

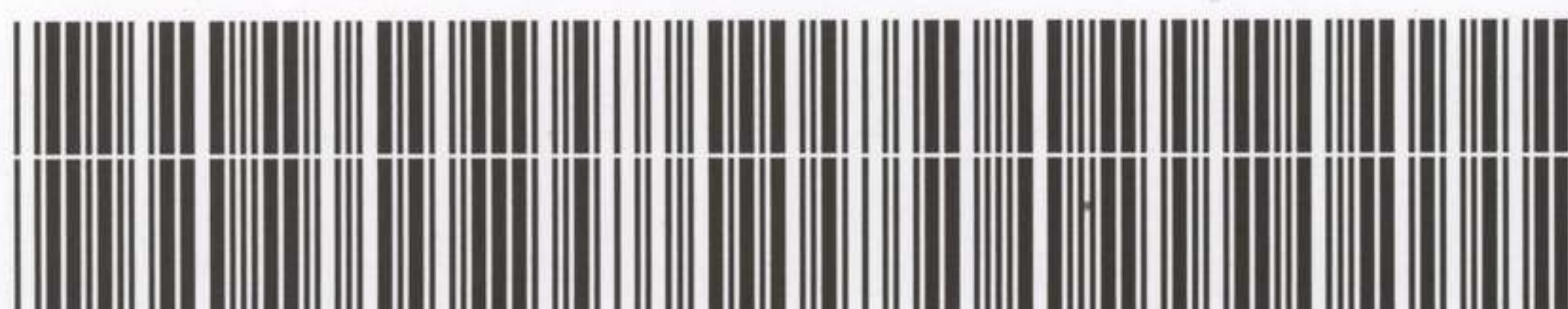
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/42/36 Part 1

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 1st
Australian Division

January 1918



AWM4-1/42/36PART1

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 211b.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DRANOUTRE.	1st. Jany.	1918.	Reference Map. BELGIUM and FRANCE. 1 - 40.000. Sheet 28. Operations, Intelligence and Works for the period January 1st to January 31st, are shewn in in the daily Intelligence Summaries attached. Appendix 1. Morning and Evening Situation reports from our Brigades in the line, flanking Divisions, Corps and Army are contained in Appendix 11. Four Maps A. B. C. and D. are attached shewing the Divisional Dispositions etc. A complete set will be attached to a later volume of this diary. Appendix 111. General Staff Memorandum No. 35. containing further instructions - the clearing of gas after a gas shell bombardment was issued to all units in the Division. Appendix 1V.	APPENDIX 1. APPENDIX 11. APPENDIX 111. APPENDIX 1V.
" "	2nd Jany.		General KENNEDY. Colonel ROSS and Capt. KUHN of U.S. Army returned today from 3rd. Aust. Div. Capt. M.S. KENNEDY G.S.O. 111. was severely wounded by gas shell near ONRAET WOOD at about 7.p.m. He died in the Main Dressing Station Near KEMMEL at 10.30. p.m. Corps were advised by wire. 10.45.p.m. Div.O.P. reported heavy enemy shelling on our left Battalion front from between HOUTHEM and COMINES. 10.53.p.m. Our left and centre groups opened fire on their S.O.S. lines in response to S.O.S. Signal from left Battalion. 11.5.p.m. all quiet. Both left Battalion and left centre Battalion deny having sent up S.O.S. It appears that the enemy has been experimenting with various coloured flares and lights and apparently hit on our S.O.S. combination.	
" "	3rd Jany.		1.p.m. Visiting American Officers departed for attachment to 5th. Aust. Division for a few days. Capt. A. LAUGHLIN MC. 6th Battalion Staff Trainee 2nd. Aust. Inf. Brigade has temporarily assumed the duties of G.S.O. 111. Vice Capt. KENNEDY. 4.p.m. Late Capt. KENNEDY was buried at DRANOUTRE. The G.O.C. and most of Staff attended the funeral. Chaplain DEXTER Senior Chaplain officiated.	
" "	4th. Jany.		11.a.m. G.S.O. 1. left for G.H.Q. Machine Gun School at CAMIERS. Vide Appendix. V. 4.p.m. Army Commander 4th Army General Sir. H.S. RAWLINSON. Bart. GCVO. KCB. KCMG. Visited this D.H.Q. Corps Defence Scheme received for this Corps Sector. General Staff Memorandum No. 36. dealing with Anti-Aircraft Defence was issued on the usual scale to all concerned. Appendix VI.	APPENDIX V. APPENDIX VI.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references Appendix
DRANOUTRE.	5th.Jany.	1918.	10.a.m. Lt-Col. POWELL A.D. Signals Aust.Corps. called to discuss re-location of Wireless sets and H.P. buzzer sets in the Divisional Sector. 11.a.m. Corps Commander called and G.O.C. accompanied him to forward Battalions.	
" "	6th.Jany.		Cold day Temp 30o to 35o Dull. Lectures on Non-Military Subjects arranged for 9th and 11th Inst Vide Appendix VII.	APPENDIX VII.
" "	7th.Jany.		G.O.C. with Brigadiers of our Right Brigade and 2nd.Aust.Div. Left Brigade and B.G.G.S. Aust.Corps. inspected inter-Divisional boundary and settled location of flanking posts. Corps Commander cancelled visit he had arranged for Left Brigade front. 4.30.p.m. G.S.O.1. returned from G.H.Q. Machine Gun School at CAMIERS. During his absence the G.S.O.11. performed the duties of G.S.O. 1.	
" "	8th.Jany.		Normal trench garrison duties.	
" "	9th.Jany.		Army Commander visited the Corps Line and expressed himself as satisfied with the work done by the Division. Sir Richard LODGE lectured to a mixed audience from the Division on the Union of GERMANY and the Union of ITALY. Vide Appendix VIII. VII The ULSTER HALL DRANOUTRE was filled, (attendance was voluntary.) and the lecture much appreciated.	APPENDIX VIII.
" "	10th.Jany.		Corps Order No. 3 received reference Relief of 37th Division on our left by the 4th.Aust. Division. Relief to be completed by 10.a.m. on 12th Inst.	
" "	11th.Jany.		Mr J.J. BENNETT (Navy League.) lectured on "Yarns of Submarines and Destroyers Warfare" Vide Appendix IX. VII	APPENDIX IX.
" "	12th.Jany.		Relief. The 4th.Aust.Division relieved 37th Division on our left. Command passed to G.O.C. 4th.Aust.Division at 10.a.m. today. G.S.O.1. and 11. 2nd.Aust.Division and G.S.O.11. 1st.Aust.Division visited inter-Divisional boundary along its length from Front Line to Petit Douve and determined points of contact.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DRANOUTRE.	12th. Jany. 1918.	(Continued.)	General Staff Memorandum No. 37 Issued. Vide Appendix <u>X. VIII</u> General Staff Memorandum No. 38. dealing with the new S.O.S. Signal Issued. Vide Appendix <u>XI. IX</u>	APPENDIX <u>X. VIII</u> APPENDIX <u>XI. IX</u>
" "	13th. Jany.		The Divisional Commader. Maj-General Sir. H.B. WALKER left on 30 days leave of absence. Brig-General. C. ROSENTHAL. CB. CMG. assumed temporary command of the Division. Divisional Order. No. 59 issued reference re-distribution of troops defending the sector. This involves the relief of two Battalions of the 1st Brigade and two Battalions of 3rd. Brigade by the 2nd. Brigade. Vide Appendix <u>XII</u> .	APPENDIX <u>XII</u> .
" "	14th. Jany.		Machine Gun Instructions under provision of Order. No. 59 issued to all concerned. Vide Appendix <u>XIII</u> . About 3 inches of snow fell between 4.a.m. and 8.a.m. today.	APPENDIX <u>XIII</u> .
" "	15th. Jany.		Strong. S.Westerly wind blowing - All the snow that fell yesterday has been melted and the country is now extremely muddy in consequence. Instructions issued for the assembling of the following Schools within the Division. Course for Instructions in Use and Care of Carrier Pigeons. Elementary Instructions in Power Buzzer and Amplifier Course. Beginners Course in Signalling to be held in each Brigade and Div.Arty. Vide Appendix <u>XIV. XII</u> Capt. J.D. ROGERS. MC. 6th. Battalion, who has been appointed G.S.O.111. this Division, vice Capt. KENNEDY Killed, reported for duty. Relief of three Battalions in accordance with Div.Order. No. 59. was completed by 10.p.m. Very heavy rain and strong winds followed the thaw and have continued all day. Accommodation and Works forward suffered severely.	APPENDIX <u>XIV. XII</u>
" "	16th. Jany.		Wind up to 45 miles per hour continued all last night and early this morning. Camouflage screens have been blown down, and the thaw followed by heavy rain, has caused trenches and works to fall in. Afternoon fine and clear. Visibility excellent. Reliefs in accordance with Div.Order. 59. were all completed by 9.p.m. Machine Gun Instructions issued. Vide Appendix. <u>XV. XIII</u>	APPENDIX <u>XV. XIII</u>

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DRANOUTRE.	17th. Jany.		Rain recommenced. Divisional Classes commenced at DRANOUTRE for training of Power Buzzer Operators, and Carrier Pigeon men.	
" "	18th. Jany.		G.S.O.I. visited 3rd. Aust. Division with object of ascertaining training facilities in the Support Division Area. Forward works are still suffering as a result of the recent thaw and heavy rain. Corrugated iron sheets used for revetments are bulging, wet earth, the consistency of porridge oozes through the mesh of expended metal used for the same purpose and the ground is now so soft that upright timbers used for revetting C.T.S. even though anchored back, are giving way and blocking the trenches. All available man power is at work and no new work can be undertaken at the moment.	
" "	19th. Jany.		Capt. TURNER. Intelligence Corps. G.H.Q. lectured at DRANOUTRE at 10.30.a.m. and at KEMMEL AT 2.30.p.m. on "Money" Vide Appendix XVI. XIV One of our Kite balloons broke from its moorings and drifted over to Enemy territory. Both observers descended by parachutes in our side of the line. A.A. Artillery failed to destroy the balloon.	APPENDIX XVI. XIV
" "	20th. Jany.		Two prisoners, one wounded were taken today, Vide Intelligence Summary. Appendix. 1. The Div. Recreational Committee consisting of a member from each Brigade, C.R.A. C.R.E. A.D.M.S. and Div. Staff. assembled at D.H.Q. to discuss and prepare recreational schemes to cover the period the Division is in reserve. Letter written to Corps asking that lecturers might deliver lectures on non-contraversional and non-military subjects. Last night a patrol of the 1st. Battalion on the Left Battalion front encountered enemy after having penetrated his out post line. One Officer and two other ranks are missing.	
" "	21st. Jany.		1st. Aust. Div. Order. No. 60. Ordering relief of the 2nd by the 3rd. Aust. Inf. Brigade, was issued. Vide Appendix. XV . The 1st. Aust. Div. Defence Scheme was issued. Vide Appendix XVI. II . Major. AMES U.S. Cavalry arrived to be attached to this Division in order to study our Intelligence System.	APPENDIX XVI. II . APPENDIX XVII. II .

