

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/36/2

Title: Intelligence, Headquarters Australian
Corps

February 1918



AWM4-1/36/2

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 32

From 6 p.m. 31st January, 1918 to 6 p.m. 1st February, 1918.NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only

FOUR

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Our artillery was hampered by abnormally poor visibility. Harassing fire was maintained on various occupied positions in the forward zone, as well as approaches and cross-roads. Several working parties were dispersed. Particular attention was paid to the tracks and approaches in P.2, 3, and 4 in anticipation of a probable inter-battalion relief of the 1st Bav. R.I.R.

(b) Patrols. The whole Corps front was patrolled last night but few signs of the enemy were seen or heard. One or two working parties were reported and it is thought the enemy was a great deal of work at U.29.b.65.25. An officer and 17 men encountered a hostile party at MOAT FARM (U.23.d.). The party, about 25 strong, was seen approaching from the direction of the DOLLS HOUSE. Before reaching MOAT FARM they divided, one half making for PONT ROUGE, the remainder, about 15, moving towards MOAT FARM. Our patrol cut off the latter party and opened fire, and from sounds heard it is believed a number of casualties were caused. The enemy scattered and fled to the river, leaving two prisoners in our hands, one of whom subsequently died. The second party was alarmed and withdrew rapidly towards the DOLLS HOUSE, our patrol firing on them as they ran.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

A prisoner of the 21st Bav. I.R., 5th Bav. Divn., was captured in U.23.d. this morning.

3. ORDER OF BATTLE and DISPOSITIONS

Prisoner confirms 5th Bav. Divn. in their normal sector, giving the order of battle from North to South as 21st - 7th - 19th Bav. I.R.'s.

The 21st Bav. I.R. pursues the normal three-battalion system of holding the line, i.e. two companies in the front line, two in close support, one battalion in reserve, and one battalion at rest in LINSELLES. Five days are spent forward, five in reserve, and five in rest.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery has been comparatively quiet owing to the low visibility. Very little shelling is reported, save for a few rounds on RAVINE WOOD.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

The enemy has been very quiet along the whole front, but opposite our southern sector, is still betraying signs of nervousness, such as bombing his own wire and a prodigal use of flares. He has now made two attempts with strong parties during the last three days to obtain information regarding our lines in this sector.

A patrol of about 15 men was seen moving northwards along the right bank of the river from the LAUNDRY (C.5.c.) last night. It seemed to enter a trench near the bridge on the opposite side of the river from WHITE FARM. Later, a further six men were seen going in the opposite direction by the same route.

1.2.18

- 2 -

No. 32

6. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Trench Tramway. The trench tramway in U.29.b. is in nightly use. Two or three trucks propelled by hand are used on the line at the one time.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

The sunken tramway in U.17.b. is 15ft. by 20ft. wide near our line and contains 2 1/2" of water. 150 yards from the railway it narrows to 10ft. or 12ft. in width, the sides being 7ft. high. On the south side of the railway there are numerous shell holes which would afford good cover.

In spite of low visibility and the inactivity of his artillery, the enemy's trench mortars have been intermittently active in U.11. central to-day.

S. J. M. M. M.

M. Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

EXAMINATION of a prisoner belonging to the 9th Coy., 21st Bav. I.R. (5th Bav. Divn.), taken at MOAT FARM (U.23.d.) this morning.

Method of Capture. The prisoner formed part of a patrol sent out to ascertain the distance of our wire from River LYS. The patrol consisted of 20/25 men with a Vizefeldwebel in charge.

Dispositions. The 10th Coy. with either the 11th or 12th was in the front line. The 9th Coy., from which the patrol was detailed, was in dug-outs on either side of the DEULEMONT Road, about 25 minutes' march from the river. (This location is of doubtful accuracy).

Reliefs. There has been vague talk of a divisional relief, but prisoner had heard of no definite date nor did he know of any relieving division in rear. When in LINSSELLES, he had seen only troops of his own regiment.

The 3rd Bn. was to be relieved by the 1st Bn. at 5 a.m. this morning.

Routes. Prisoner was vague as to route to the trenches; the greater part of the journey was overland, the communication trenches being in a bad state.

Strength of Companies. Fighting Strength, about 60 men, in prisoner's company.

Machine Guns. The 9th Coy. has two light machine guns and expects to get a third.

Method of Crossing the River. The spot where the patrol crossed the river is not certain, but judging from the prisoner's statement and the direction in which the enemy patrol on the night of the 29th fled, the probable location is the destroyed bridgehead at U.24.c. 30.80. Prisoner stated that pioneers had constructed a pontoon which enabled patrols to cross the river. The pontoon was removed on the return of the patrols.

Enemy's Intentions. So far as the prisoner knew, no preparations for any offensive action on the enemy's part were being made, nor had he heard of any such intention. He had heard no warnings to expect an offensive from us. He had never seen any gas cylinders.

General. Prisoner had just returned from leave. Leave had been stopped for a short period (he thought probably from shortness of coal) up to the 30th January. It was now open again as far as he knew.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 33

From 6 p.m. 1st February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 2nd February, 1918NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Throughout the period all batteries were engaged in harassing enemy communications, trenches, roads and strong points, and selected targets in forward areas were satisfactorily engaged. Gas shells were expended on a systematic bombardment of areas in O.30.d. and P.25.a. An enemy working party at O.11.a.50.00 was dispersed.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions reconnoitred No Man's Land and carried out liaison work. A patrol of the ~~patrol~~ division in U.11.d. observed 2 small parties of the enemy approaching. These were allowed to advance to within 150 yards when fire was opened on them. It is believed that casualties were inflicted, but in subsequent search of the ground, no trace could be found of the enemy.

The ground is still very wet and muddy.

(c) Aircraft. Our machines were active and bombed the enemy's forward areas.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

(a) Two prisoners of the 4th Coy., 163rd I.R., 17th Res. Divn., were captured in O.35.a. at 6.45 this morning. The 17th Res. Divn. relieved the 8th Divn. on the night of the 31st January.

(b) The Corps on our left has taken 5 prisoners of the 12th Coy., 165th I.R. (7th Divn.).

(c) The Corps on our right secured 3 prisoners of the 2nd Coy., 131st I.R. (42nd Divn.).

3. ORDER OF BATTLE

The order of battle from North to South of the 17th Res. Divn. is given as 76th R.I.R. - 162nd I.R. - 163rd I.R.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery has been fairly quiet and confined its activity to shelling of targets in forward areas, of front line system, and of battery areas.

5. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Machine Guns. Patrols report little hostile machine gun activity. Machine gun fire was encountered from J.32.b.5.3, DAMP COPSE - O.29.b.60.85, pill box at O.23.b.21.80, O.23.b.6.9, and O.29.b.2.6. Other machine guns were active from various points in U.11.c. and d., U.13.a., and U.12.c.

(b) Wire. The wire in front of WAM FARM (O.23.d.) is reported to be weak and not a great obstacle. (Patrol).

Wiring parties were located at GAME COPSE (P.1.c.) and J.26.b.9.3. (Ground Observers).

(c) Observation Post. Ground observers report that a tree at O.6.d.7.6 appears to be used as an O.P.

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY

Hostile machines crossed our lines at intervals, but were driven back by A.A. fire.

7. ORGANIZATION

Headquarters. Coy. H.Q. of the 9th Coy., 21st Bav. I.R. when in rest are situated in huts at LE TILLEUL (D.6.a.). (Prisoner's Statement).

2 -2-18

- 2 -

No. 33RELIEFS

(a) The cycle of inter-battalion reliefs of the 163rd I.R. is given by prisoners as follows: 4 days in line, 8 days in rest, 4 days in line, 4 in support, and 4 in rest.

Thus a battalion relief can be expected on the nights of the 4/5th February, 8/9th February, 13/14th February, 18/19th February, etc.

(b) The cycle of inter-battalion reliefs of the 21st Bav. I.R. is similarly at 4 days' interval, and a relief probably took place last night or early this morning. (Prisoner's Statement). Future reliefs can therefore be expected on the 6th - 10th - 14th - 18th, etc. February.

S. J. M. M. M.
Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

FURTHER INTERROGATION of prisoner of the 21st Bav. I.R., 5th Bav. Divn. captured yesterday, at MOAT FARM.

Losseg. The regiment suffered very heavily in the fighting at ARRAS, losing approximately 50% of its effectives. After withdrawal it was brought up to strength, and when it came into its present position on August 28th, it had a strength of approximately 60 to 65 rifles per company.

Between August 28th and January 31st, the 9th Coy. had lost only one man.

Rest Billets. When in rest billets (at LE TILLET), men are not allowed to leave the neighbourhood, and during the 5 months in this sector, prisoner had not been to any village or town. One day's leave to LILLE was occasionally permitted, and men travelled there by light railway.

Dug-Outs. In rainy weather the dug-outs get swamped and baling is necessary every two or three hours.

Moral. Prisoner stated that in his company the men were entirely sick of the war, and all feelings had been blunted by the long duration and monotony of it. Prisoner himself was entirely indifferent as to who won the war. He is of poor physique and intelligence.

Names of Officers. Divisional Commander - Lieut-Gen. ENDERS;
Regtl. Commander - Col. SCHODEL.

P.T.O.

294
2-2-18

- 3 -

No. 33

EXAMINATION of two prisoners of the 4th Coy., 163rd I.R., 17th Res. Divn., captured at 0.35.a. at 6.45 a.m., this morning.

Method of Capture. Prisoners left their shell hole in the out-post line this morning to go back for charcoal and rations. They lost direction and wandered in a south-westerly direction till captured by one of our posts.

Relief of 8th Division. According to prisoners' statements, confirmed by their diaries and letters, the 163rd I.R. relieved the 72nd I.R. in line of the night of the 31st January/1st February, about 11 p.m., without casualties. The machine gun companies were probably relieved last night (1st/2nd February), as prisoners when on their way back spoke to the gunners.

Dispositions. Prisoners believe that all four companies of the 1st Bn. are in line, but do not know the whereabouts of the 2nd and 3rd Bns.

Outpost Position. Prisoners having come forward into the out-post line about 2 a.m. this morning from the "Readiness Position" (trenches in 0.30.a.), could not give exact locations. The outpost position is described as a line of fortified shell holes provided with small elephant shelters. Height and width about 4'0" each. Two N.C.O.'s and about 10 men were accommodated in prisoners' shelter, which made it more than uncomfortably crowded. A light machine gun and crew were in a hole on their left. The shelters were protected by a low breastwork about 2'0" high.

Reliefs. The 4th Coy. expect to be relieved after 4 days, and prisoners think that it will then go back to MIMEN to rest for 8 days. The next tour of duty would then be, 4 days in front line, 4 days in support, and only 4 days in rest.

Enemy's Intentions. No expectations of any attack being made either against us or by us in this sector. The men have been definitely told that they were going into a quiet sector (after being twice in line at POLDERHOEK CHATEAU last December). Outgoing machine gunners had asserted that the condition of the ground would prevent us from attacking.

Rations and Moral. Moral, good. The rations are good, and outgoing men were well satisfied. Bread 500gms. daily (about 1 lb.).

Leave. In regard to leave one prisoner stated that there had been a stoppage for about a week, which had just ended. Reason for the stoppage was not known. Four or five men from their company left weekly on leave for 14 days.

Gas. One prisoner had been gassed near ARRAS last September. About 50 projectors had fallen on their company front. About 10 men were killed, and 30 gassed, more or less seriously. Prisoners preferred the rubber to the leather gas mask, as being more comfortable to wear, and better fitting.

Personal Details. One of the prisoners belonged to the 1918 Class, and joined the 163rd I.R. last June from BEVERLOO; the other was doing colour service on the outbreak of war, and was mobilised on the 4th August, but was sent back owing to heart weakness in September 1914, and since then had been with the 59th Landsturm Bn. from the Westphalian Corps District. In the beginning of November, 1917, he had been combed out as fit again for front line duty and joined the 163rd I.R. on the 1st January, 1918.

294

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 34

From 6 p.m. 1st February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 2nd February, 1918.

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS

For Official Use Only

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Known enemy communications, trenches, and centres of activity were kept under intermittent bursts of fire throughout the period. Working parties at U.11.d.65.40, U.18.a.30.33, and between U.11.d.87.36 and U.12.c.05.15 were dispersed.

(b) Patrols. All divisions sent out patrols. No Man's Land was found to be very boggy and heavy going. Beyond a working party of 6 men seen at about U.6.a.3.3 and dispersed by Lewis gun fire, no enemy was encountered, and little hostile machine gun activity is reported.

(c) Aircraft. Our aeroplanes were normally active to-day, and dropped a considerable number of bombs on the enemy's forward system.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

The presence of the 163rd I.R., 76th R.I.R., and the K.T.K. of the 162nd I.R. in their normal sector, has been established by document.

A further interrogation of prisoners of the 163rd I.R. taken on the morning of the 2nd February, and a translation of the diary belonging to one of them, are attached as an annexe to this Summary.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery has been fairly active during the day on forward areas and front line systems.

4. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

The centre division report that the enemy has shown much more activity in the past 24 hours. The right division reports that the enemy's artillery activity has been mainly concentrated on the areas in C.1.a., C.2.d., U.26.e., U.26.d., while his minenwerfer and machine gun activity has been directed against U.11.d. and U.17.b. During the past two days his machine guns have been consistently sweeping No Man's Land between our trenches and the SPANNEY. Large numbers of Very Lights and flares were also used by the enemy on the right brigade front, while on the left brigade front very few were fired.

Last night the enemy is reported to have bombed his own wire south of FRELINGHIEN.

5. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Machine Guns. Patrols located active hostile machine guns at the following points: J.27.a.0.1 - J.26.d.72.45.

(b) Trench Mortars. A hostile trench mortar was observed firing from J.26.b.9.1. It was later neutralized by our artillery fire. (Patrol Report).

Hostile trench mortars were also active from C.36.d.78.45 and O.36.d.62.30. These were later silenced by our artillery. (Ground Observers).

(c) Work. A patrol heard a hostile working party at the TWINS (O.11.d.). Sounds of handling of galvanised iron and of shovel work were heard. Working parties were also heard during the night from the direction of U.29.b. - U.11.d. - U.12.c. - U.18.a.

(d) Pill Box. A patrol examined the pill box at J.32.c.6.6. and found it unoccupied.

3-2-18

- 2 -

No. 34

(e) Wire. A wiring party was again heard in the vicinity of GAMB COP SU (P.1.c.).

New wire is reported at O.29.b.1.4. (Patrol)

The wire in front of WAM FARM is in three rows. The first, 150 yards from the Farm, is low and 2ft. wide; the second is 70 yards from the first row; the third is 30 yards from the FARM and is 3ft. high and 6ft. wide, in good repair, and runs down to WAMDEBK.

A trip wire was found about 15 yards in front of three depths of concertina wire at O.12.c.2.7

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY

Hostile aerial activity was above normal during last evening and in the night. Bombing machines crossed into our back areas and dropped bombs. During to-day, activity has been normal.

W. S. Anderson
for
Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

LATER. At 4.45 a.m. this morning, a white flare was fired from U.12.a.4.5. Immediately a heavy barrage of heavy and medium mortar shells was placed in the vicinity of U.5.d.5.2. The barrage lasted 15 minutes, but the majority of the shots went over our posts. The enemy fired on one of the posts yesterday, apparently registering.

Immediately the barrage was put down, an enemy party of about 20 were seen to leave their trench, but owing to the darkness it is impossible to say whether they were about to retire or advance. They were immediately fired on with L.C.'s and rifles, which dispersed them at once.

294 ✓
3-2-18

- 1a -

8
No. 34

FURTHER EXAMINATION of two prisoners of the 4th Coy., 163rd I.R., 17th Res. Divn., captured in O.35.a. on 2nd February.

Dispositions. The 1st Bn. has all four companies in the line in the order, 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 from north to south. The 4th Coy. (and probably the others) has a "Schleier" or outpost screen in front of the main line of defence, consisting of 4 groups, posted into 3 parties, each with a machine gun, and under one of the platoon commanders. The remaining 3 groups are in the main line of resistance, about 1,000 metres east of the outpost line. Contact between the two is maintained by means of patrols, there being no liaison group. Prisoners believe that there is a battalion in support and have no cognizance of the introduction of the 6-company system in this sector. Their evidence is, however, not conclusive on this point, as they had been only 24 hours in the line before capture.

Route to front from COURTRAI. The regiment left COURTRAI about 12.30 p.m. on January 30th, and went to MENIN by train, leaving the latter town between 8 and 9.30 p.m. the following night. The whole first battalion entrained in the petrol driven tramway, and proceeded in it probably to a point just east of COMINES. They then marched up the KORENTJE Road, turning into HOUTHEN at the CHAPELLE - LAMAY cross-roads, and taking to the fields shortly after leaving the village. Prisoners have little idea of the topography of the country through which they passed owing to the darkness, and the above must be regarded only as conjecture.

Previous Movements of the Regiment. From the POLDERHOEK CHATEAU sector, the regiment marched to LEDSCHEM, where they entrained and proceeded to COURTRAI, at which place they rested for a month, til January 30th.

COURTRAI. Prisoners' Coy. was billeted in a school in the MENIN Road; the 1st Bn. and regimental staff were all at COURTRAI, the other two battalions being in surrounding villages. The time was spent in training, and there was review by the Divisional General on the Kaiser's birthday.

COURTRAI is full of troops, chiefly infantry. Prisoners were unable to give exact identifications. There is apparently a M.C. school of the 1st Bav. (Res.?) Divn. here. Prisoners saw some artillery and Feldgendarmarie (Jager?) wearing a distinctive symbol on their caps, which showed they had taken part in the RUMANIAN campaign, and believe they had recently arrived. There were no Austrians. They also saw a number of men wearing plain blue shoulder straps - probably "Train" troops.

Defences. The trenches in prisoners' sector are very wet and several of the division, which they relieved, are said to have been drowned. There seems to be plenty of wire everywhere. Prisoners' Coy. had twominenwerfer and two granatenwerfer.

Training School. The training school of the 17th Res. Divn. is at ANIDE, near DOUAI. Very few are now left there. Prisoners came with a draft of 30 at the beginning of the year, which were allotted to the various regiments of the division, then at rest near COURTRAI. A little while ago 30 men came to be trained as infantrymen, who had been serving as pioneers for the past two years.

Tramways. Troops used to come on foot all the way from MENIN, but now the tramway is used to some point near COMINES, beyond which it is not used owing to our shelling. As it is the permanent way is often destroyed and the railway was not working two days previous to this relief.

Officers' Names. O.C. 4th Coy. - Lieut. FREUDENTHAL; O.c. 1st Bn. - Major von (?) WED E; G.O.C. 17th Res. Divn. - General-Major von WERDER.

P.T.O.

3-2-18

- 2a -

No. 34

EXTRACTS from the Diary of a prisoner of the 4th Coy., 163rd I.R., 17th Res. Divn.

July 4th to August 1st. Alternating 4 days in support line, front line, and rest at BELONNE.

August 2nd. Attack on British front line.

August 3rd to September 15th. Alternating 4 days support, front line, and rest.

September 13th. 6 a.m. - British gas attack. 50 men sick and killed.

November 17th. Entrained for Flanders.

November 18/19th. In SWIEDEGHEM.

November 19th. Arrived LEDEGHEM, 10 p.m.

November 19/20th. To DADIZEMLE in reserve.

November 26th - 30th. Resting at LEDEGHEM.

Nov. 30th - 1st Dec. Duty at DADIZEMLE.

December 2nd. British attack on our lines repulsed with heavy losses.

December 3rd. Only 21 men out of 70 have returned.

December 4th - 8th. Carrying wounded.

December 8th - 11th. In rest.

December 20th - 27th. In rest at LEDEGHEM.

December 28th. Entrained for COURTRAI.

December 29th - 30th. Rest at COURTRAI.

January 3rd. Inspection by General v. WEFDER.

January 4th - 29th. Training at COURTRAI.

January 30th. Entrained for MENIN.

January 30th. Arrived MENIN, 4 p.m.

January 31st. Into line, 10 p.m.

B.I.S.61.

AERIAL ANNEXE TO AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

3rd. Feb., 1918.

(1) OPERATIONS.

Six plates were successfully exposed along the Corps front, during period under review.

A trench reconnaissance of line from WARNETON to FRELINGHIEN was successfully carried out.

Twelve 20 lb. bombs were dropped on P.20.a.2.7, P.19.b.9520, HOUTHEM DUMP, V.3.c, and C.11.c.9.5.

1680 rounds of M.G. ammunition were fired into COMINES, P.13.b, P.20.a.1.7, U.6, U.12, HOUTHEM DUMP, HOUTHEM - COMINES Road, V.3.b and QUESNOY.

(2) ENEMY'S DISPOSITIONS.

Nil.

(3) ANTI AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

Normal.

(4) ENEMY'S DEFENCES.TRENCHES.

Trenches in front of WARNETON are reported by Observer to be damaged by shell fire.

The trenches in the vicinity of LAUNDRY WOOD appear to be in very good condition, and have apparently been reconstructed.

Trench at U.29.d.8.6 is apparently being continued on to river.

WIRE.

Observer reports that the wire from WARNETON to FRELINGHIEN is in good condition; with the exception of that immediately in front of WARNETON which appears to be cut up by shell fire.

BRIDGES.

Bridge over river at U.30.b.2.3 is in good condition and apparently much used by foot traffic.

(5) HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Normal.

(6) MOVEMENT and ORGANIZATION in and behind enemy's lines.DUMPS.

5 B.A.160. 28.V.7. There are signs of movement around the ruins at V.7.d.7276, and the Church. There is probably a dump concealed at this point as barges are unloaded close to it.

TRANSPORT.

3 B.A.160. 28.V.7. The enemy is apparently making use of barges for bringing materials or rations as far as BAS - WARNETON. A barge can be seen at V.7.d.6475.

BALLOONS.

Two balloons were observed between 10.25am. to 12 noon at V.6.c5.5 and P.15.c.3.5 respectively.

ROADS.

Roads in WARNETON appear to be frequently used.

P . T . O .

(2)

FIRES.

10.15am. Fire at U.25.d.0.5.
 10.25am. " " " "
 Between 2.30pm. and 3.0pm. Big fire about 2 miles N. of GHELUWE.
 4.4pm. Fire at P.27.d.1.9.

TRAINS.

<u>L I N E .</u>	<u>D I R E C T I O N .</u>	<u>T I M E S .</u>
RONCQ-HALLUIN Railway.	Going N.	3.15pm.
" " "	" N.	3.20pm.
MENIN-ROULERS	" S.	2.30pm.
" " "	" S.	3.25pm.
" " "	" N.	3.35pm.
" -COURTRAI	Entering MENIN	3.45pm.

1 train in LILLE facing S. at 1.10pm.

The following is a list of Aeroplane photos taken on the 3rd. inst. Divisions etc., should indent direct on the BRANCH INTELLIGENCE SECTION, 3rd. Squadron, AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

Sheet 28. 3 B.A.159. D.8.c, 13.b.d, 14.
 160. V.7.
 161. U.17.c.d, 23.a.b.d, 24.a.c.
 162. U.12, 18.b, V.7.c, 13.a.
 163. U.22.d, 23, 29.a.b.
 164. U.17.c.d, V.18.
 165. V.1.b.d, 2.a.c, 8.a.b.

In the Field.
 3rd. Feb., 1918.

BRANCH INTELLIGENCE SECTION,
 3rd. Squadron,
 AUS. FLYING CORPS.

294. ✓

War Day 12

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 35

From 6 p.m. 3rd February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 4th February, 1918

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS

For Official Use Only

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Our artillery again harassed the enemy's lines of communication and other centres of activity, and special concentrations of fire were put down intermittently throughout the period on known targets and occupied buildings. A gas bombardment was put down on pill-boxes in U.6.d.20.35, buildings at W.1.b.70.25, and cross-roads at W.1.d.4.4.

Direct hits were obtained on RIBLE FARM (O.23.d.), BEEK FARM (O.29.b.), and PUMP FARM (O.12.b.). At midnight last night a ten minutes' bombardment was carried out on the roads and areas in U.30.a., b., and c.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions were active last night. A patrol of the right division heard sounds of a large working party at C.11.a.5.1. By means of a pre-arranged signal, artillery and machine gun fire were brought to bear on the spot. The shooting was good and no further sounds were heard from this place.

No Man's Land opposite the left and centre divisions is still very boggy. Opposite the right division it is generally firm, but water is still lying up in the depressions.

None of the enemy was encountered by our patrols.

(c) Aircraft. Our ~~exp~~ aeroplanes were active to-day, and dropped bombs on HOUTHEM DUMP, in P.20.a., and U.30.d. Several hundred rounds of M.G. ammunition were fired at moving targets in the enemy's lines.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

The Corps on our left have taken a prisoner of the 23rd Bav. R.I.R. The 1st Bn. of this regiment relieved the 393rd I.R. (7th Divn.) on the night of the 3rd/4th February.

