orders of Battalions concerned.
(b) Transport arrangements will be notified.
(c) These details will be under the Command of the G. O. C. 171st Infantry Brigade from the time of completion of relief until 4th January.
(d) Duties will be taken over by 171st Infantry Brigade between 1st and 4th January.
5. The Staff Captain will issue Administrative Instructions separately.
6. Instructions for the relief of Medical Units in the Brigade Area will be issued by the A. D. M. S.
7. Defence Schemes, Works Policy, Aeroplanes Photographs, Special Maps etc., relating to the Area will be handed over upon relief.
8. Completion of reliefs will be reported in code by wire to Brigade Headquarters.
9. Subject to the terms of this Order, the relief will be carried out under arrangements to be made mutually by Commanding Officers concerned.
10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT,

[Signature]
Major,
Brigade Major,
Ninth Australian Infantry Brigade,

(P. T. C.)

DISTRIBUTION:Issued at *JFM* to :-

Copy No. 1-3	Brigade Headquarters
4	Brigade Sig. Section
5	Brigade Trans. Officer.
6	33rd Bn.
7	34th Bn.
8	35th Bn.
9	36th Bn.
10	9th A.M.G. Coy.
11	9th A.I.T.M. Batty.
12	9th Field Coy. A.E.
13	11th Field Ambulance
14	7th A.F.A. Brigade
15	171st Inf. Bde.
16	10th Aust. Inf. Bde.
17	11th Aust. Inf. Bde.
18	869th Coy. A.A.S.C.
19-20	3rd Aust. Division.
21	3rd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.
22	J. R. A.
23	J. R. E.
24	A. I. M. S.
25	S. C. ARGENTINES Defences
26	E. N. ARGENTINES
27	A. P. V. ARGENTINES
28-30	War Library
31	File.

MOVE AND RELIEF TABLE TO ACCOMPANY 9TH AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 13 DATED 30-12-1917.

Reference Map : Sheet 36 N.W.

Serial No.	Date	Unit	From	To	Relieved by :-	Route	Remarks.
1.	Jan. 1st	34th Bn.	LAUNDRIES E.5.b.	De SEULE B.1.a.	"D" Bn. 171st Inf. Bde.	ERQUINGHET-EPINETTE-PAPOT.	To be clear of LAUNDRIES by 12 noon.
2.	1/2nd	37rd Bn.	"A" Bn. (Right) Area	1a MENEGATE B.19.a.	"A" Bn. 171st Inf. Bde.	ERQUINGHET-WATERLANDS	To provide guides for incoming Bn. to be at SANDBAG CORNER at I.I.d.7.4. at 4.30 p.m.
3.	1/2nd	36th Bn.	"B" Bn. (Left) Area	MOLEBEQUE B.19.b.	"B" Bn. 171st Inf. Bde.	ERQUINGHET-WATERLANDS	To provide guides for incoming Bn. to be at LEVEL CROSSING C.27.a.2.1 at 4.30 p.m.
4.	1/2nd	35th Bn.	"C" Bn. (Sub. line) Area	WATERLANDS B.21.d.	"C" Bn. 171st Inf. Bde.	ERQUINGHET	To provide guides for incoming Bn. at 5.30 p.m. for 2 Coys. at C.27.a.2.1 and 2 Coys. at I.I.d.7.4.
5.	1/2nd	9th A.L.F. Coy.	LINE	WAKLANDS B.13.b.	M.G. Coy. 171st Inf. Bde.	no restrictions	To provide guides under mutual arrangements with O.C. M.G. Coy 171st Inf. Bde.
6.	1/2nd	9th A.L.F. M. Batty.	LINE	1a MENEGATE B.19.a.	L.T.M. Batty 171st Inf. Bde.	ERQUINGHET-1a MENEGATE	To provide guides under mutual arrangements with O.C. L.T.M. Batty. 171st Inf. Bde.
7.	1/2nd	Hqrs. 9th Aust. Inf. Bde.	ERQUINGHET	METEREN	Hqrs. 171st Inf. Bde.	- - -	- - -
8.	2nd	34th Bn.	De SEULE	METEREN	-	BAILLEUL	By march route. Head of column to pass S.30.c.9.5 (Sh. 28 S.W.) at 7 a.m.
9.	2nd	35th Bn.	WATERLANDS	METEREN Area	-	-	By Bus. Embus at 8 a.m.