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BRANOUTRE.	22nd. Jany.		<p>Aust. Corps. Order. Nos 9 and 10 dealing with forthcoming Inter-Divisional Reliefs were received.</p> <p>A lecture was delivered at the CINEMA HALL. NEUVE. EGLISE. at 3.p.m. by Capt. T. MACVEY. on Censorship. Vide Appendix XX. XVII</p> <p>Major. MELROSE. 29th Battery (6" Gun) visited D.H.Q.</p> <p>G.S.O.11. indicated the following targets which are to be fired on. WARNETON TOWER. WERVICQ Railway Station and railway lines in vicinity of WERVICQ. MENIN. LINSSELLES, and COMINES all of which are frequently used by day, the trains being clearly seen from our Observation Posts on the MESSINES-WYTSCHAETE Ridges.</p> <p>Lieut. BULL 1st. Battalion. missing since the night of the 19/20th Inst returned to our lines. For report see Appendix XX. XVIII</p>	<p>APPENDIX. XX. XVII</p> <p>APPENDIX XX. XVIII</p>
" "	23rd. Jany.		<p>S/7276 "Machine Guns Instructions" dealing with the re-distribution of duties to the four M.G. Companies in the Division. issued. Vide Appendix XXI. XIX</p> <p>G.O.C. and G.S.O.11 attended demonstration by 4th Army Model Platoon at 9th. Aust. Inf. Brigade School METERN. and also inspected the School.</p> <p>The relief of 2nd Brigade by 3rd. Aust. Inf. Brigade was completed without incident by 8.30.p.m.</p> <p>S/7284 Appendix XXII controlling movement over the MESSINES-WYTSCHAETE Ridge issued to all concerned.</p>	<p>APPENDIX XXI. XIX</p> <p>APPENDIX XXII.</p>
" "	24th. Jany.		<p>G.S.O.111. has temporarily assumed duties of Brigade Major. 1st. Aust. Inf. Brigade during the absence on leave of Major. J.L. HARDIE. DSO.</p> <p>Capt. A. LAUGHLIN. MC. 6th. Battalion Brigade Major Trainee attached 2nd. Aust. Inf. Brigade temporarily assumed duties of G.S.O.111.</p> <p>G.S.O.11. 5th. Aust. Div. visited this Division to arrange preliminary details in connection with pending relief.</p> <p>A revised Defence Scheme for this Sector was issued today, copy attached hereto</p> <p>Vide Appendix XXIII.</p> <p>Maps to accompany the Scheme will be attached to a later diary.</p>	<p>APPENDIX XXIII.</p>
" "	25th. Jany.		<p>Major AMES. U.S. Army moved to 1st. Aust. Inf. Brigade. H.Q. for attachment to study Intelligence methods in Brigades and Battalions.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DRANOUTRE.	25th.	Jany.	1918. (Continued.) 5th.Aust.Div. propose to adopt their old dispositions when relieving this Division. The matter will be referred to Aust.Corps by the 5th.Division. Div.Orders for the relief will not be issued pending their final decision. General Staff Memorandum No. 39. issued with reference to Training in the Support Division Area. Vide Appendix XXIV . XXII	APPENDIX XXIV . XXII
"	"	26th.	Jany. Div.Order 61. dealing with the relief of this Division, by 5th.Aust.Division issued to all concerned. Vide Appendix XXV . XXIII Administrative Instructions in connection with the above issued. Vide Appehdix XXVI . XXIV	APPENDIX XXV . XXIII APPENDIX XXVI. XXIV
"	"	27th.	Jany. Representatives of the General Staff of the 2nd. 3rd. and 4th. Aust. Divisions and the Aust Corps called to discuss - (a) Moves in relief during the next few days. (b) Closer liaison between Infantry and Artillery in defensive warfare. - (c) Corps. The provision on War Establishments A.I.F. for Intelligence Personnel.	
"	"	28th.	Jany. Advance parties of the 5th.Aust.Division arrived in the Divisional Area. Pioneer Instructions No. 1. in connection with Div.Order. No. 61. issued to all concerned. Vide Appendix XXVII. Instructions for relief of 21st.M.G.Coy. S/7325 Issued. Vide Appendix. XXVIII.	APPENDIX XXVII. APPENDIX XXVIII.
"	"	29th.	Jany. Moves. 14th.Aust.Inf.Brigade arrived in KEMMEL and WULVERGHEM by train from SAMER Area. 2nd.Aust.Inf.Brigade moved from KEMMEL - WULVERGHEM Area to LOCRE.	
"	"	30th.	Jany. 8th.Aust.Inf.Brigade arrived from SAMER Area by rail and moved to RAVELSBURG Area. 14th.Aust.Inf.Brigade relieved the 1st.Aust.Inf.Brigade in the line, left sector. Relief was completed without casualty at 10.30.p.m. On relief the 1st.Aust.Inf.Brigade moved to the WULVERGHEM-KEMMEL Area.	
"	"	31st.	Jany. G.S.O.11. visited 3rd.Squadron A.F.C. at BAILLEUL and arranged for them to hold classes of instruction for Officers of the Division. Vide Appendix. XXIX . XXVII G.S.O.11. visited Corps. H.Q. with reference to sending parties of 30 Officers and 300 Others to LUMBRES Area for Musketry training.	APPENDIX XXIX . XXVII

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices												
ORANOUTRE.	31st. Jany.	1918.	(Continued.) No definite particulars yet available re their move. 1st. Aust. Inf. Brigade moved to METERN Area. personnel by bus. 1st Line Transport by March route. 8th. Aust. Inf. Brigade relieved the 3rd. Aust. Inf. Brigade in the line, Right Sector by 10. p.m. 3rd. Aust. Inf. Brigade on relief moved to RAVELSBERG-NEUVE EGLISE AREA. 9th and 10th Battalions conveyed by light railway from WARSAW SIDING N.24.C.9.4. to DE KENNEBAK SIDING, thence they marched to their billets.													
<p><u>Appendices.</u></p> <p>In addition to the appendices referred to in the text the following are attached.</p> <table><tr><td>Strength at beginning of Month.</td><td>Appendix. XXVIII.</td></tr><tr><td>Strength at end of Month.</td><td>Appendix. XXIX.</td></tr><tr><td>No of Officers and O.R's sent to Schools for month. of Jany.</td><td>Appendix. XXX.</td></tr><tr><td>Casualties for month of January.</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Sick wastage for month of January.</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>No. of Officers and O.R's joined for month of January.</td><td>Appendix. XXXI.</td></tr></table>					Strength at beginning of Month.	Appendix. XXVIII.	Strength at end of Month.	Appendix. XXIX.	No of Officers and O.R's sent to Schools for month. of Jany.	Appendix. XXX.	Casualties for month of January.		Sick wastage for month of January.		No. of Officers and O.R's joined for month of January.	Appendix. XXXI.
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Sick wastage for month of January.																
No. of Officers and O.R's joined for month of January.	Appendix. XXXI.															

WAR DIARY

OF

"General Staff." FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

FOR

Month of JANUARY.

1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	✓ Daily Intelligence Summaries.
II.	✓ Morning and Evening Situation Reports.
III.	✓ Maps Shewing Dispositions etc.
IV.	G.S.Memo No 35. Re Clearing of Gas.
V.	Memo re M.G.School at CAMIERS.
VI.	G.S.Memo 36. Dealing with Anti-Aircraft Defence.
VII.	Memo re Lectures.
VIII.	G.S.Memo 37. Re concealing Works on the Various Defensive Systems.
IX.	G.S.Memo 38. Dealing with New S.O.S. Signals.
X.	D.O.59. Reference Re-distribution of Troops defending the Sector.
XI.	M.G.Instructions Issued under D.O.59.
XII.	Instructions issued re Signal Schools.
XIII.	M.G.Instructions.
XIV.	Lecture by Capt. TURNER Intelligence Corps. G.H.Q.
XV.	D.O.60. Re Relief of 2nd by 3rd.Aust.Inf.Bde.
XVI.	1st.Aust.Div.Arty Defence Scheme.
XVII.	Lecture by Capt. T. MACVEY. on Censorship.
XVIII.	Report re Lieut. BULL.
XIX.	M.G.Instructions Re re-distribution of duties.
XX.	Memo re Controlling Movement over the MESSINES. WYTSCHAETE Ridge.
XXI.	Revised Defence Scheme. "B" Division. Aust Corps.
XXII.	G.S.Memo 39. Training in the Division Support Area.
XXIII.	D.O.61. Relief of 1st.Aust.Div. by 5th.Aust. Division.
XXIV.	Admin Instruction issued under D.O.61.
XXV.	Pioneer Instructions No.1.
XXVI.	Instructions for relief of 21st.M.G.Coy.
XXVII.	Aeroplane Classes.
XXVIII.	Strength at Beginning of Month.
XXIX.	Strength at end of Month.
XXX.	No of Off and O.R's sent to Schools for month.
XXXI.	(Casualties for month of January.
	(Sick wastage for month of January.
	(No of Officers and O.R's joined for month of
	(January.

APPENDIX

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 16.

From 6.a.m. 31-12-17. to 1-1-18.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Patrols. 1 Off and 3 O.R. left 0.17.c.8.1. at 9.30.p.m. to protect our front against hostile patrols. The patrol penetrated No Mans Land for 150 yards. No enemy were encountered. Patrol returned at 0.17.b.1.6. at 11.45.p.m.

1 Off. and 2 O.R. left 0.23.c.3.7. at 1.45.a.m. to examine No Mans Land. Patrol went forward 150 yards and found the going good and the ground firm. No enemy were met and patrol returned at 5.a.m.