3. ENEMY'S ORDER OF BATTLE

A map showing the enemy's order of battle has been issued to all concerned. In error the 17th Division appears on this map. This should read, "17th Reserve Division".

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery has been quiet. Forward areas and WYTSCHAETE have been intermittently shelled throughout the period.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

The enemy's main artillery activity opposite the right division front has been directed against our rear areas, very few shells falling on our trenches. Hostile machine guns were again active firing on No Man's Land on the right brigade front, but on the left brigade front only 3 guns are reported active.

A large number of flares were fired from trenches about DEULEMONT and in WARNETON (U.12.c. and U.18.a.)

6. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Strong Points. A patrol located an enemy strong point at O.35.d.75.75.

(b) Minenwerfer. Hostile trench mortars have shown considerable activity opposite the front of the right division. Active trench mortars were located at U.12.c.95.35 and U.12.c.86.72.

4-2-18

- 2 -

No. 35

(c) Work. A hostile working party at U.5.d.8.8 was dispersed by Lewis gun fire. (Patrol).

Patrols heard working parties at MAY FARM (P.1.d.) and CIRCUS FARM (P.2.c.).

Sounds of wiring and cutting timber were heard by one of our patrols along RIFLE Road (J.26).

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY

On several occasions hostile machines flew over our lines and were heavily engaged by our machine guns.

8. ORGANIZATION

The enemy is holding posts at U.11.b.82.02 and U.11.b.82.65 (patrols).

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

(a) Prisoners of the 163rd I.R. captured recently give the following names of officers:

81st Brigade Commander	Oberst WERDER.
17th Res. Divn.	Maj-Gen. von MUTIUS
163rd I.R.	von SICH (on leave).
2nd Bn. Cdr.	WEDE.

(b) Constant movement is reported by ground observers at BUND COTTS (J.33.c.) and pill box at J.33.c.35.10.

Eastman
Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

294 ✓

B.I.S.62.

AERIAL ANNEXE TO AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

4th. Feb. 1918.

(1) OPERATIONS.

Owing to unfavourable weather conditions no photography could be undertaken.

Six 20lbs. bombs were dropped on P.20.a.80, HOUTHEM DUMP and U.30.d.59. All were seen to explode.

530 rounds M.G. ammunition were fired into transport at D.l.c.83, WARNETON and U.6.

(2) ENEMY'S DISPOSITIONS.

Nil.

(3) ANTI AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

Normal.

(4) ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

Nil.

(5) HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Normal.

(6) MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY'S LINES.Transport.

3.10pm. 2 M.T. waggons were observed at D.l.c.83. A successful G.F. call was sent.

Trains.

<u>Line.</u>	<u>Direction.</u>	<u>Time.</u>
MENIN- HALLUIN Railway.	Entering Halluin.	2.45pm.
QUESNOY-LILLE	Going S.E.	3.00pm.
LILLE ROUBAIX	" N.E.	3.05pm.
MENIN-HALLUIN	Leaving MENIN going S.	3.55pm.

Explosions.

3.05pm. An explosion was seen about 28 K32.c.

The following is a list of aeroplane photos taken on the 3rd. inst. Divisions etc. should indeht direct on the BRANCH INTELLIGENCE SECTION, 3rd. SQUADRON, AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

28 3 BA 166. 0.6.12.a.a.
28 3 BA 167. 0.6..b.d,P.1.a.c.

In the Field.
2-211918.

BRANCH INTELLIGENCE
3rd. Squadron
Aus. F. Corps.

War Diary

294 ✓

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 37

From 6 p.m. 4th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 5th February, 1918NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Throughout the period under review, our batteries were active. Roads, tracks, and communications were shelled. A working party at C.11.b.25.10 was ~~fixed~~ on and casualties are known to have been inflicted. In anticipation of an enemy relief opposite the central division sector, an increased intensity of harassing fire was directed on to tracks and strong points in O.24.c. and d. and O.30, and P.19.c. and d. between 6.25 p.m. and 6 a.m. A number of gas shells were fired on to ESPERANCE CABARET (O.36.c.).

Many direct hits were obtained on farms opposite the left divisional sector.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions were again active last night. A patrol of the right division saw a party of about 9 men near C.5.a.2.1. A determined effort was made to cut them off, but the enemy succeeded in escaping.

The ground is reported to be very wet and marshy in No Man's Land, and shell holes are full of water.

(c) Aircraft. Our aeroplanes were active and undertook photographic and bombing flights.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

The Corps on our right has taken prisoners of the 2nd Bn., 267th R.I.R. (81st Res. Divn.). The 1st and 3rd Bns. of the 267th R.I.R. relieved front line battalions of the 205th R.I.R. (44th Res. Divn.) on the night of the 24/25th January.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery has been quiet. Intermittent shelling of forward areas, notably of PLOEGSTEERT, is reported.

4. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Work. Patrols report hearing working parties east of LOCK 3, at O.35.d.0.3, near WAM FARM and DURIEZ FARM. The latter was dealt with by our machine guns and dispersed.

Ground observers report working parties at U.24.a.63.38, C.11.b.1.2, C.12.a.30.35, C.11.c.55.95, and U.24.a.3.6.

(b) Machine-Guns. Machine guns have shown less activity than usual, and patrols also report little firing during the night.

(c) Patrols. A hostile patrol was heard outside our wire in J.32.c. yesterday evening.

5. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY

Very little hostile aerial activity is reported.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

When one of our patrols reached the BREK, a dog in the enemy's lines commenced barking. The enemy immediately sent up flares and swept the BREK with machine gun fire.

Bussville
Kittum Way
Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 37

From 6 p.m. 5th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 6th February, 1918NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. General harassing and searching fire was maintained throughout the period on enemy centres of activity. Machine gun emplacements at C.5.c.70.48 and C.5.c.78.18 were shelled and direct hits obtained and an explosion caused.

(b) Patrols. Patrols were out last night but encountered none of the enemy. A patrol of the right division located a working party at C.11.a.50.05. Artillery fire was brought to bear and on subsequent investigation patrol reported that work had ceased.

No Man's Land is still in a wet and boggy condition.

(c) Aircraft. The weather was unfavourable for flying this morning, but advantage was taken of improved visibility in the afternoon for reconnaissance flights.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

(a) The Corps on our right has captured 3 deserters of the 158th I.R. (42nd Divn.). Prisoners stated that it is anticipated that the 138th I.R. will be relieved by the 14th I.R. (4th Divn.) between the 13/15th February.

3. ORDER OF BATTLE.

The order of battle of the 42nd Divn. is given from North to South as, 17th I.R. - 138th I.R. - 131st I.R.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Continues quiet. Some shelling of forward and battery areas is reported. MESSINES and WYTSCHAETE were intermittently shelled.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

The right division reports that during the period under review, enemy machine guns and minenwerfers were less active than during the period for the past week. On the other hand, his artillery fire on back areas has been much heavier than usual.

6. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

Wire. A patrol of the left division reports encountering trip wire at about O.6.c.85.30.

A wiring party was heard in the vicinity of U.11.d.95.80 (patrol).

7. MOVEMENT

Ground observers report abnormal movement north of WERVICQ at 2.25 this afternoon, when approximately 100 men marching south-east were seen on the military road in Q.20.b.35.25. These men then turned east on the MENIN-WERVICQ road at Q.21.a.20.25.

8. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY

There has been little hostile aerial activity. Reconnoitring machines attempted to cross our lines, but were heavily fired on and forced to return by our A.A. fire.

Estlin May
M. Brigadier-General,
General Staff, Australian Corps.

294

SECRET

Ig

QUARTERS
 AUSTRALIAN CORPS. 17
 No. 848
 Date.....

Australian Corps,

7th February, 1918.

Fourth Army, "I"

In addition to the information contained in the preliminary examination attached to to-night's Summary, the following was obtained from the prisoner of the 1st M.G. Coy., 162nd I.R.:

Gas. Prisoner was on a gas school at COURTRAI two or three weeks ago. He was told that Blue Cross Gas penetrates all masks, and is made of "K" Stoff. Green Cross is made of phosgene and chlorine. There are now three kinds of Yellow Cross (mustard oil) gas:

- (a) Yellow Cross which is visible.
- (b) Yellow Cross I. made of chlorine, phosgene, and "K" Stoff, and invisible. English airmen are said to have dropped leaflets threatening to destroy CAMBRAI and COURTRAI if this was used again.
- (c) Yellow Cross II. which is not yet used. Prisoner states that it will probably be used in projectors and shells. It is invisible, odourless, and will penetrate rubber masks. Some weeks ago all rubber masks were recalled, and leather ones substituted for this reason in prisoner's regiment.

Enemy's Intentions. Prisoner gave as his opinion that an offensive is contemplated in CHAMPAGNE or ALSACE. While in rest at WALLE, near COURTRAI, he saw one or two munition trains going south every day. He thinks there will be subsidiary attacks, one between LILLE and LENS, and the other at GHELUVELT, in the latter place because firstly, the roads have recently been made passable right up to the front, and secondly, the Pioneer Park at GHELUWE has been moved either wholly or in part 2 km. nearer the front. He says that the intention is to straighten out the salient there. Tanks are to be used and the new aeroplanes referred to in the preliminary examination. These statements are only expressions of personal opinion and should be accepted with reserve.

The prisoner says he has been on the Western Front since the beginning of the war, and can appreciate the situation accurately. The English are not expected to attack opposite HOUTHEN, but an effort will probably be made by the Germans to improve their position by a small local advance against the high ground in front of them. The Stosstrupp will probably do this. The regiment has a reputation for the improvement of its position whenever it is in the line.

S. H. ...
 General,
 Commanding Australian Corps.

Ig

294

B.I.S.63.

AERIAL ANNEXE TO AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

5th.Feb.,1918.

(1) OPERATIONS.

15 plates were exposed successfully.

A successful trench reconnaissance was made from WARNETON to HOLLEBEKE.

18 20lb. bombs were dropped on U.30.d.3.5, HOUTHEM, P.13.d.5.0, P.13.d.7.2, U.30.d, P.19.b.9.3, P.20.c.5.5, HOUTHEM-CHURCH. All exploded.

887 rounds of machine gun ammunition were fired into WARNETON, COMINES, O.18, O.24, O.30, HOUTHEM, P.20.a.1.8, DEULEMONT.

(2) ENEMY'S DISPOSITIONS.

Observer reports machine gun fire encountered over O.36.a.7.6.

3 B.A.178. 28.U.11.d, 12.c, 17.a.b.d. There appears to be a snipers post at U.12.c.0012.

(3) ANTI AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

Enemy A.A. specially active in vicinity of HOLLEBEKE.

(4) ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

TRENCHES.

Observer reports that the trenches at D.18.b.5.3 are under water and apparently damaged by shell fire.

The trenches by road running from O.24.c.5.4 to O.24.c.8.0 appear much damaged by shell fire.

Trench around PILL FARM is damaged and under water.

3 B.A.179. 28.U.29.c.d.(36) C.5.6.a.c.11.b. Mud has been thrown out of the communication trench running from C.5.d.4076 to C.5.d.6556.

TRENCH MORTARS.

3 B.A.178. 28.U.11.d.12.c.17.a.b.d. There appears to be a trench mortar emplacement behind the trench at U.12.c.0517.

DUGOUTS and SHELTERS.

3 B.A.178. 28.U.11.d.12.c.17.a.b.d. The pill box at U.12.c.4620 shows signs of activity, also the dugout at U.18.a.5996.

MACHINE GUN EMPLACEMENTS.

3 B.A.179. 28.U.29.c.d.(36) C.5.6.a.c.11.b. A machine gun emplacement can be seen at C.5.b.0500.

3 B.A.178. 28.U.11.d.12.c.17.a.b.d. There appears to be a machine gun emplacement at U.12.c.1000.

(5) ENEMY'S AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Normal.

(6) MOVEMENT and ORGANIZATION in and behind enemy's lines.

ROUTES and TRACKS.

3 B.A.174. 28.U.24.c.d.29.b.d.30. A number of new tracks can be seen around the dugouts in UNCURL SUPPORT.(U.30.c.)

P . T . O .

(2)

DUMPS.

3 B.A.174. U.24.c.d.29.b.d.30. There is a small dump behind house at U.30.c.2342.

TRAMWAYS.

3 B.A.174. U.24.c.d.29.b.d.30. A small siding leads from a dump at U.30.c.2342 on to the line running down road from PONT ROUGE towards QUESNOY.

FIRES.

10.45am. Large fire at P.28.a.
12.3pm. " " " P.34.d.central.

EXPLOSIONS.

10.45am.	Explosion at D.3.c. (3 small bursts.)	12noon.	Explosion at P.34.c.
		"	P34.a.5.1.
10.57am.	Explosion at P.28.a.3.5.	12.2pm.	" P34.c.2.5.
11.0am.	" P.3.	12.4pm.	" P34.c.5.8.
11.0am.	" P.28.c.9.5.	12.5pm.	" P.34e.3.5.
11.10am.	" P.28.c.5.8.	12.7pm.	" P34.c.5.3.
11.40am.	" P.16.b.	12.10pm.	" P34.a.5.1.
11.41am.	" O.12.d.1.1.	12.40pm.	" P.34.a.
11.45am.	" P.28.c.8.3.		

TRAINS.

<u>LINE.</u>	<u>DIRECTION.</u>	<u>TIMES.</u>
HALLUIN - TOURCOING Railway.	Going S.	12.50pm.
" "	" S.	3.10pm.
LINCELLES-RONCQ	" S.W.	12.20pm.
" "	" S.W.	3.27pm.
WERVICQ - MENIN	" N.E.	4.5pm.

The following is a list of Aeroplane photos taken on the 5th.inst. Divisions etc., should indent direct on the BRANCH INTELLIGENCE SECTION, 3rd.Squadron, AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

Sheet 28.	3.B.A.168.	U.12.V.7.a.c.
28.	169.	U.11.d.12.18.a.
28.	170.	U.6.d.12.b.V.1.7.a.b.
28.	171.	U.29.30.a.c.
36.	172.	C.4.b.c.d.5.10.d.
28.	173.	U.23.29.a.b.
28.	174.	U.24.c.d.29.b.d.30.
28.	175.	U.17.c.d.23.
28.	176.	U.17.
28.	177.	U.22.d.23.c.28.b.d.29.a.c.
28.	178.	U.11.d.12.c.17.a.b.d.
28.&36.	179.	U.29.c.d.(36) C.5.6.a.c.11.b.
28.	180.	O.5.d.6.12.
28.	181.	O.11.d.12.d.17.b.d.18.a.c.23.b.
28.	182.	O.23.24.a.c.29.30.a.c.

In the Field,
5th.Feb.,1918.

BRANCH INTELLIGENCE SECTION,
3rd.Squadron,
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 38

From 6 p.m. 6th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 7th February, 1918.NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Harassing fire was maintained on roads, tracks, and hostile communications. Known centres of enemy activity and occupied buildings were subjected to intermittent shelling, and gas shells were directed against targets in rear of WAPNETON. A working party at P.31.b.7.8 was dispersed by our fire.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions were active. No Man's Land is extremely wet and heavy going, the mud being knee-deep in places. An enemy patrol of 2 men was seen at J.26.d.6.5 by a patrol of the left division. Otherwise none of the enemy was encountered.

(c) Aircraft. Weather conditions prevented any flying to-day.

(d) Prisoners. A corporal of the 162nd I.R., 1st M.G. Coy. (17th Res. Divn.) was captured this morning by our centre division in O.23. (Normal). Examination of this prisoner is attached as an annexe to this Summary.

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery activity has been mainly directed against our battery areas, very little shelling being reported otherwise.

3. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

The right division reports that during the period under review the enemy's artillery fire was mainly directed on our rear areas, but was spread over a large number of targets. On our forward system his fire was light and well distributed. M.G. and M.W. fire continue to be below normal. During the night, the enemy again bombed his own wire opposite the left brigade front in U.11.b.

The centre division reports that except for minenwerfer activity, the enemy was very quiet.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Wire. Patrol of centre division reports that a great deal of wire has been put up in haphazard fashion from O.12.a.5.8 to O.12.a.40.35. Ground observers report that the wire in front of WHIZ FARM (O.17.d.) is at least 8ft. to 10ft. thick and very strong.

(b) Work. New work is in evidence at WAM FARM (O.23.d.) (ground observers). Observers of the right division report seeing working parties at V.25.b.25.57, U.24.a.55.85, and U.11.b.85.10. These were dealt with by our artillery.

5. MOVEMENT

Observers of the centre division report seeing much movement at the pill-box at O.24.c.54.17. Also along the road from O.23.d.9.9 to O.30.d.2.7 at 2 p.m. yesterday.

Between 9 and 11 this morning, 10 trains were seen going south on the COMINES - QUESNOY line, and one train moving north towards COMINES.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

Between 8.30 and 10.30 p.m. yesterday, the enemy fired a red light followed by a white light at approximately U.11.d.9.5, and immediately a number of enemy machine guns opened fire on the left battalion front of the right division.

S. H. M. Wray

for Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

7-2-18

- 1a -

No. 38

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION of a corporal of the 1st M.G. Coy., 162nd I.R., 17th Res. Divn., captured in O.23.d. this morning.

Personal Details. Prisoner is an active soldier of the 1912 Class. He is a Pole living in West Prussia. He is extremely willing to give information, but has probably the national characteristic of exaggeration strongly developed; and his statements should be accepted with reserve pending further confirmation. He is company gas corporal.

Method of Capture. Prisoner's company relieved the company in the line last night. Prisoner got separated from his fellows and was slightly intoxicated by an excessive rum ration. He wandered about and after a while was grazed by a bullet, and finally came into our lines near WAM FARM. He had wandered south of his sector.

Order of Battle. Prisoner knows only that his regiment was the centre regiment of the 17th Res. Divn., and does not know which regiments were north and south of him.

Method of Holding the Line. The line is held on the six-company system. Four companies hold the front line with an outpost line in front. Two companies are in support, and the remaining 6 companies are in rest. There are 2 M.G. Coys. forward (24 guns) and the infantry have 4 light machine-guns per company, and by the 15th of this month will have 6. There are 12 heavy machine guns in and 100/150 metres behind the front line, and another 12 in support. One group of the Stosstrupp is attached to the forward battalion for the nightly patrols, which obtain information about our posts and machine guns. Patrols consist of 6 men and a leader.

Rest Billets. Each unit has its own rest billets, and they are not passed on to the relieving unit as heretofore. The 1st M.G. Coy. is at COUCOU, and the 1st Bn. at VLERWELTEN (Quatre Mondes). The other units are billeted in the buildings on the western edge of MENIN, when in rest.

Reliefs. On the night of the 5/6th February, the 2nd Bn. was relieved by the 1st. Six days are passed in the front line, six in support, and six in rest.

Machine Guns. The machine gun companies bring indirect fire to bear on our approaches, cross roads, etc., and on to our front line, when German patrols are not out. Every M.G. Zug is in a concrete dug-out which has a concrete emplacement on either side for the sledges of the two guns. Prisoner's Coy. was for A.A. work, but only one of the two guns was left on the stand during the night, the other being used for ordinary purposes.

Rear Areas. Between WERVICO and MENIN nearly every house has a huge concrete dug-out behind it for machine guns. The Feldwebels and corporals of the resting M.G. Coy. had to reconnoitre these in case they had to occupy them if we attacked. They are camouflaged but appear on the latest photographs. Belgian civilians are engaged on the construction, which is still proceeding. These dug-outs are of an area of about 24 square metres, and hold 40 men.

Route to Front. Prisoner's Coy. marched from COUCOU, via WERVICO, passing through the market place, to HOUTHEM. The machine guns went on waggons.

294 ✓

7-2-10

- 2a -

No. 38

Aircraft. Prisoner was also on a course in aircraft near WEVELGHEM a few weeks ago. A certain Fliegerlieutenant HORN, who had the Ordre pour le Merite showed them a new all-metal aeroplane which is to be used in the new offensive. They are only flying in back areas at present. They are said to weigh 40 Zentner (Zentner = 50 kilos.). They resemble English aeroplanes, the upper wings being longer than the lower ones and joined by one instead of two struts. All the parts are doubled. They were instructed in shooting with machine guns at hostile aeroplanes.

Headquarters. WYTSCHAETE Group - COURTRAI. 17th Res. Divn. - WEVELGHEM.

Names of Officers. 1st M.G. Coy. - Lieut. BULLER. 1st Bn. - Major DZEOBECK. 165th I.R. - Major HAUS. Brigade - Oberst von WEDER. Division - Major-General MUTIUS.

Rations. Rations are not so good as with us. The bread ration is 750 grammes. The submarines are no longer expected to starve England, but it is hoped that they embarrass the military situation by necessitating the withdrawal of ships for purely civilian purposes.

Miscellaneous. The "Rumanian" Army Artillery seen at COURTRAI are the Duklasturmer, who stormed the Dukla Pass. They have been there some time. Prisoner denies that COURTRAI is very full of troops.

The Germans are told that the Australians and three special British regiments always kill their prisoners.

The Hansatic Cross and the Iron Cross are awarded according to seniority in the regiment and not for bravery. Prisoner has both and attaches no value to either.

Ig. 881

Australian Corps.

8th February, 1918.

Fourth Army "I".

Herewith forwarded copy of notes taken by the Corps
Chemical Adviser on the examination of a prisoner belonging
to the 1st M.G. Coy., 162nd I.R., 17th Res.Divn., captured
in O.23.d. on the 7th inst.

File in Summary

SS
Sanby-GIC
AMH
AM

Lat
General,
Commanding Australian Corps.

294

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 p.m. 7th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 8th February, 1918

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS

For Official Use Only

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Harassing fire was maintained on communications and enemy centres of activity, particularly opposite the northern sector, where reliefs of the 1st Bav. Res. Divn. were anticipated. Yesterday the abnormal movement opposite the southern sector provided good targets for our artillery. Centres of activity, tracks bridges and headquarters were engaged in this sector in view of the possibility of a local relief. During the period numerous working parties were also engaged and dispersed in many cases.

(b) Patrols. Our patrols were active last night and secured useful information regarding the location of the enemy's posts and machine guns. One patrol or covering party was observed in the vicinity of U.11.d.85.60. As soon as they sighted our patrol they withdrew to their own lines, put up about 20 flares and bombed their own wire.

(c) Prisoners. A prisoner of the 5th Coy., 163rd I.R., 17th Res. Divn. was captured at 0.29.a.25.95 this morning. Report of the preliminary examination is attached to this Summary.

2. IDENTIFICATION

The 163rd I.R. 17th Res. Divn. was identified by the capture of a prisoner in 0.29.a. this morning. (Normal)

3. ORDER OF BATTLE

Prisoner of the 163rd I.R. was unable to give the order of battle, but states that his regiment was on the left of the divisional sector. (Normal)

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery has been comparatively quiet along the whole Corps front.. 0.17 was shelled by 18cm. from the direction of COMINES. The following areas also received attention: I.28.36, and 29, 0.4, 10, 14, and 15, U.15 and 16, and C.2 and 9.

5. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Listening Posts. Patrols located a listening post which showed signs of recent occupation at about U.18.a.07.65. Another which was occupied by two of the enemy was found at about U.17.b.95.90.

(b) Wire. Ground observers report that a belt of strong wire has been erected in front of FUNNY FARM (J.32.c.) about 50 yards from the farm. Patrols report there are wire entanglements running from the southeast corner of the SPINNEY at U.18.a.16.48 towards the enemy's front line.

(c) Posts. A post at 0.6.c.85.20 was found by patrols to be unoccupied, but bore traces of recent occupation.

6. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

Considerable nervousness was manifested by the enemy opposite our southern sector. On two occasions last night he bombed his wire in U.11.d.

8-2-18

- 2 -

No. 397. MOVEMENT and ORGANIZATION

Considerable movement of small parties was observed throughout yesterday in the southern sector and afforded good targets for artillery. Opposite the northern sector abnormal movement is also reported. This movement can in both cases be attributed to local reliefs, and may be also explained by the improved visibility. To-day continuous movement was seen between WERVICO and COMINES and was fired upon by our artillery.

Train movement around WERVICO was also abnormally large between 2 and 3 p.m. this afternoon.

Dump. A dump of barbed wire and trench material is reported by ground observers at U.12.b.30.24.

Smoke Screen. A large smoke screen was put up at 2.30 p.m. east of MOUTHEN. It lasted for 10 minutes and seemed to travel towards TAMBRELLAN.

Sastman way
 Lt. Brigadier-General
 General Staff, Australian Corps.

8-2-18

- 1a -

No. 39

FURTHER EXAMINATION of corporal belonging to the 162nd I.R., 1st M.G. Coy., captured yesterday.

