

AWM4
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Formation Headquarters

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Title: Intelligence, Headquarters 2nd
ANZAC Corps

August 1917



AWM4-1/33/16PART2

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 13th August 1917.CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.PATROLS.

No enemy were encountered on our front south of WARNETON but flares were put up by the enemy from IN DEN ROOSTER CABT. U 12 c 2.0.

A patrol operating in U 11 d heard enemy talking at approx. U 12 c 15.65 on the railway west of WARNETON.

A hostile patrol was encountered in the copse at U 11 b 4.4 (W. of WARNETON). It withdrew after an exchange of bombs.

Enemy fired flares at U 5 d 9.2 (E. of FME DE LA GROIX). A post is suspected there.

A patrol reports enemy not holding post at O 29 b 15.70 S. of BEEK FARM.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Patrols heard working parties at DYE WORKS C 11 c central, at building (C 11 a 8.2), north of wood (C 5 central) and in front line in U 6 a (west of KINGSCLERE).

New earth is reported on parapet of trench west of DEULEMONT (U 24 c)

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

M.Gs. were active during the night, particularly in the neighbourhood of LA BASSE VILLE. Guns are suspected at U 24 d 15.00 (DEULEMONT), KIWI FARM (O 36 c) and JULY FARM (O 23 d).

T.Ms. were firing from UNCOVERED TRENCH at about U 29 d 8.9, DEULEMONT (U 24 d 15.00) and three were seen at approx. U 24 a 5.6 north of DEULEMONT. They are also suspected at about O 36 c 20.40 and O 29 d 9.2.

MOVEMENT.

Yesterday movement was observed round buildings at U 11 b 55.85, C 5 d 20.95 and C 5 b 5.4 north of FRELINGHIEN and on hill in W 2, south of WERVICQ. Small parties of men and transport were also seen moving along road north of HOUTHEM in F 19 b.

Horse transport was heard on the PONT ROUGE-QUESNOY road and DEULEMONT-QUESNOY road (U 30) between 11.15 p.m. and 12.15 a.m., and also on road in C 5 d (N. of FRELINGHIEN) between 11 p.m. and 1 a.m.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery fired on the usual targets.

Heavy artillery shelled WARNETON at 8.45 a.m. and satisfactorily carried out 6 destructive shoots against enemy batteries with aeroplane and balloon observation. In addition 33 other batteries were engaged.

(b). Enemy artillery were quieter. There has been some occasional shelling of our front line system and LA BASSE VILLE received attention during the night.

The area round PLOEGSTEERT WOOD was bombarded at 8.30 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the past two days light signalling by the enemy has been reported, flashes having been seen in the directions of COMILES and HOUTHEM. Captive balloons east of FRELINGHIEN have also been observed signalling with lamps during the evening.

PART II follows:-....

APPENDIX

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

AIRCRAFT.

Enemy scout machines were very active yesterday, and slightly more reconnaissance machines than usual crossed our lines, mostly on the northern part of the Army front. Activity of hostile artillery planes was normal. Three hostile machines were shot down and four driven down out of control; two of our machines are missing.

GERMAN INTELLIGENCE.

A captured document (Intelligence Summary, 4th German Army, for week ending 18th July), shows that the enemy keeps a careful record of our active batteries, railway construction, road traffic, cable trenches, camps, aerodromes and balloons.

During the week under review, the following points were specially noted:-

(a) Continuous heavy road traffic between large camps in the area POPERINGHE-WESTVLETEREN-ELVERDINGHE-DICKEBUSCH-RENINGHELST.

(b) Rapid progress in railway construction north of the line POPERINGHE-YPRES.

(c) Increase of camps east and south east of POPERINGHE, with a decrease opposite MESSINES. In addition, a tendency to move camps nearer the front from the RENINGHELST area.

(d) Marked activity on cable trenches opposite the front STEEN-STRAAT-WYTSCHAETE, while no new work was observed south of this sector.

(e) Further work on assembly trenches east of ZILLEBEKE LAKE. His appreciation of reserves available in rear was approximately correct.

13th August 1917.

C. Clifton
Capt.
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 16th August 1917.CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.ENEMY ACTIVITY.

About 1.20 a.m. a hostile party about 20 strong from the direction of L'HIRONDELLE CABT. approached our post at U 5 d 8.8 yelling and throwing bombs. They did not enter the post. A patrol sent out immediately was unable to discover any trace of the enemy.

PATROLS.

DEULEMONT BRIDGE at U 30 a 76.88 is reported to be still passable.

A patrol operating in U 18 a, S.W. of WARNETON, saw a hostile party about 20 strong moving along the road towards WARNETON.

Bombs were heard to be thrown from an enemy post located just N.W. of IN DEN ROOSTER CABT. at U 12 c 2.0.

The bank running along south side of the DOUVE is reported clear of the enemy as far as about U 11 b 85.25, where flares were put up and M.Gs. fired.

Patrols report enemy activity in BEEK FARM, O 29 b. They were fired on from RIFLE FARM, O 23 d, but could observe no enemy movement.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

An enemy working party was heard at the ARCHES, C 11 a, New earth and wire can be seen at U 24 a 7.0 north of DEULEMONT.

Work is proceeding on the MOUND east of WARNETON at V 7 a 40.15.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Hostile M.Gs. were active during the night particularly against our communications north of the DOUVE. A gun fired from approx. U 30 a 9.8 south of DEULEMONT.

L.T.M. bombs fell in U 17 d, LA BASSE VILLE, and about U 29 a 50.05 west of PONT ROUGE.

MOVEMENT.

Transport was heard on the PONT ROUGE-QUESNOY road from 9.30 p.m. to midnight.

Movement continues about the houses C 11 b 60.84, C 11 b 40.95, N. of FRELINGHIEN, U 29 d 5.2, UNKNOWN FARM. Movement of men and trains was observed again yesterday on the hill in W 2 c south of WERVICQ.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery fired on trenches, communications and hostile battery positions.

Heavy artillery fired on WARNETON and enemy back areas.

(b). Hostile artillery continued intermittent shelling of forward and back areas.

TORREKEN FARM, O 20 d, was shelled with gas shells during the day.

Two H.V. shells fell S.E. of BAILLEUL during the afternoon.

ENEMY REAR LINES.

A Sketch Map showing enemy work south of the LYS is attached.

PART II follows:-----

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

GUNS ON RAILWAY MOUNTINGS.

The Germans are constructing a series of sidings for guns on railway mountings along their front, apparently with a view to the rapid concentration of long range guns at different portions of their line. Between the sea and a line from YPRES to COURTRAI, seven of these sidings have been located. The closest of the sidings is 8,000 yards from the front line, and the most distant is 20,000 yards.

EXTRACT FROM SUMMARY OF ARMY ON OUR LEFT.

Prisoners and Material Captured. From 6 p.m. 30th July to 6 p.m. 13th August, 139 Officers and 5887 other ranks have been captured by this Army, also the following war material:-

- 3 5.9" Howitzers.
- 3 Field Howitzers.
- 18 Field Guns.
- 77 Machine Guns.
- 21 Trench Mortars.
- 1 Revolving Anti-Tank Gun.
- 1 Listening Apparatus.

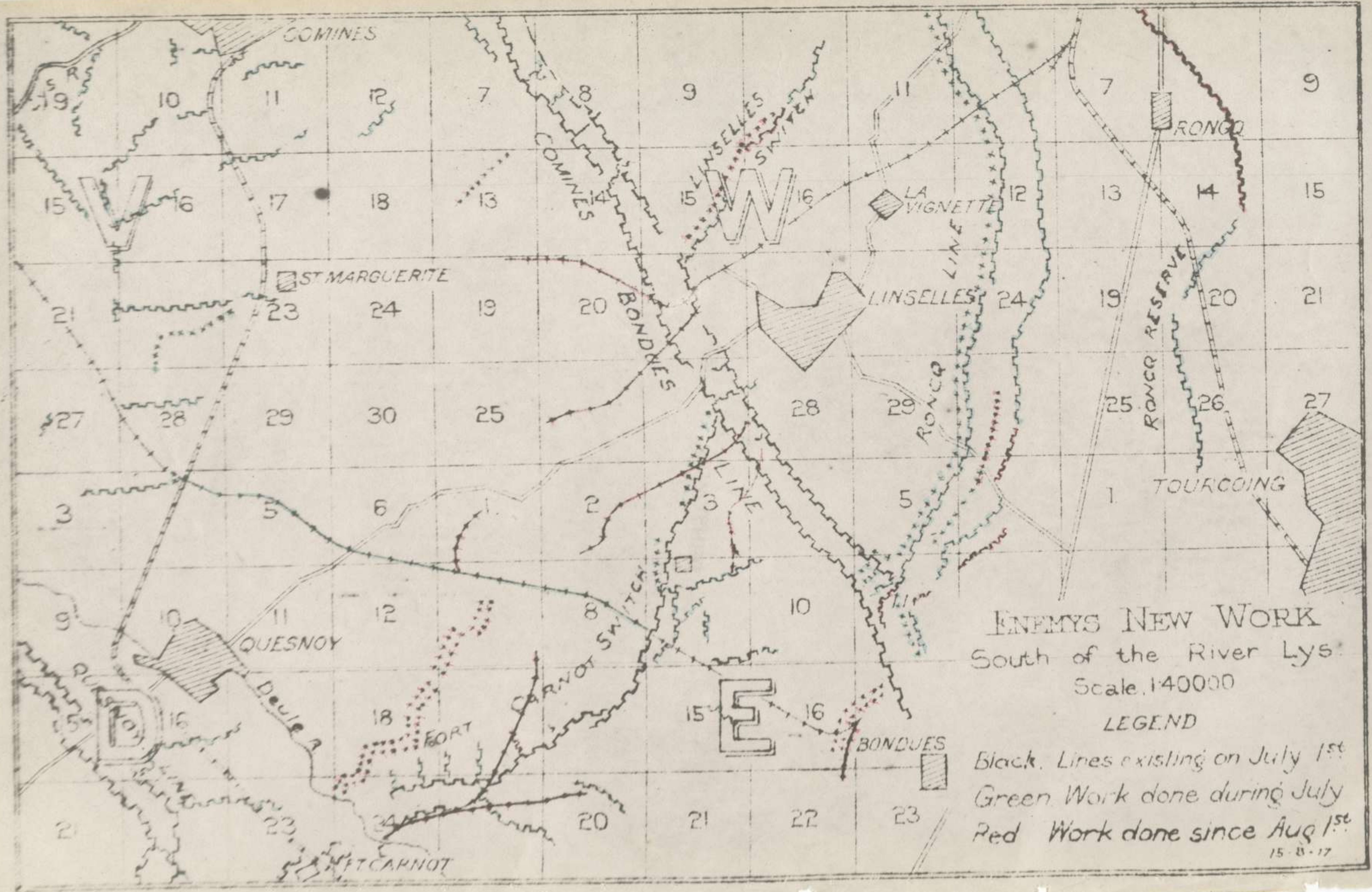
PART III.
CONTRE-ESPIONNAGE.

Workman's Pass No. 4 in favour of GEORGES Henri.

No duplicate Pass has been issued to the above boy, as it has just been brought to notice that he was caught twice stealing Government property. He should therefore not again be taken into Military employment.

15th August 1917.

C. Chibbes Capt.
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.



ENEMYS NEW WORK
 South of the River Lys
 Scale 1:40000

LEGEND
 Black. Lines existing on July 1st
 Green. Work done during July
 Red. Work done since Aug 1st
 15.8.17

APPENDIX

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 14th August 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PATROLS.

All enemy patrol was heard on eastern side of river at approx. C 3 a 4.6.

Patrol operating in U 18 a between LA BASSE VILLE and WARINGTON was fired at from about U 18 a 3.7. No trace of an enemy post could be discovered at WINDMILL at U 18 a 2.8 but enemy were seen and heard talking near old buildings at U 12 c 20.05 and a wiring party was heard behind IN DEN ROOSTER CART.

Two of our patrols discovered an enemy post between U 11 d 85.35, junction of railway and road, and building at U 11 d 95.40. Enemy, about 12 strong, opened fire with rifles, threw bombs and put up a double green light.

A patrol which moved northwards for about 300 yds. from road and railway junction at U 11 d 85.35 found no signs of enemy until fired on by machine guns from about U 12 a 1.1.

In O 35 d west of KIWI FARM a patrol compelled a party of enemy who were firing rifle grenades to withdraw.

Machine gun and rifle fire are reported from RIFLE, JULY and BEE FARMS.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Enemy M.Gs. were active during the night against cross roads and communications behind our lines. No Man's Land and our posts were subjected to bursts of traversing fire. Guns were firing from about U 30 a 8.9, U 24 c 60.45, U 24 central, near DEULEMONT, south of LAUNDRY C 5 c and in the vicinity of BEEK FARM O 29 b.

T.Ms. fired from SCREENED FARM C 5 b 5.4, UNCOVERED TRENCH U 29 d and north of DEULEMONT U 24 a 5.6.

Some 300 L.T.M. gas shells were fired about 11.15 p.m. from S. of the LAUNDRY C 5 c.

AIRCRAFT.

Enemy aircraft were active along the front and attempts were made against two of our balloons without success.

MOVEMENT.

Continuous activity was observed yesterday about the house at C 11 b 55.85 north of FRELINGHIEN.

Transport was heard in FRELINGHIEN from midnight till 4 a.m. and on PONT ROUGE-QUESNOY road at 10.15 and 11.15 p.m.

Individual movement was noticed on road north of DEULEMONT and on roads in V 19 a and d.

Train activity continues in W 2 c, south of WERVICQ.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery fired on hostile batteries and trenches and carried out a gas shell and H.E. bombardment on DEULEMONT, U 24 c and d, LES ECLUSES, U 30 d, and U 6 b near KINGSCLERE between 10 and 11 p.m. A dump was blown up at U 24 b 1.3 at 6 p.m.

Heavy artillery successfully carried out six counter-battery shoots and engaged 34 other batteries. A fire was caused at V 22 a 95.40 and ammunition was blown up also at P 33 a 98.90.

(b). Enemy artillery shelled our front line at intervals during the night, some gas shells being noticed south of the DOUVE. Between midnight and 3 a.m. about 120 gas shells are reported to have fallen in the vicinity of MESSINES. Normal activity has prevailed during the day.

Six shells fell S.E. of BAILLEUL between 1.30 and 4 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Sandbags have been exposed by our shelling on north corner of FRELINGHIEN Church. Lamp signalling was again noticeable during the night and early hours of the morning.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.....

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

Photographs taken on 13-8-17 of the area south and south west of COMINES show very few alterations to the trenches. Three short stretches of trench have been begun north of the road in V 9 b and d, to form a line of strong posts connecting up with existing trench at V 9 d 4.4 (42B 1774) and traversed trench in V 28 a has been continued up to the road at V 28 a 2.0. There appears to be new wire south of FME DE LA CHAPELLE, V 14 d 9.9, three or four belts wide for a distance of some 150 yds. (42B 1773) and also east of GRAND HEL FARM at V 16 a 8.7, but the wire in V 22 which shows so clearly on 42B 1712 of 27-7-17 is now difficult to trace (42B 1774).

A very interesting set of photographs were taken at a low altitude on 14-8-17 and show clearly tracks, occupied shell holes, dugouts and emplacements, and also condition of houses in WARNETON and elsewhere.