1 Off and 4 men left 0.35.a.75.25. at 10.p.m. to locate M.G. about 0.35.b.25.65. A M.G. was located at 0.35.b.3.7. in a shell hole and appeared to be one of a series at about 100 yards interval. Patrol returned at midnight.

1 N.C.O. and 3 men left 0.35.d.4.7. at 4.a.m. to reconnoitre No Mans Land and examine our wire. Wire along to 0.55.central was fairly good but at the latter point it was bad, then fair to 0.35.a.5.4. and after that not so good. A hostile patrol of 12 was seen from 0.35.b.5.5. moving North.

2 N.C.Os and 10 men left U.5.d.4.2. at 8. p.m. to patrol No Mans Land, examine enemy wire and secure identification if possible. An enemy S.P. was located at U.5.d.7.2. heavily wired and apparently strongly held. The enemy were heard working. Patrol returned at 9.45.p.m.

1 N.C.O. and 5 men left U.5.b.7.2. at 8.50.p.m. on similar work as patrol above. An enemy S.P. was located at U.6.a.10.08. Patrol returned at 2 past midnight.

The following four patrols were carried out on the night of 30th Decr. 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left 0.35.c.9.4. at 10.30.p.m. and proceeded to 0.35.d.7.3. (about) and 0.35.d.6.2. Both our wire and that of the enemy were found to be in good order.

1 N.C.O. and 3 men left 0.35.d.80.05. at 2.a.m. to examine our wire. Patrol examined it to U.5.b.8.9. and reported two weak spots.

1 N.C.O. and 6 men left U.5.b.8.9. at 11.p.m. to examine enemy wire and did so from 0.35.c.05.15. to U.6.a.2.8. reporting a break in it at 0.35.c.1.2. (edge of road). Patrol returned at U.5.b.80.75. at 1.30.a.m.

A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 6 men left 0.35.d.7.3. at 20 past mid. night and found the enemy wire at 0.35.d.85.55. very thick and continuous South. Noise of enemy working parties was heard. Patrol returned at 1.10.a.m.

(b) Artillery. The usual programmes of harassing and destructive fire were carried out by all batteries. - Enemy roads, tracks and strong points being thoroughly searched. Bursts of fire were directed on the usual targets and on LOCK of the YPRES - COMINES Canal. Footbridges in P.13.a. Road Junctions at P.19.d.80.15. and P.25.b.50.95., and Dugouts at P.19.c.45.70/48.64. Effective fire was directed on enemy H.Gs at 0.35.b.29.55. and 0.35.b.37.20. and T.M. at U.6.b.2.0.

(c) H.G. On the left 10,000 rounds were expended on the usual targets during the night. An enemy working party located at 0.17.d.4.3. was fired on. On the right 2,000 rounds were expended and the usual targets were fired on including U.12.d.50.75. and U.6.b.2.3.

(P.T.O.).

APPENDIX.

(2).

(d) T.M.s. 35 rounds were expended. Enemy positions from U.11.b.8.1. to U.11.b.8.6. were shelled between 2 and 4 a.m. and at 45 mins past midnight in conjunction with our Artillery retaliating fire was directed on enemy front opposite our right Battalion.

(e) Aircraft. Activity less than usual.

2. IDENTIFICATION. Nil.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY. General Attitude. - Quiet.

Artillery. - See table attached.

Enemy activity tended to be slighter than usual but between 5.a.m. and 7.a.m. 1.1.18. the enemy put down at intervals desultory shelling of 4.2" and 77mm right along our forward area.

T.M.s. Slight increase in enemy activity during the night. U.5.b.c.d. was shelled by 30 rounds minenwerfer. Our artillery effectively fired on and silenced these hostile T.M.s.

L.Gs. Little less active than usual. One was located at O.35.b.3.7. and one at O.36.c.10.15.

Aircraft. At 5.45.p.m. four enemy planes flew over our Right Brigade Sector moving North.

Enemy Defences. Strong Posts have been located at U.5.d.7.2 and at U.5.a.10.05. A granatenwerfer appears to be located at O.17.b.4.2. (Approx).

Enemy Movement. Very little seen visibility being poor. At 1. p.m. Smoke was seen from the GIANT and men were seen moving about in the vicinity.

Miscellaneous. Flares. White flares bursting into two reds appears common but no action has been observed to follow. Repeating actively continues. During the night up to 2.a.m. the enemy sent up lights bursting into Red over two Greens and at intervals after 2.a.m. 2 greens only. No action was observed to follow.

A. K. Hampton
Lieut
for Captain.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

ANNEXE to 1st.Aust.Div.Summary No. 16 of 1st.Jany. 1918.

Detail study of the hostile artillery shooting from
22nd December to 30th December 1917 on the
FRONT ZONE of the 1st Australian Division.

1. During period from the 22nd to the 26th the enemy was, owing to bad visibility, forced to rely upon previous registrations and chance ground registration. As a result during this period he confined his attention roughly to the three systems of our Front Zone and to our communication trenches. Our front system in the O Squares was shelled while in U.5. and U.11. it was almost neglected. The following places were persistently dealt with: HANSHURST ST. LOB ST. PARKY C.T. around O.P. at DERRY HOUSE. around Brigade dump near O.21.central. dump in ROSE WOOD. 21st B.G.Coy H.Ors. and near O.P. and S.P. at O.10.d.4.5. the neighbourhood of both R.F. dumps in O.15.d. was shelled. Besides this the neighbourhood of several of our S.P. in the second and third system was shelled.

2. From 26th to the 30th the enemy has changed his tactics. The improved visibility and possibly of photographs taken in the snow, he has marked down our centres of activity. The shooting has been obviously better directed and has been used on a definite system.

The following points have received attention.

Trench junctions in O.35.central.

"	"	"	"	O.16.c.
"	"	"	"	U.5.c.1.4.
"	"	"	"	U.15.d.1.4.
"	"	"	"	O.11.c.7.7.

Cross Roads in OOSTTAVENNE.

Strong points in O.23.a.

RAVINE WOOD and DELBEK FARM, have also been consistently shelled.

3. The enemy gas shelling in the forward area has been for the most part confined to the woods.

4. It is noticeable that the enemy has not shelled our front system consistently along its length but has confined his activity to definite points along it. The area that he has dealt with consistently is O.23.a.

APPENDIX.

ENEMY SHOOTING.

TIME.	LOCATION.	NO OF ROUNDS.	DIRECTION.
6.30.a.m.	MOA FARM.	10. cm. H.E.	
5.30. to			
7.15.a.m.	MESSINES.	9. 7.7.cm. H.E.	
10. a.m.	U.5.c.3.8.	14 7.7.cm. H.E.	
10. to			
11. a.m.	Right Coy.Right.Bn.	37 7.7.cm. H.E.	
1.5. to			
1.30.p.m.	H.11.c.2.8.	16 10.cm. H.E.	
6.30. to			
11.30.p.m.	La PETITE DOUV.	22 10 cm. H.E.	
11.p.m. to			
2.a.m.	O.34.	26 10 cm. H.E.	
9.a.m. to			
10.20.a.m.	O.31.b.	10. 4.2.	COMINES.
10. a.m.	O.12.c.a.d.	40. 5.9.	TENBRIFLEN.
12.noon to			
2.p.m.	O.23.a.	20. 5.9.	WARNETON.
3.50.p.m.	O.17.c.a.d.	8. 4.2.	TENBRIFLEN.
5.p.m.	O.23.b.	12. 4.2.	COMINES.
9.50.p.m.	O.31.b.	10. 4.2.	WARNETON.
9.50.p.m.	O.8.b.40.11.	20. 5.9.	117c.
10. p.m.	O.19.d.a.d.	20. Gas.	WARNETON.
10. p.m.	U.7.d.a.c.	50 Gas.	
11.55.p.m.	O.20.a.	5 4.2.	WERVICO.
9. to	O.23.b. During night intermittent by 5.9."		
10.30.a.m.	O.31.b.	10 4.2. H.E.	COMINES.
9.55.a.m.	O.16.c.a.d. } O.17.d. }	77 mm. 35 4.2.H.E.	COMINES.
12 noon to			
3.p.m.	O.23.a.a.c.	20 5.9. H.E.	WARNETON.
10.20.p.m.	O.20.d.0.0.	6 4.2. H.E.	COMINES.
1.15.a.m.	O.20.d.0.0.	45. 4.2. H.E.	WERVICO.

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 17.

From 6.a.m. 1-1-18. to 6.a.m. 2-1-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) The following patrol reports form the basis of our tactical operations during the period under review. Liaison with flank division and protective patrols are not included in these.

1. A Patrol of 1 Officer, 1 N.C.O. and 4 men left 0.35.d. 03.15. and proceeded to about 0.35.d.55.35. for the purpose of reconnoitring No Mans Land and watching enemy movement. Several of the enemy were observed at 0.35.b.5.5. close to the end of a line of trees, and patrol was fired on from this point, the shots appearing to come from a trench. No hostile patrols were encountered. The enemy could be heard in his trenches and the noise of transport in rear of his lines was also heard. The patrol returned to its line at 0.35.d.05.95. by 0420.

2. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left U.5.b.90.35. at 1115 for the purpose of examining the nature of No Mans Land and reporting on any hostile movement. Full information is not yet to hand. One man of the patrol came in at 0220 and reported that remainder of the patrol were out in a shell hole at about 0.35.d.9.1. and a hostile M.Gun was keeping them down. Our trench mortars have been advised of locality of this gun (0.36.c.10.15.) and will endeavour to quieten same. Previous to the M.Gun activity the patrol had moved along front of trench for about 100 yards and heard sounds of picking and work proceeding in the trench.

3. A patrol of one Officer and 9. O.R. left our line at 1150 p.m. from 0.23.a.2.3. to intercept any enemy patrols. Patrol traversed No Mans Land to a depth of 150 to 300 yards. No enemy patrols being encountered. Patrol returned to our lines at 0.23.d.3.2. at 3.45.a.m.

4. A patrol of 2 Officers and 10 O.R. left our line at 2.30.a.m. from 0.23.c.1.7. to investigate enemy positions in vicinity of RIFLE FARM and to intercept any enemy patrols. No hostile patrols were encountered but enemy were observed wiring in front of RIFLE FARM. Patrol returned to our line at 0.25.c.3.2. and Lewis Gun fire was brought to bear on wiring party.