Alarms. In the German lines gas alarms are always given by the beating of a gong; a horn is blown in case of an infantry attack, and never as a gas alarm.

Concrete Dug-outs. The large concrete dug-outs visible on A.P. 57.K.1145 of 29/1/18 and referred to in the preliminary examination, have a 1.80 metres thick concrete roof. The side facing the front is of like thickness, but the other three sides are thinner. The cement is not manufactured in the vicinity, but is brought in paper sacks. It consists of cement and gravel, reinforced with iron bars. These buildings have the entrances in rear and have no loopholes except for a stove pipe. They are dug in the ground, and project from 2 to 2½ metres above it. Camouflage, consisting of grass, platted on wire, is put over the dug-outs. Prisoner states that these concrete dug-outs are built only on low-lying ground, where there is a good field of fire. Owing to the increase of the number of troops on the Western front, increased accommodation is necessary, and these buildings will supply this need, in addition to their tactical value in case of attack.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION of a Gefreiter of the 5th Coy., 163rd I.R., 17th Res. Divn., captured at 0.29.a.25.95.

Personal Details. Prisoner belongs to the 1914 Class and has been fighting since the beginning of the war. He joined his present regiment in January of this year after recovery from wounds in Germany. His moral is excellent; he will give very little information and is evidently intensely patriotic and proud of the German Army.

Method of Capture. Prisoner was accompanying a newly promoted officer on a patrol. All new officers have apparently to go once on a patrol, though it is unusual for them to go subsequently. They crept under our wire and prisoner was caught up and had to surrender. He does not know what happened to the officer.

Order of Battle. Prisoner does not know the order of battle, but states that his company was on the left of the divisional sector.

Dispositions. Prisoner states that his battalion (the 2nd) has four companies in the line. The order of companies from north to south, is 7 - 5 - 6 - 8. The companies have two platoons forward with an outpost line 30 yards in front at night, the remaining platoon is with the company commander, some 600 yards further back. Prisoner will not give any further information on this subject, and is unable to give any locations.

Reliefs. The 2nd Bn. relieved the 1st Bn. on the night of the 4/5th February. Prisoner thinks the period in the line will be 8/10 days (doubtful).

Rest Billets. When in rest, his battalion was at BISEGHEM for training. They moved to MENIN on the 1st February and were billeted in the KLOSTER STRASSE. He states that the 3rd Bn. was in HALLUIN and was still there when his battalion came into the line.

Names of Officers. O.C. 5th Coy. - Lieut. HAUSEN; O.C. 2nd Bn. - Hauptmann von HAMMERSTEIN; O.C. - 163rd I.R. - Oberst-Lieut. von SIMCK.

Gas. When with the 394th I.R., prisoner's company was gassed near VERDUN on the 19/20th August, 1917. They had about 20 casualties. Prisoner confirms the recall of all rubber masks, while they were at BISEGHEM, and the substitution of leather ones. He attributes the change to the superiority of the latter.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 40

From 6 p.m. 8th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 9th February, 1918NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BREGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Harassing fire and registration were carried out, particular attention being paid towards tracks, and enemy communications in anticipation of a probable local relief in the sector opposite the centre division.

Working parties in P.31 and P.32 were dispersed and the tracks and dug-outs in the vicinity of the mound in V.7.a. were shelled with gas shells.

(b) Patrols. Of all divisions again reconnoitred No Man's Land. None of the enemy was encountered, but sounds of moving were distinctly heard from the direction of the enemy's lines.

A patrol of the right division reports that when near the listening post previously located at U.18.a.07.55, 4 bombs were thrown towards them, Very lights were fired, and a machine-gun opened fire on them.

No Man's Land is reported to be in a very bad condition. The shell holes are full of water, and the ground in between is very soft and wet.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

A man of the 76th R.I.R. (17th Res. Divn.) was killed in O.6.c. last night. (Normal).

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery activity has been normal and chiefly directed on centre and left forward areas, and against the usual targets.

4. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

The right division reports that the enemy is still nervous in the vicinity of the SPINNEY.

Opposite the left division front, the enemy is quiet except for slight M.G. and M.W. activity.

5. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

Patrols report as follows:

(a) Wire. The wire at O.6.d.85.70 is in good condition. There is a belt of wire running from U.18.a.18.45 to the river bank. The thickness of it could not be ascertained.

(b) Emplacements. There is a well constructed M.G. emplacement in No Man's Land at U.11.d.85.70, made of wooden planks 8" wide and 2" thick. It shows no signs of having been recently used.

(c) Posts. The enemy post at O.11.d.90.85 was found to be unoccupied.

6. MOVEMENT.

The Corps on our left reports abnormal train movement has been reported by ground observers on the LILLE - SECLEN line between 3.45 and 4.15 p.m. to-day. The LILLE - ROUBAIX line has also been very active all this afternoon.

Ground observers of the Corps on our left report abnormal movement between WERVICQ and MENIN seen during hours of intermittent visibility.

At 2.25 p.m., 100 men were seen at Q.21.a.20.25 marching East.

S. J. M. May
Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 41

From 6 p.m. 9th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 10th February, 1918

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS

For Official Use Only

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. General harassing and searching fire was maintained throughout the night, and sweeping fire continued on enemy's tracks, communications, and roads throughout the period under review. Strong points and occupied buildings were engaged and wire cutting operations were successfully carried out.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions again reconnoitred No Man's Land. The enemy was heard moving about, talking, and working, but no encounters occurred. The ground is drying up, but is still exceedingly wet and muddy. Very little hostile machine gun activity is reported.

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY

Forward, centre, and battery areas were intermittently shelled, but hostile artillery activity continues normal.

3. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

Between 12.30 and 1 a.m. a hostile patrol of 6 men armed with revolvers and clubs attempted to raid one of our posts in U.17.d. On assistance arriving, the enemy made off in the direction of the river. No casualties are reported.

The right division reports little change in the enemy's attitude as far as machine gun and minenwerfer fire is concerned. The centre division reports more artillery and minenwerfer activity on the right sector of the right battalion.

4. ENEMY'S DEFENSIVES

Wire. The enemy's wire at O.23.central and O.23.d.00.90 was successfully cut by our artillery.

A successful shoot was carried out on enemy wire at U.12.a.3.4 and U.12.a.30.45, two lanes 15 to 20 yards wide being cut at these points.

The wire in front of the trench in U.11.d. was badly damaged by artillery fire.

A patrol of the left division reports that the enemy's wire at O.12.a.38.78 is strong.

Ground observers report seeing a wiring party at J.28.b.8.1 and LOCK 4.

5. MOVEMENT

Ground observers report that:
The road in V.19.a. was frequently used during yesterday morning.

Much movement is seen about V.25.b.48.20, where there appears to be a dug-out.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

At 11.20 a.m. yesterday a direct hit was obtained, exploding a dump at U.12.c.45.16.

At 11.40 a.m. a dump of red, green, and white lights at U.12.c.75.15 was exploded.

Edmund King
Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 42

From 6 p.m. 10th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 11th February, 1918NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Wire cutting and bombardment of trenches, dug-outs, and emplacements in WARNETON were continued during the day in preparation for and during minor operations in U.12.c. and U.18.a. by the right division. At 3 a.m. and again at 3.45 a.m. one minute bombardments of the enemy trenches at the scene of the raid were carried out.

Centre divisional artillery maintained harassing fire on enemy's communications and continued wire cutting and bombardment in preparation for simulated raids on KIWY (O.36.c.) and in support of operations of the right division.

Left Divisional artillery maintained harassing fire on hostile forward and rear targets.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions were active last night. A patrol of the left division encountered a hostile party of 8 men in J.27.a.15.15 and engaged them at close range with bombs, revolver, and rifle fire. 5 of the enemy were killed and two others believed to have been wounded.

(c) Raid. Between 10 and 10.30 p.m. a successful raid was carried out against the enemy's trenches in U.12.c. and U.18.a. The raiding party penetrated to beyond the enemy's support lines. A large number, estimated at 102, of the enemy was killed, and much damage was done to dug-outs and emplacements. 30 prisoners, 3 machine-guns, 1 granaten werfer, and much smaller booty were captured.

(d) Prisoners. The following unwounded prisoners have been captured during the past 24 hours:

228th R.I.R., 1st Coy.	9	O.R.
2nd Coy.	5	O.R.
5th Coy.	5	O.R.
6th Coy.	4	O.R.
	<hr/>	
	23	O.R.
	<hr/>	

The following wounded prisoners were also taken:

228th R.I.R., 1st Coy.	1	O.R.
2nd Coy.	2	O.R.
5th Coy.	2	O.R.
6th Coy. (1 since died)	2	O.R.
	<hr/>	
	7	
	<hr/>	

TOTAL 30 O.R.

preliminary examination is attached.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

By right division, 228th R.I.R., 49th Res. Divn. (Normal) Documents and uniforms of enemy killed at J.27.a.65.65 prove them to have belonged to the 468th I.R. (239th Divn.) and 3rd Bav. R.I.R. (1st Bav. Res. Divn.).

The Corps on our left report the capture of 3 prisoners of the 23rd R.I.R., 12th Res. Divn., last night in D.29. The 23rd R.I.R. relieved the 174th I.R. (31st Divn.) on the 3rd/4th February. The order of battle from north to south is given as 38th R.I.R. - 23rd R.I.R. - 51st R.I.R.

11-2-18

- 2 -

No. 42

3. RELIEFS

A regimental order taken from the body of one of the Germans killed in J.27.a. last night establishes the relief in that sector of the 3rd Bav. R.I.R. by the 468th I.R. on the night of the 10/11th February, indicating the relief of the 1st Bav. Divn. by the 139th Res. Divn. The order goes on to say that the trench mortar personnel of the 3rd Bav. R.I.R. will be relieved to-night.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery has been generally quiet throughout the period, the chief activity being directed against the right battery area and left forward front, notably U.13, 14, 15, O.4, 5, 9, 10, and I.34, 35, 36.

5. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Wire. Patrols report that the wire encountered at J.26. b.95.05 is loose and insecurely fastened.

The wire in front of KIWI FARM (O.36.c.) and in the vicinity of KIWI Road in O.36.c. has been considerably damaged. The enemy trench system in this neighbourhood is also much destroyed.

(b) Work. Ground observers report new work is in progress on trenches at O.30.a.99.62.

(c) Pill Boxes. A patrol of the left division examined the pill-boxes around MOAT FARM as well as MOAT FARM itself (P.1.b.), and found them to be unoccupied.

A patrol reports double sentries on a pill-box at J.32.b.2.6.

6. MOVEMENT

Ground observers report that movement continues around BUND COTTAGES (J.33.c.) and BERRY COTTAGES (J.27.a.).

Sastman
M. Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

LATER

Half an hour after our raid the enemy made a counter attack along WARNETON Road which was successfully repelled.

In addition to prisoners already reported two further prisoners have been captured. 12 other prisoners who attempted to escape while crossing No Man's Land were dispatched.

294

LL-2-18

- 1a -

No. 42

REPORT on the PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION of 23 unwounded and 6 wounded prisoners of the 1st, 2nd, 5th, and 6th Coys., 228th R.I.R., 49th Res. Divn.

Particulars. Of the prisoners captured, 10 belong to the 1st Coy., 6 to the 2nd Coy., 6 to the 5th Coy., and 7 to the 6th Coy. They consist chiefly of the younger classes, though there is one man of 43. Their physique is on the whole poor, the moral varies between fair and indifferent. Most of the information contained in this report was furnished by a Gefreiter of the 1st Coy., who was a volunteer and had been with this regiment since September, 1914. His statements are considered reliable.

Method of Capture. The prisoners were captured as the result of a raid on the trenches in front of WARNETON. The 2nd Bn. companies were working in the sectors of the 1st and 2nd Coys., clearing out communication trenches and the support line, which were derelict.

Order of Battle. The order of battle from North to South is given as, 226th R.I.R. - 226th R.I.R. - 228th R.I.R. (49th Res. Divn.) - 21st Bav. I.R. (5th Bav. Divn.). (Normal)

The Bavarians were seen on the 1st/2nd February, and prisoners are certain that they are still there.

Dispositions. The 228th R.I.R., although in the LILLE Group, has apparently adopted the 6-company system of holding the line. The 1st Bn. is in the front line with two companies of the 2nd Bn. in close support, the other two companies of this battalion being in reserve near the 3rd Bn., which is in rest. Apparently the two companies of the 2nd Bn. in close support are under the orders of their own battalion staff, and not those of the front line battalion.

The 1st Bn. has three companies in the front line and one in support. The order of companies from North to South is, 3 - 2 - 1, the support company being the 4th. Each front line company has all three platoons forward. At night two double posts, each of four men, are pushed forward by each platoon to a line 10 metres in front of the wire.

Divisional Sector. The LYS is the boundary between the 49th Res. Divn. and the 5th Bav. Divn. (Normal)

Company Sectors. "C" Sector, occupied at present by the 1st Coy., extends from the LYS to a point 90 metres north of the WARNETON - COMINES road, there being 1 1/2 groups north of this road.

"B" Sector - From the northern boundary of "C" Sector as far as a point 60 metres beyond the COMINES - ARMENTIERES railway.

"A" Sector - Unknown.

Headquarters. Front line battalion H.Q. - probably U.12.d.53.78, the corner house in the main street.

Support battalion H.Q. - at LE BEAU CHENE (W.13.a.) probably in a large house on the western side of the COMINES - LE HALLOT road.

Reserve battalion H.Q. - Five houses down on the northern side of the LE BLATON - LINSSELLES road, from the road junction at LE BLATON (W.21a.80.99).

Locations. Apart from the three front line companies of the 1st Bn., the following locations were given:

4th Coy., probably in concrete cellars in the houses at U.12.d.48.85.

5th Coy., probably in the houses at U.12.d.85.97.

6th Coy., in dug-outs in the Mound (V.7.a.35.10). One platoon, however, was not here, but was split in half, one half in turn providing ration carriers, the other half remaining somewhere in close support.

7th and 8th Coys., in houses at LE BEAU CHENE (W.13.a.), probably on eastern side of the COMINES - LE HALLOT road.

3rd Bn., in LE BLATON (W.15).

LINSSELLES is the resting quarters of the Bavarians.

11-2-18

- 2a -

No. 42

Reliefs. The 1st Bn. relieved the 2nd Bn. in the line at 6.45 p.m. on the 6th February. Six days are spent in the line, six in support, followed by six in rest. The 1st Bn. expects to be relieved next Thursday. The 49th Res. Divn. expects to be relieved by the 32nd Divn. in 8 or 9 days' time. It is rumoured that the 103rd I.R. will relieve the 228th R.I.R.

Units seen in Fear. 64th Foot Art. Bn. at TOURCOING at the beginning of January. 7th Bav. I.R. and 103rd I.R. in TOURCOING at the beginning of January.

Route to Front. LE BLATON - cross-roads (W.15.c.) - road to W.13.d.85.10, then northwards to COMINES, through LE EAU CHENE - westwards at P.34.d.50.55 and so through WARNETON to the front line. If the shelling is heavy the WARNETON - COMINES road is left at some point in V.7.a., and a route taken which crosses the bridge at V.7.a. 50.11 and proceeds round the MOUND, skirts the church, and joins the main road again at U.12.d.55.80. There seems to be a number of alternative routes to the front from the MOUND. The 6th Coy. yesterday made a bee line over the ruins of houses by the shortest possible route.

Rations. The rations appear to be good. The food is cooked at LE BLATON, and carried up by parties detailed specially for this duty. From prisoner's company, 15 to 20 men, 1 corporal, and a sergeant remained at LE BLATON for this purpose. They left LE BLATON daily at 3 p.m. and reached the front line between 6 and 7.30 P.m.

Light Signals, etc. Current till February 11th or 12th in the LILLE GROUP: Green - Barrage; Yellow - Lengthen Range; Red - Annihilating Fire.

These signals change every 8 or 10 days.

The pass-word in the 228th R.I.R. till to-morrow night is the word "CARNEVAL".

Machine Guns and Trench Mortars. Every platoon in the line has one light machine gun. In prisoner's company, there is one light machine gun about 30 yards north of the road in U.18, and two others between the road and the LYS. There are heavy machine guns somewhere in WARNETON, also heavy trench mortars. Prisoner can give no exact locations. They have no light trench mortars.

Condition of Trenches. The front line trenches are very wet and uncomfortable. There are concrete dug-outs 25 to 30 metres on either side of the road in U.18.a. and two mined dug-outs between the road and the river. The latter are, however, full of water. The wire is in poor condition. UNCLE TOM'S TRENCH is apparently unoccupied.

Patrolling. But little patrolling seems to be done. Contact with the Bavarians is maintained by the two companies of the support battalion in WARNETON, who cross the LYS by the bridge at V.7.b.35.72.

Observation Posts. The O.P. at WARNETON TOWER is no longer used owing to our heavy shelling. It has been moved to the sixth house northwards from the road junction at U.12.d.52.80 on the western side of the road. There is believed to be an O.P. on the MOUND.

Strengths and Casualties. 1st Coy. - Rifle strength, 71 men; 2nd Coy. - rifle strength, 120. Since they have been in this sector, they have had 3 killed and 4 wounded.

5th Coy. - rifle strength, 48 to 50 men. 6th Coy. - rifle strength, 80 men.

Prisoner heard also that 6 soldiers were killed by bombs from an aeroplane in BOUSBECQUE 14 days ago.

Leave. Leave was re-opened on February 2nd, having been closed since January 22nd. Two men go every 3 days from each company. The stoppage is attributed to the movement of troops or to the heavy traffic on the railways.

Courses. One prisoner had been to a trench mortar course for 4 weeks at AECH, near the Dutch frontier. One man per company attended the course. The instruction consisted in the mounting, dismounting, and firing of the light trench mortar, and in building emplacements.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 43

From 6 p.m. 11th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 12th February, 1918NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. In view of the relief of the T.M. personnel of the 1st Bav. Res. Divn. last night, all known and suspected T.M. positions were subjected to harassing fire throughout the night.

During the day, artillery of all divisions maintained harassing fire on all enemy communications and approaches. Hostile parties were shelled and dispersed, and registration and bombardment of trenches were continued.

(b) Patrols. The strong wind blowing from our front over the enemy's lines and the extreme darkness rendered patrolling very difficult. None of the enemy was encountered and no signs of movement were observed. Only occasional bursts of hostile machine gun fire were met with, and the centre division reports absence of enemy lights. The ground continues to dry up well.

(c) Prisoners. Further interrogation of the prisoners taken in the raid on the night of the 10/11th is appended.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

The Corps on our left reports taking a prisoner of the 5th Coy., 468th I.R., 239th Divn. in J.26.b.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Enemy batteries at FREILINGHIEN and COMINES have showed moderate activity against centre and left forward areas. During the afternoon, KLEIN ZILLEBEKE was heavily shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. from the direction of AMERICA (P.12.d.).

4. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

The right division reports that the enemy has been quiet, except for intermittent machine gun fire which was opened on the right sector of the right battalion on the slightest noise.

The centre division reports increased artillery activity on our forward areas.

The left division reports the enemy to be very nervous opposite the left brigade front, machine guns firing on the slightest sound heard in No Man's Land or in our lines.

5. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Trenches. Patrol reports that the elements of trenches at U.6.a.2.3 are not occupied and do not show signs of recent occupation.

(b) Wire. In front of the enemy's post at U.5.d.90.75 is very thick and strong. (Patrol).

Patrol of the left division reports a double belt of wire, each 10ft. wide and in good condition, running from GAME COPSE (P.1.c.) around MAY FARM (P.1.d.). Also that the wire in front of LOCK 6 (O.6.d.) is very strong and is fixed on wooden stakes.

(c) Work. Ground observers report seeing a large number of small parties throughout the day at various places, indicating that the enemy is engaged in repairing damage done by our artillery on the night of the 10/11th. The attention of our artillery was directed to these targets.

6. MOVEMENT.

Ground observers report seeing 4 stretcher parties behind GAME COPSE and an ambulance wagon bearing a red-cross flag in P.5.a.7.8.

Eastman Maj
Brigadier-General

294 ✓
12.2.18

- 1a -

No. 43

REPORT on the FURTHER EXAMINATION of prisoners of the 228th R.I.R., 49th Res. Divn. captured during raid on the night of the 10/11th February, 1918.

Locations.

21st Bav. I.R. There are two or three groups of this regiment in the Mairie (V.13.a.). Also a platoon of the support company probably in the trench at V.13.b.90.95, in which prisoner had been when in support.

2nd Coy. One platoon by day in concreted cellar at U.11.d.95.40, a sentry being posted outside. At night there are two light machine guns and two doubleposts in front of this position. One platoon in a concreted cellar at U.12.c.18.05. And one platoon with the Coy. Commander in concreted cellar at V.12.c.31.07.

4th Coy. Is "D" Kompagnie. In addition to the location given last night, it appears that at least one platoon is in the Water Tower.

5th and 6th Coys. There seems to be some doubt regarding the distribution of these two support companies, but it seems probable that one (the 6th Coy.) is quartered in the cellars under the Church and in cellars at U.12.d.85.97, while the other (5th Coy.) is in dug-outs in the MOUND. It is tolerably certain, however, that one platoon of one of these two companies (the 5th) is acting as "Artillerie Bedeckung", and is quartered in concrete dug-outs in the railway embankment. The duties of this platoon are in connection with the transmission of light signals to the artillery. The locations of the 5th and 6th Coys. in last night's report should be amended accordingly.

Battalion Dressing Station. In a cellar under the houses at U.12.d.95.98.

Support Companies. At LE BEAU CHENE. 2 groups in house at W.13.c.95.80, where there are cellars for protection against aircraft. 2 groups in house at W.13.d.75.99. Orderly Room in house at W.13.c.70.95. Canteen and Officer's billet in the two houses at W.13.a.55.08.

Regimental Arsenal. In house at BOUSSECQUE at Q.35.a.35.15 (probably). A prisoner fetched a machine gun from here 10 days ago. The 226th R.I.R. have their resting battalion at BOUSSECQUE.

Billet. Of the divisional artillery officers (labelled outside OFFIZIERS QUARTIER) at V.12.d.80.05, the huts here are unoccupied.

Pioneer Dump. At W.21 b.7.7, chiefly for the work on the COMINES - BONDUES line, very little being sent from this dump to the front line.

Units Seen in Rear. A prisoner saw men wearing the number 137 at ROUSALX in the middle of December, 1917; these men stated that they had recently come from Russia.

Headquarters.

1st Coy., 228th R.I.R. - 30 metres from the southern end of the trench, at about U.18.a.27.40, in an ordinary dug-out, two steps beneath the level of the trench.

Platoon Officers of 1st Coy. - In a dug-out in the front line, 25 m. south of the communication trench at U.18.a.25.65.

2nd Coy. - In a concreted cellar at U.12.c.31.07.

Bn. H.Q. of support battalion - At W.13.c.92.59.

Divisional H.Q. - At TOURCOING.

Regimental H.Q. - Probably at BOUSSECQUE, as it is always near the regimental arsenal.

Observation Posts. Both the O.P.'s reported in yesterday's Summary are concreted. The one on the MOUND is manned by 2 officers of the 49th F.A.R., who relieve one another every two hours. They have 11 O.R. with them to act as botmen and telephonists. All these are rationed by the support company.

35
12-2-18

- 2a -

294
No. 43

Machine Guns. There is a light machine gun at U.18.a.25.30, and another some 50 metres southwards from the Mill at U.18.a.20.80 in the front line. There are two light machine guns by night in front of the house at U.11.d.95.40.

Rear Lines. The COLINES - BONDUES Line (Flandern Stellung I) is being actively worked on by civilians. The front line is 2 metres deep, 3 metres broad, and has a 80cm. fire step. Prisoners could give no information about dug-outs or concrete work.

The houses at LE BEAU CHEMIN and LES BOIS (U.V.b.) are completed, and those in the latter place are loopholed. The concrete work at the former place is done by civilians, recruited voluntarily (sic), who receive 8 frs. per diem. Civilians, however, who do unloading at LINSSELLES only receive 5 frs.

There is a shooting range near LES BOIS, probably on the hill in W.1.c., where the support companies went for practice.

A trench tramway crosses the road, beside the trenches in W.14.c.

Balloons. There is a balloon in the fields between the roads at LE BEAU CHEMIN in V.13.a.

A prisoner had seen gas cylinders at LES BOIS in front of the houses for inflating the balloon there.

Civilians. There are two families left at LE BLATON. A few civilians are still in BOUSBECQUE. LINSSELLES is still full.

Officers' Names. O.C. 1st Coy. - Leut. DONLIER. O.C. No. 1 Platoon - Leut. GRUICHEN. O.C. No. 2 Platoon - Leut. ERHARDT. O.C. 2nd Coy. - Leut. BEFFEL. O.C. 3rd Coy. - Leut. RUF. O.C. 4th Coy. - Leut. THOMAS.