(P.T.O.)

APPENDIX.

146

74

Serial No.	Date	Unit	From	To	Relieved by :-	Route	Remarks
10.	2nd Jan.	33rd Bn.	1a MINEGATE	METEREN Area	-	-	By 'Bus - ombus at 11 a.m.
11.	2nd	36th Bn.	HOLLEBECQUE	METEREN Area	-	-	By 'Bus - ombus at 2 p.m.
12.	2nd	9th A.I. G. Coy.	WAKLANDS	METEREN	-	-	Transport arrangements will be notified.
13.	2nd	9th A.I. T.I. Batty.	1a MINEGATE B.19.a.	METEREN	-	-	Transport arrangements will be notified.

DISTANCES: The following distances will be maintained on the march :-
 Between Companies - 200 yards
 " Battalion and its transport - 200 yards.
 " " transport Sections - 100 yards.

TRANSPORT: The transport of all Units will be Brigaded for purposes of this move, and will march under the orders of the Brigade Transport Officer, in rear of the 34th Battalion.

GUIDES: All Battalions will detail 1 Officer and 4 O.Rs., A.M.G. Coy. 1 Officer and T.I. Battery 1 Officer as guides to meet 170th Infantry Brigade at BAILLEUL WEST STATION at 12 noon, 2nd January. These details will guide 170th Infantry Brigade into huts vacated by the Brigade on 2nd January, after which they will rejoin their Units.

(EMR)

APPENDIX 146

SECRET.

Copy No. 28

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 13.Brigade Headquarters,
30th December, 1917.ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS.

Reference Brigade Order No. 13.

1. GUM BOOTS:

On relief all Gum Boots are to be returned to Store at TISSAGE DUMP and SQUARE FARM.

Any boots not at present in use to be returned immediately.

2. TRENCH AND AREA STORES:

Receipts for Trench and Area Stores to be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters within 48 hours of relief.

3. HOT FOOD CONTAINERS:

All Petrol Tin Hot Food Containers on charge to Units are to be returned to TISSAGE DUMP by 12 noon 1st January. Brigade Transport Officer will arrange to have these collected on afternoon of 1st January, and taken to place to be notified later.

Receipts to be obtained and submitted to Brigade Headquarters.

4. DUTIES:

Personnel of 34th Battalion at Gun Boot Stores and Soup Kitchens will be relieved on 1st January, but they are to remain until handing over of Gun Boots is complete, sending receipts for same to Brigade Headquarters through Headquarters of their Battalion.



Captain.
Staff Captain.
Ninth Australian Inf. Brigade.

(EMR)

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

APPENDIX. 146

*B

Brigade Headquarters,
31st December, 1941.ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS.Reference Maps: Sheet 33A }
" 27 } 1/40,000.ISSUED UNDER BRIGADE ORDER NO. 13.

1. BILLETS: On 2nd January the Brigade will be billeted in METREM Area as follows :-

Brigade Headquarters at METREM	-	X.15.d.70.70
33rd Battalion Squares	-	X.23 - 27 - 28 - 29
		F.4 - 5.
34th Battalion "	-	X. 15 - 16
35th Battalion "	-	X.27
		F.1.a. and b.
		F.2 - 3 - 7.
		F.3.a. and c.
36th Battalion "	-	X.19 - 20 - 21 - 25 - 26.
9th A.M.G. Coy.	METREM	
9th A.L.T.M. Battery	METREM.	
Brigaded Transport	METREM.	

2. EMBUSSING: Units will embuss on 2nd January at Sheet 36 N.W., B.14.d.4.c at the following times :-

35th Battalion	7.45 a.m.
33rd Battalion	11.0 a.m.
36th Battalion	2.15 p.m.

9th A.M.G. Company will embuss half their personnel with 35th Battalion, and half with 33rd Battalion.
9th A.L.T.M. Battery will embuss with 36th Battalion.