5. A patrol of one Officer and 5 O.R. left our line at 0.17.b.0.4. at 11. p.m. to reconnoitre wire in front of Left Centre Battalion sector. Wire was found to be continuous but not very strong. Patrol returned at 1.15.a.m. to our line at 0.17.c.7.4.

6. A patrol of one officer and 9. O.R. left our line at 0.11.b.9.4. to definitely locate enemy M.G. positions. At 0.12.a.2.0. a sheltered post was found to be unoccupied but showed signs of recent occupation. No other positions could be located and patrol returned to our line at 11.55. p.m. at 0.11.d.2.7.

(b) Artillery.

Our 18-pdr put down intermittent searching fire on Roads Tracks, and Strong Points in enemy zone opposite the Divisional front and effectively dealt with hostile M.G. U.6.a.80.95. and enemy movement at 0.18.a.72.50.

(P.T.O.)

APPENDIX.

(2)

Concentrated shoots were carried out by 4.5" Hows. Batteries on to V.7.a.4.3. O.36.b.23.55. PILL. LAKE & COPSE FARMS. and road Junctions at P.25.b.50.25. P.25.a.60.15. O.24.a.30.50. and P.19.d.78.15.

(c) T.M. With the following exceptions our trench mortars spent a comparatively quiet 24 hours. T.M. Battery fired 12 effective rounds into U.6.a.4.8. and U.6.a.5.3. and another Battery put 2 rounds into LAD FARM and 4 rounds on to FLY BUILDINGS.

(d) M.Gs. During the night our M.Guns played on the enemys tracks, positions, and known centres of activity, to the extent of some 22,000 rounds of S.A.A.

Our Lewis Gunners were active and replied to the slightly increased enemy M.G. fire.

(e) Aircraft. Our planes patrolled our lines during the day, no hostile encounters being observed.

2. ENEMYS ACTIVITY.

General Attitude. Slightly quieter than usual.

Artillery. La Petite Douve and O.35.d.85.10. appear to have received the only concentrated shoots of the day, at the latter point a few direct hits were obtained by the enemy, part of the trench being destroyed.

A special attached table of hostile shelling is to be found at the end of the summary.

T.M.

61 rounds of minenwerfer and granatenwerfer are report all of which fell in U.5. and O.35.

M.G.

Just a slightly increased activity on the whole front, whilst accurate shooting on front line parapets of our extreme right battalion is reported.

One hostile M.G. has been located at O.36.u.10.15. and one previously reported was silenced by our T.M. in vicinity of BEE FARM.

Aircraft.

Increased activity by the German aviators is reported along our front. At 11.15.a.m. a hostile plane flew over NESSINES at a low altitude, he was driven off by our A.A. Batteries, and during the day 5 other planes all flying high, crossed our lines at times during the day.

Signalling.

At 7.a.m. enemy were lamp signalling from hill about W.2.c. beyond COMINES.

Movement.

Small parties of 3. 4. and 5 men were seen moving from one location to another, when within range these parties were dispersed by Lewis Gun or Rifle fire.

Flares.

During a shoot by our 18 pounders at 8.40.p.m. the enemy sent up double red and double green flares from his front line, which were repeated to his rear, whereupon his artillery opened a light barrage of short duration.

(P.T.O.)

APPENDIX.

(5).

The enemy is making liberal use of white flares during the darker hours of evening and night.

SMOKE SCREEN. Enemy placed a smoke screen starting from ruined Church in COMINES and travelling south across COMINES.

Geo. Priestley 1
Captain.
Lt Col General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

APPENDIX.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.ENEMY SHELLING.

TIME.	LOCATION.	ROUNDS.	CALIBRE.	DIRECTION.
9.9. a.m.	0.23.a.	10.	4.2.	WERVICQ.
9.9. a.m.	0.16.c.	10.	"	
10.40.a.m.	0.11.a.	6.	"	670.
10.40.a.m.	0.22.a.	20.	"	1050.
11. a.m. to				
12.noon.	0.23.a.9.8.	8.	"	WERVICQ.
7. p.m.	Forward Area.	4.	"	COMINES.
7. p.m. to	TORREKEN -	12	"	
9. p.m.	CORNER.	8.	5.9.	WARNETON.
9.50.p.m.	0.19.b.	5.	4.2.	COMINES.
	"	2. Gas.		"
10. p.m.to	TORREKEN	14.	4.2.	COMINES.
12. p.m.	CORNER.	11. Gas.		"
4.25.a.m.	0.10.a.85.80.	-	4.2.	COMINES.
3.30.a.m. to.				
4.10.a.m.	GUN FARM.	12	4.2.	COMINES.
5. a.m. to				
3.30.a.m.	Picquet Line in		4.2.	
	0.23.a.2.c.	48.	5.9.	COMINES.
3.10. to	PLUM FARM.		Gas.	
10.a.m.	LEG COPSE. & support		4.2.	WERVICQ.
	line in 0.22.a.	20.	77s.	
2.10.a.m. to	LALIEU FARM to		77mm.	
4.40.a.m.	TORREKEN FARM.	15.	77mm Gas.	WERVICQ.
10.30.a.m.	U.8.c.	8	15cm. H.E.	
9.45.a.m.	0.34.d.	24	7.7.cm. H.E.	
1. p.m.	0.34.a.	15	15cm. H.E.	
1.30 to				
2.30.p.m.	U.8.c.	8	10cm. H.E.	
4.50.p.m.	U.4.c.9.1.	10	7.7.cm. H.E. & Shrap.	
12. to				
1.45.a.m.	0.34.c.	17	15 cm. H.E.	
3.30.a.m. to		20	7.7.cm. H.E.	
4. a.m.	0.35.a.	25	10.cm. H.E.	

APPENDIX.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

2-1-18.

PROBABLE RELIEFS OF ENEMY OPPOSITE DIVISIONAL FRONT.155. I.R. Inter-Battalion 6/7th January.

Inter-Company. 2/3rd January.

Outposts. 2/3rd January.

95. I.R. Inter-Battalion. 7/8th January.72. I.R. Inter-Company. 9/10th January.102. I.R. Inter-Battalion. 4/5th or 5/6th January.

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 18.

From 6.a.m. 2-1-18. to 6.a.m. 3-1-18.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.(a) Patrols.

1. At 11. p.m. a patrol of one officer and 9 O.Rs. left our line at 0.23.a.3.0. to examine and report on enemy wire immediately in front. When about 150 yards from starting point the patrol came under M.G. fire from direction of JULY FARM. Patrol tried another route but again came under M.G. fire and found it impossible to proceed further. Enemy M.Gs. were observed firing from 0.23.d.2.7. 0.23.d.2.9. and 0.23.a.8. No Mans Land was found very hard to traverse on account of muddy nature of ground. Patrol returned at 12.20.a.m. to our line. at 0.23.c.3.7.

2. A patrol of one Officer and 10. O.R. left our line at 0.23.c.2.9. at 5.20.p.m. for the purpose of examining the nature of No Mans Land and preventing movement of hostile patrols. Patrol traversed No Mans Land in direction of BEE FARM at an average depth of about 160 yards. Patrol returned to our lines at 6.30.p.m. at 0.23.a.2.3. and reported no enemy encountered and No Mans Land hard going on account of the mud.

3. A patrol of one officer and 4 O.R. left our lines at 0.17.Central at 10.20.p.m. to locate hostile M.G. reported at WHIZ FARM. About 150 yards out a trip wire was set with and a flare was immediately sent up from behind WHIZ FARM falling close to the party. This was followed by a flare which burst into 1 RED and 2 GREENS which was answered by a barrage of Pineapple Bombs lasting 20 minutes. Patrol also came under fire from a M.G. at 0.17.d.4.6. Patrol returned at 0.17.Centr. at 10.40. p.m.

4. A patrol of 1 Officer and 6 other ranks left 0.35.d.6.3. at 0300 to examine wire, but were driven in by hostile M. fire before patrol could complete its work. The wire examined (from 0.35.d.7.0. to U.5.b.80.55.) was found in good condition. Location of hostile machine gun 0.36.c.10.35. The patrol returned to its lines at 0.35.d.7.0. by 0420.

5. Further information is now to hand of 1 patrol of 1 M.C.O. and 3 men who were hampered by hostile M.G. fire as reported in yesterdays summary. The patrol examined the enemys wire from U.5.d.9.8. to U.6.b.2.1. That portion South of L'HIRONDELLE Road was found very thickly laid, about 4 feet high and 14 feet in depth, whilst on Northern side it was not so strong. A gap in wire previously reported in this vicinity was found not to be a gap, but is all wired on the ground and covered, but not so strong as in immediate vicinity. Whilst at this point two hostile guns opened fire, locations being U.5.c.05.80. and U.6.c.15.95. The whole party returned safely to its lines at U.5.b.75.20. Our wire was found to be weak in front of old mill at U.5.b.80.15.

(b) Artillery. Observation of fire was difficult on account of low visibility.

In accordance with pre-arranged programme all batteries subject enemy tracks and centres of activity to thorough searching and sweeping fire.

Our 4.5 Hows put a burst of intense fire on to HOLLEBEKE MILL. P.13.b.3.9. at 7.a.m. and concentrated at intervals during the period on to the following points. -

(P.T.O.)

APPENDIX.

(2).

Road Junctions at P.25.a.60.15, P.25.b.50.95 and P.19.d.78.15. LIME FARM. PILL FARM, U.3.a.95.99. and U.6.b.40.35/95.33.

At 10.55. p.m. an S.O.S. signal was reported as having gone up on the right centre Battalion front and the OOSTAVERNE and HOLMBUSH groups opened up on their S.O.S. line for 20 minutes, and ceased when at 10.55. p.m. all was reported quiet on the Divisional Front. The Divisional O.P. report this signal as being composed of 2 red lights over 1 white light. This slight difference from our normal S.O.S. signal, taken in conjunction with the fact that our front line disclaims having originated an S.O.S. seems to suggest that the enemy is carrying out extensive experiments with light signals. The repetition of various colour lights from front to rear seems to support this idea.

(c) T.M. Fired on enemy works and centres of activity during the night. Machine Guns at BEEK FARM and O.35.d.9.9. were silenced. A party of the enemy at about O.23.Central was dispersed. RIFLE FARM. THE TWINS. FLY BUILDINGS. and suspected .G. position at O.36.c.10.15. also received attention. Our Heavy and Medium T.s fired four effective series of harassing fire on to LAB FARM. WASP FARM. RIFLE FARM. and BEE FARM.