O.C. 1st Bn. - Haupt. v. BELOW. O.C. 228th R.I.R. - Haupt. HASENSTEIN (pro tem.). O.C. 97th Res. Bde. - Oberst SCHELDT (from 238th R.I.R.). G.O.C. 49th Res. Divn. - Gen.-Leut. UNGER has returned to Germany and has been replaced by some officer unknown.

Patrols. A patrol consisting of 1 officer, 4 corporals, and 32 men (i.e. 1 group per company) from the 1st Bn. went out at 6 a.m. on the 29th January along the railway to J.11.d. to reconnoitre our lines and presumably obtain identifications. They returned and reported that there was nobody in our front line. A prisoner believes that the 225th R.I.R. did a similar patrol at 10 p.m. on the 2nd February. They heard the shelling and machine gun fire resulting from it. One prisoner exhibited a moderately accurate knowledge of our dispositions and sectors.

Light Signalling. Each battalion has a Blinkertrupp of 1 N.C.O. and 8 men who live at Bn. H.Q. The two companies at LE BEAU CHEMIN also provide relay posts for sending signals to the rear.

Work on Front Line. Not much work is done on the front line. The 228th R.I.R., however, do more than the Saxons who preceded them. The latter told them that this was a quiet sector, but the English are always shooting with gas and they (the Saxons) had apparently suffered casualties.

Miscellaneous. Two men went from prisoners ^{regiment} to the Kaiser's Review at CHEM at the end of December last, when he reviewed the Army which had been fighting in Flanders.

A prisoner of the 2nd Coy. stated he was in a cellar in WARMEYON with 25 other men when our attack came off. Bombs and smoke grenades were thrown down into the cellar. Prisoner and two others got out, but he thinks the remainder were either killed by the bombs or suffocated by the smoke.

294

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 44

From 6 p.m. 12th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 13th February 1918

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS

For Official Use Only.

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Activity has been directed against enemy tracks, roads, and communications throughout the period under report. Dug-outs, machine gun positions, and occupied buildings were subjected to intermittent bursts of fire. Artillery of the left division put down a one minute's concentration on GAME COPEE.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions were out last night. Right and centre divisions' patrols encountered none of the enemy, although sounds of enemy work were plainly heard.

A patrol of the right division reconnoitred MAY FARM (P.1.d.) with a view to getting prisoners there. This patrol cut their way through wire at F.1.0.3.9 and discovered a trench behind another belt of wire, this trench being garrisoned by about 30 of the enemy. Further investigation will proceed.

The ground in No Man's Land was reported to be drying up well last night.

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Chief activity of the enemy's artillery has been from the direction of WERVICQ and directed against centre and left forward areas.

3. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

The enemy has been quiet along the whole of the Corps front.

4. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Work. Ground observers report that what appears to be a new post is under construction at J.32.d.1.6 where new earth is visible.

(b) Trenches. WAM and BEEK FARMS (O.23.a. - O.29.b.) and the trenches in the vicinity have been damaged by our fire. (Patrol Report).

(c) Wire. Between O.29.a.9.2 and O.29.a.90.35 the wire is thick and strong. (Patrol).

The enemy's wire at O.6.c.6.1 consists of strong apron wire.

At O.6.d.3.6 it is very strong, fastened on wooden stakes about 2ft. high. This wire is continuous between O.6.d.3.6 to 50 yards behind LOCK 6 (O.6.d.1.0).

From P.1.b.3.0 a strong belt of wire runs parallel to the road in the direction of CIRCUS POINT (P.2.c.05.96). Another strong belt of wire runs behind this belt and parallel to it.

All the above information has been obtained by patrols of the left Division.

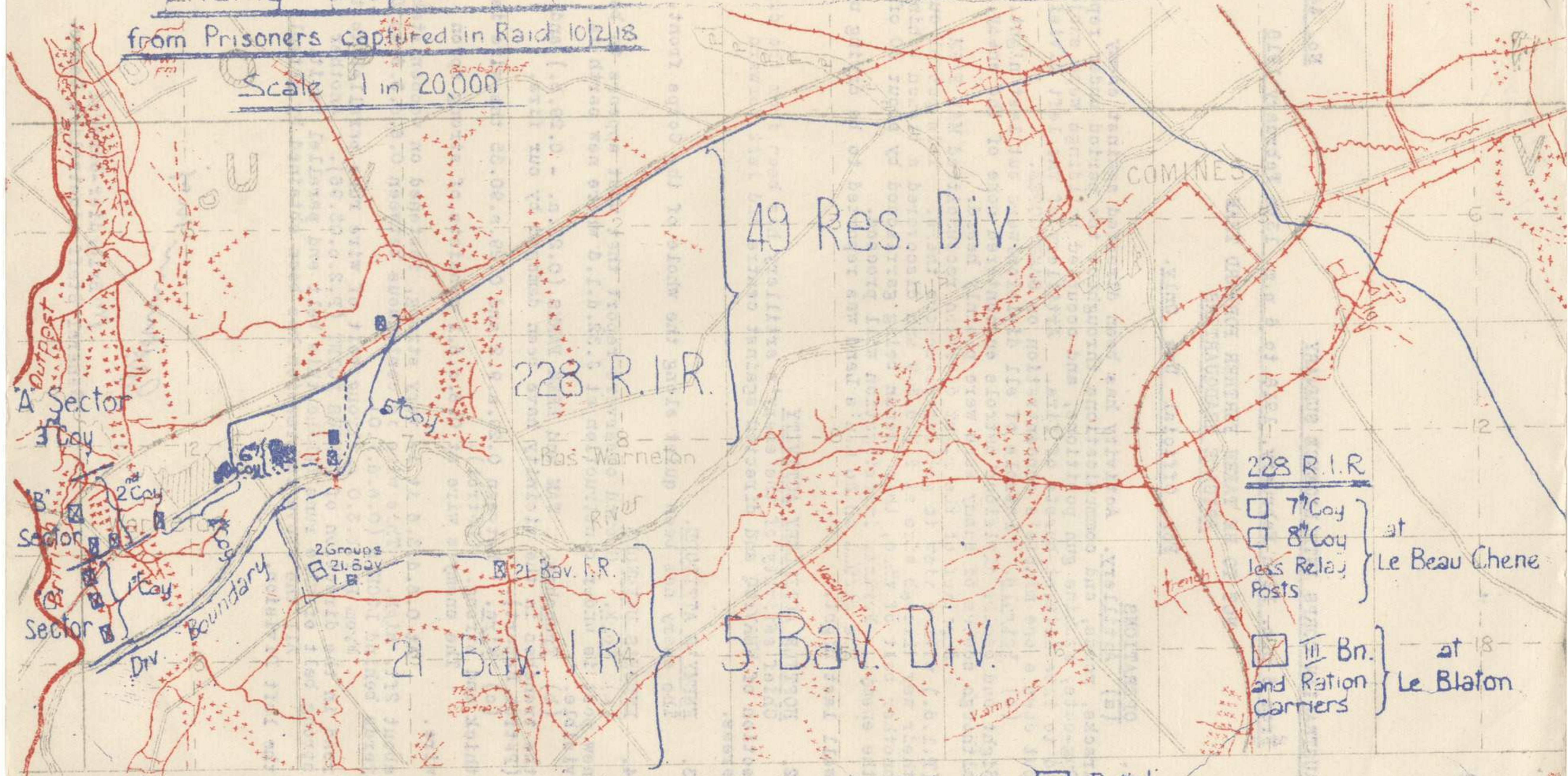
Sastman Maj

M. Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

Enemy Dispositions

from Prisoners captured in Raid 10/2/18

Scale 1 in 20,000



--- Route used by Patrols to 21 Bav I.R.
--- Route to Front
--- Alternative route to Warneton

☒ Platoon
☐ 2 Groups
☐ Coy
☐ Battalion

228 R.I.R.
☐ 7th Coy } at
☐ 8th Coy } Le Beau Chene
less Relay Posts

☐ III Bn. } at
and Ration } Le Blaton
Carriers

37

100

294
13-2-18.

- 1b -

No. 44.KEY TO MAP OF WARNETON.

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. | I Bn. H.Q. | 3.B.A.149.30/1/18. |
| 2. | 4th Coy. in Cellars. | 3.B.A.149. " |
| 3. | 5th Coy. (two platoons). | 3.B.A.152. 30/1/18. |
| 4. | 6th Coy. | 3.B.A.152. 30/1/18. |
| 5. | Concrete dug-out. | |
| 6. | Concrete dug-out. | |
| 7. | Concrete Cellar, 1 platoon, 2nd Coy. | 3.B.A.169. 5/2/18. |
| 8. | Concrete Cellar, 1 platoon, 2nd Coy. | 3.B.A.169. 5/2/18. |
| 9. | Concrete Cellar, 1 platoon, 2nd Coy. | 3.B.A.169. 5/2/18. |
| 10. | 4th Coy., 1 Platoon. | |
| 11. | Battalion Dressing Station. | |
| 12. | Observation Post (concrete). | |
| 13. | Observation Post (concrete). | |
| 14. | 2 or 3 Groups of 21st Bv. I.R. | 3 B.A.162. 3/2/18 - shows
concrete dug-outs to
Mairie de WARNETON-SUD. |
| 15. | H.Q., 1st Coy. in a dug-out. | 3.B.A.162. 29/1/18 -
shows what possibly may
be a dug-out. |
| 16. | Platoon Officer's Dug-Out. | |
| 17. | H.Q., 2nd Coy. | See under 9. |
| 18. | Light Machine Gun. | |
| 19. | Light Machine Gun. | |
| 20. | Two Light Machine Guns At Night. | |
| 21. | Light Machine Gun. | |

KEY TO MAP OF LE BEAU CENNE

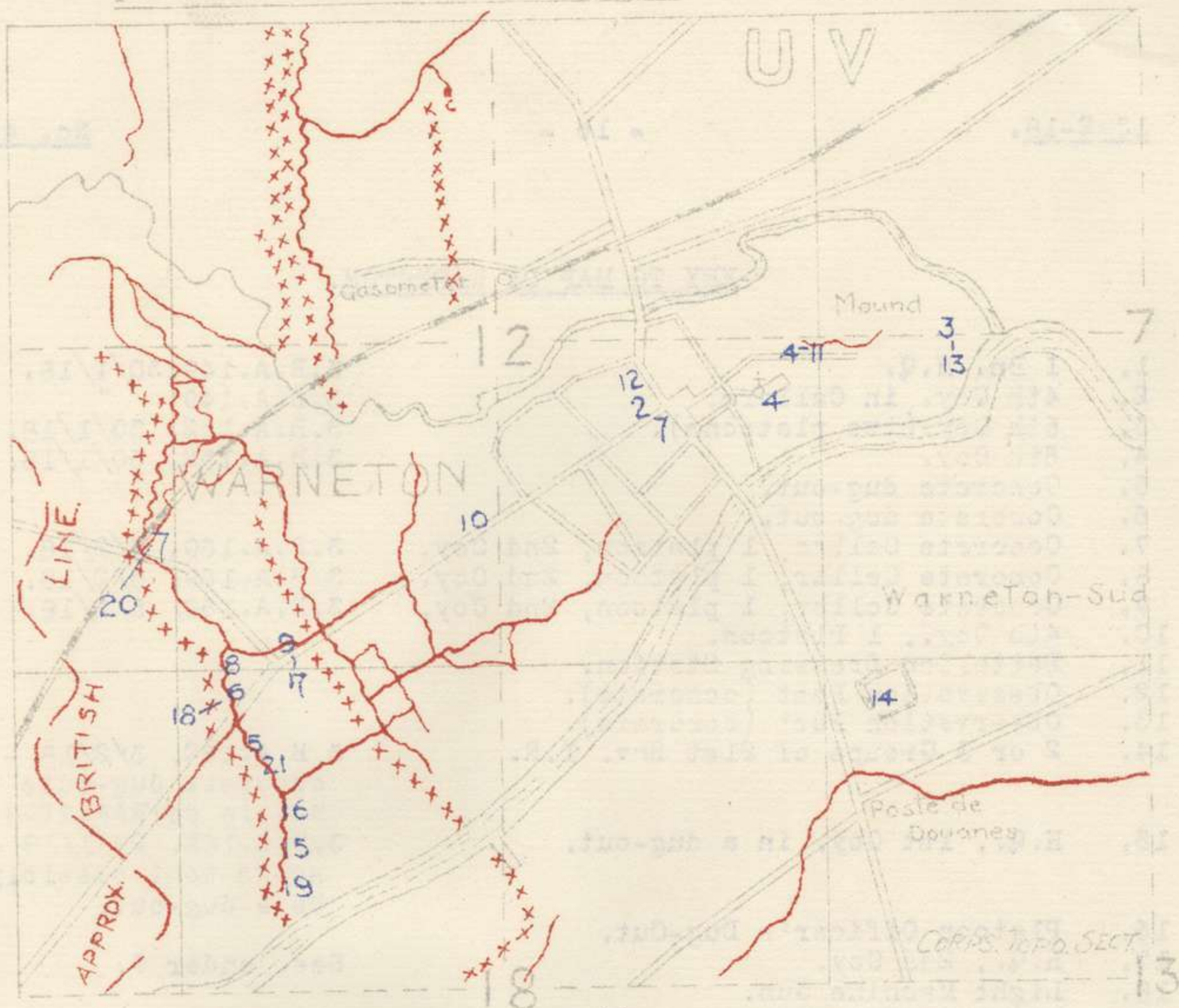
1. Support Battalion H.Q.
 2. 2 Groups of Support Companies.
 3. 2 Groups.
 4. Orderly Room.
 5. Officers' Billet and Canteen.
 6. Artillery Officers' Billet (huts unoccupied).
-

PORTION OF SHEET 28.

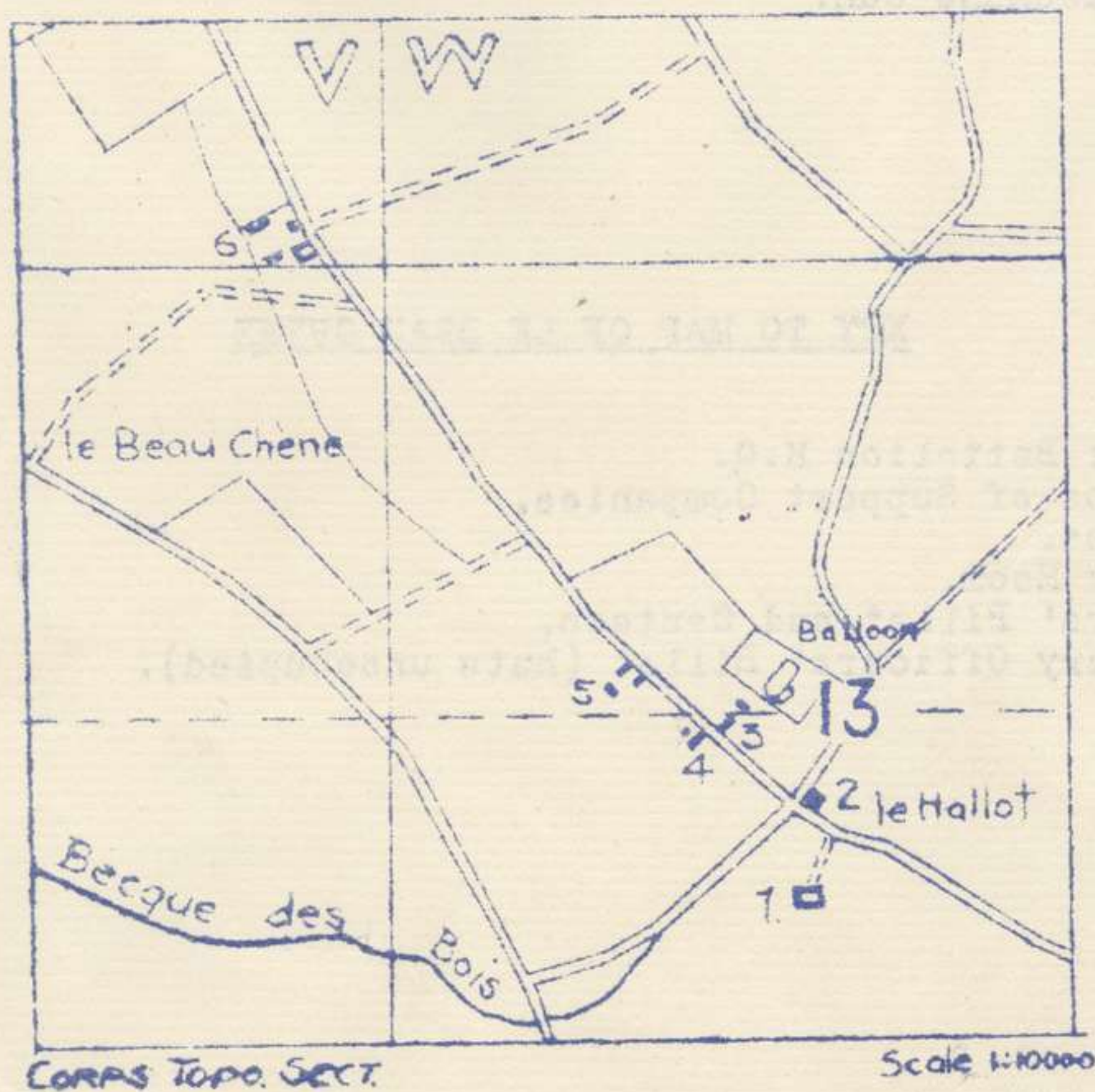
To illustrate points in Aust. Corps Summary of the 11-2-18.

Information obtained by Raid 10-2-18

Scale 1:10,000.



PORTION OF SHEET 28.



294

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 p.m. 13th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 14th February, 1918

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS

For Official Use Only

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Our artillery engaged selected targets which included several T.M. and M.G. emplacements and suspected centres of activity in the forward areas. Bursts of fire were directed on approaches and tracks. Several working parties were successfully dispersed. ALASKA HOUSES (J.33.b.) and SUNKEN ROAD in P.2.b. were engaged simultaneously with gas and shrapnel.

(b) Patrols. Patrolling was actively pursued along the Corps front. MOAT FARM (P.1.b.) and GREEN FARM (O.17.b.) are both reported occupied by the enemy. Three patrols of the enemy were seen or heard, but no encounters took place. Otherwise the enemy was quiet but alert, and attempted to deny our patrols access to his lines by M.G. fire.

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery has been normally active during the period, except on the northern sector, where it has been slightly above normal. The shelling has been for the most part on the forward areas and widely distributed.

3. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

(a) Wire. The wire on either side of the military road (O.35.b.) is reported by ground observers as thick and 2'6" in height. The Corps on our left report wiring in progress at J.28. b.3.3.

The wire along the road near FISH POND (P.1.b.) is reported to be attached to tree stumps and should be a poor obstacle. Four strands of wire in poor condition run along the trench from WET POND to MAY FARM. There is box wire on the road between FISH POND and MOAT FARM.

(b) Post. Double sentries are posted by night at J.32.b.02.56.

(c) Listening Post. A listening post is suspected at C.5. a.50.70. Patrols report noise emanating from the spot.

4. MOVEMENT.

A party of 25 to 30 men were observed near LONG FARM (J.33.a.). The Corps on our left report movement around dug-outs in P.2.b. and c., P.3.a., P.5.b.

Sashin
 M. Brigadier-General
 General Staff, Australian Corps.

294 ✓

War Diary 41

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 46

From 6 p.m. 14th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 15th February, 1918

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIG. HEADQUARTERS

For Official Use Only

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. In anticipation of a hostile relief, artillery of all divisions kept tracks and approaches under her firing fire throughout last night. Restrictions and intermittent shelling of enemy defences and targets were kept up during the period under review, and working parties engaged. A gas bombardment was put over on concrete dug-outs at 0.18.d.65.40.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions were active last night. No signs of enemy patrols were seen, but working parties were heard in the vicinity of the TWINS (0.11.d.) and of DURINE L.F.M (0.5.d. 30.95). The night is reported to have been exceptionally quiet. No Man's Land is reported to be wet and slippery.

2. ENEMY'S DISPOSITIONS

The left division reports considerable movement in the vicinity of ZANDVORDE at dusk yesterday. This might have been in connection with inter-battalion relief in the sector of the 239th Divn.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Enemy's activity was on the whole slightly below normal, and was mainly directed on to left and right centre forward areas. KLEIN ZIMMERK was shelled from the direction of AMERICA with gas. I.32 was shelled from TRVICOQ, 0.11 and 21 from COMINES, and a good deal of scattered shelling came from the direction of WARBETON and DEULEMONT.

4. ENEMY'S TITITUDE.

The left division reports that the enemy has been quiet except for slightminenwerfer activity.

The centre division reports a decrease in hostile machine gun and trench mortar activity for the period.

Opposite the right division, the enemy has been very alert. Light Machine Gun activity against our patrols is reported.

15-c-18

- 2 -

No. 46

5. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

- (a) Work. A party was heard at work in the vicinity of FUNNY FARM (J.32.c.) probably on construction of post at J.32.d.1.6. Work also was heard in the direction of MAY FARM (P.1.d.). (Patrol).
- (b) Wire. Patrols report that:
There is practically no wire in front of MOUNT FARM (P.1.b.). Two trip wires are reported in front of GAME COPSE. From U.6.a.2.3 to U.6.a.20.15 the enemy's wire is strong, with trip wire about 5 yards in front.
- (c) Trenches. The trench in rear of the wire in P.1.d. was found by patrols to be further protected by 5 pill-boxes in rear of trench. During the time patrol was out, a machine gun was firing from each of these pill-boxes.
- (d) O.P.'s. Ground observers report a suspected O.P. in a tree at O.13.b.6.4.
The pill-box at P.3.a.7.5 appears to be used as an O.P.
- (e) Pill-box. The pill-box at O.12.d.3.5 has been damaged by our artillery fire. (Ground Observers).

6. MOVEMENT.

With regard to the movement reported opposite the left divisional sector in the ZANDVOERDE area, it is further reported that a party of 25 men was seen coming down the ridge at GAME COPSE (P.1.b.), and a party of 9 observed going in the opposite direction. Shortly afterwards other parties came towards our lines while small parties went eastwards. The artillery was informed and casualties are believed to have been inflicted.

During the night parties could be heard along RIFLE ROAD.

Numerous parties of from 4 to 13 men were seen around BUND COTTAGES (J.33.c.) about dusk.

S. J. M. Maf
M. Brigadier-General,
General Staff, Australian Corps.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 47

From 6 p.m. 15th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 16th February, 1918NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Registration and destructive shoots were carried out on known enemy targets, and bursts of fire were put down on roads, tracks, and centres of activity throughout the night. Working parties were engaged and dispersed. Between 3 and 4.30 p.m. the artillery of the centre division carried out successful wire cutting operations. A gas bombardment was put over on RUMBER'S COPSE (P.3.d.) by the artillery of the left division.

(b) Patrols. All divisions sent out patrols last night. No enemy patrols were seen, but sounds of enemy working parties, transport, and tramway activity were heard.

An encounter took place between a patrol of the left division and the garrison of an enemy post. Shots were exchanged, and after throwing a few stick grenades, the enemy ran away. Lewis gun fire was opened, and groans were heard soon after.

A patrol of the right division located a large working party apparently in the trench and wire at U.18.e.35.78. Artillery was advised and the party engaged, after which no further sounds or movement were heard.

The ground is reported to be much improved owing to the frost, but the cracking of ice made going very noisy and the moonlight interfered with extensive reconnaissance.

(c) Aerial Activity. The improved visibility was taken advantage of by our machines, which undertook photographic, reconnaissance and bombing flights.

(d) Prisoners. A hostile aeroplane, an albatross, was brought down between MILLBURN and M.T. RAN, the occupant, an officer of the 30th Jagdstaffel, being captured uninjured. An interrogation is attached.

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

The enemy's activity has been directed mainly on forward areas of the whole front from the direction of BRILLINGHAM and DEULLEMONT. Battery positions were shelled by a H.V. gun from the direction of COMENES.



16-2-18

- 2 -

No. 47

3. ENEMY'S POSITION.

The left division reports the enemy to be quiet, although machine gun posts were alert and fired on our patrols.

A slight increase in hostile artillery and trench mortar activity is reported by our centre division.

The right division reports that the enemy's artillery on the front of the right brigade was more active than usual. Machine gun and trench mortar activity continue to be below normal.

4. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

(a) Wire. Wiring parties were observed in front of MAY FARM (P.1.d.), GLEBE COPSE (P.1c.), and NUL FARM (P.2.b.). (Observer).

The wire between MAY FARM and GLEBE COPSE is in good condition and 20 to 30 feet wide. (Patrol).