- 42B 1781 LAUNDRY in C 5 c north of PRELINGHIEN: note work on dugouts in CERTIFIED TRENCH in C 11 b: also tracks to house C 11 b 22.53, evidently occupied with dugouts in ruins. Many tracks lead to the LAUNDRY and also along north of avenue leading to SOAP HOUSE C 5 c 70.15: probable emplacement south western corner of LAUNDRY.
- 42B 1780 Continuation northwards of above but shows mainly western bank of LYE: note tracks to river bank at C 5 c 6.9 (probably a post) and C 5 a 35.32 near ruins of bridge: note also tracks here on western bank.
- 42B 1777 UNCUT TRENCH north of DEULEMONT to SPINNING MILL. Note work on southern part, possible M.G. emplacement U 24 a 52.37 on west of road, sally port at U 24 a 5.5 and emplacement U 24 a 22.55: trench round WICART FARM weak: suspected H.Q. at U 24 a 62.82 appears badly damaged: several shell holes about U 24 a 90.75 appear occupied.
- 42B 1785 Continuation of UNCUT TRENCH northwards: note absence of tracks near SPINNING MILL except at U 18 c 98.75 leading to dugouts U 18 c 9.7. Note some new work near WAUSTINE FARM at V 13 c 08.56 and dugouts V 13 c 15.42 (probably several others close by).
- 42B 1786 WAUSTINE FARM to near VANISHED INN (V 19 central). Note again dugouts near V 13 c 15.42 also trenches round farm. Probable dugouts on either side of road V 19 a 55.83, also in bond of trench. Old battery position V 19a 50.36 probably occupied by small parties; note shell holes about V 19 a 3.8 and V 19 a 15.50 obviously in use and some partly covered over: tracks near show very clearly in this area, which would seem to be extensively used by supports for troops in UNCUT TRENCH.
- 42B 1779 WARNETON Line in front of town and houses in S.W. part of town. Note bridge U 18 b 0.6 not so much used as before as tracks less clear: probable that ruins of bridge U 18 a 6.3 still used but two bridges just north of it have disappeared. Note probable line of posts from near this bridge to IN DEL ROOSTER CABT. (tracks joining shell holes very clear). Note suspected H.Q. U 12 d 8.3 still in fair state and large house U 12 d 95.40 only slightly damaged.

42B 1778.....

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS (continued).

- 42B 1778 Very good photograph of WARNETON showing clearly condition of houses: note main bridge would appear to be still passable; also that it is only in S.W. part of town that houses are fairly intact. House U 12 d 10.47 is still only slightly damaged but centre of town is very battered.
- 42B 1782 WARNETON Line at its junction with GAPAARD-WARNETON road: very good photograph: shows entrances to dugout or emplacement U 6 c 50.65 and possible emplacement U 6 c 67.97; note track leading to corner U 6 c 95.70 thence along south side of hedge towards U 6 b 75.20.
- 42B 1783 Shows area east of BAS WARNETON: note number of tracks from village to building V 8 a 8.9; several shell holes in large field west of tracks about V 2 c 5.0 appear to have been consolidated for defence: clear track round this field. Building V 7 b 96.75 is undamaged and may be concrete.
- 42B 1784 Area east of above: several shell holes about V 8 a central have been covered in and are probably occupied. Farm V 8 b 8.5 is only slightly damaged, also buildings at COOGEE, V 8 b 86.90.
- 42B 1787, 1788 show our own lines.

PART II follows:-.....

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

LOSSES OF THE 2nd GUARD RES. DIVISION NORTH OF YPRES.

(a) It is reported that the 1st Battalion of the 91st Res. Inf. Regt. arrived in the GHENT area only 300 to 400 strong, after being in line east of BIXSCHOOTE from the 3rd to the 7th August. All the regimental transport, with the exception of one field kitchen, had been destroyed by shell fire.

(b) The 77th Res. Inf. Regt. is reported to have suffered heavy losses on its arrival in the BIXSCHOOTE sector, and was much reduced by sickness during its short time in the line.

GERMAN OPINION OF THEIR NEW TROOPS.

(a) The following extracts from an official report of the 2nd Bn., 450th Inf. Regt. (233rd Div.) dated 12-6-17, shows that the German authorities consider this division of very small fighting value.

"It is important to record that the enemy succeeded a few days ago in capturing several prisoners in a raid just after the 3rd Bn. had gone into line. The identification of these prisoners may perhaps have allowed the enemy to draw conclusions as to the quality of the troops of the 233rd Div."

"The men are too young to be able to make a long resistance in a critical situation; they have, however, done well on the whole. The unit cannot be described as fully efficient; it is only fit for trench warfare."

It is noteworthy that, in spite of the opinion recorded above, the 233rd Div. was left in line north east of YPRES until the 29th July and was then only relieved by the 235th Div., another unit of approximately the same composition and quality.

(b) A company roll of the 455th Inf. Regt (235th Div.) names two men who were not to be allowed into the front line because they were Alsations, and another because he had been a deserter.

MACHINE GUNS.

An order by the C.G.S. of the German Field Army, dated January 1917, emphasises the importance of the defence retaining practical control of the area behind the front trench system, and lays down that:-

(a) The most certain means of limiting the success of an enemy who has penetrated the front line is the employment of concealed machine guns distributed in depth and chequerwise behind that line.

(b) Owing to the increase in the number of machine guns with infantry, a considerable number can be specially detailed for this.

(c) An officer should be temporarily allotted to each divisional sector to select the sites and supervise the construction of the emplacements.

C. Clippin Capt
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

14th August 1917.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 16th August 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

IDENTIFICATIONS.

Two prisoners belonging to 133rd Inf. Regt., 24th (Saxon) Division were taken this morning in C 35 d E. of GAPAARD. (New Identification). Report on preliminary examination is attached.

PATROLS.

Although patrols were active along the whole Corps front, nothing was seen of the enemy except at U 18 a 1.6 S.W. of WARNETON where a post was located in a trench.

LIGHT SIGNALS.

From a document from a prisoner captured this morning, the following would appear to be the signal at present in use opposite our front:-

GREEN	Barrage.
RED	Destructive fire.
YELLOW	Lengthen range.

Signal lamps are again reported active last night.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery carried out a bombardment of enemy trenches at 4.45 a.m. In addition the usual trench targets were fired on and registration was carried out.

Heavy artillery carried out five counter-battery shoots with aeroplanes and balloon observation. Seventeen other batteries were engaged.

(b). Enemy retaliation to our bombardment at 4.45 a.m. was fairly heavy at LA BASSE VILLE but light elsewhere.

The sector south of the DOUVE was heavily shelled during the day by guns of large calibre but to the north fire was normal.

NIEPPE Village was shelled by 28 c.m. gun between 12.30 and 1 p.m. and several H.V. shells have fallen in the vicinity of BAILIEUL during the day.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

Photographs were taken on 15-8-17 of FRELINGHIEN and of WARNETON and neighbourhood.

42B 1792, 1793 show FRELINGHIEN apparently little changed since end of July.

42B 1791 shows WARNETON: good photograph of ruins of Church and area near junction of DOUVE and LYS. Many tracks and many shell holes and bits of trench near mound V 7 a 4.1: track leads from here south to bridge V 7 c 3.7 and north to COMINES road. Building U 12 b 9.4 still seems fairly intact. Note swing bridges (2) moored to south banks of river and one on north side.

42B 1794. shows area just north of above: clear tracks towards BAS WARNETON, and apparently beginnings of a line about V 7 central, roughly 200 yards in front of line covering village. this new line is only shell holes connected by short trenches and tracks. North of the railway about V 1 c 2.4 there is also a similar line about 100 yards long: note also tracks north of railway leading towards LA BUSSCHE FARM and the railway line.

42B 1789. WARNETON Line in O 30, and cross roads O 36 b near GARDE DIEU: note building near L'ESPERANCE CARARET O 36 b 30.65 (many tracks converge here) building O 30 d 3.0 near WHALE FARM, and COORONG O 36 d 60.85: also line of shell holes just west of last, perhaps intended as northern extension of strong posts shown on 42B 1794.

42B 1790. shows mainly our own lines, but the line of shell holes near the crater on the Military road O 35 b appears clearer than before.

PART II follows:-...

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

FORTIFIED SHELL HOLES.

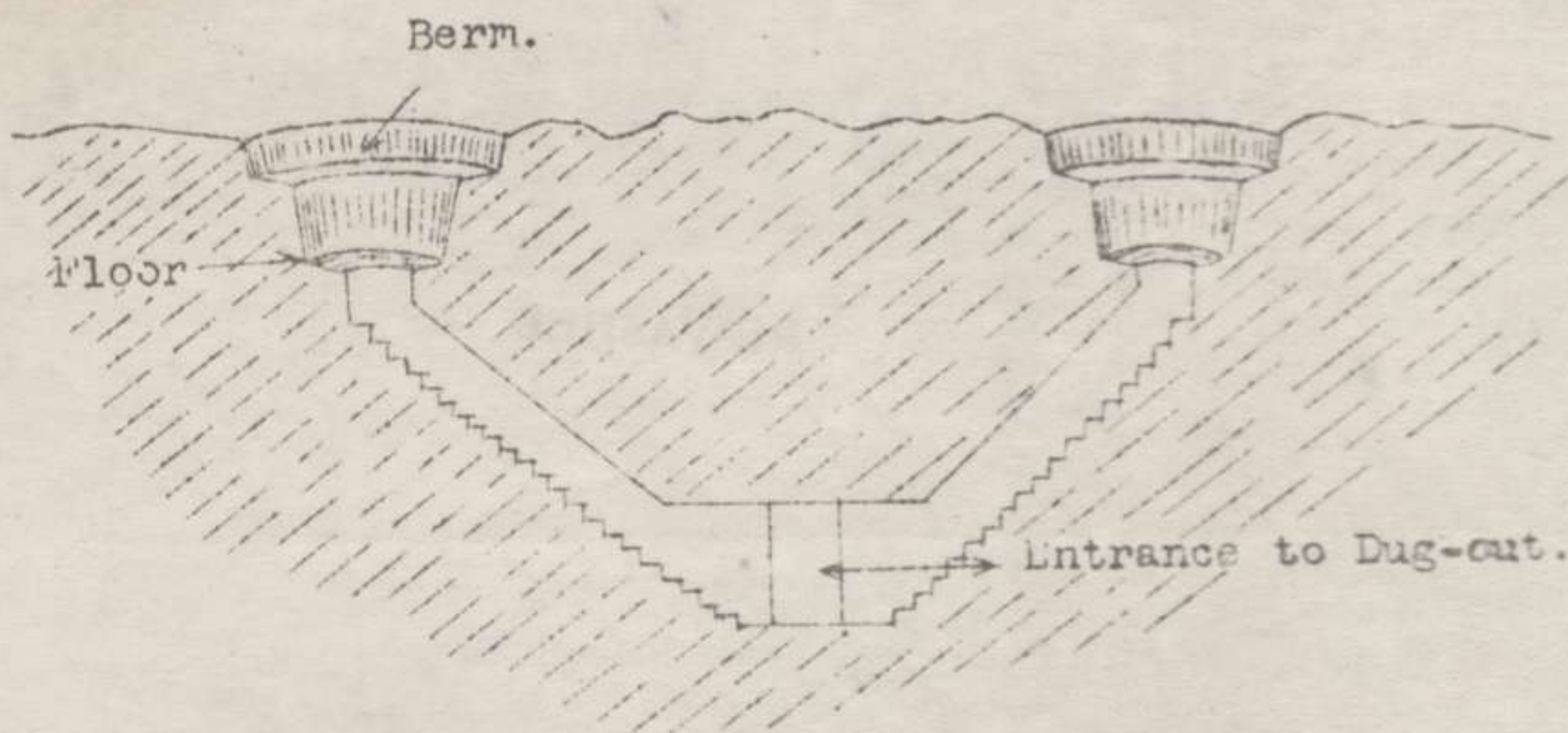
In the area north of LENS (as on our own front) the enemy appears to have been relying chiefly on fortified shell holes as a means of defence.

These have been constructed for the most part in pairs, but sometimes in groups of three.

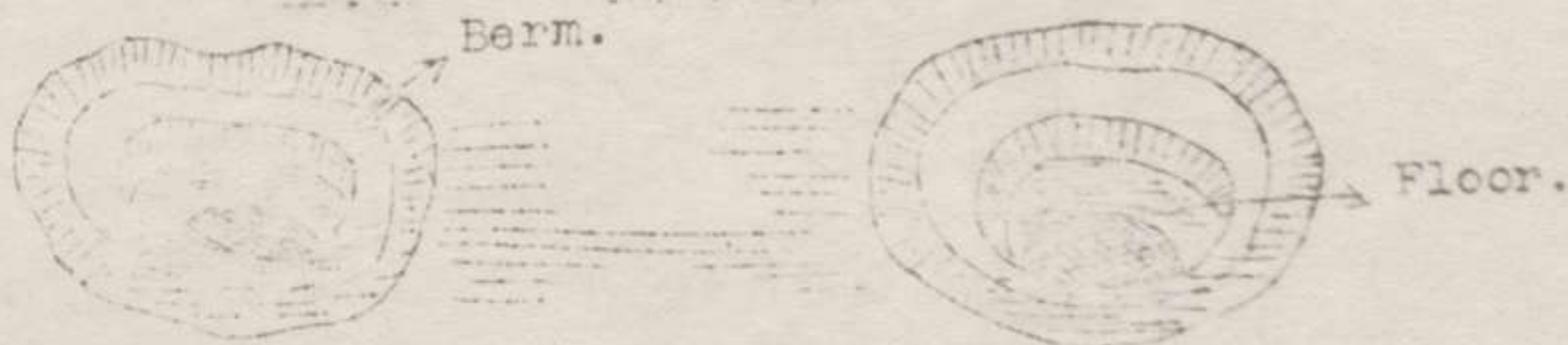
A wide "berm" can be seen round the hole and the entrance of an underground passage probably connecting up the different shell holes and leading to a dugout.

The machine gun is probably kept below ground, brought out and fired from the parapet.

FORTIFIED SHELL HOLES FOR M.G. FIRE.



Probable Section.



Appearance on Air Photographs.

EXTRACT.....

EXTRACT FROM EXAMINATION OF PRISONERS.

The following information has been given by prisoners of 62nd I.R., (12th Div.) and Pioneer Battalion No. 6 captured yesterday morning near KLEIN ZILLEBEKE:-

The Raid was carried out by men of the III and I Bns., 62nd I.R., and Pioneers of the 6th Bn., 3rd Coy. The raiders numbered over 100 and were under the command of a Sergeant Major, the officer who apparently organised the raid remaining behind in the German lines. The enterprise appears to have been hurriedly decided upon as no particular preparations were made and the men were not told off until the evening before. According to the prisoners, the German artillery played a very small part in the undertaking, the principal bombardment being carried out by some Minenwerfer newly brought into position there. The object of the raid was apparently to take a large dugout at 28 J 31 c 1.7 from which the English enfiladed the 213th R.I.R., inflicting heavy casualties. Whether this was the only objective is not yet ascertained, but it appears probable from what the prisoners say that the enemy meant to retake and, if possible, hold the dugout and the adjacent portion of our line. From all accounts the enterprise seems to have been an utter failure. At the outset the raiders were raked with machine gun fire; their leader was wounded and, not being able to extricate themselves from the situation, they surrendered. An N.C.O. states definitely that more than one half of the men ordered to make the attack refused to leave their own trenches, the reason given being that the men are sick of the war.

EMPLOYMENT OF GREEN CROSS GAS SHELL.

The following has been extracted from a captured German order, issued on the 8th June, 1917, by the Artillery Commander of the 233rd Division, regarding the employment of Green Cross Gas Shell:-

(a) It is absolutely forbidden to mix gas shell with other shell for defensive barrage fire.

(b) Gas shell may only be used in annihilating fire against the enemy's front trenches in the following circumstances:-

(i). During dead calm or in an east wind.