(d) L.Gs. Foggy weather prevailing during daylight, advantage of this was taken for indirect firing on enemy tracks, likely to be in use. During the night, firing was carried out on enemy tracks, roads and known occupied localities.

(e) Aircraft. Our planes were active during the day and drew very little fire from the enemy.

2. ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(a) General Attitude. Enemy appeared to be very alert during the period. Artillery. T.M. and L.G. fire increased considerably in volume. Aerial activity however was below normal.

(b) Artillery. Shelling of zones of defence was scattered and the fire was apparently confined to known areas, previously well registered. During the afternoon and evening, artillery activity increased. At 2.50.p.m. to 5. p.m. a concentrated shoot of 4.2 and 5.9. H.E. was brought to bear upon O.10.d. (THE RAVINE). Concentrated shoots were also carried out in O.20.b. and OOSTAVERNE WOOD. At 10.45. p.m. to 11.p.m. enemy placed a fairly heavy barrage on the Left Brigade front and on OOSTAVERNE WOOD and a light barrage on the Right Brigade front. A special table of artillery shelling is attached.

(c) M.Guns. Increased activity evident, the shooting of hostile M.Guns about the centre of the Divisional front being particularly accurate, and interfering with movements of our patrols. Active L.Gs located at O.36.c.10.35. U.6.c.05.80. U.6.c.15.95. and at WIGGART FARM, the latter gun being especially active against the right battalion. During the night indirect fire was brought to bear on road near POLKA POTANINET.

(d) T.Ms. Increased activity. Right Brigade was subjected to considerable bursts of Minenwerfer fire, the heaviest concentration being at 9.30. p.m. on O.35.a.8.d.

(P.T.O.)

(3).

(c) Hostile Movement.

During morning several small parties of enemy were seen near LAKE BARE and considerable movement around PILL BOXES at O.24.c.7.1., O.24.c.55.25. and O.25.Central was observed. Parties were dispersed by L.G. and T.M. fire. At 10.10.p.m. a hostile patrol of 5 men was observed at about U.5.d.95.95. and was dispersed by Rifle grenades. Sound of working parties in enemys lines were heard by our patrols during the night.

08.10. Train left COMINES travelling in S direction towards St MARGUERITE.

0817 Train left BOUSHICQUE travelling S. direction.

0830 Train left COMINES travelling through WERVICO without stopping and proceeded to MENIN.

0825 3 men seen walking on road at GARD DIU in East direction.

(f) Hostile Aircraft. Below normal. One plane appeared over our lines at 11.a.m. but was turned by anti-aircraft artillery fire.

(g) Flares. During our shoot on enemys positions at 10.40 p.m. double green flares were fired by enemy and repeated to the rear. This continued for some time after our artillery had ceased.

(g) Miscellaneous. At 5.a.m. a fire was burning in rear of enemys lines, presumably a dump on fire, at magnetic bearing of 360 from O.33.c.4.4. A fixed rifle has been firing across our post at U.5.c.3.5. appearing to come from S.bank on S. side of river in U.11.b.

[Signature]
 Captain,
 General Staff.
 1st Australian Division.

APPENDIX.

ENEMY SHELLING.

TIME.	LOCATION.	ROUNDS.	CALIBRE.	DIRECTION.
10.30. a.m.	O.17.a.	10.	4.2. H.E.	IN DRIFLE
2.30. to			4.2. H.E.	" "
3.0. p.m.	O.10.d.	110.	5.9. H.E.	" "
7.0. p.m. to				
12.0.	O.20.b.	35.	4.2. H.E.	COMINES.
2.55. to				
3.20. a.m.	WABBEK VALLEY.			
	to GUN FARM.	25.	4.2. H.E.	TIMBRITLEN
4.10. a.m.	WYTSCHATEE.	12.	4.2. H.E.	WERVICO.
4.50. a.m.	O.20.a.	10.	4.2.	"
7.50. a.m.	U.3.b.8.5.	20.	4.2. H.E.	
10.30. a.m. to	DUD Corner.	12.	4.2. H.E.	WERVICO.
12. noon.				
11.0. a.m.	O.17.b.8.d.	10.	4.2. H.E.	"
2.30. p.m.	Front line System			
	Left En.		4.2. H.E.	
9. a.m.	O.19.a.8.b.	12.	5.9. 4.2.	WARMITON.
11.25. a.m.	WABBEK ROAD.	15.	4.2.	COMINES.
2.20. p.m.	PLU. FARM.	7.	4.2.	COMINES.
11.45. a.m.	RAVINE WOOD.	8.	4.2. 77s.	GODHURB.
12.30. p.m.	"	30.	"	"
1.55. p.m.	"	10.	"	"
1.55. p.m.	"	15.	5.9.	"
6.15. p.m.	O.25.a.8.c.	25.	7.7.	COMINES.
3.5. to				
6.40. p.m.	O.14.d. Estaminet	50.	7.7.	COMINES.
11.55. p.m.	OOSTRAVERNE WOOD.	50.		WERVICO and
				COMINES.
1.50. a.m.	WABBEK ROAD.	12.	5.9.	WERVICO.
1.48. p.m.	MESSINES ROAD.	7.	7.7.	St MARGUERITE

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 19.

From 6.a.m. 3-1-18. to 6.a.m. 4-1-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Our tactical operations were again confined to active patrolling, with the exclusion of liaison and protective patrols, the following left our lines with definite objectives.

1. A patrol of 1 Officer and 6 men left 0.35.d.5.8. at 0015. for purpose of patrolling the left Coys Front. They moved to about 0.35.d.1.5. and returned to 0.35.d.4.7. after being out 1 hour. No enemy were encountered.

2. A fighting patrol of 1 Officer and 10 men left 0.55.d.30.35. at 0030 and traversed No Mans Land from this vicinity to about 0.35.a.5.7. No trace of hostile patrols was found. The enemys M.Guns were quiet, and very few flares were fired. The patrol returned to 0.35.d.30.85. at 0200.

3. A patrol of 2 N.C.Os and 5 men left U.5.b.85.00 at 2300 to examine our wire and report any hostile movement. The patrol moved N. to road and then S. entering our lines at U.5.d.7.9. at 2400. One man of the party was wounded by a sniper. A hostile M.Gun was located at U.6.c.1.9. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men left U.11.b.35.80 at 2050 to examine and report on enem wire and condition of No Mans Land. The patrol moved to about U.5.d.7.4. returning to our lines at U.5.d.50.45. by 2215. The enemys wire was found to be fairly thick and no gaps or weak spots were noticed. No Mans Land is frozen hard and is very slippery.

4. A patrol of one Officer and 9 O.R. left our line at 10.00 p.m. at 0.23.a.3.0. to intercept and engage any enemy patrols in No Mans Land. Patrol reached a point at about 0.23.c.6.6. and from there located a M.G. and a sniper firing from 0.23.c.7.3. enemy patrols were encountered and patrol returned to our line at 0.25.c.3.7. at 12.20.a.m.

5. At 4.50.a.m. a patrol of one Officer and 9 O.R. left our line at 0.23.c.3.4. to investigate post located by previous patrol at 0.23.c.7.3. Sounds of work were heard and on our patrol firing on party M.G. fire was directed on them from JULY and BEEH FARMS. Patrol then moved to a point about 0.23.c.4.8. thence to our lines reaching them at 0.23.c.3.7. at 6.a.m.

(b) Artillery.

In accordance with pre-arranged programme the following selected points of enemy activity were subjected to searching and intermittent bursts of intense fire; - LAKE FARM. LAKE FARM. PILLEGRENS FARMS. PILL FARM. HADESFARM. Strong Points at 0.13.a.25.14. and 0.18.b.40.23. roads and trench junctions at D.25.a.60.15. 0.24.a.60.58. and 0.36.d.60.90.

Concentrated shoots were carried out on to areas 0.35.d.30.0. 0.33.c.00.80. 0.36.a.00.50. and 0.6.d.10.45. 0.6.d.40.45. 0.6.c.0.05. 0.3.d.50.20. and cutting at V.7.a.30.75. also hostile Trench Mortar position at 0.33.c.50.10. and 0.36.c.20.95.

A number of rounds were expended in calibration and checking of registrations.

(c) T.M.

Our T.Ms were active to the extent of 30 rounds, these rounds being expended in the following manner. 50 rounds on to enemy positions between U.6.a.5.5. to U.6.a.5.1. and trenches from U.3.c.4.5. to U.6.c.4.1. and 10 rounds on to occupied position including the TWINS and BEEH FARM.

(P.T.O.)

APPENDIX.

(2).

(d) M.G.

During the night our M.G. displayed a slightly increased activity, expending some 22,500 rounds of S.A.A. on to known enemy tracks, communications and positions, including the GIANT the TWINS. PILL. TEL. LAKE. LOW. SPUD. PILLEGRIMS and BOY FARMS. likewise during the period under review 2,000 rounds were expended on hostile aircraft.

(e) Aircraft.

Taking every advantage of the excellent visibility our aviators again displayed great courage and skill in evading enemy A.A. and could constantly be observed flying well behind the enemys lines.

2. ENEMYS ACTIVITY.(a) General attitude.

During the 24 hours under review, the general hostile attitude, has shown a decided increase in activity in all branches of the combatant units.

(b) Artillery.

Probably owing to the almost ideal observational conditions prevailing, the German artillery showed considerable increased activity, not only in registrations, but light batteries were put down at varying intervals.

Squares O.22. and O.17. receiving special attention, duckwalks, light tramways and centres of activity were shelled and at 5.30.p.m. O.7.b. was shelled by a 21 cm gun. A hostile shelling table is attached to this Summary.

(c) T.M.s. likewise show an increased activity along our whole front, no less than 40 minenwerfer and 22 granatenwerfer bombs fell in the vicinity of O.35.A.C.&D. 22 minenwerfer and some granatenwerfer bombs on the left of our right battalion not to mention the active attention paid to O.22. The number of rounds of which are not definitely known.

(d) M.G. Enemy M.G. firing from O.35.b.50.55. was again active, and on our left Brigade front, indirect M.C. fire was directed on to POLKA EST, and direct fire on to our picquet lines.