In front of JULY FARM (O.13.d.) the wire is very strong and extends to WAIN FARM (O.23.d.). (Patrol).

Between U.6.a.1.3 and U.6.a.5.10 the enemy's wire is strong and consists of one row of concertina with a thick row of entanglement 3 yards in rear. (Patrol).

(b) Posts. A hostile post has been located at approximately O.35.b.5.

There is a sniper's post at U.6.e.30.30.

5. MOVEMENT.

The Corps on our left reports the following train movement between 8.25 and 10.15 a.m.

5 trains south bound on ROULERS - MENIN Line.
 4 " " " on ROULERS - COURTRAI Line.
 1 " north " on MENIN - ROULERS Line.

Several trains were seen in COURTRAI with steam up between 10 and 10.20 this morning.

6. NO HOSTILE AIR ACTIVITY

Enemy planes were active to-day patrolling our front line, but were driven off by A.A. and machine gun fire. Of five hostile machines which crossed our lines this morning, one was forced to land, the others got away.

William May
 Brigadier-General



16-2-18.

- 1a -

No. 47.

EXAMINATION OF AN OFFICER PILOT OF THE 30th JAGD. STAFFEL,
CAPTURED AT METZERN, ON FEBRUARY 16th, 1918.

1. Personal details. Prisoner belongs to the 1918 class, but is a volunteer. Before joining the Flying Corps he was with the 39th I.R., 50th Divn. He had taken part in fighting on the AISLE and at VERDUN and had always been on the Western Front. He now belongs to the 30th Pursuit Flight.
2. Method of Capture. Prisoner was with 4 other Albatrosses and was engaged in a reconnaissance of our line. They were to engage any of our aeroplanes which came their way. Prisoner got separated from the others and made for our balloons, which he imagined were his own. After penetrating into our back areas, he was attacked by several of our machines to his great surprise, thinking himself over his own lines. His machine was hit, and he had to make a forced landing.
3. Moral. Prisoner's moral is excellent. He is very mortified at being captured unwounded. He is naturally extremely reticent and would not give any military information.
4. 30th Pursuit Flight. This Flight is near LILLE and has been there for some time. An envelope amongst the prisoner's documents shows its Field Post Office number to be 401.
5. Miscellaneous. Prisoner had only been some 12 days with his Flight, having only just completed his course in Germany. He had been up on only about 5 occasions owing to the bad weather and knows nothing about this front. He could give no information about reduction of the flying units in this sector and would say nothing about the intentions of the enemy, except that he had not noticed any movements of troops hereabouts.

B.I.S.64.

AERIAL ANNEXE TO AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

16th. Feb., 1918.

(1) OPERATIONS.

exposed

Eighty-seven plates were successfully along the Corps front. A trench reconnaissance of the line from DEULEMONT to FRELINGHIEN was successfully carried out.

Fourteen 20lb. bombs were dropped on P.20.a.2.9, P.31.a, P.20.a.1.2, P.19.b.9075, V.12, O.12.b.central, P.19.a and U.18.a. 1130 rounds of M.G. ammunition were fired into COMINES, HOUTHEN, Trenches about WARNETON, WARNETON Road, P.13.b.0.7.

(2) ENEMY'S DISPOSITIONS.

M.G. fire encountered from direction of PILGRIMS FARM.

(3) ANTI AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

Normal.

(4) ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

TRENCHES.

There appears to be much fresh earth thrown up from trenches from LAUNDRY WOOD to DEULEMONT.

New trench apparently very deep with about four bays, has been dug at about P.32.a.2.2. (Ref. only approx. Confirmation necessary)

BRIDGES.

Bridge at PT DE DEULEMONT was in good condition, and from the tracks appeared to be much used.

Bridge at PONT ROUGE was very much shelled but apparently passable for troops.

Bridge N.E. of PONT ROUGE in good order; tracks lead from this bridge to PONT ROUGE.

Main FRELINGHIEN Bridge badly smashed but still passable-foot bridge N. of same much used and intact.

Machine Gun Emplacements.

Tracks leading from all directions to C.5.b.5.2 seem to indicate a much used very strong M.G. position.

(5) HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Above normal.

(6) MOVEMENT and ORGANIZATION in and behind the enemy's lines.

EXPLOSIONS.

- 11.15 am. Large explosion at V.5.central.
- 11.0 am. Explosion in COMINES at V.5.a.7.3.
- 11.42am. Large explosion at P.34.a.2.5.
- 11.50am. Small " " V.25.b.
- 12.25pm. Large explosion at COMINES V.5.a.7.4.
- 12.5 pm.)
- to) Small explosion and fire at P.13.b.0.7 caused by
- 3.0pm.) M.G. fire, burnt for 15 minutes.

BALLOONS.

2 over COMINES.
1 N. of QUESNOY.

P.T.O.

(2)

FIRES.

12.45pm. Fire in COMINES.

TRAINS.

<u>LINE.</u>	<u>DIRECTION.</u>	<u>TIMES?</u>
ROUBAIX - TOURCOING Rly.	Going N.	8.25am.
" "	" N.	8.30am.
MENIN - LEDEGHEM	" S.	8.25am.
" "	" S.	10.55am.
SECLIN - LILLE	" N.	8.30am.
MENIN - WERVICQ	" S.W.	8.30am, 3.30pm.
" "	" S.W.	9.10am, 10.20am.
LINCELLES - RONCQ	" S.W.	8.40am.
WERVICQ - COMINES	" S.W.	11.30am, 1.50pm.
MENIN - HALLUIN	" (2) S.	10.40am.
" "	" N.	1.13pm.
HALLUIN - TOURCOING	" S.	10.46am, 11.18am. and 1.50pm.
MENIN - COURTRAI	" W.	1.25pm. and 3.30pm.

List of photos taken on the 16th. Inst., will appear in tomorrow's summary., also notes on the same.

BRANCH INTELLIGENCE SECTION,
3rd. Squadron,
AUS. FLYING CORPS.

In the Field.
16th. Feb., 1918.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 48.

From 6 p.m. 15th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 17th February, 1918.NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS.For Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Artillery of all divisions kept enemy's tracks, roads and communications under harassing fire throughout the period under review. A hostile battery in D.7.c. was successfully silenced and eight direct hits were obtained on new enemy work at UNKNOWN FARM.

Enemy working parties and movement were engaged and artillery of the centre division is believed to have inflicted casualties on a hostile party at work in O.23.b.

(b) Patrols. All divisions sent out patrols who report great difficulty in their work owing to the state of the ground and the bright moonlight. No signs of the enemy were met with.

A patrol of the left division reconnoitred the spot where an encounter took place on the night of the 15/16th, but no identifications or traces of the encounter could be found.

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Hostile shelling has been evenly distributed over the whole of the Corps front and has been rather more than usually active against the immediate forward areas.

3. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

The right division reports an increase in trench mortar activity. The centre division found the enemy quiet, but on the alert, minenwerfer being active on the right sector.

The left division reports that it is quiet with very little machine gun activity. Very few flares were fired during the night.

4. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

(a) Wire. Patrols report that the wire between JULY FARM (O.23.d) and WALK FARM (O.23.d) which was reported yesterday, is 3 feet high.

The wire in front of the GIANT (O.12.c) is thick and strong.

The post at O.12.a.60.75. is protected by barbed concertina wire 10 feet wide.

(b) Sniper. A sniper continues/active from J.32.b.25.75.

- 2 -

17-2-18.

(c) Observation Post. The glass of a telescope was observed at J.27.e.02.45.

5. AIRCRAFT.
 (Our own). Our machines carried out bombing and photographic flight and took advantage of improved visibility to carry out registrations and reconnaissances.
 (The Enemy's). Hostile aircraft has been active. For the most part their machines flew high and were heavily engaged by our anti-aircraft guns and machine guns.

6. MISCELLANEOUS.
 At 11.15 a.m. yesterday a large fire was seen to break out at DEULE MANSIONS (C.6.b.).

S. H. M. Maj
 Major-Brigadier-General,
 General Staff, Australian Corps.

AERIAL ANNEXE TO AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

17th.Feb.,1918.

(1) OPERATIONS.

79 plates were exposed along the Corps front, 14 of which were successful.

Visibility was good in the morning becoming poor in the latter part of the afternoon.

A successful trench reconnaissance was carried out between MAY FARM (P.2.d.) and FUNNY FARM (J.32.b.)

14- 20lb. bombs were dropped on HOUTHEN, V.1.d, C.11.b.3.9, P.19.c, O.30.c.8.6, P.19.d.7.3, P.19.d.3.7.

1725 rounds M.G. ammunition were fired into trenches between HOUTHEN and DEULEMONT, QUESNOY, trenches in front of COMINES, FRELINGHIEN, U.24.a.3.7, U.6, U.12, WARNETON - COMINES road and embankment.

(2) ENEMY'S DISPOSITIONS.

Nil.

(3) ANTI AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

Normal.

(4) ENEMY'S DEFENCES.TRENCHES.

Observer reports that from EAST FARM to KENT FARM appeared to be in good condition and had the appearance of new earth on same. These trenches seemed free from water.

Observer reports trench from J.27.c.4.0 to TROT HOUSE has been shelled and appears much knocked about.

3 B.A. 217. The trench from U.24.c.7788 to O.24.d.1068 appears to have been cleaned out.

3 B.A.215. A new piece of trench has been dug from U.30.b.9901 to U.30.b.9211, and the trace is continued from the latter point and parallel to the road.

STRONG POINTS.

Observer reports J.33.a.1.1 to have the appearance of a strong point, and is surrounded by wire, which appeared in good condition. Tracks were observed leading to it.

CIRCUS POINT (P.2.c.1.9.) has been shelled but is still in good order.

TRENCH MORTAR EMPLACEMENTS.

There appears to be a trench mortar emplacement at U.24,d.1181 and U.24.d.1373. (3 B.A.217.)

3 B.A. 200. There is apparently a trench mortar emplacement at C.11.c.9061.

DUGOUTS.

3 B.A.201. Dugouts at O.29.b.6088 shows signs of occupation, tracks lead from them to the front line.

3 B.A.193. Concrete shelters at P.8.b.8058 show signs of occupation.

3 B.A.212. The dugouts at V.13.d.2891 appear to be occupied, tracks lead from them to the dump at the QUADRANGLE,

3 B.A.227. The dugout at P.7.d.9960 is occupied.

3 B.A.226. Much movement is evident around the buildings at P.20.a.9819.

RAILWAYS.

3 B.A.213. The light railway from CHEMIN DU TEMPLE to the dump at the QUADRANGLE is being used considerably.

P . T . O .

(2)

MACHINE GUN EMPLACEMENTS.

3 B.A.204. What appears to be a machine gun emplacement is noticeable at U.18.a.3043.

3 B.A.229. Tracks lead from the trench at U.11.b.8001 to what may be a M.G. emplacement at U.11.d.8092.

TRACKS.

3 B.A.205. From the numerous tracks, there appears to be a lot of movement around O.29.b.0523 thence leading to O.29.b.4021.

3 B.A.203. Numerous tracks can be seen along enemy's front line in O.35.b.

3 B.A.238. Road in V.13, leading to WARNETON SUD shows signs of much use.

3 B.A.193. Much movement is apparent in the vicinity of HARRODS STOKES.

3 B.A.194. Numerous tracks lead from P.4.c to the main ZANDVOORDE road and thence continue towards the front line.

3 B.A.232. Tracks lead from O.29.b.1075 to the dugouts at O.29.b.6088 and then run back to OMELETTE trench.

3 B.A.227. Well defined tracks lead from the dugouts at P.13.b.7060 to the road at P.13.b.3590.

3 B.A.224. Numerous well defined tracks lead from CIRCLE FARM (P.31.a.) towards the front line. The road past JUNCTION FARM P.25.d. to P.25.a.6015 is being used considerably, the tracks then leading to the road running along SQUAKE FARM.

3 B.A.215. Tracks lead from the new piece of trench (see under trenches) towards the dugouts at V.25.a.3169.

TRAINS.

LINE.	DIRECTION.	TIMES.
HALLUIN-TOURCOING Railway.	Going N.	(1) 9.10am, 11.10am.
" " "	" S.	(2) 11.12am.
HALLUIN-MENIN	" S.	(1) 11.29am.
WERVICQ-MENIN	" N.E.	(1) 7.30am.
MENIN-LEDEGHEM	" N.	(1) 8.0am.
" -COURTHAI	" E.	(1) 12.30pm.

Engine with steam up in WERVICQ Station. 7.32am.
 " " " " " MENIN " 7.35am.

EXPLOSIONS.

12.12pm. to 12.30pm. Explosions in WERVICQ. Possibly dump on fire. Several red explosions.

12.10pm. Explosion at D.9.c.4530.
 12.27pm. " D.9.c.4530.

FIRES.

12.25pm. Fire at P.28.c.9.8.
 12.10pm. " " D.15.a.2.8.
 7.30am. " " U.17.d.6.4.

In the Field.
 17th. Feb., 1918.

BRANCH INTELLIGENCE SECTION,
 3rd. Squadron,
 AUS. FLYING CORPS.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 49.

From 6 p.m. 17th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 18th February, 1918NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the day wire cutting operations were carried out, and bursts of fire were directed on enemy targets. Enemy transport in WARNETON was shelled yesterday evening.

Last night in anticipation of a battalion relief opposite the sector of the centre division a programme of fire was carried out between 5.40 p.m. and 5 a.m.

(b) Patrols. Patrols were again active last night but work continued difficult and dangerous owing to the bright moonlight.

A patrol of the right division came into contact with a strong enemy patrol estimated at about 50 men near U.29.b.00.60 at 8 p.m. yesterday. Lewis gun fire was opened and the enemy scattered and casualties are believed to have been inflicted. A later search revealed no trace of the enemy. The state of the ground in No Man's Land all along the Corps front is reported much improved, although it continues to be marshy in the vicinity of the WAMBEEK.

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Hostile artillery activity continues normally active, fire being scattered over forward and battery areas.

LE BIZET and PLOEGSTEERT were intermittently shelled and 200 rounds fell in U.14.b.

3. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

Opposite the right division hostile artillery, machine guns and minenwerfer showed increased activity throughout the period.

The centre division reports the enemy active on the right sector.

The left division reports the enemy very alert. Patrols state that enemy posts halted their parties at a considerable distance from their posts, and that machine gun and rifle fire was encountered all along the line. Practically no minenwerfer fire is reported on the right brigade front, while on the left brigade front there has been considerable activity.

4. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

(a) Wire. Patrol reports the wire in front of GALE COPSE to be 3 feet high and 20 to 30 feet wide and in good condition, no gaps being visible.

(b) Dugouts. The Corps on our left report occupied dugouts at J.33.c.1.7 and J.27.a.33.70.



18 2-18

- 2 -

No. 49

(c) Work. Several working parties are reported by observers at J.28.b, F.2.c and F.8.a. The attention of the artillery was directed to these targets.

Observers of the right division report new work to be visible in trench in C.5.b.

(d) Movement. Observers of centre division report seeing small parties at J.33.e.23.43. This appears to be the entrance to a large dugout or tunnel.

The Corps on our left reports movement of parties of the enemy at BERRY COTTAGES (J.27.a), CAPITAL FARM (J.27.c) and continual movement at J.30 b.30.55.

5. AIRCRAFT.

(Our own). Our machines carried out reconnaissance and bombing flights.

(The Enemy's). Enemy machines frequently crossed the lines into forward areas and carried out patrols at low heights.

6. MISCELLANEOUS.

Gas. The left division reports hearing a gas alarm sounded some distance to the left of their sector. Some time later gas could be smelt slightly in the vicinity of their left posts.

William Gray

Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.



B.I.66.

AERIAL ANNEX TO AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

18th. Feb., 1918.

(1) OPERATIONS.

5 plates were successfully exposed along the Corps front.

A successful trench reconnaissance was carried out over MAY FARM (P.2.a.) FUNNY FARM (J.32.b.) ZANDVOORDE and KORTWILDE.

8 - 20lb. bombs were dropped on P.7.a, U.12.d, C.6.b, P.26.b.c.2.

814 rounds of M.G. ammunition were fired into HOUTHEM, V.2.a, U.6, U.12, along Canal between HOUTHEM and HOLLEB KE.

(2) ENEMY'S DISPOSITIONS.

Nil.

(3) ANTI AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

Rather above normal.

(4) ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

An observer reports that the roads running to converging point J.33.c.2.8 do not appear to be used past points J.33.d.2.5 and J.33.c.4.3. The road to ZANDVOORDE is apparently not used at all except from the Church to J.33.c.4.3.

FUNNY FARM is practically knocked with the exception of rear wall, which from the appearance of tracks running up road alongside it, is still visited or used. No direct tracks to farm can be observed owing to country being under water.

MAY FARM could not be observed. There are no tracks around remains of same.

ZANDVOORDE is practically raised to the ground, and the road is apparently unused.

The roads in KORTWILDE seem to be practically intact and used.

Trenches from PIE FARM to KENT FARM appear to be under water.

NEW WORK.

An observer reports that the new work at P.32.a.2.7 (approx) shows signs of being extended.

(5) ENEMY'S AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Normal.

(6) MOVEMENT and ORGANIZATION in and behind enemy's lines.

An observer reports that no movement could be observed in KORTWILDE, but the road running N. is much used running across wire, and is in fair condition.

TRACKS.

3 B.A. 245. Tracks can be seen leading to the A.A. position at P.26.a.7121 from the dugouts at P.26.c.9095.

3 B.A. 246. Well defined tracks lead from the road junction at P.14.a.3070 to and along the shelters in P.8.c. and run to the road at P.8.c.9955 to the road at P.8.d.3237 then continuing to an easterly direction. Much movement is also evident around TRALEE FARM.

The following is a list of Aeroplane Photos taken on the 16th. and 17th. inst. Divisions etc. should indent direct on the BRANCH INTELLIGENCE, 3rd. Squadron, Australina Flying Corps.

Sheet

- 36 28 3BA 190. O. 5cd, 6c, 11, 12ac. 2 28 231. U. 28bd, 29cd, C4abd, 5ac.
- 191. O. 16bcd, 17cd, 22abd, 23. 232. O. 23, 24ac, 29, 30ac.
- 192. O. 6, 12, P. 1ac, 7ac. 233. P. 21bd, 22.
- 193. J. 32cd, 33c, P. 2, 3ac, 8ab. 234. P. 10, 15a, 16.
- 194. J. 33cd, 34c, P. 2bd, 3, 9ab. 235. P. 7bd, 8ac, 13b, 14a.
- 195. P. 3cd, 4ac, 9, 10ac, 15ab. 236. P. 1, 2ac, 7ab.
- 196. J. 31cd, 33c, P. 1, 2ac, 7ab. 237. O. 22bd, 23, 24ac, 29ab.
- 197. O. 10bd, 11. 238. V. 7, 8ac, 13ab.
- 198. U. 11bd, 12, 17b, 18ab. 239. P. 15abd, 16ac.
- 199. U. 5, 6ac, 11ab. 240. V. 1b, 2, 7b, 8ab.
- 200. C. 10bd, 11, 12c, 16b, 17. 241. P. 8cd, 9acd, 14b, 15.
- 201. O. 22cd, 23cd, 28, 29. 242. O. 23cd, 24cd, 29, 30.
- 202. U. 28bd, 29, 36C, 4ab, 5. 243. O. 29cd, 34bd, 35.
- 203. O. 28d, 29cd, 34, 35. 244. U. 6cd, 12.
- 204. U. 17bd, 18, 24ab. 245. P. 19bc, 20c, 25bd, 26ac.
- 205. O. 22c, 28, 29, 35ab. 246. P. 7d, 8, 13b, 14ab.
- 206. C. 10, 11c, 16, 17ac. 247. V. 25d, 26cd, 36D, 1bd2.
- 207. U. 22, 23, 28, 29. 248. C. 6a, 12b, 2, 1, 7.
- 208. U. 11cd, 17, 18ac. 36 249. C. 3bd, 5, 11b, 12ab.
- 209. C. 4d, 5c, 10, 11ac. 28 250. P. 15, 17b, 22abd, 23a.
- 210. O. 11cd, 16bd, 17. 251. P. 3, 4c, 8b, 9.
- 211. O. 4d, 5cd, 6, 11, 12. 252. P. 10d, 11c, 16, 17ac.
- 212. V. 7cd, 8c, 13, 14a. 253. J. 32bd, 33, P2b, 3ab.
- 213. V. 13, 14c, 19, 20ac. 254. P. 2cd, 3c, 8, 9ac.
- 214. P. 31d, 32cd, V. 1bd, 2.
- 215. U. 30bd, V. 19cd, 25, 36D1ab.
- 216. P. 32, 33ac, V. 2ab.
- 217. U. 24, 30b, V. 13c, 19.
- 218. P. 27cd, 32bd, 33, V. 3a.
- 219. U. 23, 24ac, 29b, 30a.
- 220. P. 27, 33ab.
- 221. O. 36bcd, P. 25c, 31, U. 6b.
- 222. U. 11c, 13cd, 17, 18.
- 223. O. 30, U. 5bd, 6.
- 224. O. 3cd, 35b, P. 25, 31ab, 26ac.
- 225. J. 27cd, 32b, 33.
- 226. P. 20, 25b, 26ab.
- 227. P. 7, 8ac, 13ab, 14a.
- 228. J. 32bcd, P. 2ab.
- 229. U. 6cd, 11, 12.
- 230. U. 23, 24c, 28bd, 29, 30a.

In the Field.
18-2-18.

BRANCH INTELLIGENCE.
3rd. AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 50

From 6 p.m. 18th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 19th February, 1918NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Registration and wire cutting operations were carried out by artillery of all divisions. Roads, tracks, and enemy targets were kept under intermittent fire. New enemy work at C.11.a.65.30 was shelled and direct hits obtained, an explosion being caused. Working parties were engaged and dispersed.

(b) Patrols. Divisions sent out patrols last night, which continued to experience difficulty in their work owing to the bright moonlight. Working parties and movement were heard along RIELE ROAD (J.32), the GIANT (O.12.c.), GUARD FARM (O.29.d.), and UNKNOWN FARM. The right division reports that at midnight yesterday an enemy patrol of 4 or 5 men was seen advancing towards one of our posts in U.17 from his own wire. On reaching a point 100 yards from our post, the patrol halted and threw 6 bombs, all of which fell short. The patrol was dispersed by Lewis gun fire. Subsequent examination of the spot showed no signs of the enemy.

The ground is much drier, but movement in No Man's Land was very noisy owing to the frost.

(c) Aerial Activity. Our machines were active to-day, though bad visibility hampered reconnaissance and photographic work. Several bombs were dropped on the enemy's forward defences, and machine gun fire directed on to the enemy's trenches wherever movement was observed.

(d) Prisoners. A hostile machine was brought down by our aerial patrols and fell in O.4. The pilot, a lieutenant in the German Flying Corps, was taken prisoner. In subsequent examination he refused to divulge anything beyond his name and rank. Further interrogation will be proceeded with.

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery has been active, mainly against forward areas. During the night bursts of fire were maintained on front line system. Light shelling of STEIGAST FARM and PLOEGSTEERT is also reported.

19-4-18

- 2 -

No. 50

3. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

Oposite the left division the enemy has been much quieter. Few flares were fired and machine guns were particularly quiet on the left brigade sector, though fairly active on the right. Ground observers report considerable amount of work is being done by the enemy.

The centre division reports more activity of minenwerfers and machine guns.

The right division reports the enemy's artillery, minenwerfers, and machine guns have shown more activity than usual during the past 24 hours.

4. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Wire. The following information has been supplied by patrols:

O.3.d.1.3, wire is old and in very bad repair.

P.1.d, wire in front of MAY COPSE and between that point and GAME COPSE has been very badly damaged by our artillery fire during the last day or two. There are no tracks as yet through the wire.

P.2.a. to P.2.c., from DAMP COPSE to CIRCUS POINT the wire is 3ft. high, 20 to 30 feet wide, very thick, and in good repair.

P.2.b. and P.2.c., wire on forward slopes is very thick.

J.32.c - J.32.d.1.7, a belt of wire appears to be under construction about 60 yards west of FULLY FARM to J.32.d.1.7. Parties were working on this.

O.35.d.8.7, wire much damaged.

(b) Posts. The enemy post at O.11.d.9.8 is unoccupied. (Patrol).

(c) Snipers. Were active from O.23.d. central and BEE FARM (O.23.b.).

5. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY

Enemy machines repeatedly flew over our lines and bombs were dropped in forward and back areas.

6. MISCELLANEOUS.

What appears to be a new dug-out is under construction (concrete slabs on top) at U.12.c.90.50.

A dump exploded at about TRAM FARM (J.27.d.) and a series of explosions were heard from that direction.