(ii). If the Battalion Commanders in front line have been warned four hours previous to the beginning of the shoot and have expressed their concurrence.

(iii). Under instructions issued by the Groups. (This also applies to heavy batteries).

(c) Owing to the time required for the infantry to take the necessary precautionary measures, it is absolutely forbidden to employ gas shell during annihilating fire asked for or opened shortly before an impending hostile attack.

(d) Method of employment in annihilating fire.

(i). Gas shell will form 10% of the total number of rounds fired by each battery.

(ii). The groups will determine exactly the time at which gas shell are to be fired by each individual battery, so that some gas shell will always be bursting amongst the enemy, who will thus be forced continually to use his protective anti-gas apparatus.

EPIDEMICS IN THE GRAND DUCHY OF BADEN.

It has been reported on good authority that an epidemic in the form of acute dysentery, due to bad food and the hot weather, has been raging in the Grand Duchy of BADEN.

Several cases have occurred in KARLSRUHE, MANNHEIM, the neighbourhood of LORRACH and ALSACE.

Articles have appeared in the press to reassure the public.

C. Clifton Capt.
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

13th August 1917.

EXAMINATION OF TWO PRISONERS OF 133RD INF. REGT. CAPTURED
 on night 15/16th August 1917.

HISTORY:

Both prisoners are stretcher-bearers belonging to the 1st Coy., I Bn., 133rd Inf. Regt., 24th (2nd Saxon) Division. Their ages are respectively 26 and 31 and they both have been awarded the Iron Cross (II Class).

HOW CAPTURED.

Prisoners had taken a wounded man back to the dressing station. In endeavouring to get back to their own sector they missed their way and found themselves in front of our lines at about 0 35 d 4.8 East of GAPAARD and surrendered. They had taken a zig-zag path round the shell craters in a northerly direction from the point where they left their lines.

MOVEMENTS.

The division were on the WYTSCHAETE front during the Battle of MESSINES and were withdrawn to rest to AMERICA (P 12 d) for 5 days after which the division was again put into line near HOLLEBEKE. Prisoners' regiment then went to LEZENNES (2 m. E.S.E. of LILLE) where they did much drill subsequently moving to HAUBOURDIN and then to DON. This would account for their being reported to be in the LA BASSEE area recently. The regiment was then moved by rail to BASSE FLANDRE (Q 29) E. of WERVICQ detraining in the open somewhere E. of MENIN about 10 days ago.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

Prisoners were on the left flank of their company which was on the right flank of the regiment. The other two regiments (139th and 179th) of the division were believed to be in line but they did not know on what flank. On the right of the 24th Division is the 207th Division and on the left the 16th Division (they did not know if Prussian or Bavarian).

There appears therefore to be some rearrangement of the boundaries between the divisions and it is thought that the 18th Res. Div. has gone out of the line although no direct evidence has so far been obtained.

UNITS SEEN.

Men of the 229th and 230th R.I.R. (50th Res. Div.) seen in WERVICQ a few days ago. Men of other regiments also seen but shoulder straps were covered over.

METHOD OF HOLDING LINE.

The 133rd Regiment has one battalion in line. The front line of shell holes held by two Platoons with one platoon in close support. A fourth platoon remains behind to provide ration parties for the Coy.

RELIEFS.

The I Battn. had relieved the II Battn. on the night 14th/15th and was to remain in the line about 4 days.

ROUTES.

Prisoners know little about the routes taken to the trenches. From BASSE FLANDRE they took main road via WERVICQ as far as COMINES; from there they went across country.

HEADQUARTERS AND REST BILLETS.

Headquarters of regiment said to be at MENIN and ^{of} the battalion in rest BASSE FLANDRE.

Rest billets of regiment in cottages on both sides of MENIN road at BASSE FLANDRE.

COMPANY STRENGTH.....

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF PRISONERS (continued).COMPANY STRENGTH.

The 1st Company is said to have four platoons, (three in line and one resting) each of which consists of two 'Groups' only or about 18 O.Rs. The total fighting strength of the company would therefore be (including the company 'Stosstrupp' of one Group = 9 O.Rs.) not more than about 85 of which only about 66 are in the front line system. The total strength including the special duty men would be about 120-150. All the other companies are said to be of about the same strength.

COMMANDERS.

XIX Corps	Gen. LAFFAERT (died some time ago).
24th Division	Major-Gen. HAMMER.
133rd Inf. Regt.	Lieut.-Col. v. HALKETT.
I Battn.	Rittmeister KOHLER.
1st Coy.	Lt. FRITSCH.
2nd Coy.	Lt. BILZ.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Field Recruit Depot of the division is at LAMBERSART. (One of the prisoners said that the Depot no longer existed).

Some civilians still in WERVICQ, on eastern side of town also about PASSE FLANDRE.

Whereabouts of 40th Division not known but believed to have been resting near ANTWERP about end of July.

RECKEM and COUCOU aerodromes are no longer in use.

The Company had had one man wounded and two killed since coming into line on 14th.

Moral and physique fairly good.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY TO 5 p.m. 17th August 1917.CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.ENEMY ACTIVITY.

About 3.45 a.m. an enemy party about 20 strong attempted to rush one of our posts north of GAPAARD at O 29 c 5.3. They were received with Lewis Gun and rifle fire and dispersed.

PATROLS.

The two bridges at PONT ROUGE U 29 b 7.4 and 55.30 were examined and found to be impassable.

A few enemy were seen moving about buildings of IN DEN ROOSTER CABT., U 12 c 2.0.

A hostile patrol was encountered in O 29 a, S.W. of BEEK FARM. An exchange of bombs took place, one of our men becoming a casualty. A subsequent patrol was unable to recover the body as it was covered by enemy with bombs and rifle fire.

Enemy were heard working in RIFLE FARM. A post to the south of it at O 23 d 1.5 was found garrisoned and a string of snipers appear to occupy shell holes in O 23 b to the north.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

A working party about 40 strong was seen at C 5 d 54.25 N. of FRELINGHIEN between 6.20 and 7.30 p.m.

Patrols report work heard at U 30 a 2.1, URAL HOUSE, and a large party working on trenches in U 11 d west of WARNETON.

Some new work is observed in trenches at C 11 b 35.95 and C 5 b 1.1 north of FRELINGHIEN.

R.F.C. report work seen on what appears to be a continuation of UNCUT TRENCH in V 13 a and b.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Hostile M.Gs. were quieter than usual last night. Among other positions guns were located as firing from top of building at approx. C 11 c 80.95, north of FRELINGHIEN, about O 29 b 4.6 S.E. of BEEK FARM, in BEEK FARM, O 29 b and in RIFLE FARM O 23 d.

T.Ms. fired from the ARCHES about C 11 a 55.20 and from WARNETON.

Other T.Ms. were active from KIWI FARM O 36 c and BEEK FARM O 29 b

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery fired on enemy trenches, communications, emplacements and battery positions.

Heavy artillery carried out four concentration shoots and engaged 41 other batteries.

(b). Hostile artillery was less active than usual. There was a certain amount of shelling on back areas and battery positions.

TORREKEN CORNER, O 20 d, was shelled with gas shell during the afternoon and lachrymatory shell were reported during the night in O 33 c.

The retaliatory barrage put down by the enemy on the morning of the 16th commenced fairly promptly but he had been shelling our lines rather heavily for some 15 minutes before zero hour. At first the barrage in front of our front line was thin, but that between the front and support lines thick and well placed. Soon this was reversed. He does not appear to have marked down our advanced posts, except perhaps in one case where it was heavily shelled.

MISCELLANEOUS.

E.A. dropped bombs in vicinity of STEENWERCK during the night, also on our forward areas and PLOEGSTEERT WOOD.

Enemy's S.O.'S. signal on morning of 16th appeared to be a white light bursting into two green balls and was repeated from successive lines.

PART II follows:-...

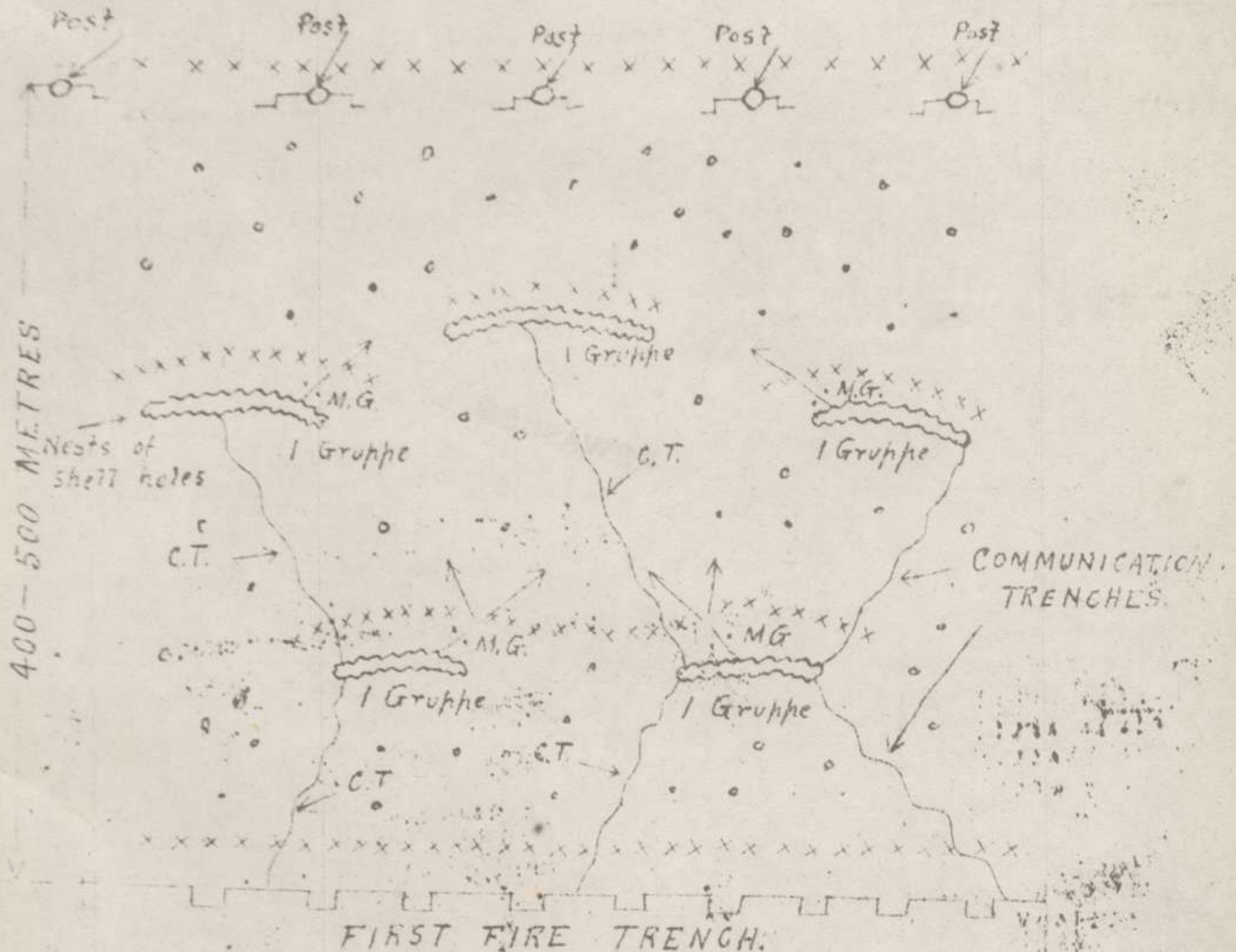
PART II
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

ENEMY'S METHOD OF DEFENDING HIS FIRST LINE.

A Pioneer, N.C.O., prisoner captured near KLEIN ZILLEBEKE on 15th Inst. who made the practice trenches near KOELNBERG, explains that they are intended for the instruction of recruits new to the area. Their object is to show exactly how the German front line is and ought to be held. The most advanced position is held by a thin line of posts, even though a good trench should exist there, the reason being that the foremost trench always offers a good target to the enemy's artillery, and consequently, if it were thickly garrisoned, the troops would suffer heavy and unnecessary casualties. Between the line of posts and the first fire trench shell holes are connected up in a series of "nests" and gaps are purposely left in the wire. These gaps are commanded by machine guns in depth.

Below is a reproduction of a sketch made by the N.C.O. to illustrate the principle which the enemy has adopted for his first line of defence.

The N.C.O. states that the same principle is being followed on a larger scale in the back areas where woods are being wired in such a way as not only to hold up troops but to compel them to follow the line of least resistance and to come under enfilade fire from machine guns.



C. Chippe Capt.

for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

17th August 1917.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 18th August 1917.CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.IDENTIFICATIONS.

A shoulder strap bearing the number "28" was found on the body of a German believed to have been killed on evening of the 14th inst. at U 6 c 0.8 north of WARNETON. This together with the identification of the 68th I.R. by other means on the 11th inst. tends to confirm the continued presence of the 16th Division opposite this front.

Among other documents found in O 29, north of GAPAARD, there is a leaf of a man's paybook bearing the regimental stamp of the 1st P.A.R., 2nd Division. This probably dates back to the time of the MESSINES Battle.

PATROLS.

Patrols report hearing enemy voices east of post at U 11 d 5.3, West of WARNETON, and a hostile listening post was observed at approx. U 11 b 65.60 north of the DOUVE.

A small enemy patrol was bombed in O 35 d. Result unknown.

Loud talking was heard in vicinity of GUARD FARM, O 29 d, a strong enemy post was located east of RIFLE FARM about O 23 d 35.10, and a trench running from JULY FARM to RIFLE FARM in O 23 d was found to be held by the enemy.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

There appears to be an increase in the number of M.Gs. firing from WARNETON, and three guns appear to be firing from near IN DEN ROOSTER CABT. U 12 c 2.0. Hostile activity was mainly directed against the support line and communication trenches.

Enemy L.T.Ms. were active from DOLLS HOUSE, U 24 c, KIWI FARM, O 36 c, and BEE FARM, O 23 b 10.53. Thirty H.T.M. bombs fell about U 29 a 80.76, west of PONT ROUGE.

FIRES.

Two fires were seen near LA BUSSCHE FARM in V 1 b about 8.15 p.m. on 17th. Balloons report fires about 3 p.m. today at P 34 a central in COMINES (cause unknown) and P 33 d 5.8, west of COMINES (believed to have been caused by our artillery shelling). Two small fires in northern end of COMINES at 3.45 p.m. (cause unknown).

AIRCRAFT.

Enemy aircraft were active during the night. Bombs were dropped in the neighbourhood of STEENWERCK and BAILLEUL.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery continued their activity against trench targets and communications.

Heavy artillery undertook 8 counter-battery shoots with satisfactory results and engaged 33 other batteries. WARNETON was also shelled.

(b). Enemy artillery was quieter during the night against our forward system confining its attention mostly to the back areas. The small number of 7.7 c.m. shells used is again noticeable, the majority being of calibre between 10.5 and 21 c.m. Gas shells fell near WAMEEKE about midnight.

During the day hostile shelling has been persistently directed against LA BASSE VILLE and vicinity.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

Photographs taken on the 18-8-17 of certain parts of back of the back areas from QUESNOY to the north of WARNETON show very little new work. 42B 1810 shows a new trench about 400 yds. long in V 27 a near LECANGUERIE FARM traversed in parts.

42E 1811 shows tracks running from the road near building V 21 a central towards the trench in V 22, broad enough for and probably used by transport.

42B 1807 shows the trenches and tracks in V 7 a and b west of BAS WARNETON and,

42B 1809 shows that farm U 6 d 2.2 has been shelled and some of the buildings damaged.

PART II follows:--

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

GERMAN ARTILLERY METHODS. (Communicated by the Army on our left).