(e) Aerial. Hostile planes were very active during the day. At 9.a.m. three planes were over our lines and at varying intervals throughout the day, groups of twos and threes attempted to patrol our front.

Bombs from hostile planes were dropped in the following localities. At 5.50. p.m. 5 bombs dropped in forward area 5 in vicinity of WALL FARM. 4 near the Northern edge of OOSTERVERRE WOOD. 3 in vicinity of DERRY HOUSE. and 4 bombs were dropped in O.22.c. at 3.p.m.

(f) Movement. Much movement has been observed. A number of small parties were engaged, and scattered by our M.G. and artillery.

An enemy party of about 50 men were again observed working on trench in V.8.c. between 7.30.p.m. and 3. a.m. The party evidently moved off during a haze at about 8.15. Our artillery were notified.

Train Movement. The following is a time table of trains observed during the day.
0710. N.W. of WERVICQ moving N.E. direction.

(P.T.O.).

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(3).

0930 on WERVICO-LENNIE Line moving towards AEFIN.
 0945 at true bearings of 77 degrees moving N.
 1335 " " " " 100 " " N.
 1345 " " " " 105 " after shunting for 10 minutes moved
 1415 " " " " 115 " moving S.
 1425 " " " " 85 " " N.E.

Above true bearings were taken from O.35.c.4.

Miscellaneous.

At 1.40.p.m. a dense cloud of smoke rose North of WERVICO on a T.B. of 87 degrees from O.27.d.90.95. completely screening the town. These clouds were repeated several times up to 4.p.m.

A 10.cm. hostile battery was seen firing from a position close to Wood in V.16.b. true bearing 108 degrees from O.35.c.4.4.

Smoke screens were observed in vicinity of P.24. at 1037/1100 and again at 1430/1515 which extended towards and screened WERVICO. Our planes were over this vicinity between the times mentioned.

Flares.

At 11.p.m. in front of our left sector enemy put up flares - One WHITE bursting into two GREENS - on which his artillery immediately put down a light barrage.

At 11.15.p.m. a second WHITE flare was fired breaking into two REDS on which his artillery slackened down and finally died out.

At 2245 the enemy fired 14 double green and 2 double red flares on Left Brigade Front and hostile artillery immediately opened up on our front opposite. Golden clustered flares were also fired opposite our Right Battalion. But no action followed.

Geo: F. Pines Hey
 Lt for Captain.
 General Staff.
 1st Australian Division.

APPENDIX.

ENEMY SHELLING.

TIME.	LOCATION.	NO OF ROUNDS.	CALIBRE.	DIRECTION.
9.10.a.m.	O.17.a.	10.	4.2. H.E.	S of COMIN 3.
10.45.a.m.	O.22.B.2.C. }			
- 2. p.m.	O.17.B.2.C. }	100.	4.2. H.E.	COMINES.
2.20 p.m.	O.17.a. }	40.	4.2. H.E.	COMINES.
- 3.40 p.m.	O.22.b. }			
1.50.p.m.	O.27.a.	30.	5.9. H.E.	WERVICO.
2.p.m. -				COMINES &
9.20.p.m.	O.26.d.	200	5.9. H.E.	WERVICO.
11.p.m.	Vicinity of VERNE	40	77mm.	
12.25.a.m.	Dump and TORREKEN			
	CORNER.		4.2. H.E.	WERVICO.
7.a.m.	U.2.	12	10.cm. H.E.	
6.30.a.m.				
to 11.30.a.m.	MESSINES.	20	15cm. H.E.	
8.9. a.m.				
to 4.50.p.m.	O.32.	73.	15cm. H.E.	
8.45.a.m.				
to 2.30.p.m.	U.8.a.9.5.	27	10cm. H.E.	
8.45.a.m.				
to 10.15.a.m.	U.8.b.	280.	10cm. H.E.	
12.30.p.m.				
to 1.30.p.m.	O.33.A.2.B.	63	15cm. H.E.	
4.0.p.m. to				
7.30.p.m.	MESSINES.	53	10.2.15 cm. H.E.	
4.35.p.m.	U.8.b.	81	10 cm. H.E.	
5.9.p.m. to				
1.50.a.m.	O.53.	280.	15 cm. H.E.	
9.10.p.m. to				
3.15.a.m.	MESSINES.	135.	15 cm. H.E.	
10.40.p.m. to				
3.15.a.m.	O.54.A.2.B.	60.	10.2.15.c.m. H.E.	
3.30.a.m. to				
10.0.a.m.	O.20.a.	10	77mm.	COMINES.
1250. p.m.				
2.0.p.m.	O.25.d.	50	4.2.	WERYICO.
2.0.p.m.	O.32.b.0.5.	100.		WARNETON.
2.9.p.m. to				
4.0.p.m.	MESSINES.	50.	5.9s.	WARNETON.
2.20.p.m. to				
3.0.p.m.	O.32.b.03.00.	150.	5.9s.	WARNETON.
3.45.p.m. to				
5.0.p.m.	"	200.	"	" " "
6.30.p.m. to				
7.0.p.m.	BLANK HOUSE.	40.	4.2s.	COMINES.
8.0.p.m.	Intermittent shelling of forward areas with		4.2s.	
10.15.p.m.	TORREKEN.	20.	4.2s.	WARNETON.
11.0.p.m.	Forward area.		4.2s.	
5.20.a.m. to	O.25.a.2.b.	12	4.2s.	COMINES.
6.0.a.m.	"			

Through the day about 500 4.3s. on RAVINE WOOD. and 250 15cm on O.9.a. from direction of HOUTHEN.

APPENDIX I

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.CONFIDENTIAL.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 20.

From 3.a.m. 4-1-18. to 3.a.m. 5-1-18.

1. OPERATIONS.(a) Patrols.

1. One Officer & 3 O.R. with a L.G. left our line at 12.15.a.m. at 0.25.c.25.30. to disperse enemy working party. Party was engaged after patrol got into position 100 yards distant, dispersing it and inflicting casualties. Patrol returned at 12.45.a.m. to 0.25.c.25.30.

2. At 9.15.p.m. a liaison patrol of 1 M.C.O. and 3 men left 0.25.c.25.30. to keep touch with Right Battalion. On return journey patrol was attacked by 8 of the enemy and hand to hand fighting took place. Enemy patrol was beaten off but two of our patrol were wounded. One enemy rifle was captured. Patrol returned at 10.45.p.m. to 0.25.c.25.30.

3. A patrol of one officer and 10 O.R. left our lines at 0.25.c.1.3. at 9.45.p.m. to engage enemy patrol which attacked liaison patrol to Right Battalion. A careful search was made where fight took place 0.29.a.3.9. and one enemy rifle and two stick bombs were found. No sign of the enemy could be seen.

4. A patrol of one Officer and 3 O.R. left our lines at 7.p.m. at 0.17.c.8.4. to clean up enemy listening post located at 0.17.d.2.5. A party of the enemy were seen retiring to THE BUILDINGS soon after patrol left our lines. They were not engaged. The post was found and entered and will accommodate 3 men. A M.G. was located firing from about 0.17.d.7.2. and heavy wiring in front of the emplacement could be seen. Patrol returned at 7.45.p.m. to point of departure.

5. A Fighting patrol of 1 Officer and 8 men left U.5.D.65.65. at 0015 to locate hostile patrols and report on condition of No Mans Land. The patrol laid in wait at U.5.D.70.50 for 45 minutes but no enemy were observed. A good many Very lights were fired by the enemy, which made patrol work difficult. No Mans Land was found to be in a very slippery condition. Patrol returned to U.5.D.55.20. at 0250.

6. A party of 1 M.C.O. and 5 men left U.11.b.55.75. at 2245 to examine and report on enemy wire, returning to U.5.D.55.20. at 2550. Wire from U.11.B.75.80. to U.5.D.30.25. was found to be very thick and would be difficult to penetrate. No Mans Land was very difficult of passage, being full of shell holes and generally very shell torn.

7. A patrol of 1 M.C.O. and 5 men left U.5.B.80.05. at 2300 and returned to U.5.D.63.76; object to examine and report on enemy wire, which was found to be very strong and well barbed from about U.6.C.00.05. to U.5.D.80.65. No Mans Land was very slippery and patrol work was difficult owing to the enemy's machine gun activity and excessive use of flares.

8. A patrol of 1 Officer 1 M.C.O. and 6 men left 0.55.D.50.75. to reconnoitre No Mans Land and CINEMA Road. They returned to their lines to 0.55.A.8.2. by 0130. The patrol moved along road, examined hedge to the left about 100 yards from our line and remained in vicinity for 30 minutes. They then patrolled across our front to about 0.55.D.0.5. No enemy movement was seen or heard.

(b) Artillery. In addition to subjecting enemy roads, tracks and communications to thorough harassing fire, the following selected points of enemy activity were bombarded at intervals throughout the period;— LAKE FARM, MILL FARM, PILLEGRENS FARM, COPSE FARM, BOMB FARM, PILL HOUSE, FAT FARM, and LOCK FIVE of the EPRES-COMINES CANAL.

APPENDIX I

(2)

Concentrated shoots were carried out on various localities. Our 4.5" Hows. carried out a gas bombardment of PILL FARM and vicinity, at a slow rate of fire, and put rapid bursts of gas shell on to the track junction at P.19.c.10.38. and O.24.b.00.55. at intervals between the hours of 1830 and 0455.

At 0030 in support of a raid carried out by the Division on our left the HOLLIBURN GROUP put down a flanking 18 dr barrage along the road from O.11.D.80.25. to junction at O.12.D.35.55. and 4.5" Hows bombarded PUMP FARM, THE SHANT, AND THE SWINS.

At the request of the Centre Battalion Commander a number of rounds were expended on enemy activity at WHIZ FARM and FLY Buildings at 1930.

(c) T.L. L.T.L. Batteries were generally inactive. 10 rounds were expended on enemy positions approx. O.35.b.5.5. to O.35.b.7.0. and CINTRA ROAD at O.35.a.2.1.

Medium and Heavy Mortars succeeded in silencing an enemy minenwerfer at U.8.c.5.6. Harassing fire was also carried out.

(d) H.G. 25,000 rounds S.A.A. were fired during the day. Targets were, enemy roads, tracks, and occupied localities including tracks in O.12.c. and O.13.p. and SPUD, MURPHY, AND PAT FARM. Targets in following squares were also engaged by indirect fire; - U.12.d. U.12.b. U.8.D. O.29.D. O.36.A.8.D.