Arthur May
M. Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

AUSTRALIAN CORPW INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 51

From 6 p.m. 19th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 20th February, 1918NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Artillery of all divisions was active throughout the period, keeping enemy roads and tracks under fire, cutting wire, and engaging enemy targets in forward areas. Infantry observers of the left division report many direct hits on dug-outs and occupied buildings. The artillery of the centre division supported the infantry in a minor operation on the enemy's lines. Opposite the right divisional front, three direct hits were obtained on UNKNOWN FARM (U.29.d.) and 35 hits on CERTIFIED TRENCH (C.5.d.).

(b) Patrol. A fighting patrol of 1 Officer and 20 men carried out a minor operation against enemy strong points in the vicinity of WHIZ FARM (9.17.d.). This was entirely successful, 7 prisoners being secured and casualties are known to have been inflicted on the enemy. The whole of our patrol returned unharmed.

(c) Patrols. Reconnaissance patrols by right and left divisions were out last night. Enemy movement was heard and seen, but no encounters with the enemy took place. Work was again hampered by the bright moonlight and constant cracking of ice.

The enemy is reported to have thrown several bombs into his own wire at various points in U.12.c. and U.18.c.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

(a) The following prisoners were secured as a result of minor operation carried out by the centre division:

162nd I.R., 10th Coy. (17th Res. Divn.) 7 O.R.

An interrogation is attached.

(b) The officer pilot taken yesterday was too ill to be interrogated to-day.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Intermittent shelling of forward areas continued during the past 24 hours. PLOCSLEERT, LE TOUQUET, and BERTIN were heavily shelled during the night. During to-day 60 rounds of gas were fired on the vicinity of PLOCSLEERT.

20-2-18

- 2 -

No. 514. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

The left division reports the enemy to be generally quiet. Machine gun activity has been normal, although most of our patrols drew machine gun fire.

A considerable increase in minenwerfer activity is reported on the right sector. On the left sector minenwerfers are normally active.

Opposite the centre division, machine guns and minenwerfer were active against our front line between 9 and 9.30 p.m. Otherwise quiet.

The right division reports the enemy displayed nervousness by bombing his own wire. Minenwerfer and machine gun activity showed no change.

5. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

(a) Patrols. A hostile patrol, consisting of 4 men, approached one of our posts in U.17.b., threw 8 or 9 bombs, and fired revolvers. Our post opened fire, whereupon the enemy made off to their lines. No traces of the enemy party could subsequently be found.

(b) Wire. Patrol reports that the wire on either side of CINEMA ROAD (O.35.d.) is about 7 yards wide. In U.12.a. the wire is apparently in good condition, the outer system being about 60 yards from his parapet. (Patrol).

(c) Strong Points. Ground observers have located a strong point under construction at O.35.d.8.8.

(d) Snipers. Snipers continue active from FUNNY FARM and CIRCUS POINT.

6. MOVEMENT

Two men were observed carrying a machine gun into a dug-out at J.28.b.02.48.

Movement was seen at the suspected O.P. at U.12.b.10.45.

Sestrum
Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

20/2/18.

294

REPORT ON THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF 7 PRISONERS OF THE 10TH COY. 162nd I.R., 17th RES. DIVN., CAPTURED ON NIGHT OF 19th FEBRUARY, AT WHIZ FARM. (O.17.d.7,8).

Particulars. Prisoners consist of 1 corporal, 2 lance-corporals and 4 privates. They are of poor physique and low intelligence. All are willing to give information, and the general moral is extremely bad, the men for the most part belonging to the 1918 class. Several are Holsteiners, (one at least of Danish descent) and one a Lorrainer of French origin. The information obtained from these men is considered fairly reliable, but should be accepted with reserve pending further confirmation. This applies particularly to the locations and the route to the trenches.

Method of Capture. Prisoners were captured by an offensive patrol which left our lines to secure an identification.

Order of Battle. (from north to south).; 70th R.I.R., 162nd I.R., 163rd I.R. (normal).

Disposition. The 162nd I.R. has adopted the 6-company system of holding the line, the six forward companies being approximately grouped under one battalion staff (K.T.K.), the six resting companies being under another (R.T.K.). The B.T.K. (support battalion H.Q.) is therefore eliminated.

There are four companies in the front line, the order from north to south being at present 9,10,11,12th. Two companies of the II Bn. are in support in concrete dugouts at HOUTHEN, and the remaining six companies are in rest in the vicinity of COUCOU (Q.18). The machine gun company is distributed between HOUTHEN and the front line, there being also medium trench mortars in the same locality.

Method of holding the line in the 10th Coy.

(a) 1st Line. One platoon of two groups with 2 light machine guns and one officer (in all some 26 men) in a concrete dugout and two shelters of galvanised iron at WHIZ FARM. There is one "granatenwerfer 15" with this platoon, named by 1 N.C.O. and 2 men and handed over on relief. Prisoners state that it was never used in order to avoid retaliation.

A duckboard track (see A.P. 3.B.A. 181. 5.2.18) leads to -

(b) 2nd Line. The company Stoss-trupp, consisting of one group, is probably in the concrete dugout at O.18.c.70.63 (BOMB FARM). The Stoss-trupp remains here as long as the company is in the front line. The 1st line platoon, on the other hand, is relieved by one of the 3rd line platoons every 3 days. Such a relief was due tonight.

(c) 3rd Line. Two platoons and one of the light machine guns with the company commander. Exact location could not be determined, but these troops are disposed in concrete dugouts.

Headquarters.

Front line battalion H.Q. (K.T.K) P.20.a.15.05.
 Resting battalion H.Q. (R.T.K) Q.29.a.99.53 (probable).
 Regimental H.Q. GATTEM FARM (Q.29.a) (probable).
 Divisional H.Q. Said to be at WERVELGHEM.

Rest Billings.

- (a) 10th Coy., when in rest, were billeted probably in the huts at Q.23.b.54.04.
 (b) Regimental Stosstrupp - at QUATRE MONDES.
 (c) Before coming into the line, when the division was at rest, the III Bn. was quartered at LAUWE, II Bn. at MARONNE, I Bn. at VALLE. The 163rd I.R. were in COURTRAI and the 76th R.I.R. at WERVELGHEM.

Other

- (a) The Pioneer Park is said to be at HOUTHEM, but prisoner is not certain of this.
 (b) Some of the 9th Coy., are stated to be in the concrete dugouts at C.17.d.35.92.
 (c) One prisoner had a brother in 352nd I.R., which he states is at FONTAINE. (FONTAINE UVERTRE according to a document in his possession.)

Route to Front. QUATRE MONDES - WERVICQ road, past WERVICQ church and the cemetery in Q.25.a. Thence probably along the GODSHUIS - KORENTJE road to CHAPELLE LAMEY (P.20), through HOUTHEM along the road in P.19.c and d.

Reliefs. The III Bn. relieved the II Bn. on the night of the 17/18th February. 6 days are spent in the line, 6 in support followed by 6 days in rest for two companies and 12 days in rest for the other two companies. It is rumoured that the 17th Res. Divn. is to be relieved between the 4th and 8th March, probably by the 8th Division. The 17th Res. Divn. will then go into rest for a month at GHENT or BRUGES.

Meals. The field kitchens come up nightly to the K.T.K. at P.20.a.15.05. At present these arrive between 6 and 6.30 p.m., during the former tour, however, they came up at about 11 p.m. The food is carried thence by ration carriers to the front line.

Patrols. The regimental Stosstrupp came up from QUATRE MONDES to carry out a patrol on the night of the 18/19th Feb. The patrol went out opposite the front of the 12th Coy., and had to secure an identification as the division had ordered a prisoner to be taken by the 21st February, apparently in order to secure a specimen of a new English gas mask. The O.C. Coy. announced a reward of 7.50 or 8 marks to anyone who should bring one in.

Light Signals and Password.
 Light Signals (expire tonight).

Green. Barrage Fire.
 Red. Annihilating Fire.
 Yellow. Lengthen Range.

Password (to change tonight)

UKRAINE.

- 3a -

Company Strength. Ration, 130; Rifle, 60 men.
 No Casualties have been incurred since the company were in this sector.

Officers' Names. O.C. 10th Coy. Leut. SCHOLLER.
 III Bn. Oberleut. HILLMUT.
 Regiment. Major HAUS.
 Brigade. CELEST WEBER.
 G.O.C. Division. Major General von NUTIUS.

Training while in front. While training at LAUWE, the following new exercise was constantly practised, it is said, with a view to offensive operations.

The company was divided into four platoons, which go forward in four waves (not altogether, as previously). There is an interval of 50 metres between each wave.

No. 1 wave with light machine gun goes to the first objective.

No. 2 wave with 2 light machine guns goes to the second objective.

No. 3 wave without machine gun goes to the second objective.

No. 4 wave with heavy machine guns goes to the second objective.

When the other waves have occupied the second line, the 1st wave also joins them.

Intelligence. Nothing is known of offensive measures here and one prisoner says that the officers have no idea where the offensive is to be launched. SOISSONS or LENS are hazarded as probable sectors.

Miscellaneous. Leather masks are substituted for rubber ones owing to the shortage of rubber.

The western trench line running through Q.23 is stated to be about 1 metre deep and 2 metres broad. The eastern line is said to be only traced. No work is in progress on either.

Prisoners knew nothing about German tanks or new gas.

294 ✓

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 52

From 6 p.m. 20th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 21st February, 1918

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS

For Official Use Only

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Bad visibility yesterday hindered artillery activity, and beyond the usual registrations and shoots on wire, little firing was done. At night harassing fire was directed against roads, tracks, and active hostile manerwerfers and machine guns.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions reconnoitred No Man's Land. No enemy patrols were encountered, but hostile machine guns were active on the sector of the right brigade of the right division. No Man's Land is reported to very wet and muddy. From 10 p.m. onwards, the brightness of the night made movement difficult.

(c) Aerial Activity. Our machines took advantage of the good visibility to-day to carry out successful trench reconnaissances and photographic flights. Bombs were dropped on HOUTIEM and near HOLLEBEKE, and several hundred rounds of machine gun ammunition fired into COMINES and DEULEMONT.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

The Corps on our left reports capturing 4 prisoners of the 12th Coy., 22nd Bav. R.I.R. (3th Bav. Res. Divn.) at J.7.17.s.7.7. (Normal)

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery has been quiet for the period. A little shelling on forward areas opposite DEULEMONT, and slight shelling of battery areas are reported. PLOEGSTEERT Village was shelled by 10.5cm Hows. from the direction of COMINES, and some harassing fire on 0.20 and 0.26 is also reported.

4. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

The left division reports the enemy quiet, but alert. Machine guns fired on patrols, otherwise there has been little machine gun activity. Trench mortars were inactive, but more flares were fired last night than usually.

Opposite the centre division the enemy has been very quiet except for some artillery activity on the left sector during the morning.

The right division reports the enemy to have been quiet throughout the period.

21-2-16

- 2 -

5. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

- (a) Wire. Patrols report as follows:-
 O.12.a.50.57 - Wire loosely scattered across the road.
 FUNNY FARM (J.32.c.) - In front of this farm the wire consists of close mesh concertina fixed to stakes 2ft. high, and is about 40 yards in front of the pill box there.
 WHIZ FARM (O.17.d.) - Is protected by 2 belts of low wire 15 yards apart, one belt on either side of the hedge at O.17.d.6.8. Though continuous, it does not form a serious obstacle.
 O.17.d.5.4 - Wire not continuous and mainly concertina.
- (b) Pill Boxes. Some yards beyond the wire at O.17.d.7.4 are 2 pill box shelters, presumably machine gun positions, showing signs of recent occupation. (Patrol).
- (c) Dug-Outs. Ten yards beyond the above pill boxes are 2 cement dug-outs entirely below the surface of the ground and occupied. (Patrol).
- (d) Tracks. There is a duckboard track running from P.2.d. 7.2 via P.8.a.0.6 to P.7.b.0.6. (Observers).
- (e) Listening Posts. A listening post was located at U.11.b. 7.2. This was lightly wired and has a small sap full of water running to it. (Patrol).

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY

Some patrolling by enemy aeroplanes is reported.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

Prisoners taken on the 19/20th February interrogated again to-day stated that leave has again been stopped as from February 12th to February 27th, the reason being ascribed to movement of troops from Russia.

Eastman
 A. Brigadier-General
 General Staff, Australian Corps.

294

B.I.67.

AERIAL ANNEXE TO AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

21st. Feb., 1918.

(1) OPERATIONS.

23 plates were successfully exposed along the Corps front.

Two successful trench reconnaissances were carried out over Left and Centre Divisional Sectors.

Three 20.lb. bombs were dropped on HOUTHEN, P.20.a.8.2 and near HOLLEBEKE.

850 rounds machine gun ammunition were fired into COMINES, HOLLEBEKE Chateau, KIWI FARM, and DEULEMONT.

Notes and list of Aeroplane Photos taken on the 21st. inst., will appear in tomorrow's summary.

(2) ENEMY'S DISPOSITIONS.

Nil.

(3) ANTI AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

Normal.

(4) ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

Canal bank between HOUTHEN and HOLLEBEKE Chateau is well defended. (Observer)

TRENCHES.

Trenches between MAY FARM (P.2.d.) and FUNNY FARM (J.32.b.) are in a bad state of repair; there is no new work visible. (Observer)

Trenches about KIWI FARM (O.36.c.) appear in good condition.

Enemy trenches at DATUM HOUSE (O.36.a.) are flooded. (Observer)

Enemy trenches from KORTWILDE to LA BASS VILLE are in a bad condition and partly under water. (Observer)

STRONG POINTS.

There is a strong point at J.21.d.6.3.

There appears to be a strong point at U.6.a.central; also at TUBE cross roads (P.8.a.3.9.) (Observer)

PILL BOXES.

Pill boxes at J.26.d.7.3 and J.26.d.7.4 are in good condition.

Pill box at D.18.d.6.9 had apparently been entered by a large number of troops last night, as all tracks in the vicinity could be easily distinguished.

(5) ENEMY'S AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Normal.

(2)

(6) MOVEMENT and ORGANIZATION in and behind enemy's lines.TRAINS.

Line.	Direction.	Times.
WERVICQ-MENIN Railway.	going N.E.	8.40am, 8.12pm.
" " "	" S.E.	(2) at 9.0am., (1) 12.15pm.
MENIN-HALLUIN	" S.	9.30am., 10.50am.
" " "	" N.	10.45am.
HALLUIN-TOURCOING	" N.	6.55am.
" " "	" S.	(2) 6.55am., (1) 7.21am. (1)
" " "	" S.	(2) 2.18pm. 11.55am.
LILLE-SECLIN	" S.	6.55am., 7.0am.
LINCELLES-RONCO	" S.E.	6.55am.
" " "	" N.E.	9.37am.
MENIN-LEDECHEM	" N.	7.08am.
LILLE-ROUBAIX	" N.E.	7.13am.
FOSSBECQUE-LINCELLES	" S.	7.30am.
MENIN-COURTRAI Rly.	" W.	9.0am.
ISEGHEM- " "	" S.	9.0am.
WERVICQ-COMINES	" S.E.	11.40am.

1 train going S. i to BOUSBECQUE.		8.40am.
1 " " S.E. " "		7.40am.
1 " " E. " "		12.12pm.
1 " " E. " LINCELLES.		9.15am.
1 " under steam in WERVICQ Station.		7.08am.
1 " shunting in " "		8.40am.
1 " " " MENIN "		8.40am. 9.0am.
1 " " " TOURCOING "		9.0am.

EXPLOSIONS.

10.45am.	Large explosion in COMINES at V.5.a.9.0.
11.25am.	" " " " V.5.c.9.8.
11.30am.	Explosion in COMINES at V.5.a.5010.
11.33am.	" " " " V.5.a.5070.
11.43am.	" P.22.d.
11.25am.	" P.20.b.
12.10pm.	" P.27.a.3.2.
12.15pm.	" V.4.d.3.4.
12.23pm.	" V.d.c.8.6.
12.32pm.	" V.6.c.8.6.
2.30pm.	" V.26.d.3.2.
3.40pm.	" C.12.a.0.7.

NOTE.

Under (4) ENEMY'S DEFENCES.
 MAY FARM should read P.1.d.
 FUNNY FARM " " J.32.c.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 53

From 6 p.m. 21st February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 22nd February, 1918NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Throughout the period under report our artillery has been active. Many working parties were dispersed and moving targets successfully engaged. An active gun at C.18.a.65.66 was successfully silenced. Roads, tracks, and bridges were also kept under intermittent fire.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions operated along the Corps front. The left division reports seeing 2 enemy patrols in P.1.c.1.4, but they dispersed before our patrol could reach them. Another party of the enemy encountered in C.12.a. was dispersed by Lewis gun fire, but further results of encounter could not be ascertained.

A patrol of the right division saw a party of the enemy working along his wire towards the south. Fire was opened on it and bombs thrown, and casualties are believed to have been inflicted. Another enemy patrol thereupon opened fire on the right flank of our patrol, but immediately after retired.

The ground in No Man's Land continues to be wet and boggy. Considerable machine gun fire is reported by patrols of the right division.

(c) Aerial Activity. Weather conditions to-day have been adverse for war flying.

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

The enemy's artillery has been quiet during the period, fire being light and mainly scattered over forward areas. During last night the areas south of PLOEGSTEERT in C.1. and C.2, as well as PLOEGSTEERT, were heavily shelled.

3. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

The left division reports the enemy to have been fairly quiet. More patrols than usual were noticed and more flares were fired. Fewer working parties were heard than has been the rule of late. Trench mortar activity has also been less.

Opposite the centre division the enemy is quiet but alert. There has been some machine gun activity.

The right division reports the enemy to be very alert on their sector. Large enemy patrols were active in front of the left brigade, and Very lights have been more numerous than usual.

22-2-18

- 2 -

No. 53

4. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Snipers. A patrol of the left division reports a sniper active at J.32.b.3.6.

(b) Pill Boxes. At GREEN FARM (O.17.b.) were found to be unoccupied.

(c) Posts. The Corps on our left report the following posts:
 J.27.a.10.45 - behind the Mound (suspected).
 J.27.a.58.70 - located in a pill-box and thought to contain two machine guns.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

A dump at P.18.b.6.7 was blown up by our artillery at 4 p.m. yesterday.

Latham
 Brigadier-General
 General Staff, Australian Corps.

B.I. 68.

AERIAL ANNEAL TO AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

22nd Feb., 1918.

(1) OPERATIONS

Owing to unfavourable weather conditions no flying was possible.

(2) ENEMY'S DISPOSITIONS.

Nil.

(3) ANTI AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

Nil.

(4) ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

TRENCHES.

3 B.A.273. The trench in V.7.b. parallel to the River LYs has been extended a short distance towards the River DOUVE.

3 B.A.277. What appears to be a trench partly camouflaged can be seen running from V.8.d.9530 towards the river. This may possibly be used for drainage purposes, but no definite conclusion can yet be drawn. There also appears to be a small drain running from V.8.d.0010 to the river.

3 B.A.290. A new piece of trench has been dug running from P.26.c.1505 to the road at P.32.a.1569.

DUGOUTS and SHELTERS.

(3BA274A) large building has been erected since our last photo of this area at V.2.a.4528.

3 B.A.288. The concrete dugouts at P.13.c.6577 show signs of occupation.

(5) MOVEMENT and ORGANIZATION in and behind enemy's lines.

ROUTES and TRACKS.

3 B.A.273. Tracks lead from the road at V.7.a.6175 to the bridges over the DOUVE. Numerous tracks also lead from this point towards the road at U.12.b.5598. Tracks can also be seen along the road from V.7.a.8191 to V.1.c.5521 thence due west towards the front line.

3 B.A.278. The main track from MAI CORNET to the river KORTEKEER shows signs of much use.

3 B.A.279. The main tracks from GLE FARM to the main road in O.30.d. is still being very much used.

3 B.A.282. Considerable movement is apparent around the bldgs., at P.19.a.4202, and numerous tracks lead from them to the road junction at P.19.b.0235 and towards the buildings at P.19.c.02790.

3 B.A.283. Numerous tracks lead towards the front line from P.25.b.3002 (Edge of photo).

3 B.A.284. Much movement is evident around HOUTHEM DUMP, and all the roads leading to and from this locality are used considerably.

3 B.A.285. Shows well worn routes from P.25.a.9403 to O.30.b.8068 thence towards the front line.

3 B.A.286. A well defined track leads from the building at O.18.d.6520 due west through the northern portion of O.18.c. Very many tracks also lead back from the concrete dugouts at O.18.a.6.4.

3 B.A.274. Much movement is apparent around the buildings at P.26.d.5010, and tracks lead to the building at P.26.d.0540.



(2)

BRIDGES.

3 B.A. 276. What appear to be ~~merely~~ ~~plank~~ ~~bridges~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~following~~ ~~points~~ ~~along~~ ~~the~~ ~~road~~ ~~at~~ ~~V.7.c.8285.~~

3 B.A. 277. These can also be seen at V.9.b.0883, V.8.d.5232, V.8.d.7053, V.8.d.2013, V.14.a.7099. What is apparently a large plank bridge extends from the bridge at V.9.a.1502 to V.8.b.8040. This has apparently been erected owing to the soft and ~~marshy~~ ~~ground~~ of the ground.

3 B.A. 278. Numerous foot bridges can be seen crossing the KORTEKEER in P.32.

SCREENS.

3 B.A. 272. Three screens can be noticed running from V.14.b.8588 to V.14.b.7748.

3 B.A. 281. Four screens can be observed at P.33.a.4590. (Two on each side of the road).

DUMPS.

3 B.A. 0274. Much movement is evident around the dump at V.2.c.1092.

RAILWAYS.

3 B.A. 282. A light railway showing signs of considerable use runs from P.19.c.1377 to the road at O.24.b.9538 and connects with the light railway at P.19.a.2562.

The following is a list of Aeroplanes photos taken on the 18th., 19th., and 21st. inst. Divisions etc., should indent direct on the BRANCH INTELLIGENCE SECTION, 3rd. Sqd., AUS. FLYING CORPS.

Shoot 28.3BA.255.P13d,14,15c,20ab.	Shoot 28.277.V8,9ac,14ab,15a.
256.P.20cd,21cd,26,27.	278.P32,33ac,V2,3ac.
257.P14cd,15c,20,21ac.	279.P25cd,31.
258.P7d, 8c,13abd,14ac.	280.V2cd, 8.
259.O12d,P7,8ac,13ab.	281.P32bcd,33ac,V2ab,3a.
260.V25bd,26cd,36.D1,b.	282.O18d,24bd,P13c,19.
36. 261.D8bcd,9,14b,15a.	283.O30bd,36b,P25,31ab.
28. 262.V8d,14,9c,15.	284.P7cd,13.
263.V19d,20cd,25bd,26.	285.O24bd,30bd,P19,20.
264.V13d,14cd,15c,19bd.	286.O12cd,18,P7c,13ac.
265.V8cd,9c,14,15ac.	287.O5d,6cd,11bd,12,17b.
266.U30d,V25c,36,C6,D1.	288.P7cd,13.
36. 267.D8cd,14,15ac.	289.P13cd,14c,19,20ac1
268.D2,3ac,8ab.	290.P25bd,26,32a.
28. 269.V25cd,36.D1,2ac.	291.O18bd,24bd,P13ac,19ac.
36. 270.D2,3 ac,8ab,	292.P13bcd,14ac.19ab.20a.
28. 271.V13d,14cd,15c,19bd.	



AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 p.m. 22nd February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 23rd February, 1918

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS

For Official Use Only

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. In view of a suspected enemy relief opposite the sector of our left division yesterday, the attention of our artillery was principally directed against tracks, communications, and approaches to sector of the 76th R.I.R. Low visibility hampered registrations, and throughout the period under report, our artillery has been less active than usual, intermittent fire being maintained on enemy targets in forward areas.

(b) Patrols. The Corps front was reconnoitred by patrols of all divisions. A patrol of the left division saw a party of 6 of the enemy approaching them in O.6.c. Our patrol lay in wait for them and then opened fire, causing them to hurriedly withdraw. Later on a wiring party of about 30 men was engaged by rifle and Lewis gun fire, and casualties are believed to have been inflicted.

Patrols report that hostile machine gun fire was unusually inactive. No Man's Land is wet and muddy, and operations were again hampered by the brightness of the night.

(c) Aerial Activity. Our machines undertook reconnaissance and patrol flights, but visibility was very indifferent.

(d) Prisoners. Two men of the 9th Coy., 162nd I.R. (17th Res. Divn.) were captured in O.23.c.5.8. (Normal). An interrogation is attached.

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery has been exceptionally quiet especially during last night. The centre division reports intermittent and scattered shelling of forward areas. Light shelling of STEIGNAST FARM is also reported.

3. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

The left division reports that more enemy patrols were again observed in the right sector than has been the rule for the past few weeks, though these all appeared to be protective rather than reconnoitring patrols. The left brigade of this division reports the enemy particularly quiet during the night. Trench mortars and machine guns were particularly quiet. The centre division reports the enemy quiet but alert.

23-2-18

Opposite the right division machine guns and minenwerfers were quiet and the absence of Very lights was noticeable. On the left brigade front the enemy appeared to be nervous and very watchful, and frequently bombed his own wire in U.11.d. between 1 and 3.30 a.m.

4. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Work. Patrols report work in progress near BEE FARM (O.23.b.)

New work is in evidence along trench at U.18.c.7.7 (Observers).

(b) Wire. At P.1.c.75.80 the belt of enemy wire has been broken by shell fire and is easily passable (Patrol).

In front of GAME COPSE wire has been cut by artillery (Patrols).

(c) Snipers. A sniper is active from southern end of pill-box at J.32.b.4.3.

(d) Posts. The following enemy posts are reported by the Corps on our left: J.26.b.90.15 - post of 8 men and machine gun, and J.26.b.95.20 - post with machine gun, connected by a strongly held trench. *both posts*

5. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY

Enemy aeroplanes flew over the reserve and support areas of the left division this afternoon. Otherwise no hostile aerial activity has been reported.

S. S. S. S. S.
Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

294 ✓
23-2-18

- 1a -

No. 54

PRELIMINARY REPORT on the EXAMINATION of two privates of the 9th Coy., 163rd I.R., 17th Res. Divn., captured this morning in O.23.c.

Particulars. Prisoners belong to the 1885 (Landsturm I) and 1914 Classes respectively. They are of indifferent physique and moral, and quite willing to give information. Their statements are, however, in several cases conflicting and must be accepted with reserve, pending further confirmation.

Method of Capture. Prisoners were detailed by their company commander to approach our wire in order to locate the positions of our posts. They came up to one of our listening posts and surrendered when challenged.

Order of Battle. Prisoners are certain that the 162nd I.R. is north of their regiment, and suggest that the 76th R.I.R. is south, and that their regiment is the centre one of the division, but this is unlikely.

Dispositions. The two echelon system is still in vogue in the regiment. The 2nd Bn. is in the line, with all four companies forward in the following order from north to south: 9 - 10 - 11 - 12.

The 9th Coy. has one platoon of 2 groups and 2 light machine guns in BAB FARM (O.23.b.) -- Bayerasaz, one platoon of 2 groups and one light machine gun in PILLEGREM'S FARM; and the company Sturmtrupp, to which one prisoner belonged, by day in PILLEGREM'S FARM, and by night in the open some 100 metres to the north of BAB FARM (Bayernsaz). Each platoon has a bomb thrower. Opinions differ as to the existence of a third platoon, the more reliable prisoner says it does not exist, the other that it is also at PILLEGREM'S FARM.

The two support companies are under the orders of the front line battalion staff (K.T.K.). One company has a group in concrete dug-out at P.19.c.90.54 (Sachsenhof), another in a concrete dug-out 200 m. south, the rest being disposed in tin shelters in the neighbourhood. The other company lies somewhere south of the HOHENZOLLENSTRASSE (road in P.19.c. - O.24.d.).

The remaining six companies are in WE.LIN.

Headquarters. Of 9th Coy. in a small concrete dug-out at about O.24.c.25.95. Of front line battalion, said to be in a concrete dug-out 50 m. north of the HOHENEN Road in P.19.c. and about 200 m. from the Cemetery. One prisoner, however, states that it has been moved further back.

23-2-18

- 2a -

No. 54

Other Locations.

Concrete dug-out at PILLEGREM'S FARM, which is probably in the farm building itself, though the one prisoner insists that it is 200 metres north of the road. This concrete blockhouse has seven partitions of about 4 metres each in length. Of these four are occupied, the rest being destroyed by shell fire.

Pioneer Park is somewhere on the eastern side of the Canal and south of HOUTHEM, perhaps about P.20.d.5.2.

Theatre at MENIN, corner house in KONIGSTRASSE, probably at R.14.a.2.2.

Parade Ground in MENIN, Square at R.14.c.2.3.

Soldier's Home and Billet of 1st and 2nd Bns., Monastery at R.14.c.6.2.

Officer's Mess, at R.14.c.6.1.

Billet of 3rd Bn., in buildings on northern side of the road at R.20.d.3.8.

Other Units Seen in MENIN. 31st R.I.R. and 86th R.I.R. (18th Res. Divn.). (One prisoner says all units of the division). These arrived some 8 days ago.

According to one prisoner the 18th Res. Divn. has relieved the division, which includes the 257th, later corrected to 357th I.R. or R.I.R.

The 225th R.I.R. (49th Res. Divn.) was also in MENIN last Wednesday week and is said to be on the point of being relieved.

Boundary. The regimental boundary between the 162nd and 163rd I.R.'s is the road at BAB FARM (Bayernsasz). The 9th Coy. sector extends some 50 m. south of this point.

Route to Front. The 9th Coy. left their billets in HALLUIN and proceeded by the town tramway and later light steam railway to WERVICQ-SUD, keeping near the south bank of the LYS. The river was crossed, probably by the bridge in P.36.a. They then proceeded along the GODSHUIS - KORENTJE Road and from this point the route can only be conjectured, as neither prisoner can accurately describe it. The Canal was crossed, possibly at the bridge at P.27.d.10.18, the company turning northwards at P.32.b.48.95 towards STROMIEBRUG, but leaving the HOUTHEM Road soon after crossing the WAMBEEK. A field path was then followed, which brought them out on the HOHEN-ZOLLERN Road about P.19.c.98.50

2-2-18

-3a -

No. 54

Reliefs. The 3rd Bn. relieved the 1st Bn. on the night of the 20th/21st February. Four days are spent in the line, so this battalion is due for relief on the 24/25th February. Two companies will then spend 4 days in support, and then 4 in rest, the remainder going into rest for the whole 8 days.

The front line platoon at BAB FARM is relieved after two nights by the platoon at PILLEGREM'S FARM. Such a relief occurred last night.

Rations. Rations are poor. They arrive at varying times during the evening. The field kitchens come up to a point (perhaps STROMKEBRUG), from which the food is carried by ration carriers. One prisoner states that the ration carriers (16 men per company) live in WERVICQ, the other that this scheme was abandoned owing to WERVICQ being too dangerous, and that they live at Bn. H.Q. and consist of 9 men per company.

On the night of the 21st/22nd February, the rations were spoilt owing to our shelling of WERVICQ, rubbish getting into the food; iron rations were consequently issued to the company.

Light Signals and Pass Word. Pass Word - WILHELMSHA FEN (current for past 8 days).

Light Signals - Yellow, barrage; Green, annihilating fire; Red, lengthen range.

Strength and Casualties. The rifle strength of the company is 40 to 50 men. There have been no casualties so far during this tour, but last tour two men were killed and two wounded.

Moral. The men consist chiefly of 1918 Class, and the moral is said to be poor.

Leave. One prisoner states that leave was opened again on February 17th or 18th until 28th. The other says it is closed till May.

Patrols. Patrols go out night and morning. During the last 24 hours, the patrolling hours were 9 to 11 p.m., and 3¹⁵ to 5 a.m. Patrols usually go out just in front of their wire and in the open as listening posts. Owing to the timidity of the patrols, the enemy has not yet succeeded in locating our posts, and stringent orders were given to these two prisoners that they were to go as far as our wire.

Officers' Names. O.C. 9th Coy. - Lieut. DAMASCHKE; O.C. 3rd Bn. - Oberleut. WESTMANN. The O.C. 63rd I.R. is on a course.

Intentions. The 17th Res. Divn. expects to be relieved at the end of this month (one prisoner gives February 28th) by the division which it originally relieved. It will then go to BEVERLOO for further training.

Prisoners have no knowledge of an offensive in this sector, but consider that there will be one near CAMBRAI in March.

23-2-18

- 4a -

Training. When at WEVELGHEM in rest, previous to coming into this sector, only ordinary training was undertaken. One prisoner had heard of the new offensive training, but could not describe it and thought it was being chiefly applied to divisions fresh from Russia, training in the rear of the front.

Miscellaneous.

Civilians. There are very few civilians in MENIN, and few more in HALLUIN. The former town has been much damaged by bombs.

Concrete Dug-Outs. One prisoner had seen new concrete dug-outs under construction near WERVICQ from the small gauge railway, while on the way to the front. They were camouflaged.

MENIN - COMINES Railway. The old railway has apparently been denuded of its rails.

Tanks and Gas. Prisoners have no knowledge of either tanks or gas.



B.I.69.

AERIAL ANNEXE TO AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

23rd. Feb., 1918.

(1) OPERATIONS.

Owing to unfavourable weather conditions photography was impossible.

Two successful trench reconnaissances were carried out over ZANDVOORDE, KORTWILDE, HOUTHEM, HOLLEBEKE Chateau and bridges over the River LYS E. of WARNETON.

Two 20lb. bombs were dropped on D.7.a.

520 rounds machine gun ammunition were fired into trenches in U.12 and 18, trenches at LAUNDRY WOOD, V.8.a.4.9, HOLLEBEKE and HOUTHEM.

(2) ENEMY'S DISPOSITIONS.

Nil.

(3) ANTI AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

Below normal.

(4) ENEMY'S DEFENCES.BRIDGES.

Bridge in V.7.d. in very good condition. Bridge in V.8.c. in fair condition. Bridge at V.7.c. destroyed. Bridge at U.18.b. partially destroyed. One pontoon only was left at about V.8.d.6.5, it had been hit. Two more were observed in good condition at V.7.d, one on either side of bridge and about 50 yards from bridge. Both bridges at U.30.b. are intact, southern one apparently more used than northern one. Bridge N.E. of PONT ROUGE is destroyed, but is apparently being rebuilt.

(5) MOVEMENT and ORGANIZATION in and behind enemy's lines.TRACKS.

No tracks could be observed around ZANDVOORDE, which has the appearance of being deserted and the roads are very badly cut up by shell fire.

Road running from KORTWILDE to P.8.c.7.7 is used, also cross roads coming into same at P.8.c.7.7.

Road running from KORTWILDE to HOLLEBEKE Chateau is in good condition, and used with the exception of piece from P.7.d.3.0 to P.7.c.9.4, which is cut up by shell fire.

Road running from KORENTJE past HOUTHEM to KORTWILDE is much used, evidently main artery for supplies.

Road running from HOUTHEM to PARTYNTJE is also used, apparently only by foot traffic.

All roads leading to HOUTHEM in good order.

Plain tracks observed leading off main roads into ruins at U.30.a.3.1.

In the Field.
23rd. Feb., 1918.

BRANCH INTELLIGENCE SECTION,
3rd. Sqd., AUS. FLYING CORPS.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARYFrom 6 p.m. 24th February to 6 p.m. 25th February, 1918NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. In anticipation of a hostile relief, artillery of the centre and right divisions carried out a special programme of intermittent fire on enemy roads, tracks, and approaches. During the day harassing fire was carried out on occupied buildings and centres of activity. Working parties were dispersed and movement fired on. CIRCUS POINT was shelled with gas during yesterday afternoon.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions carried out reconnaissances of No Man's Land. A patrol of the centre division came in contact with an enemy patrol in the vicinity of MOAT FARM. The enemy patrol prepared to withdraw, whereupon our patrol opened Lewis gun fire, and at the same time charged the enemy. Casualties are believed to have been inflicted.

The ground in No Man's Land is reported to be very wet and muddy, and the going very heavy.

(c) Aerial Activity. Unfavourable weather prevented flying to-day.

(d) Prisoners. Two men of the 466th I.R. (239th Divn.) were taken in P.I.A. about 4 a.m. to-day as the result of a raid on one of our posts. (Normal)

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery activity was greater than usual during the night, but quietened down again during the day. I.35.d. was heavily shelled by 15cm. Hows from AMERICA. From 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. heavy bursts of fire were laid on U.1 and 2 from the direction of COMINES. During the afternoon intermittent shelling of the front line system of the centre division is reported.

3. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

The left division reports the enemy very alert. Machine guns were more active and more trench mortar fire was met with.

Opposite the Centre division machine gun and mine-thrower activity has been below normal. The movement of a large party from WARNERTON together with the abnormal amount of movement seen in that vicinity possibly indicates a local relief.

The right division reports the enemy more active for the period. Machine gun fire was active on our front line and tracks during the night.

25-2-18

- 2 -

No. 554. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Patrols report as follows:

Concertina wire was discovered in front of a deserted enemy post at J.32.b.25.70.

rip wire was noticed by patrols at J.32.d.4.5.

0.29.a.9.3. wire thick and strong.

WAM FARM (0.23.d.), new wire.

BEEK FARM. There is a thin belt of wire, 140 yards in front of this farm with a thicker and stronger belt 40 yards in rear,

0.35.d.9.5 - 0.36.c.0.4. Wire in front of this trench consists of 2 irregular belts and is strong.

(b) Posts. The post south and in rear of BEEK FARM is occupied.

(c) Pill Box. A pill box has been located at 0.36.c.15.40.

(d) Trenches. The trench at 0.35.d.9.5 to 0.35.c.0.4 is strongly held, there being approximately 40 to 50 men to 100 yards.

New trench work was seen at C.5.b.05.00. (Observer).

5. MOVEMENT

The centre division reports that at 5.30 p.m. yesterday, a party of 150 of the enemy was seen to leave the ruined buildings at U.12.c.8.3 and disappear eastwards at the double.

Satterthwaite

Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

25-2-18

- la -

No. 56

REPORT on PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION of 2 prisoners of 466th I.R. 239th Division captured on night 24/25th February, 1918.

Personal Details. Both prisoners belonged to the 8th Coy. 466th I.R. One is a Lance-Corporal, the other a private. They are both of average intelligence and the Lance Corporal is willing to give information but knows very little, as he was employed at MENIN and only came into front line last night with a small raiding party. The private is surly and not inclined to be communicative.

Method of Capture. The prisoners were two of a party of 16 out on patrol. The Lance Corporal watched for an opportunity and deserted. The private went forward with the others, was wounded by our fire, and taken prisoner.

Order of Battle. From north to south, 468th I.R., 467th I.R., and 466th I.R. Neither of the prisoners was sure of this, but both are certain that the 466th was the left Regiment of the Division, and as previous identifications prove the 468th to be the right regiment, this would appear to be correct.

Dispositions. Conflicting statements were made. One prisoner states that the 466th has adopted the two echelons of six companies each system; the other says they have three companies in front line, and 3 in support, 3 in reserve and three in rest billets at MENIN.

Method of Holding the Line. Nothing definite is known except that the outpost line is only manned at night. During the day they are in concrete dug-outs. Two or three light machine guns are taken out into the outposts. Two are in support line and one is kept as a reserve. One prisoner states that only about half of the 8th Coy. came forward, the others remained at MENIN.

Reliefs. In this also the statements were conflicting. One states reliefs run in 5 day cycles; the other, that cycles vary from 3, 4, to 5 days. The last local relief took place on the 21st (probably night 20th/21st). The 239th Divn. is expecting to be relieved in a few days by an unknown division. The Lance Corporal was told by the Orderly Room Clerks that the relief would take place about 2nd March.

Regimental Headquarters. In MENIN or in houses near MENIN on the GHELUWE Road.

Route to Front Line. Entrained at COUCOU (near MENIN) on 60cm. tramway and travelled for about three-quarters of an hour, detouring somewhere north of COMINES, thence by march route. Nothing very definite could be obtained.

Company Strength. The 8th Coy. is about 170 strong, but the rifle strength is only about 80 to 100. During the last few days, a great number of men returned from hospital.

28-2-18

- 2a -

Rations. Were good. A hot meal is provided every day. This is brought up in containers from near MENIN by French tramway. (note: This seems highly improbable).

Gas. Prisoners had no knowledge of gas, and had not been through a gas attack. An order had been published a week or so previously to the effect that the British had invented 8 new types of gas, and a reward in money or in leave would be given for salvaging of any specimens of blind gas shells.

Units seen in Rear. Prisoners had seen the remaining regiments of their division at MENIN. The 6th Foot Artillery Bn. were also seen there.

Officers' Names. 239th Bde. - Col. LIEBRECHT; 466th I.R. - Maj. ROBERTSON; 2nd Bn. - Maj. CALSO; 8th Coy. - Lt. TRAMWELL. Maj. Gen. SCHMIEDERKE has recently been retired, owing, it is stated "to his fondness for sending men out on fighting patrols and losing a great many men thereby".

Discipline. Nothing is known of any proposed German offensive on this front. All leave has been cancelled from 4th February, on which date the last leave was granted. Between middle of January to February 9th, leave had been granted only to men who had been 16 to 18 months without leave. From February 24th on to an indefinite date, all leave will be closed.

One of the prisoners stoutly maintained that the object of the patrol was purely and simply to gain decorations for the regimental doctor and Lieut. TRAMWELL (Coy. Commander). Both these officers accompanied the patrol to nearly the front line, after which they retired into a dug-out and instructed the men to "have a look at the enemy's lines, and be sure to come back if the enemy starts firing". Prisoner added that if any of the patrol had returned wounded, the medical officer would have received the Iron Cross, 1st Class, for attending to wounded under fire, and the Coy. O.C. also for bravery in action.

294

No. 55

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6 p.m. 24th February to 6 p.m. 25th February, 1918

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
Brigade Headquarters

For Official Use Only

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Our artillery engaged tracks, communications, and centres of activity intermittently with harassing fire. Numerous working parties were fired on and in many cases successfully dispersed. Active machine gun and trench mortar positions were also fired upon.

(b) Patrols. Patrols were active along the whole Corps front and established contact with the enemy on several occasions, though no actual encounters are reported. A hostile patrol was observed west of the LYS near MOAT FARM in U.24.c.

At 5.30 a.m. on the 23rd instant a hostile patrol was successfully engaged by one of our posts with Lewis gun fire in U.5.b., several of the enemy being hit. Investigation at the time was impossible owing to the approach of dawn. At 4 p.m. and again at 5.15 p.m. two stretcher bearers were seen looking in the direction of the place where the members of the patrol were observed to fall. One of our men, realizing that the wounded would be removed at nightfall, removed his jacket to avoid identification and went unmolested to the spot, where he was joined by the German stretcher bearers, one of whom could speak English. There were 3 badly wounded men in one shell hole and two slightly wounded in another. The stretcher bearer informed our man that one of the wounded was an officer, who, however, was wearing patrol dress. The stretcher bearer was wearing the number 330 on his shoulder strap.

(c) Aerial Activity. Our machines were again active to-day, and a special trench reconnaissance was carried out over U.12, 18, and 30, and V.7, 8, and 9 (Sheet 28). Poor visibility made photography again impossible.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

The stretcher bearer, wearing the number 330, may identify the 330th I.R., 83rd Divn., but such identification must be accepted with reserve, pending further investigation or confirmation.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

During the night a concentrated shoot was carried out in the southern sector, preceded by a trench mortar barrage. Shelling has been on the whole heavier than during last period and chiefly on the forward areas. O.14, 13, and 11 received most attention, salvos being fired during the afternoon.

4. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

About 4 a.m. the enemy attempted to raid two of our posts in J.31.d. The raiding parties consisted of 9 and 12 men respectively. Both parties were immediately driven off without casualties to our men, with what results to the enemy is not known. A patrol, which went out subsequently, found no trace of dead or wounded.

The enemy appears to be alert and nervous opposite the northern and southern sectors. The movement of our patrols occasioned immediate machine gun fire. On the southern sector, enemy repeatedly bombed his own wire.

5. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

(a) Posts. Patrols report the GIANT (O.12.c.) occupied; the crater at O.35.b.2.6 and JUNE FARM (O.23.c.) were however unoccupied.

Another patrol drew fire from P.1.c.3.5, the position apparently being held by 7 rifles. MOAT FARM (P.1.b.) is still unoccupied and has evidently been abandoned.

The Corps on our left reports a post at J.27.a.10.45. machine gun flashes were seen from this point. They also report the following places occupied: J.27.a.10.25, J.27.c.5.9, and J.28.b.20.55.

(b) Listening Post. The listening post at C.5.a.40.50 was observed to be occupied by the enemy.

(c) Wire. Patrols report the wire in U.5.d. to be strong. It consists of 2 rows of entanglements, about 15ft. thick. The wire in U.6.c. is also strong. MILITARY ROAD at O.35.b.2.6 is thickly wired. The wire in O.12.b. on both sides of the canal is very strong. Two bolts of cocoytina wire run northwards from BERRY COPTS (J.27.a.).

(d) Work. New work under camouflage is in course of construction near P.19.a.25.50. New earth is visible at the foot of a tree at C.5.a.50.40.

(e) No Man's Land. No Man's Land in O.17.b. is still in a wet and muddy condition.

5. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY

The enemy's aeroplanes were reported over our lines on several occasions yesterday. At 5 p.m. a few bombs were dropped near NEUVE EGLISE.

S. H. M. M. M.
Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

24-2-18

- 1a -

No. 55

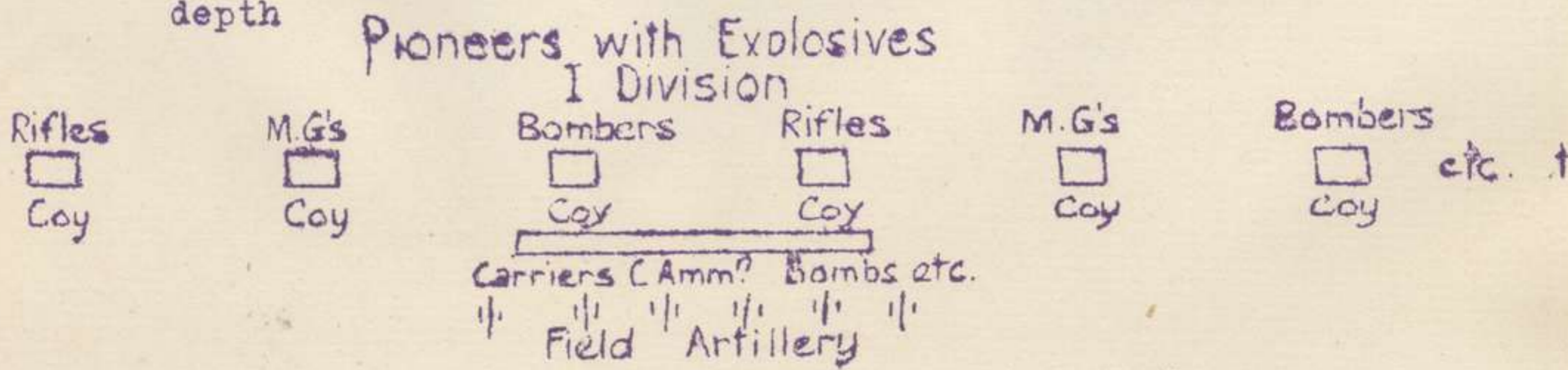
FURTHER INTERROGATION of 2 prisoners of the 9th Coy., 163rd I.R., 17th Res. Divn. taken on the 22nd /23rd February.

Units Seen. Prisoner again affirmed having seen men of the 357th I.R. (199th Divn.) at MENIN. Substantiated his evidence by saying that he had a friend in that Regiment whom he had seen and spoken to there. Had had a note from his people at home, enclosing his address.

Losses. The 162nd I.R. was at ARRAS between September and November. Here in a gas attack the 9th Coy. lost 18 men dead and 10 badly gassed (subsequently evacuated to Germany as permanently unfit). On December 3rd in attack at POLDERHOEK CHATEAU, 10 men dead and 20 men wounded. In this sector, 1 man dead and 3 to 5 men wounded.

Intentions. Both prisoners were very positive that an attack was intended on the CAMBRAI sector. For this attack divisions out of the line were training behind COURTRAI. The 162nd I.R. are said to have done a course of this training, also the 225th I.R. The following description is given:

SILENCE in preparation and attack is aimed at. The attack, instead of coming on in waves -- companies and battalions in depth, comes forward in line as the following diagram shows, with divisions and possibly corps in depth



II Div. (150m. from I Div.) as above

Attacking front up to 30 kms. Other divisions on flanks of I and II Divisions.

Emphasis was laid on the fact that great secrecy is being insisted on, and divisions are trained far back from line and rest billets. Prisoner further said that it was rumoured that when his regiment moves from this front, it will undergo this "INTENSIVE TRAINING" for a period of from two to three weeks.

The above must be accepted with reserve pending further confirmation.

294

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 57.

From 6 p.m. 25th February to 6 p.m. 26th February, 1918

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS

For Official Use Only

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. Harassing fire was continued on enemy roads and communications and a special concentration shoot was carried out by the centre division on M.W. emplacements in the vicinity of RIFLE FARM (O.23.b).