I. Relation borne by number of Battery Emplacements to the actual number of Batteries.

Prisoners' statements, which are confirmed by documents captured in an artillery command post, show that in August 1916 in the YPRES Sector there were four times as many emplacements as there were batteries. On the 1st June 1917 there was an average of three emplacements available for each battery.

Owing to the great number of emplacements available, the enemy is able to:-

(a) Move batteries from their normal emplacements in case of need to emplacements already prepared.

(b) In case of a retirement, move batteries to a prepared position in rear.

(c) Provide prepared emplacements for reinforcing batteries.

On the 28th August 1916, there were 32 emplacements available for 7 batteries in the KORTEKELR area. Each battery had four emplacements:-

(1) Normal emplacement (FEUERSTELLUNG).

(2) Alternative emplacement (AUSWEICHSTELLUNG).

(3) Normal rear emplacement (RÜCKWÄRTIGE HAUPTSTELLUNG).

(4) Alternative rear emplacement (RÜCKWÄRTIGE AUSWEICHSTELLUNG).

The 7 batteries included:-

2 batteries 7.7 c.m. 1 battery 10 c.m.

2 batteries 8.8 c.m. 1 battery 10.5 c.m.

1 battery Russian Howitzers.

A captured order dated 1st June 1917 states:-

To all Batteries:-

All batteries will send a sketch 1/20,000 showing:-

(1) Battery emplacement.

(2) Alternative emplacement.

(3) Reinforcing emplacement. (VERSTÄRKUNGSSTELLUNG).

These sketches will show the principal and alternative observation posts and the nearest available observation post.

II. Provisional Emplacements.

The following order shows that the enemy at times moves sections into provisional emplacements with a view to attracting the enemy's attention so that another battery whose position has probably not been discovered can carry out effective fire:-

The 8th Battery of the 23rd Artillery Regiment will move a section into emplacement No. 104 (a). This section will take 400 rounds with it. The intention is that this section shall distract the enemy's attention from the 1st Battery of the 29th Artillery Regiment, which will carry out effective fire probably on Battery R. 43.

Prisoners have stated on several occasions that the enemy brings batteries forward at night to fire on our front lines and withdraws them to rearward positions as soon as they have finished shooting.

(The general policy of the Enemy's Artillery on the Second Army is similar in its main features to that outlined above. Our counter-battery work has forced him to disperse his batteries and use every endeavour to avoid drawing destructive fire. There is, however, no indication of any increase in the number of definite emplacements on this Army front. The policy has rather been for isolated guns to occupy temporary positions in huts, houses or near roads. Importance is attached rather to numerous alternative positions than to the building of strong emplacements. During the last month, an average of 30% of the guns reported active each week were firing from new positions while the total number active has not materially changed. Field guns fire little by day, and shelling of back areas is mainly carried out by H.V. guns placed well back.)

C. Clifton Galt

for Brig.-General G.S.
 II ANZAC CORPS.

18th August 1917.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 19th August, 1917.CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.PATROLS.

The ruin at U 17 b 88.55 S.W. of WARNETON was examined and no sign of occupation found.

A patrol worked to within 50 yds. of railway crossing at U 11 d 85.35 W. of WARNETON and heard about 5 or 6 men talking in an enemy post there.

At U 5 d 95.80 a sep leads to an enemy bombing post with recent footprints and two trip wires.

No enemy patrols were seen.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

New work which appears to be a trench or strong point is reported west of WARNETON about U 12 c 7.5 to 5.6.

Thick coils of wire 4 feet high are twisted amongst scrub across DOUVE Valley from U 12 a 1.1 to 0 4.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Hostile M.Gs. were active during the night firing against our forward trenches. More guns are reported firing from the direction of LAUNDRY WOOD and DURIEZ FARM in C 5 c. Guns were also located as firing from approximately U 18 a 2.9, U 12 c 2.2 and 18.09 near IN DEN ROOSTER CABT., and U 29 d 5.4 (two guns) north of GAPAARD.

L.T.Ms. were active from the usual positions.

AIRCRAFT.

Some enemy aircraft passed over between 10 p.m. and midnight and dropped bombs in back areas. Just after daylight enemy machines flew low over our front line S. of the DOUVE. One plane was shot down by A.A. fire near OOSTTAVERNE about 2 p.m.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery was active firing on usual trench targets and communications in enemy lines. Hostile batteries were also engaged.

Heavy artillery carried out five counter-battery shoots with balloon and aeroplane observation. Satisfactory results were obtained. In addition 42 other batteries were engaged. Houses in WARNETON and U 6 d and a balloon near ST. MARJERITE were shelled, the latter being pulled down.

(b). The ridge defences were heavily shelled between 9 and 10 p.m. with H.E. of large calibre and gas shells. This was repeated at 5 a.m. and also during the day east of WYTSCHAETE.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Owing to the shelling of WARNETON several concrete dugouts have been exposed.

Balloons report fires in WERVICQ between 1 and 3 p.m. at about Q 25 b central and Q 26 c central. Cause unknown.

PART II follows:-.....

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

A captured order of the Fourth German Army deals in detail with modifications in the construction of defensive positions in accordance with recent fighting experience. Great stress is laid on:-

- (a). Concealment, especially from the air.
- (b). Organization in depth.
- (c). Evacuation of battered front line trenches, and occupation of an advanced line of shell hole posts with strong points in rear of it.
- (d). The construction at irregular intervals of wire entanglements throughout the whole area of the fortified zone.
Note:- Captured maps show wire in hedges and tree-rows throughout the area behind the front; this, owing to its situation, is often invisible on aeroplane photographs.
- (e). The siting of communication trenches so that not only can they be used for defence, but their destruction will entail a large expenditure of ammunition.
- (f). Where shallow shell-proof dugouts are not possible, deep dugouts will be used even in the front line.
- (g). The siting of machine guns in concealed emplacements outside the trench lines, instead of in the angles of the wire entanglement as was the general principle in the Hindenburg Line. (See Appendix for full text of this order.)

ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

The attitude of the enemy on the south of the Army front has recently been somewhat suspicious and there appears generally a greater amount of enemy activity in this area than elsewhere. His counter-battery work, mostly in the nature of area shoots, has been particularly lively in the area north of the LYS; his shelling of forward areas too appears to have been more persistent, particularly round LA BASSE VILLE. His artillery flights have been consistently much more active to south of HOUTHEM than to the north, and the LINSELLIES and QUESNOY Groups of Wireless Field Stations have for a considerable time shown greater activity than those further north. Yesterday they were particularly lively.

It is not clear whether the enemy's activity in this area is due to apprehension of an attack on our part or is the precursor of some small offensive action like an attempt to regain LA BASSE VILLE or a raid on a large scale.

ACTIVITY OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT FOR WEEK TO 18th AUGUST 1917.

Visibility has been moderate throughout the week, with low clouds and some rain. Enemy scout activity has, on the whole, been normal; his artillery planes were fairly active during the week, mostly on the south of the Army front. On the 14th an unsuccessful attack was made on two of our balloons. During the past week the enemy has been particularly active bombing by night, probably in retaliation for similar activity on our part. Bombs have been dropped on HAZEBROUCK, BAILLEUL, STEENWERCK, STRAZEELE, FLETRE, and various points in forward areas. The activity of enemy's low flying aeroplanes over our trenches continues, chiefly on north and south of the Army front. During the week to 18th August 136 combats with enemy aircraft took place. 17 hostile machines were shot down and 27 down out of control; 5 of our machines are missing.

41 hostile machines crossed our front line during the week under review. Enemy machines were 9% of the total observed.

C. Cliffe

Capt.
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

19th August 1917.

Appendix to II ANZAC Intelligence Summary
19th August 1917.

THE ENEMY'S DEFENSIVE POLICY.

Translation of captured order issued by German Fourth Army
dated July 1917.

(From Army on our Left).

1. The construction of defensive positions has been radically altered in character by the experience of the fighting of the year 1917. The positions of the Fourth Army are henceforward to be constructed on the principles which follow.

The nature of construction is to be divided into:-

- (a) Construction of positions on the battlefield.
- (b) Construction of fresh positions.
- (c) Modification of old positions.

(a). Construction of positions on the battlefield.

2. In the case of the positions constructed hitherto with several continuous lines, the plan of the enemy is to destroy them at the beginning of a battle by the expenditure of a great quantity of ammunition. The dugouts situated in old trenches, principally in the first and second lines, were man-traps and have often led to the loss of a large number of prisoners. These circumstances prove the weakness of the rigid methods of defence practiced hitherto, shortly before and during a battle.

The strength of the defence must lie in the concealment of our fighting force from the enemy's observation - trenches, dugouts, machine guns, military organizations and battery positions which appear on the enemy's aeroplane photographs, will be sacrificed to the enemy's artillery.

The severity of the enemy's fire makes any effort to keep our trenches in repair impossible. Any attempt to do so exhausts the fighting strength of the troops prematurely, while it is impossible to keep pace with the work of destruction.

Another method of construction must therefore be put in hand at the beginning of the battle. That is to say there must be a deliberate transition from the old pattern of position which is visible and will be shot to pieces by the enemy, to a zone of defence fortified in depth. This must allow of offensive action by the defence from positions concealed as far as possible, lightly manned in front and more thickly towards the rear.

3. Principles.

I. As the destructive fire of the enemy proceeds, the mass of the infantry is to be taken out of the forward visible and battered trenches and dugouts and to be echeloned in depth in the open before the first infantry attack.

In old positions, completely new dispositions must be introduced without reference to existing trenches, simply according to the circumstances of the battle. It is the duty of all officers to order and carry out unhesitatingly the methodical disposal of the troops at the proper time.

II. Shell-hole nests are to take the place of a trench line and are to be occupied by squads and single machine guns arranged checkerwise over the area.

Care is to be.....

- 2 -

Care is to be taken to improve the shelter in the shell holes by the insertion of frames or by joining adjacent shell holes by means of tunnels supported by frames. The excavated earth is to be thrown into shell holes near by or, if the condition of the soil permits, distributed over the ground; thus in time tunnelled dugouts are formed which to outward appearance are shell holes and are invisible to aeroplane observation. If frames cannot be used for the purpose owing to water in the ground, the simplest means are to be used to give protection against shrapnel-fire.

Close behind the forward shell-hole line, strong points are to be constructed for machine guns, assault troops and elements of the supports that have been brought forward. Wire is to be erected in front of the forward shell-hole line, irregular in trace, but connected as far as possible. It has been found useful to fill up the shell holes in front of the shell-hole line with wire to prevent their occupation by the enemy.

Further back, it is best for the shell-hole nests to have wire entanglements only local in extent, since continuous belts make offensive action on our part more difficult.

Wire entanglements that cause the enemy to change direction and be exposed to machine gun fire are to be frequently employed.

All work of construction must be hidden from the enemy. Conspicuous works and connected trench lines do not conform to this important condition.

III. A great part of the reserves and supports are to be accommodated in the open in and near shell holes, in woods, ravines etc. wherever cover from air observation exists. Villages which, as experience shows, draw enemy fire, must be as far as possible avoided.

Reserves and supports must work methodically at the construction of a continuous line consisting of several trenches (a reverse slope line), which must be screened from enemy observation.

This position will form a support for the echeloned defences in front of it. It must be strongly wired with gaps for the passage of troops to attack through and must have several trenches. Deep dugouts will only be constructed in the second and third line. The first line will only contain small dugouts for about one-sixth of the garrison.

This position will be generally the position for the protection of the artillery and will be about one and a half to two kilometres from the forward shell-hole line.

IV. If there is sufficient labour available further rear positions are to be constructed on these principles as support positions (Rückhaltstellung).

(b). On the construction of new positions.

4. The principles laid down for the construction of a zone of defence fortified in depth will also apply to the construction of the forward position, the protective position for the artillery and the communication trenches between them.

5. It is not sufficient that the infantry alone should be disposed in depth. The principles laid down must also be followed in the disposition of machine guns and trench mortars and above

all.....

- 3 -

all in the disposition of the artillery with its O.Ps. and Command posts.

The chief strength of the position is to be sought by organisation in depth, in the proper distribution of force over the whole fortified zone and in concealment.

6. Care is to be taken that cover against air observation is ensured. Artillery positions and machine gun emplacements in the fortified zone which are located during construction, lose their value. Every single man must know this. Air photographs of our own positions must be taken to ensure that due precautions are being observed. Dummy works will be employed in order to deceive the enemy.

7. Dugouts are to be begun at once throughout the whole depth of the defensive zone. Dugouts are to be provided in the first trench for one-sixth of the garrison of the forward line (Fighting troops); in the second trench for one-third of the garrison; further to the rear as far as the protective position for artillery (exclusive) for about half of the fighting troops. The same principles are to be followed in the construction of the position for the protection of the artillery which is designed for occupation by the supports.

Numerous dugouts are to be constructed outside the trenches, in readiness for the methodical distribution of the trench garrison over the intervening area at the commencement of defensive operations.

Where mined dugouts can be constructed, they are to be covered by 8 to 10 metres of earth and to have at least two exits. In the case of concreted dugouts a high elevation is to be avoided. Their tops are to be kept flat.

8. The dugouts in the forward line must also be shell proof; there must be just sufficient accommodation for the small proportion of the garrison laid down in para. 7.

If these shell-proof dugouts can be constructed of less depth than the mined dugouts by the use of material of greater resisting power, such as concrete, iron and beams, this is to be recommended as facilitating the rapid exit of the men.

Long struts are to be used in the construction of deep dugouts so that the exits may be wide and high and facilitate the rapid egress of the garrison. Care is to be taken that the exit has sufficiently strong head cover.

Besides these dugouts, each for about a gruppe (9 men), splinter-proof shelters for observation posts are necessary close beside the dugouts. From these observation will normally take place. In case of an intense bombardment, observation will be carried out by courageous men who will leave the dugouts at frequent intervals and observe over the parapet.

9. It is of advantage to have an exit from the rear of the dugout leading back from the trench, preferably into a shell hole, which conceals it from view.

The garrison can then leave their dugouts when the enemy has penetrated into the trench (see sketch).

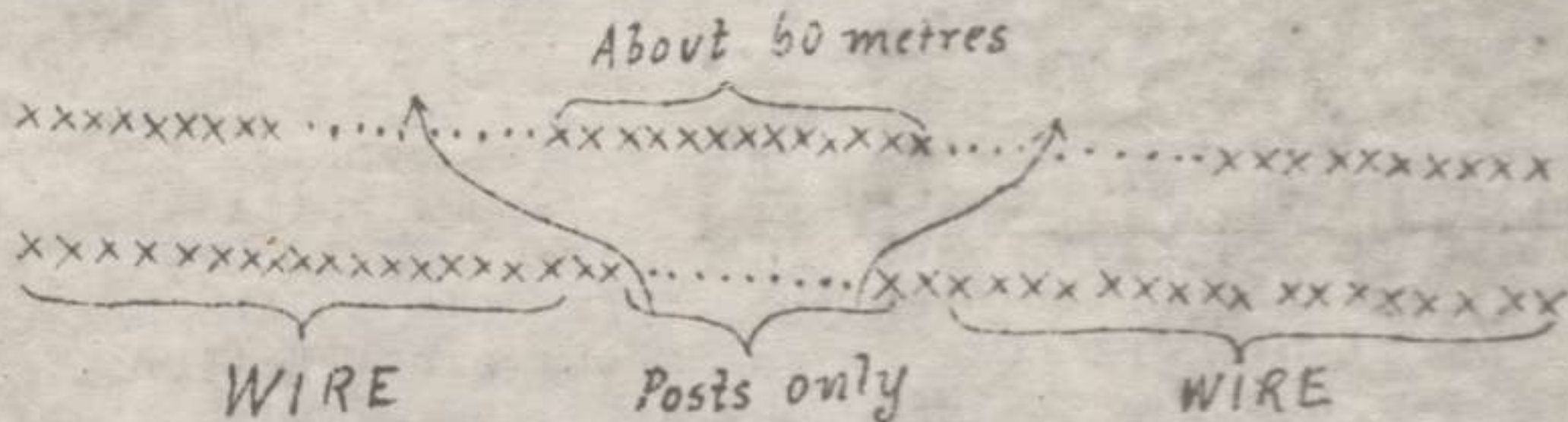


10.....