(e) Aircraft. Our machines were very active patrolling our lines and crossing the enemys positions on numerous occasions, always in face of heavy A.A. Artillery and H.G. fire.

C. ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(a) General attitude. Artillery and H.G. fire was below normal. Mortars were more active on centre of left Brigade front, otherwise normal. On the other hand hostile patrols have again become very active compared with the inactivity of the last few nights.

(b) Artillery:- A decrease in enemy shelling was noticeable especially on the left. A Light Barrage of 5.9. H.E. was dropped on U.8.a. Square O.34. was the target for 150 77mm. H.E. shells between 0100 and 0200. Gas shelling was experienced at O.35.b. and U.8.a. at 0440.

Table of enemy shelling is attached. Much of the shooting is thought to be registration carried out when visibility improved.

(c) T.L. Fire was normal during the period, except on the front of the left centre Battalion, where minenwerfer shells were falling continually throughout the period.

A Heavy Mortar was observed firing from approx. U.8.b.30.15.

(d) H.G. Below normal. On a few occasions during the night vigorous bursts of fire were directed over our forward areas. One gun was active from vicinity of KIVI FARM, indirect fire being put over O.T. and tracks through O.31.b.

(e) Enemy Movement. Visibility low during day. At 1000 a working party of 30 in vicinity of WAL FARM was dispersed by H.G. fire.

(f) Enemy Aircraft. Normal. 1720 two hostile planes crossed our lines and were immediately forced by our machines to turn East.

A hostile machine is thought to have made a forced landing S.E. of WARMETON.

(g) Miscellaneous.

(1) Flash of a A.A. gun observed on a T.B. of 92degrees from O.15.D.9.1.

(2) Double green flares were sent up by the enemy on left Brigade front, at 2205. 2305. and 0005 and 0025, being repeated to the rear on each occasion. No following action observed.

(P.T.O.).

(3).

(3) It has been observed that a large percentage of the enemys 10cm shells are "blinds" and in many cases the driving bands have come off during the flight of the shells.

Ralph
for Capt
Captain.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

(P.T.O.)

APPENDIX.

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Annex to 1st Aust.Div.Intelligence Summary No. 22.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.Prisoners of War.

During the year 1917, the following prisoners were captured by this Corps; 158 Officers and 5,094 Other Ranks.

Trophies. The following trophies were captured by the Corps during 1917.

Machine Guns.	243	Rocket Thrower	2
Minenwerfer	16	Telefunken set	2
Trench Mortars	13	Oxygen Generator	1
Granatenwerfer	6	Light bomb thrower	1
Flammenwerfer	1	Field Guns	1
Anti-Tank Gun	1	Several bicycles etc.	
10cm. Howitzer.	2		

Recent Losses Sustained by the German Air Service.

German flying Officers recently captured on the French front state that, during the year 1917, the German Air Service has suffered heavy losses, and that the wastage in machines and expert pilots has been very considerable, especially in FLANDERS and also in the LAON sector.

It is still easy to obtain recruits for the bombing squadrons, but good scout pilots are becoming rare, and the pursuit flights have suffered extremely heavy losses.

Prisoners are unanimous in stating that there is at present a simultaneous difficulty in the supply of personnel and machines, the newer types of machines being hard to replace quickly. To meet this crisis, fighting units have been reduced to 1 or 2 good machines, and the units at the front are being denuded to provide instructors for the training establishments in GERMANY.

Reserves. The 53rd Res.Div. is reported to have arrived in the BRUGES area about the middle of December. This raises the number of hostile divisions in reserve, in the area affecting this Army, to 11 or 12, the presence of the 103rd Div. being doubtful.

Recent reliefs around the PASSCHENDAELE salient, have brought in three divisions, viz:-

48th Div.	} whose previous record is not good consequently the value of the troops opposite the Army, in this sector of its front, shows a considerable decline.
239th Div.	
11th Res.Div.	

The interchange of divisions between the Western front and RUSSIA since the 1st July may be summarized as follows:-

	From RUSSIA.	To RUSSIA.	
July-August.	----	8	} Tired or poor quality.
Sept-Oct.	11	10	
	{ 12 certain.	2	
	{ 5 doubtful.		
Nov-Dec.			
Total.	28	20.	

Thus, since the 1st November, the balance of strength transferred from RUSSIA amounts to at least 10, and probably 15 divisions.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Aerial ANNEXE to 1st. Aust. Div. Summary No. 20.

Following salient points of interest shown on aerial photographs are intended as a guide to a further study of these photographs.

69.L. 187. A belt of wire has been erected from RIFLE FARM to WAR FARM.

69.L. 033. A belt of wire can be seen along the S.E. side of WARREN in O.29.d. and 30.c.

69.B. 183.030. There appears to be a large occupied dugout with a surface trench leading into it at O.30.a.37.98. It conceals large T.M. or possibly Anti-Tank gun. Just behind the emplacement on the side of the tramway a small dump can be seen probably of Ammunition. The front portion of the emplacement clearly shows the square notch cut into it made to take the muzzle of the piece which can be seen.

69.B.183. There appears to be a T.M. emplacement at P.13.a.42.38.

69.B. 168. There appears to be a M.G. emplacement at the end of Sap at U.18.a.60.98.

69. B.183. Very clear tracks lead from the road at O.30.d.25.13. to O.30.c.95.32. then W where they spread outward.

69. B. 182. Clear tracks can be seen running from the road at O.18.d. to the concrete shelter at O.18.c.68.68. Also there is a track from O.18.d.2.8. West to BOMB FARM and another from O.18.central along the road past BOMB FARM Westward.

69. B. 033. Fresh tracks can be seen through the snow leading to the small trench at O.30.c.0.1. which is apparently occupied.

69. B. 321 - 8. A very clear track leads down the road from MURRA Via to O.36.d.59.78. then along the old tram line to O.36.a.5.3; and then clear track leads along the road from this point to GARDE DIU CABARET and thence eastward.

69.B.339.- 20. Tracks can be seen from a dugout at P.8.c.40.99 to P.8.c.75.88. thence along the road to MORTEWILDE, also from the same dugout to P.8.c.75.80. thence to P.8.b.45.

APPENDIX.

DAILY SHOOTING.

TIME.	LOCATION.	NO OF ROUNDS.	CALIBRE.	DIRECTION.
7.15.a.m.	O.20.a.	10.	4.2. H.E.	WERVICO.
to 9.a.m. -				
12 noon.	O.25.E.A.C.	15.	4.2. H.E.	COMINES.
to 2.p.m.				
1.20.p.m.	O.23.a.	20.	4.2. H.E.	TENBRIDEN.
TO 2.10.p.m.				
1.p.m.				
to 3.p.m.	O.11.b.	40.	4.2. H.E.	ZANDVOORDE L.
5.p.m.				
to 5.30.p.m.	WITSCHAEDE.	10.	77mm.	WERVICO.
1.a.m.				
to 1.30.a.m.	O.22.A.2.C and Left Bn Supports.	35.	4.2. H.E. 77mm.	COMINES.
6.40.a.m.				
to 12.30.p.m.	U.4.A.2.C.	25.	77 and 10cm.	
7.a.m.				
to 2.20.a.m.	U.8.A.2.B.	45.	10 cm. H.E.	
9.a.m.				
to 3.p.m.	U.5.A.2.C.	20.	77.cm.Shrap.	
6.40.a.m.	MESSINES. U.8.b.	10.	15. cm. Shrap.	
12.30.p.m.	O.34.	10.	10. cm. H.E.	
3.50.p.m.				
to 8.35.p.m.	U.9.a.	52.	10. cm. H.E.	
8.p.m.	O.32.	18.	15. cm. H.E.	
9.p.m.				
to 12.p.m.	MESSINES.	81.	15.cm. H.E.	
9.p.m.				
to 3.20.a.m.	O.33.E.C.2.D.	60.	10.&15 cm. H.E.	
10.45.p.m.				
to 2.20.p.m.	U.4.A.2.C.	40.	7.7. and 10.c.m.H.E.	
1.10.a.m.				
to 3.p.m.	O.34.	130.	7.7.cm.H.E.&Shrap.	
7.55.a.m.				
to 1.15.a.m.	MESSINES.	25.	15.cm. H.E.	
4.a.m.	O.28.a.	21.	10.c.m. H.E.	
4.40.a.m.	O.33.b.	45.	gas shells.	
4.40.a.m.	U.9.a.	40.	gas and shrapnel.	
7.15.a.m.				
to 9.a.m.	O.20.a.	10.	4.2. WERVICO.	
12 noon			77s &	
to 2.p.m.	O.25.E.A.C.	15.	4.2s. COMINES.	
1.30.p.m.				
2.30.p.m.	MESSINES RIDGE.	12.	4.2s. COMINES.	
5.p.m.				
to 6.30.p.m.	WITSCHAEDE.	8.	77mm. WERVICO.	
10.p.m.				
to 11.p.m.	FORWARD AREA.	30.	4.2s. COMINES.	
1.a.m.	Vicinity Left Bn Supports.	20.	77mm. COMINES.	
1.30.a.m.	O.19.b.	15.	4.2s. COMINES.	

(P.T.O.)

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.CONFIDENTIAL.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.21.

From 6.a.m. 5-1-18. to 6.a.m. 6-1-18.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Patrols. The usual protective and flanking patrols were sent out throughout the night.

Owing to the slippery nature of No Mans Land and the excessive darkness that prevailed during the night, special patrols did not succeed in obtaining any very valuable information.

The following special patrols left our lines.

1. At 9.50.p.m. a fighting patrol of 2 Officers and 25 O.R. with a L.G. left our lines at 0.29.A.20.05. to intercept any enemy parties in No Mans Land. Patrol moved out in an Easterly direction and took up a position at about 0.29.A.7.5. waiting there until midnight when it returned to point of departure. No enemy were encountered, but enemy M.Gs. were observed firing from approx. 0.29.B.05.55. and 0.29.D.15.90.

2. A patrol of one Officer 10 O.R. left our line at midnight at 0.25.C.3.8. to engage any enemy patrols in front of Right Centre Battalion Sector. Patrol entered No Mans Land to a depth of 150 yards, took up a position and waited for 45 minutes. No enemy were seen or heard and patrol returned to our line at 1.30.a.m. at 0.23.A.3.2.