3. DEBUSSING POINT: Units will DEBUSS :-

35th and 36th Battalions at	OUTRSTINE F.9.a.1.4.
33rd Battalion at	BAILLUL-OUTRSTINE Road X.29.a.30.10.

4. GUIDES: Guides for 33rd, 35th and 36th Battalions, 9th A.M.G. Company and 9th A.L.T.M. Battery will meet Units at debussing point.

Guide for 34th Battalion will meet unit at Cross Roads, X.17.c.7.2.

4. TRANSPORT: Transport will be Brigaded and march under orders of Brigade Transport Officer, passing starting point at DE SEUL, Sheet 36 N.W., B.1.Central at 10.30 a.m. on 2nd January in the following order :-

34th Battalion
36th Battalion
33rd Battalion
35th Battalion
9th A.M.G. Company

Brigade Headquarters transport will proceed on 1st January.

This cancels foot-note of Move and Relief Table issued with Brigade Order No. 13.

(P.T.O.)

5. SUPPLIES: RAILHEAD - STANWICK.
 RE-FILLING POINT - BAILLEUL - METRUM Road X.18.3.7.8.
 Units will refill on 2nd January for consumption on 3rd
 January in the following order:-

33rd Battalion	2 p.m.
Brigade Headquarters)
34th Battalion) 2.20 p.m.
9th A.M.G. Company)
9th A.L.T. Battery)
36th Battalion	3 p.m.
35th Battalion	3.20 p.m.

6. BAGGAGE WAGONS: Baggage wagons will report to Unit Q.M. Stores on evening of 1st January.
7. BLANKETS: All Units with the exception of 34th Battalion will carry blankets on the man.
8. MOTOR TRANSPORT: Three motor lorries for cartage of stores will be at embussing point at 7.45 a.m. 2nd January, and are allotted as follows:-

34th Battalion	1 lorry
35th Battalion	2 lorries.

Each Unit will detail a responsible Officer to guide wagons to respective Q.M. Stores. Another motor lorry will also report to Q.M. 34th Battalion at 9 a.m. 2nd January.

35th Battalion will ensure that instructions are issued for their wagons to return to Q.M. Store, 36th Battalion, and 34th Battalion wagons to Q.M. 33rd Battalion. Lorries used by 36th Battalion are to be instructed to report back to that store, and these will be met by guide from 9th A.M.G. Company and 9th A.L.T. Battery who will guide wagons to respective billets.

9. 10th AUST. FIELD AMBULANCE: One tent sub-division of this unit will report at embussing point at 2 p.m. and proceed to CUTTERSTONE with 36th Battalion.
10. MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS: Patients will be evacuated from billets by motor ambulance to Brigade Hospital at CUTTERSTONE, thence to D.R.S., BAILLEUL.
11. Headquarters 3rd Australian Divisional Train, 118 Rue de la GARE BAILLEUL 3rd January - Train Companies will not move. Mobile Veterinary Section remains at Sheet 36 B.3.d.5.7. D.A.D.C.S. will remain at Sheet 28 S.29.d.3.3. Reinforcement Depot moves to Sheet 22 S.25.d.9.9.
12. ACKNOWLEDGE

[Signature]
 Captain.
 Staff Captain.
 Ninth Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued to :-

Copy No. 1-3	Bde. Headquarters
4	35rd Bn.
5	34th Bn.
6	35th Bn.
7	36th Bn.
8	9th A.M.G. Coy.
9	9th A.L.T.M. Battery
10	Q.M. 33rd Bn.
11	Q.M. 34th Bn.
12	Q.M. 35th Bn.
13	Q.M. 36th Bn.
14-15	3rd Aust. Division.
16-18	War Diary
19	File
20	10th Aust. Field Ambulance.
21	Bde. Trans. Off.

(EMR)

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

APPENDIX 14

Return by units showing casualties throughout December 1917.