10. To ensure the certainty of the alarm being given in deep dugouts it is recommended that several niches should be made in the entrance to dugouts and in them sentries should be posted. These sentries will be able to engage the enemy directly he enters the trench and will, by keeping the entrance free, enable the garrison to turn out. For a similar purpose it is advantageous to construct a machine gun emplacement on the flank of deep dugouts. This will make it possible to keep the entrance to the dugout under fire and prevent the enemy from entering.

11. In front of the forward trench a strong and continuous wire entanglement is necessary, consisting of three belts each 10 metres wide at intervals of 5 to 10 metres. It should follow an irregular trace and is not to be too high. Particular care is to be taken to ensure that the front belt of wire can be swept by flanking fire. The wire is not to be taut; otherwise it gets severely damaged by air pressure when a shell explodes. For emergency purposes strong isolated belts of wire one metre to one and a half metres high at intervals of two to three metres can be employed.

The first step in the construction of the position is the erection of the first belt of wire, the outer edge of which will be about 60 metres in front of the front trench. In front of the second and third trenches, and, in the case of rear positions, in front of the forward trench line also, gaps for the passage of troops moving to attack are to be left. To begin with, only the posts for the wire are to be driven in, the wire is to be dumped in readiness.



The protection of the first of the three belts of wire must be done from holes or portions of trench behind the first belt of wire.

In the zone fortified in depth, the wire entanglements are to be distributed over the whole area, in irregular lines about 10 metres broad, or in numerous strong belts, advantage being taken of the cover afforded by the ground, such as hedges, sunken roads, etc.

12. Order of procedure in all new work.

Marking out - wiring - dugouts.

Digging of trenches last, unless lack of material renders it necessary to proceed with it first.

13. The construction of a very large number of machine gun emplacements in the ground between the lines must at once be begun. Machine gun emplacements will be sited not on high points but on slopes and in ravines, with the object of securing flanking fire.

They must take.....

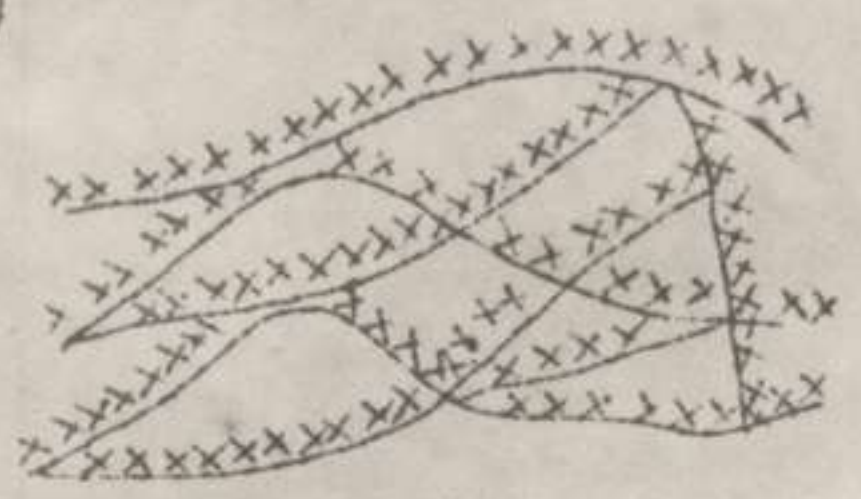
They must take the enemy by surprise. It is therefore not advisable to place these machine guns in the angles of the wire. The enemy is bound to suspect their presence there. (See sketch).



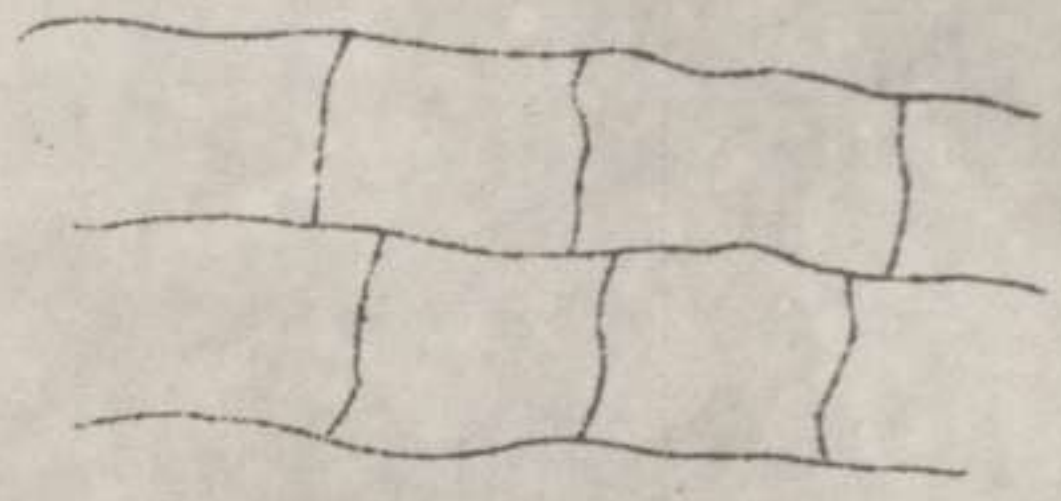
Dummy emplacements are to be constructed at these points while the actual machine guns are concealed on the flanks or in rear. It is particularly important that machine gun emplacements should be screened from observation from the air. Accordingly the first step is to cover the excavation and the materials for construction by means of wire netting covered with brushwood. The machine gun emplacement must not be completely surrounded by high wire which gives away the emplacement to the airmen. It is preferable to erect belts of wire or several wire fences so arranged that the enemy must run into them and that they can be swept by fire along their length.

14. Here and there in the position the communication trenches between the several lines can be built obliquely without much increasing their length. (Sketches a and b). This procedure will provide a network in which the communication trenches which are always to be provided with wire and to be organised for fire, can be utilised as switch lines.

(a)



(b)



This arrangement has the following advantage: that the enemy cannot accurately locate our defensive system. If he intends to destroy the position he must engage the area between the first and third lines. This will impede and tend to break up his artillery preparation. The enemy having penetrated is caught in the network and is prevented from surrounding the trench garrison which is holding out in front.

If the communication trenches are in straight lines (sketch b) the enemy can engage the separate lines and neglect the intermediate ground.

(c) Reconstruction of old positions.

15. In the old positions and also at many parts of the FLANDERN STELLUNG (ZONNEBEKE-STADEN line) the majority of

the dugouts.....

- 6 -

the dugouts are in the first trench and but few in the rear lines. This mistake is in future to be avoided, for it leads to crowding of the forward line of defence with the well-known disastrous consequences.

In the rear positions and in the FLANDERN STELLUNG, where the ground permits this mistake is to be remedied by digging a new trench in front of the old first trench.

In the old forward lines, where this is out of the question the alteration is to be effected by the rapid construction of dugouts in the rear lines of the position. As this work progresses the dugouts of the forward line are to be gradually reduced. This can be done either by removing the material of superfluous dugouts and employing it for dugouts in the rear or by barricading existing concrete dugouts so that they cannot be opened except on the express order of responsible senior officers. They will possibly then afford convenient points of assembly for our own assault troops in case of an attack by us.

When the sketch showing work done is sent in on the 25th of each month all groups and the Guard Corps are to state, with reference to local conditions, how the reconstruction of old positions has advanced.

16. In certain sectors and especially in the rearward positions, the work on positions has been chiefly directed to the upkeep of trench-lines. The fortification of the zone organised in depth has not been properly carried out everywhere. I am aware that the maintenance of positions in certain sectors has been difficult and has made very heavy demands on the troops. In spite of the great amount of work accomplished, parts of the positions, as is shown in the reports, are not capable of defence owing to the state of the ground. In such sectors the value of a zone organised in depth is enhanced.

(Signed) Sixt von Armin,
Army Commander,
(Fourth Army).

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 20th August 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PATROLS.

A patrol examined the bridge near SUGAR REFINERY in U 17 d and report it impassable.

JULY FARM O 23 d is reported occupied, and WAM FARM O 23 d unoccupied. There is a post 50 yds. east of WAM FARM about O 23 d 2.2.

Enemy post at O 23 b 3.1 north of GAPAARD is reported unoccupied but that at O 23 b 25.35 is occupied.

Small parties of the enemy were seen in O 23 d and O 23 b north of GAPAARD. They retreated on the approach of our patrols.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

A working party was heard in FRELINGHIEN at about C 11 a 85.05.

Three large concrete dugouts are reported in bank near River DOUVE about U 12 a 05.15, N.W. of WARNETON. The bank is heavily wired on east side, and wire runs from River DOUVE to hedge at U 12 a 0.4.

At U 12 a 10.15, N.W. of WARNETON, new earth with wire in front is visible round enemy post behind hedge.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Hostile machine gun fire was active throughout the night. A new position is approximately U 29 b 95.20 near PONT ROUGE.

Numerous L.T.M. bombs were directed against our line of posts along the front, gas bombs being also used in U 23 b, south of LA BASSE VILLE. A mortar was firing from about U 29 b 9.1 near PONT ROUGE.

AIRCRAFT.

Enemy aircraft have been active during the day over our front east of MESSINES. A number of planes crossed our lines during the night apparently on bombing expeditions in the back areas.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery were active against enemy guns, T.M. emplacements, buildings and works and gave retaliatory fire on occasions.

Heavy artillery carried out seven counter-battery shoots with aeroplane and balloon observation. Thirty three other batteries were also engaged.

(b). Enemy artillery activity was mostly confined to the back areas but between 3.30 and 5.30 a.m. a bombardment of our front line south of the DOUVE took place. A considerable number of gas shells being reported.

The enemy heavily shelled the STEENEBEEK Valley and the WYTSCHAETE-COSTTAVERNE road during the day.

PART II follows:-..

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

(Translation of Document captured by the Army on our Left.)

EXTRACT FROM GROUP ORDER OF THE WYTSCHAETE GROUP
dated 17-6-17.

=====

The development and construction of the fighting zone as far back as the Artillery Protective Position is the duty of the Division and is to be carried out with the means at its disposal.

The construction is to be carried out in agreement with the following points of view. In those places where the construction of mined dugouts is impossible, as is the case on the most part of the Group front, the defence in depth must be effected by the construction of hidden strong points (literally "Nests of Opposition").

The greatest value is to be attached to the erection of numerous hidden entanglements. Wide fields of wire are not necessary. Wiring of the many hedges, copses and rows of trees will suffice in many cases. All wire entanglements must be so erected that the offensive method of defence remains possible in any event. The gaps in the wire entanglements are to be masked so that they cannot be noticed by the enemy, but can be immediately recognised by our advancing storming troops even at night.

CORPS STAFFS.

(a) A document, dated 26-6-17, shows that the XIX Corps Staff is with the AUBERS Group.

(b) A document shows that the IX Res. Corps Staff (WYTSCHAETE Group) was still at COURTRAI on the 16th July.

INFANTRY ARMOUR.

With reference to the German infantry armour described in II ANZAC Summary of 7th inst., a captured order by the C.G.S. of the Field Army, dated 5-6-17, states that "the armour is not generally intended for operations but will prove valuable for sentries, listening posts, garrisons of shell-holes, gun teams of machine guns scattered over the ground, etc., especially as a protection for the back".

A report by the Sixth German Army on the experience gained with this armour is attached to the order, pointing out various defects in design. The Army, however, requests that a further issue of this armour be made, as it has proved useful for the purposes mentioned above and has prevented casualties.

The scale of issue to the infantry on the 19th June, 1917, was two per company, including machine gun companies.

Experiments carried out with this armour show that it is not proof against rifle bullets at 450 yards range. Neither the service revolver, nor Mill's grenades exploded three feet away, penetrated the armour.

C. Clippes

Capt.

20th August, 1917.

for Brig.-General, G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 21st August 1917.CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.ENEMY ACTIVITY.

A party of about 15 Germans attempted to raid one of our posts in O 29 a east of WAMBEKE. They were repulsed leaving 2 dead in our hands.

IDENTIFICATION.

The 133rd I.R., 24th (Saxon) Div. identified by shoulder straps off two men killed in O 29 a east of WAMBEKE (Normal).

PATROLS.

The whole Corps front was patrolled without any of the enemy being encountered. Sounds of digging and hammering could be heard in RIFLE FARM O 23 d.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

What appears to be the beginning of new earthworks can be seen on the hill south of WERVICQ 28 W 2.

Green screens are visible covering a large dugout in hedge at U 6 c 05.20. A shallow trench runs along hedge meeting UNEBENT TRENCH at U 12 a 40.95 north of WARNETON.

WAM FARM, O 23 c, is badly damaged by our shell fire and is unoccupied.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Enemy M.Gs. were active during the night firing from usual positions against our front system. A gun firing tracer bullets is located about U 24 c 66.50, DEULEMONT.

A new L.T.M. position is thought to be near WIGART FARM about U 18 c 19.10. Mortars were active during the night shelling our front system, gas bombs being also reported.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery carried out their usual programme and gave retaliatory fire as required. Heavy artillery carried out 8 satisfactory destructive shoots and engaged 19 other batteries.

(b). Hostile artillery confined its activity mostly to back areas and battery positions. At 9 p.m. and 4.10 a.m. our front system S. of DOUVE was bombarded with 7.7 and 10.5 c.m. shells until stopped by our retaliation. A few gas shells are reported.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

42B 1821. In our own lines in U 29 S.E. of PONT ROUGE shows wire and tracks used by patrols.

42B 1822 } PONT ROUGE: complete destruction of bridges. 1822 shows enemy
1823 } strong post on either side of road S.E. of bridge: note narrow
sap at corner of UNCOVERED TRENCH, (U 29 d 8.9) probably leading to M.G. position: C.T. on east of road from the building U 29 b 65.25 (probably advanced post) many trenches across road: note short C.Ts. back from support trench U 30 c leading to old battery position, note also several trenches marked out but not dug.

42B 1824. A good photograph of new work in U 24 d E. of DEULEMONT: note continuation of trench V 19 c towards DEULEMONT, and new trench west of Cemetery V 19 c 1.7, some fresh wire near road junction V 19 c 00.55: note also signs of work under trees south of this road junction, perhaps a trench is concealed. Note also tracks to buildings U 24 d central and V 19 c 10.55: many shell holes in use, especially along path leading 100 yds. north of Cemetery.

42B 1826. Continuation of above past cross roads V 19 central, shell holes near cross roads not so much used as further north, and tracks not so clear

42B 1825 shows new trench under construction south of River LYS in V 13 d and V 14 c: note broad belt of wire in front of trench. Dugouts along hedge north of farm at V 13 d 25.85 appear still in use. Shell holes near wire about V 14 c 0.8 have been made defensible, also several holes south of track V 13 d 8.4 appear occupied.

PART II follows:

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

EFFECTS OF BRITISH GAS PROJECTORS.

The following has been extracted from an order issued by the German 4th Army on the 4th June, 1917, regarding our gas projectors:-

"Since the beginning of April, a new British gas mortar (projector) has made its appearance, in continually increasing quantities, particularly on the front of the 4th Army.