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions operated on the Corps front, but the brightness of the night rendered their task difficult. None of the enemy was encountered and no movement of hostile patrols was observed. No Man's Land is very muddy and affords little cover.

The left division reports that Germans were heard calling out from RIFLE ROAD, "Don't fire, Australia" and "Cease fire, Australia". Lewis guns fired several bursts in the direction of the shouting.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS.

The Corps on our left has secured a prisoner of the 84th R.I.R., 18th Res. Divn. in J.15.d. This would indicate the relief of the 214th Division in that sector.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Activity has been slight and fire scattered on forward areas. U.26.b was heavily shelled. DISPIERRE FARM and STEIGNAST FARM were intermittently shelled.

4. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

The left division reports the enemy quiet throughout the period. Machine guns were active during the night on posts and tracks. The right brigade of the centre division reports the enemy unusually quiet. Very little movement was heard and few flares were fired, while machine guns were less than usually active. Trench mortars, however, showed considerable activity.

The left brigade of this division reports machine guns fairly active.

Opposite the sector of the right division the enemy was quieter than usual.

5. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

Patrols report that:

(a) Wire. Wire is being repaired north of FLY BUILDINGS (O.17.d). Two rows of new concertina wire were seen passing north and south through O.23.d. 0.50.

Gaps were observed in the enemy's wire at approximately U.6.a.2.1. GAME CCPST. The wire here is reported to be strong.

(b) Sniper. A sniper continues active at J.26.d.2.2.

From the Corps on our left:

The following buildings are occupied and movement has been seen around them:-

J.27.a.03.10 (END FARM)	J.28.a.5.0. (PUSH FARM)
J.27.d.70.10 (TRAM FARM)	J.28.a.3.2. (LODGE FARM)
J.28.c.10.80 (DUPLEX FARM)	J.28.d.1.9. (THREE HOUSE)
J.28.d.15.55 (ANTI HOUSES)	

(c) Trenches. There is a shallow trench running from J.27.a.39.70 to LEWIS HOUSE (J.21.d) which is used as a communication trench.

6. MOVEMENT.

Visibility throughout the day has been good and as a result more train movement than usual has been observed.

The Corps on our left reports abnormal light railway movement round GHELUWE, the general trend being southwards from dumps in K.35 to GHELUWE and WERVICQ, the period of activity being between 6.15 a.m. and 9 a.m.

From the same source it is reported that much movement of men was observed yesterday in J.33.a.

Ground observers report considerable movement of trains between 9.20 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. yesterday on the COMINES - WERVICQ - HALJUN - MENIN - BOUSBECQUE and GHELUWE lines.

7. AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Taking advantage of the improved visibility our machines carried out reconnaissance and registration flights.

Sastman

M. Brigadier-General,
General Staff, Australian Corps.

294
AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

War Diary 88
From 6 p.m. 26th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 27th February, 1918

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS

For Official Use Only

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. In anticipation of a possible relief opposite the sector of the left division, artillery fire was directed against tracks and communications in that sector. Artillery of all divisions engaged targets in forward areas, and shelled dug-outs and centres of activity throughout the period under report.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions reconnoitred No Man's Land. Several hostile patrols were observed in the distance and working and wiring parties were heard, but no encounters took place. The centre division reports the ground covered to be in fair condition and walking easy, except in O.11.d. where the ground is full of shell holes and difficult to cross.

(c) Aerial Activity. Unfavourable weather conditions made photography impossible. Trench reconnaissances and artillery shoots were carried out, and some bombs dropped on U.12.b. and dug-outs in V.13.a.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

The 1st M.G. Coy., 162nd I.R., 17th Res. Divn. has been identified by papers found on a dead German Corporal in O.23.c.7.5. The latest date on an unfinished letter in his possession is 4th February, 1918. (Normal).

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Light shelling of forward areas and heavier shelling of battery areas is reported. During last night U.25 was heavily shelled with 10.5cm. and 15.cm. 's.

4. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

The left division reports the enemy quieter than usual, fewer flares were fired and less machine gun fire encountered by patrols. Opposite the centre division, the enemy has been quiet. The right division reports more hostile patrol activity than usual, but no other change in the enemy's attitude.

5. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

(a) Wire. Patrols report that:
There is a thin belt of wire round pill box at P.1.c.6.5.
At J.26.b.9.4 there are two rows of concertina wire with stakes 6ft. high between them. An apron of barbed wire is stretched from the stakes over concertina wire to the ground on either side.
The depth of the wire is 5ft.

At U.18.a.26.24 the enemy's wire is very thick along the river bank and for a distance of about 50 yards towards the SPINNEY.

(b) Work. Ground observers report new camouflage along the WARNETON Road.

New earth was noticed at BERRY COTTAGES (J.27.a.) by ground observers.

(c) O.P. The enemy has established an O.P. and listening post at G.5.a.5.4. This post is relieved every 2 hours, relieving parties using the track on northern side of hedge running from G.5.a.5.4 to LUBBEZ Farm. (Patrol).

(d) Bridges. Bridge at U.18.a.15.00 is too badly damaged to be used by enemy. (Patrol).

6. MOVEMENT

Considerable movement of individuals and of parties of men was seen during the day at CAPITAL FARM (J.27.c.) and BERRY COTTS, also around NUT FARM (P.2.b.).

The Corps on our left report movement all through yesterday in J.36.c.

7. ARMS and EQUIPMENT

Two light machine-guns were salvaged by the centre division, and a third blown up during the night. One of these was in good order and well greased, and had apparently been abandoned by a previous enemy division.

8. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY

Hostile machines repeatedly attempted to cross our lines, but were driven off by A.A. and M.G. fire.

for C. H. Hoover
Lieut

Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.

28-2-18

PART II

ENEMY INTENTIONS (Army Summary)

According to a deserter of the 84th R.I.R. (18th Res. Div.) an attack has been planned and is to take place before dawn on the 28th February., on the high ground north of the YPRES - MENIN Road, in approximately J.22.c. The prisoner has been contemplating desertion for some time and knowledge of this projected attack hastened his decision.

An intense artillery preparation of from 20 to 30 minutes duration is to precede the attack and T.M.'s will co-operate. The attack is to be undertaken by three companies of the 1st Bn., 84th R.I.R., and Tank Regiments will conform, but not take part in the attack.

Supporting Coys. will possibly be moved forward at Zero to Bn. H.Q. at J.23.a.33.32 and in the event of reserve companies moving they would probably assemble at K.19.b.95.05.

The prisoner mentions the possibility of the attack being postponed, owing to severe casualties having been sustained by the Divisional Artillery, as a result of our artillery fire. In any case, the operation will, in the prisoner's opinion, ultimately take place, in order to secure better observation of our positions.

No. 72.

AERIAL ANNEXE TO AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
27th. Feb., 1918.

(1) OPERATIONS.

Unfavourable weather conditions made photography impossible.
4 - 20lb. bombs were dropped on U.12.b and dugouts in V.13.a.

(2) ENEMY'S DISPOSITIONS.

Nil.

(3) ANTI AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

Normal.

(4) ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

BRIDGES.

Observer reports bridge at PONT ROUGE destroyed and apparently impassable. Bridge N.E. of same apparently used, but in a bad state of repair; tracks from farm at U.30.a.2.1 leading to same.

Bridges at U.30.b.3.3 were intact but had evidently been shelled, shells landing at U.30.b.3535. (Observer)

Bridge at U30a7595 has evidently been repaired and is in a state of use. (Observer.)

No pontoons observed S. of WARNETON. North, observation impossible owing to clouds. (Observer)

TRENCHES.

3BA.320. The trench in V.7.b. parallel to LYS has been further extended towards the DOUZE.

3BA.290. The new trench reported in B.I.68 (Photo 3BA.290) can be seen to continue from the opposite side of the road to the River Kortkeer. The previous photo did not cover all this area.

(5) ENEMY'S AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Normal.

(6) MOVEMENT and ORGANIZATION in and behind enemy's lines.

TRACKS.

Track leading to farm at U.30.a.2.1 from U.29.d.9.8 very much used, but only along sides of road. Track from railway to same farm observed. (Observer)

KIWI FARM seems centre of tracks leading to a centre. Tracks leading to U.12.b.1.2. (Observer)

3BA316 Tracks lead from the direction of FINE DES OBEAUX (P.10.b.) past MEBUS COPSE to P.4.c.6769 where there is considerable movement, tracks then running towards HAKKOD. STORES and ZANDVOORDE. Tracks also lead past HUT FARM from a southerly direction and run to the road at P.4.a.7979 and at P.4.a.6398, they run to TRACA HOUSES (P. .A.) which is apparently a dump for ration parties.

What appears to be a duckboard track leads from the cross roads at J.34.c.1503, along the road past CAPE WOOD to J.34.c.2783, then to J.34.a.4810 and runs to a dugout at J.34.a.4023.

3 B.A.311. Many tracks still lead from an easterly and north easterly direction converging to the road at P.8.c.7588.

3 B A.309. A new duckboard track leads from J.34.a.8898 (edge of photo) to J.27.d.8147. P.T.O.

(2)

3B.A.302. Tracks lead from TRALEE FARM to PEREGRINE FARM and thence to the KORTWILDE Road. Numerous tracks also lead from P.8.d.0052 past the concrete shelter to the road junction at P.14.a.3072.

3 B.A.328. Much movement is noticeable around V.21.a.8025 which is probably a dump.

3 B.A.340. The duckboard track mentioned in 3B.A.316 running past CAPE WOOD can be seen to continue to the road at J.33.b.6041.

3 B.A.358. Considerable movement shows up around the dugouts at J.35.c.8803, tracks leading thence in several directions. This may be a dump for ration parties.

3 B.A.290. Much movement is evident around the concrete buildings at V.2.c.1091. Tracks lead from the road at V.1.b.4881 to the buildings at V.1.a.9493 and thence to the dump at P.31.c.2822.

3 B.A.324. A well defined track leads from the new buildings at V.8.a.4288 to the main road at V.2.c.0068.

3 B.A.323. A track leads from the enemy front line at U.18.a.2569 to U.18.a.1162.

3 B.A.320. The bridge at V.7.c.5095 reported in B.I.68-22/2/18 has been removed to V.7.d.0585.

TRAINS.

<u>Line.</u>	<u>Direction.</u>	<u>Times.</u>
COURTRAI-TOURCOING Rly.	going N.	7.55am.
COMINES-QUESNOY "	" N.	8.10am.
WERVICQ-BOUSBECQUE "	" E.	8.20am. 4.10pm.
MENIN-ROUBAIX "	" N.	9.05am., 11.5am.
" " "	" S.	10.40am.
COMINES-WERVICQ "	" S.V.	4.15pm.

FIRES.

10.35am. Large fire and explosion at P.34.central.

11.26am. Fire and explosion at D.20.b.(approx)

11.22am. Explosion at D.21.c.

P. T. O.

(3)

The following is a list of Aeroplane Photos taken on the
26th. inst. Divisions etc., should indent direct on the BRANCH
INTELLIGENCE SECTION, 3rd. Squadron, AUS. FLYING CORPS.

SHEET.

3 BA. 301.	28.O.29,30acd,35abd,36.	3BA. 332.	28.U18bcd,24,V13,14c,19.
302.	28.P.7,8,13bd,14.	333.	28.P27bcd,28ac,32bd,33. 34abc,V.3.a.
303.	28.O.11cd,12cd,17,18,24ab.	334.	28.V1d;2cd,3c,7bd,8,9ac.
304.	28.O.17cd,18cd,23,24.	335.	28.O12bd,Pld,2c,7,8,13.
305.	28.O.11,12,17ab,18.P7ac.	336.	28.V8c,13,14,19b,20.
306.	28.P.8,b,9.10ac,15,16ac.	337.	28.V2cd,3ac,8,9ac,14ab.
307.	28.P.11bd,12,17bd,18.	338.	28.J35bd,36,P5b,6ab.
308.	28.J.25,26,31bd,32.	339.	28.J34,35ac,P4ab,5a.
309.	28.J21,26bd,27,28ac,33ab.	340.	28.J33,34ab.
310.	28.P.10,11ac,16,17.	341.	28.V3cd,8bd,9,10,15abc.
311.	28.P.2,3ac,8,9.	342.	28.V26d,27cd,D20bd,3.
312.	28.I.30d,36abd,J.25acd,31.	343.	28.P26,27bd,31b,32ab.
313.	28.O12b,P.1cd,7,8ac,13,14.	344.	36.D1,2c,7,8a.
314.	28.J20cd,26,27,32b,33a.	345.	36.D3,8bd,9,10a.
315.	28.O.12,18,24ab,P.7,13.	346.	36.D7bd,8,13b,14ab.
316.	28.J.33d,34,35c,P3b,4,5ac.	347.	28.V26cd,27c,36.D2,3ac,8b.
317.	28.I3d,c,35,36.O5b,6.P1a.	348.	28.P32,33c,V2ab,3ac.
318.	28.U18d,24bd,30abd,V13cd,19.	349.	28.P32d,33cd,34c,V2bd,3.
319.	28.O35acd,36cd,U5,6,12a.	350.	28.U24d,30.V19cd,25abd.
320.	28.U.6cd,12,V.1cd,7.	351.	28.P25d,26,27ac,32ab,33a.
321.	28.U.23,24ac,29,30a.	352.	28.J24cd,30,K.19,d,25ac.
322.	28.O.36d,P31,U.6bd,V.1,2ac.	353.	28.J30,36.
323.	28.U.11d,12cd,17bd,18.V7c,13.	354.	28.U29d,30cd,V25c,(36) C5bd,6,12ab,D.1,a,c.7a.
324.	28.U.6d,12bd,V1cd,2c,7,8abd.	355.	28.P20cd,21cd,26,27abc.
325.	28.U.6d,12b,V.1,7,8ac,13ab.	356.	28.U24cd,29bd,30,V25a.
326.	28.P.31cd,32,V.1abd,2.	357.	28.V19cd,25,26ac,D1ab,2a.
327.	28.U.28d,29c,C.4,5,10bd,11.	358.	28.J34d,35cd,36ac,P4b,5ab.
328.	28.V.8d,9c,14,15acd,20.21ab.	359.	28.J26cd,31,32abc,P.1ab,2a.
329.	28.U.24cd,30,V.19cd,25.	360.	28.I30d,36abd,J25c,31,Pl.a.
330.	28.U.18bd,V.7cd,13,19,20a.	361.	28.V19bcd,20cd,25,26abc.
331.	28.P.15cd,20,21,26abd,		

BRANCH INTELLIGENCE SECTION,
3rd. Squadron,
AUS. FLYING CORPS.

In the Field.
27th. Feb., 1918.

From 5 p.m. 27th February, 1918 to 6 p.m. 28th February, 1918

NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS

For Official Use Only

1. OPERATIONS

(a) Artillery. During the day our artillery fired on movement and working parties in the enemy lines and forward areas. Centres of activity, roads and tracks were also kept under intermittent bursts of fire. Shooting was very satisfactory and many direct hits were observed. During the night, harassing fire was maintained on selected targets and bursts of fire were put over at irregular intervals.

(b) Patrols. Patrols of all divisions were out last night. A fighting patrol of the centre division moved out to encounter an enemy patrol which operates nightly in front of WHIZ FARM. Three of the enemy were seen approaching from the direction of O.17.b. and scattered on L.T.M. fire being opened on them. The right division reports seeing an enemy patrol of 12 men near southern end of the SPINNEY, but this patrol withdrew when it sighted our men. A relief was also seen proceeding to the listening post opposite WHITE FARM at C.5.a.4.5.

No Man's Land is reported to be very wet and sodden, and going exceedingly heavy.

(c) Aerial Activity. Owing to unfavourable visibility, it was again impossible to take photographs to-day. Reconnaissance and bombing flights were undertaken with satisfactory results.

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

Hostile artillery continues to fire on battery positions and forward areas. The following areas are reported to have been intermittently shelled: RAVINE WOOD from the direction of COMINES; MESSINES from the direction of STE. MARGUERITE; WYTSCHAEETE by H.V. gun from the direction of WERVICQ. Most of the shelling occurred during the night.

3. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

The left division reports increased artillery activity, but otherwise the enemy has been normally quiet throughout the period.

Opposite the centre division the enemy has been more active than usual but continues on the defensive, although he appears determined to reconnoitre our positions by means of small reconnoitring patrols.

Except for a slight increase in hostile fire on the forward area of right brigade of right division, the enemy is still quiet. Less patrolling has been reported than for the previous period.



28-2-15

- 2 -

No. 59

4. ENEMY'S DEFENCES

- (a) Wire. Patrols report as follows:
Wiring parties were heard at J.26.d.85.95 and on the northern side of Canal about 10 yards in front of LOCK 6. Lewis gun fire was brought to bear on these points.
The wire in front of GAME COPSE, although cut in places by artillery, still forms a good obstacle.
The wire at J.26.b.9.4 (vide last night's Summary) has been extended to J.26.d.75.30, and a party was seen working on this.
Wiring parties were observed at O.30.d.2.2 (ground observers and heard at U.6.a.2.1. (Patrol).
- (b) Post. Men were seen round what is presumably a post at O.23.d.10.35. (Patrol).
- (c) New Work. Ground observers report new earth at O.36.c.5.2 and one man camouflaging a pill box there.
- (d) Dump. A patrol of the right division discovered an enemy tool dump at J.23.b.55.30. It contained about a G.S. wagon load of shovels, wire cutters, and spirit levels. A few of the latter were brought in.

5. MOVEMENT.

Individual movement round dug-outs in J.33.a. and c. continues daily. A good deal of movement, possibly a relief, was observed between 5.30 and 6 p.m. yesterday near LAKE FARM (O.24.c.). This was heavily engaged by our Lewis guns.
A sentry was observed at O.5.c.60.93. Reliefs of this post took place at 2 hour intervals between 11.45 p.m. and 3.45 a.m. Reliefs are apparently drawn from the post at O.5.c.67.94.

6. ARMS and EQUIPMENT

Two more light minenwerfers were brought in from the enemy lines by our left division, and a medium trench mortar was blown up at J.32.b.15.20. One of them was in perfect order, the other was rusty, but could be made serviceable. The bed plates could not be brought in as they were too heavy to carry. An enemy machine gun in fairly good order was also brought in.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY

At 11.30 a.m. yesterday a hostile machine flew over our line and dropped bombs in our immediate forward areas. No damage was caused. Other machines attempted to cross our lines, but were in every case driven back by A.A. Fire.

S. H. ...
Brigadier-General
General Staff, Australian Corps.



294 ✓

AERIAL ANNEXE TO AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. No. 73. 28th. Feb., 1918.

(1) OPERATIONS.

Unfavourable weather conditions made photography again impossible. 4 -20lb. bombs were dropped on WARNETON and U.6.c. 330 rounds machine gun ammunition were fired into trenches at P.30.d, HOUTHEM DUMP, COMINES.

(2) ENEMY'S DISPOSITIONS.

(3) ANTI AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY.

Nil. Normal.

(4) ENEMY'S DEFENCES. BRIDGES over LYS. (Observer)

Two bridges in U.18.a. partially destroyed, quite unserviceable. Bridge at U.12.d. destroyed. Bridge at V.7.c. partially destroyed. Bridge at V.7.d. in fair condition. Bridge at V.8.c. and approaches in good condition. Bridge at V.9.b. and approaches in good condition.

SCREENS. Screens still good South of river in V.8.d. (Observer)

TRENCHES. Trenches North of WARNETON in fairly good condition. (Observer)

New trench at P.32.a. still continues to be worked upon, and appears to have been a little further extended Northwards. (Observer)

(5) ENEMY'S AERIAL ACTIVITY. Nil. Normal.

(6) MOVEMENT and ORGANIZATION in and behind enemy's lines. WARNETON vicinity. No movement observed on roads close behind enemy's lines.

TRAINS.

Line.	Direction.	Times.
LILLE-ROUBAIX	going S.W.	4.40pm.
" -ARMENTIERES.	" W.	12.48pm.
MENIN-ROUBAIX.	" N.	3.50pm.
QUESNOY-LILLE.	" S.E.	4.3pm.
RONCQ-LINCELLES. (Lgt. Rly.)	" E.	4.25pm.
BOUSBECQUE-LINCELLES. "	" N.	3.50pm.

2 trains shunting W. of LILLE at 1.42pm.

FIRES & EXPLOSIONS.

Explosion followed by fire with reddish smoke at P.34.d.0.7 still smoking at 11.45pm. Fire in FRELINGHINN. (3.40pm.) P.13.d.8.2. (4.40pm)

CORRIGENDUM.

Aerial Annexe No.72. Under trenches and tracks. For 3.B.A.290 read 3 B.A.326.

In the Field.

BRANCH INTELLIGENCE SECTION, 3rd. Sqd., A . F . C .

(2)

Green Cross. - Is Phosgene and a number of other things about which no information was supplied to them.

Yellow Cross. - Fired from field guns.

Was used first on SOMME.

Yellow Cross is visible. It is fatal. It does not take effect until after 6 hours.

Yellow Cross (1) is invisible. It is fatal. There is very little smell with it and the English do not know when to put their masks on.

Yellow Cross (2) is a newer and sharper gas. It attacks the eyes and soft moist parts of the body.

Yellow Cross (1) is used in a quiet sector.

Yellow Cross (2) is used in an offensive.

A sharper gas is then required - one which disperses more quickly and is stronger. He did ^{not} know whether its action was delayed.

Has never seen the antidote, but has heard there is one.

Had never heard of Gelbolin.

He was at the gas school during the Italian offensive. Yellow Cross (1) was used in the ravines and where no troops would be attacking.

He has heard of no new gases being used.

In 1915 the Colonials and English knew that the Germans were going to use gas; but the German Professors said that the English would not be able to use it for 6 months and in that time the Germans could perfect their protection.

The English used it 5 months after the Germans started using it.

Yellow Cross gas is the only one the English will not be able to use for a long time as it is difficult to manufacture.

Masks. All men in the regiment had leather masks. An order came from Army suddenly about a fortnight ago and all were given leather masks.

Dug-outs. Gas-proof doors are fixed only in under ground tunnels and in large dug-out systems in ravines etc. Double doors are used and made of blanket or material like it.

There are two kinds of material :-

1. Which needs wetting with water.
2. Which keeps wet. It has been treated with an oily solution, which smells like Colophonum.

When gas alarm goes - ~~everything~~ everyone comes out of the dug-outs and the doors are let down to keep the gas out.

There are no gas-proof ^{dug-outs} on this front.

Have them only in ravine country and in mine dug-outs.

Pieces of canvas or bags or blankets are used to clear gas from dug-outs.

EXAMINATION OF GERMAN PRISONER.
=====

Prisoner had been a company Gas N.C.O. for 6 months.
As a civilian, He had worked a good deal with Engineers; but had been through no special training for an engineer.

N.C.O's must attend a three days course at the Divisional Gas School before being made gas N.C.O's.

The gas school attended was between CHERISY and CAMBRAI, about 13 kilometres behind the line.

The staff at the Divisional Gas School was as follows:-

Divisional Gas Officer, one N.C.O., two Privates, and two men to look after the gas.

Officers and men trained at the Divisional Gas School were :-

At least 1 Officer per company.

1 N.C.O., and 1 N.C.O. in reserve.

Orderly Room Sgt.

He was in a projector attack in June last. Could not remember the date. Lost two men in the M.G. Company.

Was taught at the gas school that during the day currents of air were mainly upwards while from about 11 pm. they were downwards, and that was the time the English usually put over projectors.

The battalion commander receives reports from Meteor. Gas N.C.O's not keep note of weather observations.

Projectors.- Generally 3 or 4 days before a projector attack the English Machine Guns are very active; and it is then that the mortars are driven in and the noise can be heard. The Germans are then on the alert (in highest gas readiness) if the wind becomes dangerous.

Warning of gas is always made with gongs, triangles etc., anything that makes a noise when struck.

The sounding of horns with compressed air - ~~our stromtos horns~~ - means an infantry attack.

"Gas alarm made with anything that can be struck".

"Infantry attack alarm made with anything that can be blown."

German Projectors.

Are dug into the earth just behind the front line. The angle is taken and then holes filled in and levelled.

The English have a base plate but the Germans do without it.

They were shown the English Projector and base plate at the gas school, and specimens are sent to each Divisional gas school.

They dig in any number from 8 to 600 projectors together, he was told. He thinks there is a special battalion in each Army.

The same projectors are used several times, but the number depends on the state of the ground. Each projector holds 9 litres of Phosgene. At the school they smelt the gases used by the English - the Lachrymator which is not poisonous and Phosgene.

... Our Projectors There were most casualties when they were first used. There are no casualties when men are on the watch for them - only when they are careless.

The English only shoot them in horizontal air.

Gases - Blue Cross gas is thinner than air and goes up. It goes through the English mask and makes the wearer cough and reach.