Date.	K I L L E D.						W O U N D E D.						S E L F - I N F . W O U N D S .						M I S S I N G .						R E M A R K S .	
	33 Bn	34 Bn	35 Bn	36 Bn	MG Co	TM By	33 Bn	34 Bn	35 Bn	36 Bn	MG Co	TM By	33 Bn	34 Bn	35 Bn	36 Bn	MG Co	TM By	33 Bn	34 Bn	35 Bn	36 Bn	MG Co	TM By		
1917. Dec 1				1							6			2	1											Lt. K.M. TOOSE, 36th Bn, wounded 1.12.1917. * 1 o/r wounded accidentally.
2			1						1		2*															
3				1							4															
4									1		2															
5				1																						
6							1				5															
7																										
8	1																									
9								1																		
10	1						2			1	1															Lt. H. IKIN, 36th Bn, wounded 10.12.1917.
11							1			1																
12																										
13							1																			
14																										
15							1	1																		
16																										
17																										
18																										
19																										
20			1	3											1						2					2/Lt J.W. Garaty 35th Bn killed and 2/Lt. C.C.J. McFarlane 36th Bn. wded 20.12.1917.
21				1							3															
22											3	2		1												
23											1	1														
24							2																			
25							1																			
26				2							3															
27											2															
28							1				1															
29							1				1															
30							2				1															
31				1*																						* Accidentally killed.
	2		2	10			12	3	6	35	1		1	2	6						2					

APPENDIX 14

Secret.AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.
-----HEADQUARTERS
NINTH INFANTRY
15
B.M. N. A.I.F.
Om 56/1
Headquarters 9th Aust. Inf. Bde.
12th December, 1918.33rd Bn.
34th Bn.
35th Bn.
36th Bn.WIRE.

The repair of our wire damaged by enemy fire has not received that attention from Battalions it deserves. The importance of promptly effecting repairs has not been grasped by Company officers and Platoon Commanders, and our wire is consequently in a worse condition than it should be. The question is, however, serious, and Battalion Commanders must make it their business to see that it is properly tackled.

The task of wiring the whole of a Battalion front is not an excessively laborious one; 50 yards of wire can be erected in four hours ^{by 7 men}, so that a front of 1,250 yards should be completed by 175 men in that time. Even if this work be distributed in point of time it could be finished inside 24 hours. As there should not be less than three lines of wire on our front it would probably take three or four days to make the defence complete.

It is not necessary, however, to re-wire the whole of the front; all that need be done would be to repair the gaps which should be done in a much shorter space of time. Then if the regular working parties are told off to effect repairs nightly there should be little difficulty in keeping the wire in good order.

In cases when personnel is not sufficiently trained in rapid wiring with screw stakes, no time should be lost in giving the men the necessary training.

The plea has been raised that screw stake wiring is ~~extremely~~ extremely inefficient and that only knife-rests should be used. This is mainly a question of material available and at present

it is not possible to obtain all the angle-irons of the necessary length. The screw stake wiring is, however, effective and must be chiefly used though knife-rests will be supplied when material is available.

D. H. Bowrie Major.
Brigade Major Ninth Infantry Brigade.
A. I. F.

144

NINEH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ROUTINE ORDER No. 158

by

BRIGADIER-GENERAL ALEX JOBSON G.O.C. 9th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters,

12th December, 1916.

SNIPING SCHOOL, 1168
MONT DES CATS

The following N. C. Os. and men have been detailed to attend Second Army School of Sniping MONT DES CATS, assembling on Saturday December 16th and dispersing on Friday 22nd December:-

35th Bn. - No. 179, Pte. J. PHILLIPS

36th Bn. - No. 2160, L/Cpl. C.S. HUNGERFORD

B.M. and P.T. 1169
MORBACQUE.

The following N. C. Os. have been detailed to attend bayonet fighting and physical training course at 2nd ANZAC Corps School, assembling on Wednesday 13th December and dispersing on Saturday 23rd December 1916:-

35th Bn. - L/Cpl. H. SADLER

36th Bn. - Sgt. H. G. SAUNDERS.

MAIL FOR 1170
DUTY 15.12.16.

Battalion for duty ... 35th Battalion

Next day duty ... 36th Battalion

T.F. BORWICK, Major,

Brigade Major, 9th Aust. Inf. Bde.
A. I. F.