"The most thorough precautions must be taken against this mortar, owing to the enemy's method of using it, and its high degree of effectiveness.

"In this new gas mine the British possess a very effective means of projecting on to our trenches large quantities of highly poisonous and dangerously concentrated gas. The effects are not confined to the immediate vicinity of the burst, but are noticeable for a considerable distance from it.

"The British use this gas mine very cleverly.

"Although considerable losses have sometimes been experienced these have been due to the well-known mistakes in the use of our anti-gas protective appliances.

"On account of the effectiveness of this new gas mine, the mask will always be carried in the alert position when within 3,000 yards of the enemy's trenches, and will never be removed in any circumstances.

"In favourable weather, we must reckon with the probability of the gas clouds drifting over our back lines, and the danger zone must be considered to extend for at least six miles behind the front line. There must be a well organised gas alarm system, ready for both gas mine bombardments and cloud gas."

SHORTAGE OF MATERIAL IN GERMANY.

The increasing shortage of textiles in Germany has led the paper factories to turn their attention to the manufacture of paper stuff substitutes. Already table and bed linen are made of paper, also shirts, mattress covers, rough towels and children's pinafores. Paper boots and shoes are being made at a factory in ALSACE and appear to give satisfaction.

Paper is also used for surgical bandages. The War Raw Material Department allows for private use only one-fifth of the normal peace time requirements, and, in consequence of the filling of most hospitals with wounded, an unusual shortage of bandage appliances has arisen.

EFFECT OF OUR BOMBARDMENT BEFORE THE YPRES BATTLE.

The following is an extract from a letter written on the 1st August by a man of 228th Res. Inf. Regt. (49th Res. Div.), which was withdrawn from the BOESINGHE sector on the 29th July, before the infantry assault took place :-

"I am glad to get out of the murder at last. You will have heard of the artillery battle in FLANDERS. We were right in the thick of it. Men who went through the ARRAS battle say that this is much worse. The worst of it was that we had hardly any dugouts. In the support line we were lying in wooden shelters. Naturally the losses were enormous. Our company lost half its strength."

21st August, 1917.

C. Clippes
Capt.
for Brig.-General. G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 22nd August 1917.CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.PATROLS.

Patrols along the whole Corps front report many enemy working parties, some protected by covering parties.

An officer and N.C.O. patrolled hedge near road at U 18 a 05.65, S.W. of WARNETON, and dispersed an enemy patrol there with bombs and rifle fire. The hedge was examined and what is apparently new work on the trench was seen, also small dugouts under the hedge. A strip of low wire exists along line U 18 a 15.95 to U 18 a 05.75.

No other contact with the enemy was obtained.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Patrols saw or heard enemy working parties at, among other places, LAUNDRY WOOD, C 5 c; along the line U 18 a 2.8 to U 12 c 2.7, W. of WARNETON; along the line U 6 a 20.00 to U 6 a 30.30, N. of WARNETON; at O 35 b 9.2 and O 55 b 1.7 east of GAPAARD; at O 23 b 25.10 and O 23 b 25.20 N. of GAPAARD.

New wire very thick and about 4 feet high, is reported erected on the south side of the strong point at U 6 c 42.55 N. of WARNETON.

A post is reported located about O 29 b 3.4 N. of GAPAARD.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Hostile M.Gs. were active during the night against our front system and communication trenches.

H.T.M. bombs fell in our line ^{near} FLELINGHIEN and at U 5 d 8.8 north of WARNETON. L.T.M. activity was normal. Gas bombs are reported.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery was active firing at trench targets and hostile battery positions. Retaliatory fire was given when required.

Heavy artillery continued their counter-battery work.

(b). Hostile artillery was normally active against both our front and back areas. The front area between the WARNAVE and STEIGNAST FARM was shelled between 9 and 10 p.m., and MESSINES between 6.30 and 8.30 p.m. with all calibres up to 15 cm.

PLCEGSTEERT WOOD and vicinity were shelled with shrapnel and gas shell shortly after midnight.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS. - (taken on 21-8-17).

42B 1832 Show the new trenches S.E. of WARNETON in V 13 which have been

42B 1834 reported by R.F.C. observers. These consist of a continuation eastward of UNCUT TRENCH from the cross roads V 13 a 1.6 to the trench running south from the LYS at V 14 a 10.85, and new bits of trench near WAUSTINE FARM V 13 c 2.5: the trenches in this area built irregularly so as to face N.W. and S.W.

42B 1830 Shows new work in front of the WARNETON line north of WARNETON in O 35 d. The line of shell holes north and south of the crater in CINEMA ROAD has been made into an irregular trench 100-200 yds. in front of CTIRA TRENCH.

42B 1835. Shows the COMINES-QUESNOY railway south of STE. MARGUERITE: the trenches west of the railway do not appear to have been worked on lately, but there appears to be wire in front of railway from V 22 c 9.0 to V 28 d. The Dump at the junction of the light railway from BONDUES with the normal gauge line at 36 D 4 b 2.5 seems to be much used. Buildings at LE PREAU D 4 a may also be used as a dump probably for material for trench construction.

Other photographs show LA BASSE VILLE and our own lines.

PART II follows:--...

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

COMBING MEN FROM THE ARMY IN THE FIELD.

According to a captured order of the XIX Corps, dated 26th June, 1917, miners are to be returned to Germany immediately.

- (a) The order begins with a complaint that previous instructions to return all miners for work in Germany had not been carried out in a proper manner.
- (b) Orders are now given that all coal miners who are not working in coal mines in occupied territory or on the strength of mining companies, and also a number of metal miners, are to be returned to Germany.
- (c) Only where the military operations are such that the withdrawal of a large number of men would be dangerous, are the miners to be kept back until replacements arrive.
- (d) The order finally states that the continued supply of munitions to the armies in the field is dependent on sufficient coal miners being sent back to Germany.

ARTILLERY PRISONERS' STATEMENTS.

An officer and a non-commissioned officer of a field battery, captured on the 16th August east of WESTHOEK, made the following statements :-

- (a) A battery has, as a rule, 3 alternative positions.
- (b) There have recently been a comparatively large number of bursts in the bore. This is attributed to long periods of rapid fire, which the 7.7 cm. gun does not stand well.
- (c) When guns are put out of action, they are generally replaced within 24 hours from a central artillery park.
- (d) In quiet sectors, inaccurate guns are kept in use for considerable periods.
- (e) The rule of keeping not more than 2,000 - 3,000 rounds in a battery position has been found impracticable, owing to the difficulties of bringing up fresh supplies frequently.
The present system is to keep 2,000-3,000 rounds in each of the alternative positions, so that a battery has from 6,000-9,000 rounds within easy reach.
- (f) A balloon remains up throughout the night, in order to pick up barrage signals.
- (g) The practice of moving guns forward during the night is confirmed.

Single guns are left in evacuated battery positions, to give them the appearance of activity.

22nd August, 1917.

C. Clifton Capt.
for Brig.-General, G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

9

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 23rd August 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PATROLS.

Patrols were active along the whole Corps front, but the only hostile patrol seen was in front of UNABLE TRENCH, north of WARNETON. There was also a large party at work near the trench.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

New work is observed along trench at C 11 c 77.26 in FRELINGHIEN, and also in U 18 d, S. of WARNETON; much new wire on wooden stakes being also reported in latter neighbourhood.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

South of the DOUVE hostile M.G. activity was mainly confined to indirect fire against back areas, but north of the DOUVE the front system also received attention. Guns were firing from approximately U 24 c 95.15 and U 30 b 1.5 near DEULEMONT.

Hostile T.M. activity was normal. A new position is thought to be U 24 a 1.9.

AIRCRAFT.

During the night enemy planes dropped bombs on MESSINES and in the vicinity of DRANOUTRE.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery carried out registration and retaliatory fire, shelled enemy works and communications, and bombarded houses at C 11 a 99.18, FRELINGHIEN, and U 24 c 85.30, DEULEMONT.

Heavy artillery carried out 11 destructive shoots with the aid of balloon and aeroplane observation, besides engaging 34 other batteries.

(b). Hostile artillery gave most attention to our back areas during the night. Our communications east of MESSINES were fired on at intervals and many gas shells were put into FLOEGSTERT WOOD. During the day our forward ^{system} east of FLOEGSTERT has received some attention.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

Aeroplane photographs taken on 23-8-17, show a new trench being dug north of the railway west of WARNETON from U 11 d 90.45 to U 12 c 00.65: the trench is narrow and traversed and will probably be connected up to the sap along the southern bank of the DOUVE in U 12 a. It is protected by a line of shell holes 50-100 yds in front. (42B 1840, 1841).

Other photographs show that not much work has been done on the BAS WARNETON-PONT MALHET line, except that irregular belts of wire are being put up in front of the trench in P 25 c and P 31. There is evidently still a great deal of movement between the WARNETON line and this intermediate one, as the tracks are many and broad. (42B 1836-1839).

PART II follows -

APPENDIX

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.SMOKE SHELL.

A German 15 cm. smoke shell has recently been captured, a peculiar feature of which is the exceptionally large bursting charge.

Its chief characteristics are as follows :-

Calibre	...	...	14.97 cm.
Colour	...	...	Grey.
Distinctive Markings	...	...	On body, a black N. (N = Nebel or mist). On base, a black cross (indicates non-standard weight).
Bursting charge	...	...	2.95 kg. (6.5 lbs) T.N.T.
Smoke producer	...	...	1550 cc. (2 $\frac{3}{4}$ pints) of sulphur trioxide in a lead container.
Date of filling	...	...	December, 1916.

The method of employment is laid down in the following extracts from the "Instructions for the Employment of Green Cross Gas Shell", dated 18-2-17:-

"The effect of the 'Green Cross' gas shell now used is obtained by drifts, which outlast the upward dispersion of the more or less plainly visible drifts by about two hours in winter and one hour in summer. The area under fire may, therefore, be approached in from 1-2 hours after the apparent dispersion of the drifts.

"In order to increase the visibility of the gas drifts, smoke shell can be fired at the conclusion of the bombardment at points with reference to which it is important to ascertain when they are free from gas".

Confirmation is required of the use of this shell on the British front.

INFORMATION FROM PRISONERS.

The following information has been obtained from prisoners of the 26th Division, captured north of ST. JULIEN on the 19th August:-

- Warning of the attack was given by prisoners captured by the Germans about the 16th.
- A battery of field guns had been brought into position about a kilometre to the rear of the German front line as defence against Tanks, which were expected to attack.
- On the approach of the Tanks, the N.C.O. in charge of the post ran away and the remainder of the garrison took cover in the concrete shelter. A Tank remained close to the shelter and prevented the garrison from either emerging or fighting until the infantry arrived.

C. Cliffe

Capt.

for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

23rd August 1917.

EXTRACTS.....

EXTRACTS FROM A DIARY FOUND ON THE 'BODY OF ONE OF THE MEN OF THE 133rd
I.R. KILLED NIGHT 20/21st AUGUST near WAMEEKE.

- 26-6-17. Relieved (the whole regiment) by the 8th I.R. To ANNAPPES near LILLE; quartered in a convent. Rotten; no connection with the outer world.
- 1-7-17. Received the Iron Cross to-day.
- 3-7-17. Every day drilled hard. The N.C.Os. are nearly crazy with their own importance, and when we move up to the front again they are to in a 'blue funk'.
- 6-7-17. in a 'blue funk'.
- 7-7-17. Marched off to LOOS. Once again in so-called 'rest' and at the same time in reserve. Quarters beastly.
- 22-7-17. Alarmed at 4 a.m. Marched off at 8 a.m. After two hours march we arrived in WAVRIN where we are the support battalion. In most wretched quarters. I am lying in a house without windows. Table, chairs, etc. are luxuries. The rationing is beginning to get very bad. Nearly every morning I have to go on duty with an empty stomach. We get 1 lb. of bread per diem. In these places there are plenty of potatoes and consequently a great deal of stealing takes place. I 'raised' a saucepan, potatoes and butter. That was fine. Today, being Sunday, we had duty up to 6 p.m.!
- 29-7-17. Today, Sunday, I made potato-chips in my sauce pan. That was fine! I forage for my potatoes every day. Our men steal shamefully. The 'potato-war' gets more dangerous every day. In LOOS two military policemen were stabbed by Bavarian artillerymen and in HAUBOURDIN a civilian was shot by a man of the 133rd.
- 31-7-17. 5 p.m. marched to BERCLAU as support battalion. Quarters as usual; beyond description!
- 4-8-17. We are still in BERCLAU. It has been raining continuously since 31st July and consequently no drill can take place. The quarters are fearfully lousy.
- 8-8-17. At 6-45 a.m. marched off to DON and entrained there. Arrived 11.30 in MENIN. 1½ hours march to WERVICQ. The last time we left shell-torn FLANDERS, WERVICQ was a flourishing little town with all its inhabitants, and when we returned there was only a smoking pile of ruins. We are now for the fourth time in old familiar FLANDERS which is now the theatre of the most terrible offensive of the war.
- 9-8-17. Went to bathe in the LYS yesterday and today.
- 10-8-17. Today was for me a 'red-letter' day as I saw this evening, my beloved WYTSCHAETE again - only from a distance, however, as our friend the enemy (der Max) has advanced to meet us, and we do not therefore have so far to walk! We arrived in the trenches at 11 o'clock. The II Battalion is the support Battalion. We are lying now behind and in front of the PONT MALHET Pioneer dump.
- 12-8-17) The two days passed without heavy artillery fire. On the right
- 13-8-17) there was a terrible drumfire. 20-30 red and green rockets were continuously in the air. Last night an English aviator dropped bombs on our trenches. The 6th Coy. had 4 killed.
- 15-8-17. This morning at 3-30 a.m. we arrived in our quarters from the trenches. We are in BASSE FLANDRE. Hardly an hour in quarters and we were alarmed! The HOLLEBEKE Division had demanded us. Oh! How we cursed! At the double we rushed off to TENBRIELEN. Two hours later we turned back again! Dead-tired!
-

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 24th August 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PATROLS.

The leader of a patrol swam across the LYS at U 29 c 6.6 S.W. of PONT ROUGE where he found an old pontoon against the east bank. He reconnoitred about up to U 29 d 0.4 without seeing or hearing any enemy and reports that there is no wire or obstacle up to this point. A working party was heard near UNCOVERED TRENCH in U 29 d.

A party of about 20 enemy were seen moving towards the river in U 18 a S.W. of WARNETON. Some bombs were thrown. Later two parties of about 10 men were seen. Sounds of rowing were heard from the river.

An enemy listening post capable of holding four men was discovered at approx. U 18 a 6.5 S.W. of WARNETON. It contained three stick bombs and a steel helmet.

A hostile patrol of 11 men was seen in U 11 d, W. of WARNETON, moving towards our line. They retired on observing one of our patrols.

A patrol operating in U 5 b reports that the enemy pushed out posts close to our lines at 8.30 p.m. and withdrew them at 4 a.m.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Enemy M.Gs. were active during the night particularly against our northern sector. Bursts of fire were directed against our posts and trenches, and the DOUVE Valley was subjected to indirect fire.

An H.T.M. was active from the rear of TAPU HOUSE, U 29 b 7.2. 25 rounds landed near U 29 a 5.1 W. of PONT ROUGE. L.T.Ms. were normally active.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery fired on trench targets, strong posts, communications and buildings.

Heavy artillery fired on enemy back areas and carried out seven destructive shoots also engaging nine other batteries. A balloon was fired on and forced to descend.

(b). Hostile artillery was quiet during the night, a few gas shells being distributed about PLOEGSTERT WOOD and the DOUVE Valley.

Our front line opposite WARNETON was heavily shelled during the afternoon.

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PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

IDENTIFICATIONS OF THE ENEMY'S UNITS.

24th Div. Three prisoners captured in 28 0 29, east of WAMEKKE, last night belonged to the 133rd I.R. (24th Div.) - Normal. They state the order of battle, (north to south) is :- 139th I.R., 133rd I.R. 179th I.R.

EXTRACTS FROM DIARY OF A MAN OF 62ND I.R. (on journey from HAMBURG to TOURCOING).

".....A hospital train met us, bearing the wounded back from the heavy fighting in FLANDERS. Oh horror! What a future lies before us. Yet courage - up and into the fight. Meanwhile we had another meal, this time consisting of sauerkraut and barley, and awaited the departure.....

"10th June.....Hospital train after hospital train meets us. Damaged guns are carried homewards to remind people of the war. We stand outside on the footboard and admire the Belgian country. Everywhere the inhabitants stand and gaze at us curiously without moving a muscle. One woman, however, shook her fist at us..... At last the train arrives in COURTRAI.....At the railway station we come across some fellows of the 31st Regiment, who are also going to join the 213th; old comrades. Now we start for France and TOURCOING.We saw the flashes of the guns in the sky and many a one felt his courage melt away.....

"On the 21st things began to move. We got our packs ready and set out for the trenches. Heavy rain clouds filled the sky when we left the place. Now the fine weather is past. I am living at present with two comrades and half a dozen water rats in a clay pit on the bank of a dilapidated canal. Here the wind has a bitter whistle. Shells and shrapnel whistle just the same, that's the worst of it. The enemy is trying to do us some mischief but Tommy appears to have a squint; he always just misses the mark. Very many duds fall round about; they whiz so agreeably into the earth and make a noise for all the world like a dying pig at the annual fair. Left of us lies C. in a frightfully hot place. At night the district is illuminated with fire.

A. J. Trust

24th August 1917.

for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

9
 II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 25th August 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.
 ENEMY ACTIVITY.

A hostile patrol about 12 strong attempted to raid one of our posts in U 5 d, N. of WARNETON, but was driven off by Lewis Gun fire.

PATROLS.

An N.C.O. swam across the river and reconnoitred the ground east of the LYS in U 29 c between 2 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. yesterday afternoon. The ditch at U 29 c 95.40 is reported about 10 feet broad by 6 feet deep. At 9.30 p.m. he led a patrol over the same ground and attacked an enemy post in a shell hole, killing three Germans. No identification was obtained.

An enemy post at U 11 b 7.5 threw bombs at patrols operating S.E. of BAME DE LA CROIX.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Strong enemy wire is reported running from road at U 18 a 25.95 to railway at U 11 d 8.3, W. of WARNETON, thence across road at U 11 d 8.4 continuing N.E. and running parallel with the railway afterwards becoming thin and a poor obstacle.

Working parties were located at U 11 b 2.3, N.W. of WARNETON; in O 35 b E. of GAPAARD; and at U 36 a 44.24 junction of CINEMA and MILITARY ROADS.

MOVEMENT.

Three platoons at 50 yds. interval followed by 11 horsed wagons were observed at 6.55 p.m. moving south at W 1 d 8.2 S. of WERVICQ. Movement was also observed on road at V 19 a 6.5 N.E. of DEULEMONT and trains were observed at W 2 c 1.1 south of WERVICQ.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery fired on houses in FRELINGHIEN and WARNETON, an O.P. in DEULEMONT and occupied trenches and shell holes.

Heavy artillery carried out two destructive shoots and engaged 13 other batteries. Fires were caused by shelling in HOUTHLEM and TENBRIELEN.

(b). Enemy artillery fairly quiet. Our posts between the DOUVE and WARNAVE were shelled by 7.7 and 10.5 c.m. guns between 5 and 6 a.m. From midnight to 4 a.m. the DOUVE Valley was lightly shelled with gas shells. The forward area between the DOUVE and STEIGNAST FARM was heavily shelled between 12 noon and 1 p.m. today.

PART II.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

DISMANTLING OF FACTORIES BY THE GERMANS.

According to the statement of an escaped prisoner of war, the Germans were dismantling the factories at DOUAI and transporting everything to Germany, including timbers, planks and even sound bricks and roof tiles from dismantled buildings, to say nothing of machinery and metals. This process of dismantling is said to be going on everywhere to a distance of 35-40 kilometres from the front.

MACHINE GUNS.

From the statements of prisoners of the 6th and 8th Jäger Regts. (195th Div.) captured on the 19th August, it appears that each Inf. Battn. in these regiments has now two machine gun companies, each with 9 machine guns. Each regiment thus has 54 machine guns ('08 pattern) at its disposal, in addition to 12 light machine guns ('08/15 pattern); one light machine gun is allotted to each company.

It is unknown if this is becoming general.

C Cliffe Capt.

for Brig.-General G.S.
 II ANZAC CORPS.

25th August 1917.

PRELIMINARY

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF UNWOUNDED PRISONER OF THE 3RD BATTALION, 133RD I.R. CAPTURED IN O 29 ON THE MORNING OF 24/11/17

(From Corps on our left).

CAPTURE.

The prisoner with three others was sent out to examine the state of the German front line wire. It consisted of a belt of low barbed wire about 5 feet wide and 1 1/2 feet high covered by grass.

They lost their way and walked through our outpost line.

PREVIOUS MOVEMENTS.

After arriving at WERVICQ the III Battalion went into the front line on the night 10/11th, the II Battalion being in support. They relieved the 86th R.I.R., 18th Res. Division.

- 14th/15th 3rd Bn. went into support.
- 18th/19th 3rd Bn. went to rest at BASSE FLANDRE.
- 22nd/23rd 3rd Bn. came into front line.

Reliefs are carried out in four day cycles and a battalion relief is therefore due on the night of the 26th/27th.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

The unwounded prisoner thinks that the Order of Battle from North to South is 179th I.R., 133rd I.R., 139th I.R., but the other prisoners state that it is 139th, 179th and 133rd I.R. which is more probable in view of the former dispositions of the 18th Res. Division and of the 207th Division.

DISPOSITIONS.

The regimental sector extends from about O 29 central to O 35 central.

When in the front line the prisoner's company had 1/2 platoon in the outpost line, 1 1/2 platoons in the main front line (A Stellung) about 100 yds. further back and one platoon about 200 yds. further back.

The battalion in support was similarly echeloned about 400 yds. further back, east and west of the WARNETON Line, though when the regiment first came into the line, the battalion in support was in the neighbourhood of PONT MALHET.

At night the outpost line is withdrawn to the "A" Stellung.

The troops in front line and support live in shell holes covered over with corrugated iron upon which earth is heaped.

The shell hole is revetted with boards and there is a small entrance.

The shell holes were fairly dry even in the recent wet weather but they have not been joined up by tunnels.

Each shell hole accommodates from 2 to 3 men.

In the daytime the men do not look out from their shell holes and it would not appear difficult to take them by surprise.

In the event of an attack without artillery preparation, warning would be given from observers in the neighbourhood of the WARNETON Line

RELIEFS.

Reliefs take place in a four days' cycle. The 3rd Battn. is due to be relieved on the 26/27th. It will go into support and the Battn. in support will go back to rest at BASSE FLANDRE.

ROUTE TO THE LINE.

BASSE FLANDRE - along road through WERVICQ to COMINES Church P 34 d - thence along light railway through P 33 c and d to PONT MALHET Then along light railway to O 25 central and via ruined house at O 30 d 0.5 to front line.

INTENTIONS.

There is a strong trench rumour that the Germans will retire to the WERVICQ Line for the winter as we entirely dominate their present position. It is not now believed that we intend to attack in this sector.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 27th August 1917.CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHESPART I.INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.PATROLS.

No enemy were encountered.

A concrete dugout was located at U 11 b 71.33 north west of WARNETON and found to be occupied.

Enemy movement was observed in the vicinity of the CRATER, C 35 & S.9.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Enemy M.Gs. were not as active as usual. The DOUVE Valley was subjected to bursts of indirect fire during the night.

Hostile light T.Ms. were active from the neighbourhood of DURIEE WOOD, C 5 central. Trench mortar bombs also fell near our posts in U 11 d and U 17 b west of WARNETON, and on our posts and front line north of the DOUVE.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery fired on buildings and trench targets. Heavy artillery carried out five counter-battery shoots yesterday with aeroplane observation, also engaging twenty seven other batteries. Three balloons were fired on and one cut adrift. Good shooting was done on WARNETON, BAS WARNETON, COMINES and TENBRIELEN.

(b). Hostile artillery was quiet. Gas shells are reported in the neighbourhood of PONT ROUGE during the night.

PART II follows -

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

INFORMATION FROM ARMY ON OUR LEFT.

1. It is interesting to note that four Württemberg Divisions (26th Res. Div., 26th Div., 204th Div., 27th Div.) are in line from MANDEBASSE to the YPRES ROULERS Railway. Although these troops are among the best the Germans possess, in this case the 26th Div. must be considerably weakened as it has been in line since August 16th, and the 204th Div., which contains two new formation regiments (413th and 414th I.Rs.) is probably of low fighting value. There has already been one deserter from the 413th I.R. and he states that others are anxious to do so.

The 27th Division is the freshest and best of the four.

2. Reserves. The enemy's known reserves have again been absorbed, with the possible exception of the 32nd Div. in the TERHAND area. There is no reason to suppose, however, that he has reduced his usual allotment of four divisions in close reserve on the Army front.

It may be expected that divisions withdrawn from the battle over a month previously will shortly reappear in close reserve or in line, as reserves on other fronts have now been absorbed at VERDUN and LENS.

3. The wastage in German reserves on this front (Army on our left) has been so rapid since our bombardment commenced, that the enemy will now be forced to put into the line troops who, by reason of their previous experiences and losses, cannot be regarded as reliable and will consequently require to be replaced within even shorter periods than has been the case previously, provided continuous pressure is kept up on our part.

PART III.
CONTRE-ESPIONNAGE.

The undermentioned civilian workmen have been discharged for the reasons stated below and should not again be taken into Military employment:-

LECLUSE Oscar, Belgian,	17	of	BAILLEUL.
DEBRUYNE Marcel,	"	"	NEUVE EGLISE.
LEMPIERE Fernand,	"	"	NIEPPE.
DERVALL Arthur,	"	"	"

The above left their work without permission on 20-8-17 and were found gambling in an estaminet. They refused to take the chance offered them of re-employment and accordingly left équipe. They had already been cautioned several times on account of slackness.

BLOINDEL Jean Baptiste, French,	17	of	LAVENTIE.
BEAUREPAIRE Louis,	"	"	LA GORGUE.

The above have been discharged for attempting to cause a strike.

C. Clifton Capt.
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

27th August 1917.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 26th August 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

At 3.30 a.m. an enemy party attempted to raid one of our posts in U 5 d, N.W. of WARNETON after a preliminary T.M. bombardment but was repulsed.

PATROLS.

An enemy patrol was encountered S.W. of WARNETON at approx. U 18 a 2.5. Bombs were exchanged and the enemy retired. The old dugouts at U 18 a 25.25 were examined and a large crater was found at U 18 a 35.40 apparently caused by explosion of a dump.

An Officer's patrol found enemy wire near IN DEN ROOSTER CABT., U 12c deep and in good condition and were unable to penetrate it.

Wiring parties were seen at several places along the front further north.

AIRCRAFT.

Enemy aircraft are active at dawn and dusk. Yesterday evening two planes flew low over our front line firing their M.Gs. on the garrison.

Bombs were dropped on NIEPPE, PROWSE POINT and LA BASSE VILLE at 9.30 p.m.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery carried out harassing fire and fired on enemy buildings, emplacements and works.

Heavy artillery carried ^{out} nine destructive shoots, seven of which were successful. Eighteen other batteries were also engaged.

(b). Hostile artillery was quieter during the night. Our outposts were shelled between 5.10 and 6.30 a.m. and the forward areas east of PLOEGSTEERT were fired on during the morning. The DOUVE Valley north of HILL 63 has been shelled fairly persistently throughout the day.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

Oblique photographs were taken today of following area:-

- 42B.C.13 WARNETON and LYS Valley as far east as COMINES-QUESNOY railway: shows houses in south west part of WARNETON to have been very badly damaged, and only ruins remain.
- 42B.C.16 LYS Valley between LA BASSE VILLE and WERVICQ, and area south of river as far as STE. MARGUERITE: good photograph of COMINES.
- 42B.C.15 CINEMA road looking east and area north of LYS to AMERICA: good photograph of Canal area and vicinity of TENBRIELEN and KORENTJE.
- 42B.C.14 Area between HOUTHEM and COMINES; shows country up to and along Canal very well.

VERTICAL PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN TODAY.

- 42B.1842) Shows our own lines near STEIGNAST FARM, LA CROIX FARM to 1844) and the railway south west of WARNETON.

26th August 1917.

C. Cliffe Capt.
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

FURTHER.....

FURTHER EXAMINATION OF PRISONERS OF IIIrd BN. 133rd INF. REGT.
(From Corps on our Left).

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ENEMY'S FORCES.

The further examination of the prisoners captured yesterday establishes the Order of Battle of the 24th Division from North to South as -

139th I.R.	approximately	O 17 central to O 23 central.
179th I.R.	"	O 23 central to O 23 b 0.3.
133rd I.R.	"	O 29 b 0.3 central to O 36 a 0.0.

The 133rd I.R. relieved the 84th R.I.R. (18th Res. Div.) not the 86th R.I.R.

RELIEFS.

The prisoners state that battalion reliefs take place on the same night in all three regiments of the Division. Such a relief will take place on the night 26th/27th.

The resting battalion of the 133rd Regiment generally leaves BASSE FLANDRE at about 9 p.m. and arrives in the front line at about 1 a.m.

DISPOSITIONS.

One battalion in the line with three companies in front and one in close support. Each of the companies in the line has one platoon, the strongest, in the outpost line and the remaining two platoons about 150 yards further back; this is known as the "A" Line. The support company is about 200 yds. behind this line.

One battalion in support with three companies about the WARNETON Line, known as the "B" Line and the remaining company in the vicinity of PONT MALHET.

One battalion in rest at BASSE FLANDRE.

The prisoner states that the garrison of the outpost line is not withdrawn by day.

WIRE.

Low barbed wire is being erected in front of the outpost line, but there is no wire in front of the "A" Line 150 yds. further back. The WARNETON Line wire is being repaired but no work is done on the trenches.

MACHINE GUNS.

Each company has two light machine guns in the outpost line and one heavy machine gun in the "A" Line. Two concrete reserve emplacements have been constructed in the neighbourhood of CIRCLE FARM, P 31 a 5.8.

TRENCH MORTARS.

Only "Granatwerfer" (Light Trench Mortars) are used. They fire from behind the WARNETON Line in P 25 c.

FOOD SUPPLY.

Field kitchens come up as far as CIRCLE FARM (P 31 a 5.6) arriving there about midnight.

STURM COMPANY.

The Divisional STURM Company is in the neighbourhood of MENIN.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 28th August 1917.CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHESPART I.INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.PATROLS.

A disguised trench was discovered W. of WARNETON running through U 11 d 75.75 towards UNBENT TRENCH.

A listening post was located at approx. U 11 d 8.4 W. of WARNETON and two enemy posts at U 6 c 1.1 in hedge N. of WARNETON.

A patrol operating in U 5 b encountered a small enemy patrol, which retired after an exchange of bombs.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Enemy O.P. is suspected at U 12 d 2.8.

A patrol reports wire in front of enemy shell holes in O 35 a.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Hostile M.Gs. fired short bursts on No Man's Land S. of the DOUVE. Guns were located by patrols at approx. U 18 a 15.50 in hedge and U 18 a 05.70 (concrete emplacement with at least two guns) S.W. of WARNETON; U 12 c 05.30 W. of WARNETON.

T.Ms. were quiet, a few rounds being fired from the usual positions.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery fired on WARNETON, DEUEMONT, WICART FARM U 24 a, LAUNDRY WOOD C 5 central, and FRELINGHIEN Church. Retaliation on enemy's lines was given and his various communications and positions were searched.

Heavy artillery engaged nine hostile batteries but was unable to carry out any destructive shoots owing to weather conditions.

(b). Hostile artillery was quiet. Shelling has been scattered and not concentrated on any particular point. Roads and communications were shelled occasionally.

When the enemy shelled his own shell hole line yesterday, rockets bursting into two green stars were sent up whereupon the range was lengthened.

PART II follows:-

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

EXPENDITURE OF GERMAN DIVISIONS IN FLANDERS.

(a) During the five weeks since the 25th July, there have been engaged on the battle front between MERCKEM and HOLLEBEKE :-

35 divisions, of which	{	8 are now in line. 19 have been withdrawn exhausted and are now resting. 8 have been withdrawn exhausted and are now in quiet sectors.
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(b) A comparison with a similar period at the commencement of the SOMME battle shows, inclusive of both French and British fronts :-

	Somme.	Flanders.
Divisions engaged	34	35
Withdrawn exhausted	22	27
Average number of days in line	12	8

(c) It has been established that, during the Somme battle, each division which was withdrawn exhausted had suffered ^{about} 2,500 infantry casualties. Having regard to reduced establishment, it is probable that an average loss per division withdrawn exhausted from the Flanders battle is 3,500 as a minimum.

EXTRACTS FROM THE EXAMINATION OF THREE PRISONERS OF THE 4TH COMPANY, 139th I.R., CAPTURED AT O 23 b 0.6 DURING THE NIGHT OF 26/27th inst. (From Corps on our Left).

Method of Holding the Line.

One battalion is in the line. All four companies are in the line and each company has $1\frac{1}{2}$ platoons in the 'A' Line and $1\frac{1}{2}$ platoons in the 'B' Line, about 400 yds. further back. The remaining platoon is at MENIN.

The men lie in shell holes, the majority of which are half covered over with beams or corrugated iron sheeting and a little earth. In the front line this covering is raised a few inches above the level of the shell hole so that the occupants can keep a look-out. Prisoners state that their shelters are ^{rather poor} ~~very~~ wet in bad weather. ^{by day men take an} occasional look-out from their shell holes; by night one man per shell hole is on sentry duty.

One battalion is in support in and west of HOUTHEM. The fourth company, when in support, used the concrete dugout at P 19 b 65.23 and other dugouts in its vicinity (A.P. 53 B 973).

One battalion in rest in hutments at Q 20 b 9.0 and houses in Q 20 d.

Routes Used.

Reliefs come up through Q 25 to GODSHUIS (P 29 d), thence via KORENTJE (P 27 d) and cross roads at P 20 a 98.10 to HOUTHEM. The usual route from HOUTHEM to the front line is across country to O 24 b 35.15, thence, leaving PILLEGREMS FARM on the left to the road at O 24 a 62.53 and by various tracks to the front line. Sometimes they go from O 24 b 35.15 N.N.W. to road at O 24 a 50.95 and along the road almost to the front line.

Prisoners are uncertain as to the route taken by cockers but think they go through P 23, along Military road in P 16 and down to P 20 b 65.45. The cockers stop here and rations are fetched from this point usually about midnight.

COMPARISON BETWEEN 139th and 133rd I.Rs.

In the 133rd I.R. there are three platoons per company, while in the 139th there are four. The 133rd I.R. has only three companies in the front line; the 139th has all four companies in the line. The 133rd I.R. does much more work on shell holes than the 139th. The 133rd I.R. has an outpost line (SCHLEIERLINIE) in front of the 'A' Line while the 139th has not.

C. Cliph
Capt.
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS

28th August 1917.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 29th August 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PART I.

INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT

PATROLS.

A patrol operating in U 11 d West of WARNETON was fired on by enemy post at approximately U 12 c 10.15. Another patrol found old German wire and consolidated shell holes about U 11 d 35.80.

Fire was encountered by a patrol at about U 5 d 8.4. On crawling through the wire the patrol was fired on at about 25 yds. range. They replied with bombs and two or three Germans retreated.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Working parties were observed in UNCLEAN TRENCH, S.W. of WARNETON, and also working on the wire round WARNETON.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Hostile M.G. fire was directed at intervals against our front line and communication trenches. Guns were firing from the usual positions.

Enemy T.Ms. were very active for 20 minutes from 9.45 p.m. onwards when they co-operated with the artillery in a shoot on the area in vicinity of WINDMILL, U 5 b. A heavy T.M. was located at approximately U 6 c 5.5 and L.T.Ms. at U 6 c 1.2 N. of WARNETON.

AIRCRAFT.

Yesterday evening several planes flew low over our lines firing their machine guns on the occupants. At 8 p.m. one plane dropped bombs on the area U 15 b near ST. YVES. Soon after dawn today enemy planes again flew low over our lines near ST. YVES.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery harassed the enemy's shell hole positions and roads and fired on FRELINGHIEN and DEULEMONT.

Heavy artillery did good shooting on WARNETON and HOUTHEN.

(b). Enemy artillery shelled HILL 63 at 7.30 p.m. for half an hour. At 9.45 p.m. a sharp bombardment lasting for 20 minutes was carried out on our lines in the vicinity of WINDMILL, U 5 b. Little damage was done.

There has been little activity during the day.

PART II follows:-..

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

EXTRACTS FROM THE EXAMINATION OF TWO PRISONERS OF THE 3RD MACHINE GUN
COMPANY, 179TH I.R., CAPTURED IN O 23 d ON THE 27th inst.
(From Corps on our left).

DISPOSITIONS.

Prisoners are unable to give their dispositions with any certainty. Apparently their platoon (No. 1) was in position between the outpost line (SCHLEIERLINIE) and the 'A' Line about 80 yds. behind the former. They had three guns. Prisoners were with the centre gun. They were given no definite target and only rough instructions to fire at intervals during the night at a range of 2,000 metres with an arc limited by a bush on the left and a tree on the right, about 30 yds. away from their shell hole.

* There were no sentries by day but by night there were double sentry-posts.

Prisoners think that the remaining seven guns were distributed behind them to a depth of about 500 yds.

When in support the guns were kept in position in O 19 c; they were to fire only in case of attack and to reinforce the company in the line if required.

CONDITIONS.

Prisoners state that they have been living under bad conditions. Of the two shell holes they used, one had not been worked on at all and the other had a weak shelter over it which was barely weather proof. Prisoners did not think they could possibly live under these conditions during the winter.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Prisoners state that our night firing with machine guns effectively limits movements.

The present S.C.S. signal used by the enemy is read. Prisoners state that this signal changes at irregular intervals, varying from three to eight days.

Prisoners state that the light machine guns have proved very unsatisfactory and are practically never used.

Prisoners state that no fixed amount of ammunition is kept at the gun. The prisoners' gun had 4,000 rounds in belts.

The amount brought up depends on the facility for doing so. No range cards or maps are issued to the machine gun teams. Range cards are sometimes provided in rear emplacements, but the majority of these are shell holes with no cover.

Only large targets would be engaged by day and one or two men would not be fired on for fear of giving away the position of the gun. Aeroplanes are not engaged by the forward guns, special guns in rear being used for this purpose.

C. Cliffe Capt.
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

29th August 1917.

II ANZAC Intelligence,
29th August 1917.

SUN AND MOON, SEPTEMBER, 1917.

Times are calculated approximately for Lat. 50° 30' N., Long. 2° E. (10 miles West of ST.OMER); for Long. 2° 30' E. (10 miles East of ST.OMER) times are 8 minutes earlier. SUMMER TIME. The column "Alt." indicates the angular altitude of the Moon when next it is due South after the rising given on the same line.

S U N.			M O O N.			S O U T H S			Alt.	Phase.
Date	Rises	Sets	Date	Rises	Date	Sets	Souths			
Sept.	a.m.	p.m.	Sept.	p.m.	Sept.	a.m.	a.m.			
Sa. 1.	6.10	7.35	1	7.14	2	7.26	12.17	32°	FULL MOON.	
Su. 2.	6.11	7.33	2	7.33	3	8.52	1.11	38		
M. 3.	6.12	7.31	3	7.55	4	10.17	2.4	46		
Tu. 4.	6.14	7.29	4	8.18	5	11.40	2.57	51		
						p.m.				
W. 5.	6.15	7.26	5	8.49	6	12.58	3.51	57		
Th. 6.	6.17	7.24	6	9.21	7	2.9	4.46	60		
F. 7.	6.19	7.22	7	10.6	8	3.9	5.41	63		
Sa. 8.	6.20	7.20	8	10.58	9	5.58	6.36	64	LAST QR.	
Su. 9.	6.22	7.18	9	11.58	10	4.33	7.30	63		
M. 10.	6.24	7.16		a.m.						
Tu. 11.	6.25	7.13	11	1.3	11	5.3	8.21	60		
W. 12.	6.27	7.11	12	2.9	12	5.26	9.10	57		
Th. 13.	6.29	7.9	13	3.17	13	5.46	9.55	52		
F. 14.	6.30	7.7	14	4.24	14	6.4	10.39	47		
Sa. 15.	6.32	7.5	15	5.29	15	6.19	11.21	42		
							p.m.			
Su. 16.	6.33	7.3	16	6.37	16	6.34	12.1	38	NEW MOON.	
M. 17.	6.34	7.1	17	7.44	17	6.49	12.42	33		
Tu. 18.	6.35	6.59	18	8.53	18	7.7	1.24	28		
W. 19.	6.37	6.56	19	10.0	19	7.28	2.5	24		
Th. 20.	6.39	6.53	20	11.11	20	7.55	2.49	19		
F. 21.	6.40	6.51	21	12.20	21	8.28	3.37	16		
Sa. 22.	6.41	6.49	22	1.26	22	9.14	4.27	15		
Su. 23.	6.43	6.47	23	2.25	23	10.10	5.21	15		
M. 24.	6.45	6.45	24	3.15	24	11.18	6.17	17	FIRST QR.	
						a.m.				
Tu. 25.	6.46	6.42	25	3.55	26	12.35	7.14	20		
W. 26.	6.46	6.40	26	4.27	27	1.58	8.11	24		
Th. 27.	6.49	6.38	27	4.51	28	3.24	9.7	30		
F. 28.	6.51	6.35	28	5.15	29	4.50	10.1	36		
Sa. 29.	6.53	6.33	29	5.36	30	6.17	10.55	41		
Su. 30.	6.55	6.31	30	5.57	-	-	11.48	46		

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 30th August 1917.CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.PART I.INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.PATROLS.

Patrols were active along the whole Corps front but encountered no enemy. They report that working parties were heard at U 30 a 15.05, URAL HOUSE and U 11 d 80.35 west of WARNETON in what appeared to be a trench. A patrol operating in U 17 b S.W. of WARNETON came under rifle fire from UNCLEAN TRENCH U 12 c and U 18 a.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Hostile M.Gs. fired on our front system N. of the DOUVE and on communications. The DOUVE Valley was swept at intervals during the night. M.G. positions are suspected in houses at U 18 a 30.35 and U 11 d 95.35.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery maintained normal activity. Shoots were carried out on enemy trenches, communications, buildings and batteries.

Heavy artillery engaged three hostile batteries but were unable to carry out destructive shoots owing to weather conditions.

(b). Hostile artillery was quiet during the night but there has been some shelling of our forward areas during the day.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Parties were seen working on defences at U 24 a 55.30 north west of DEULEMONT, in U 6 c east of FME DE LA CROIX and north east of KIWI FARM in O 36.

Traffic was reported on light railways near COMINES.

30th August 1917.

C. Chipper Capt.
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY to 5 p.m. 31st August 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

PATROLS.

The only enemy patrol met with during the night was at approximately U 18 a 3.5 S.W. of WARNETON. It withdrew immediately on hearing our patrol.

An enemy working party was heard at about U 29 b 8.2, S.E. of PONT ROUGE.

MACHINE GUNS AND TRENCH MORTARS.

Hostile M.Gs. were active from FRELINGHIEN and DEULEMONT, also from positions at C 5 c 7.5, LAUNDRY; and U 11 b 75.30, S.E. of FME DE LA CROIX.

L.T.Ms. were active from positions near FRELINGHIEN, SWITZER, LAUNDRY WOOD and U 18 b 8.3, S. of WARNETON; also from U 12 c 55.75 N.W. of WARNETON.

ARTILLERY.

(a). Field artillery continued their activity against enemy shell hole positions, communications and buildings.

Heavy artillery carried out a shoot on WARNETON with ground observation and also engaged nine batteries.

(b). Enemy artillery shelled the vicinity of HILL 63 at 6.30 yesterday evening and has kept up an intermittent shelling on the forward system and LA BASSE VILLE during the day.

Activity has been generally below normal.

PART II follows:-.....

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

ACTIVITY OF THE ENEMY'S ARTILLERY during week ended 29th Aug. 1917.

There has been a further decrease in hostile artillery activity along the whole front during the week. There is, however, no evidence to suggest that many hostile batteries have been withdrawn, and the inactivity is probably accounted for partly by the difficulty experienced by the enemy in obtaining observation when his balloons and aeroplanes are unable to go up, and partly from a desire to restrict his ammunition expenditure during the lull in active operations.

Hostile batteries located this week show no change in the enemy's artillery dispositions. There are still a few isolated field guns in the ruins of ZANDVOORDE and between HOUTHEM and TENBRIELEN which fire on occasions, chiefly at night. Some of them are in disused machine gun redoubts or in old emplacements made for heavy guns. A number of these old concrete pits are exceptionally strong, and one south west of ZANDVOORDE is still standing after four destructive shoots with heavy howitzers up to 12".

Most of the shelling throughout the week has been on forward areas in the nature of desultory harassing fire. Battery areas, particularly those near SPOIL BANK and PLOEGSTEERT, have received some shelling, but hostile counter-battery work throughout the week has been practically nil.

SHORTAGE OF ARTILLERY AMMUNITION.

According to the statements of captured German officers, the utmost economy of ammunition is now being enforced on quiet sectors of the Western front, owing to a shortage. On the Russian front, extreme economy was already enforced last year, e.g. the artillery of the 48th Res. Div. which was in Russia at the time of the SOMME battle, was ordered not to fire a single round. The inactivity that prevailed on the Russian front last Spring, as well as the recent cessation of offensive operations in Galicia, are both attributed to lack of ammunition.

LEATHER GAS MASK.

According to the statement of a prisoner of the 17th Divisional Assault Company, the chief reason for the substitution of leather for rubber in the German gas mask is to ensure greater durability. This is especially desirable in the case of Assault formations, for, on patrol, the gas mask is preferably carried loose in the pocket, with the result that the rubber of the older pattern mask was frequently torn. The leather mask is being issued to other units as supplies become available.

MORAL.

A prisoner of the III Battn. 125th I.R (26th Div.), states that the moral of his unit has been badly shaken by our artillery fire and by the trying conditions in the front line. The battalion was in line five days (August 19th - 24th) south west of POELCAPPELLE. They had been promised relief at the end of their third day, but it was continually postponed. The men finally became mutinous and decided to leave on the 5th day without waiting for relief. The relieving regiment (120th R.I.R 204th Div.) arrived on that day and discovered that only the 11th Coy. had remained, the three other companies having already gone back. The deterioration in the moral of the 26th Division is significant, as this division was formerly of good quality and has always fought well.

C. Cliffer Capt.
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

31st August 1917.