3. A patrol of one Officer 9 O.R. left our line at 0.17.C.8.2. at 7.45.p.m. to locate enemy M.G. suspected at BEE FARM. Owing to excessive darkness nothing could be located and patrol returned at 8.50.p.m. to point of departure.

4. At 1.45.a.m. a patrol of one Officer and 7 O.R. left our line at 0.17.C.8.8. to inspect wire in front of left CENTRE Battalion Sector. Patrol worked along wire from 0.17.D.1.7. to 0.17.B.0.1. found it continuous and fairly strong being about 3'6" high throughout. Patrol returned at 2.40.a.m. to 0.17.A.9.

5. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men left U.5.B.80.55. at 2250 to report on No Mans Land and examine enemy wire. No enemy were encountered but a working party, evidently digging, was located at U.6.C.2.9. Enemy wire was examined from about U.6.C.1. to U.5.D.95.90. and found thickly laid and in good order. No Mans Land is at present muddy and shell holes are half full of water. Patrol returned to its lines at U.5.D.70.75. by 0400.

6. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men left U.5.D.7.9. at 2500 to patrol No Mans Land. No enemy were met and nothing unusual reported. Patrol returned to U.5.D.80.75. by 0050.

7. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men left U.5.D.35.70. for purpose of observing any hostile movement and reporting on No Mans Land. No enemy were encountered, and the night being very dark it made observation of any enemy movement impossible. No Mans Land was found slippery and difficult of passage. The patrol returned to its line at U.5.D.55.25. by 0100.

8. A patrol of 1 Officer and 6 men left 0.29.C.2.4. at 2300 (night of 2/3rd Inst) to examine and report on condition of swamp as an approach to enemy lines. The ground was very swampy on each side of MIRONBTLEE Road for a depth of 40 yards and impassable for a large body of troops. Ground further east of the road was examined and found to be fairly passable. The swamp finishes roughly 250 yards E of the road. Patrol then returned to its lines at 0.35.A.4.6. by 0015.

(b) Artillery. Throughout the period harassing fire was maintained on known centres of enemy activity in the Divisional

(P.T.O.).

APPENDIX

(2).

zone.

Intermittent bursts of fire were put down on to track and road junctions at P.25.B.50.95., O.24.B.00.55., O.24.D.03.98., O.24.B.80.30. and P.19.D.78.15.

COPSE FARM, BOMB FARM, POLL HOUSE, LAKE FARM, PILL FARM, PILLEGRIMS FARM, and LA BUSSCHE FARM were again subjected to intense bursts of fire at irregular intervals during the period.

(c) M.Guns. Advantage was taken of low visibility to engage enemy tracks by day as well as night. 28,000 rounds S.A.A. were expended on Roads in O.12.A.B.2.C. the GIANT, POLL HOUSE, and LOW. PILL. PILLEGRIMS. LAKE. BOV. SALMON. and KIVI FARMS. Targets in squares U.3.B.C.2.D. U.12.B.A.D. O.56.A.2.B. and O.29.D. were also engaged.

(d) T.Ms. Our L.T.Ms fired 40 rounds in the nature of harassing fire on enemy trenches from U.6.C.4.S. to U.2.C.4.C. between 0130 and 0300.

At 2250 our 3" mortars fired on enemy trenches in U.6.A.2.C. without arousing enemy retaliation and again at 1530, 10 very satisfactory rounds were fired into B&B FARM at O.23.d.5.9.

(e) Aircraft.

On account of the low visibility our planes were not as active as on the previous day; two planes only were observed crossing into enemy territory.

2. ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(a) General Attitude.:- Much quieter than usual.

(b) Artillery. Enemy activity has shown a decrease during the 24 hours.

Between 0300 and 0730 squares U.3.D. and U.4.C. received a liberal shelling of 7.7. and 10. cm H.E. and Shrapnel.

Between 1350 and 1500 squares O.11.A.2.B. also received attention in the nature of 4.2. H.E. It was noticeable on the left Brigade front that the percentage of 5.9. H.E. shelling has increased.

Table of enemy shelling attached.

(c) A.Gs:- were less active than usual on the whole front.

(d) T.Ms.:- 150 T.M. bombs fell on our right Brigade front during the 24 hours. T.Ms in vicinity of WHIZ FARM and FLY BUILDINGS were active on left Brigade front, but generally T.M. activity was below normal.

(e) Enemy Movement.:- At 0700 4 men were seen to walk to O.17.B.9.3. down the road to O.17.B.6.1. They were not fired on, as it was hoped to locate their position in that vicinity. At 1930, 12 men were seen in vicinity of WHIZ FARM. They disappeared on fire being directed on them. Three of the enemy were observed walking from O.35.B.2.5. in direction of enemy lines. Low visibility prevented observation of any movement in rear of his lines.

(f) Enemy aircraft.:- None were observed during the period

(g) Miscellaneous. (a) Very few Very lights were fired by the enemy during the night, in spite of the excessive darkness.

(b) At 2130 a lamp signalling was observed near WASP FARM.

(c) Enemy snipers were more active opposite Centre of our left Brigade.

[Signature]
Capt.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

APPENDIX

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.ENEMY SHELLING.

TIME.	LOCATION.	NO OF ROUNDS.	CALIBRE.	DIRECTION.
4.5.a.m. to				
5.55.a.m.	O.28.C.	52.	77mm.	WERVICO.
8.50.a.m. to	WALLFARM in	35.	4.2.H.E.	
11.a.m.	O.25.A.		5.9.H.E.	COMINES.
1.50.p.m. to				
3.p.m.	O.11.A.&D.	70.	4.2.	TENBRIELEN
4.p.m. to	JOYE FARM in	50.	4.2.H.E.	N.N.E.
5.p.m.	O.22.D.		inc. GAS.	
4.50.p.m.	O.20.D.	50.	Gas.	4.2. H.E. COMINES.
9.p.m. to			4.2. H.F.	
10.p.m.	O.22.A.	18.	5.9.H.E.	COMINES.
1.10.a.m.	O.22.A.	10.	5.9. H.E.	COMINES.
2.15.a.m.	The RAVINE.	12.	5.9. H.E.	TENBRIELEN
4.50.a.m. to	O.20.B.&D.	26.	4.2. H.F.	S.E.
5.a.m.			& Gas.	
3.a.m. to				
3.50.a.m.	MESSINES.	20.	15cm. H.F.	
3.a.m. to				
7.10.a.m.	O.55.	52.	10.&15cm.H.F.	
7.5.a.m.	O.34.C.&D.	58.	10cm. H.F.	
8.a.m. to				
8.a.m.	U.2.	11.	15cm. H.F.	
6.a.m. to				
7.30.a.m.	U.3.D.and 4.C.	100.	7.7.&10.cm.Shrap.	
7.p.m.	MESSINES.	14.	15cm. H.F.	
8.30.p.m.	DOWNINGTON HALL.	8.	21cm. H.F.	
	U.8.C.			
9.40.p.m. to				
10.40.p.m.	U.3.C.D.&and 4.B.	32.	10.cm. H.F.	
1.p.m. to				
3.30.a.m.	O.34.A.&D.	20.	10 cm. H.F.	
2.10.a.m.	O.28.D.	8.	10 cm. H.F.	
7.30.a.m. to				
8.a.m.	O.32.B.&D.	12.	4.2.	COMINES.
11.a.m. to				
1.p.m.	MESSINES RIDGE.	50.	4.2. H.F.	COMINES.
1.p.m. to			4.2. &	
2.p.m.	WALL FARM.		5.9.	TENBRIELEN.
2.50.p.m.	O.10.A.&B.	20.	5.9.	"
2.p.m. to			4.2.	
4.p.m.	O.22. to O.28.	50.	77.	COMINES.
5.30.p.m.	WETSCHAETE.	2.	4.2. H.F.	WERVICO
9.p.m.	do.	8.	4.2.H.E.	WERVICO.
5.a.m.	O.8.E.	12.	5.9.	WERVICO.

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. No.22.

From 6.a.m. 6-1-18. to 6.a.m. 7-1-18.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.1. (a) Patrols.

A patrol of one Officer and 23 O.R. left our line at O.29.A.20.05. at 2130, the object being to intercept and engage enemy patrols moving in front of that sector. Patrol came under fire from M.Gs located at BEEK FARM, and at O.29.B.05.35. At 2400 patrol returned to our lines at O.29.A.3.2. no enemy having been encountered.

2. Patrol of one Officer and 10 O.R. left our line at O.23.C.3.9. at 0300 to intercept hostile patrols in No Mans Land. Patrol penetrated No Mans Land to a depth of 200 yards in an easterly direction, then moved North for about 250 yards but no sign was seen of ~~heard~~ of the enemy. Patrol returned to our line at O.23.A.3.4. at 0345.

3. A patrol of one Officer and 10 O.R. left picquet line at O.23.C.3.3. at 1745 to engage enemy patrols in No Mans Land. Patrol moved parallel to picquet line at a depth of about 200 yards from about O.23.C.4.2. to O.23.A.6.4. but no enemy were encountered. Patrol returned to our line at O.23.A.3.5. at 1945.

4. A patrol of one N.C.O. and 5 men left our line at O.11.C.8.2. at 0230 to inspect wire in front of left battalion sector. Patrol moved along wire from O.11.D.2.2. to O.11.B.9.4. returning to our line at O.11.B.80.25. at 0315. Wire was found to be continuous throughout and in good condition consisting of two, and in some cases three belts.

5. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men left U.5.B.85.05. at 2315 to examine the nature of No Mans Land and report on hostile movement. The patrol proceeded to about U.5.D.85.65. and halted for 30 minutes, and after moving S. returned to their lines at U.5.D.55.55. by 0015. Exceptional darkness made observation of enemy movement very difficult and none is reported. Light rain fell whilst patrol was out, which made No Mans Land slippery and difficult of passage.

6. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left U.11.B.55.80. at 2230 to locate hostile M.Guns, and report any enemy movement. After moving to enemy wire at U.11.B.75.95. patrol turned S and proceeded along enemy wire, which is in good condition. A hostile party working on their wire and trenches was located at U.11.B.85.80. and patrol on return to their lines at U.11.B.60.70. dispersed enemy party by Lewis gun action. Time of return 2400.

7. 1. N.C.O. and 4 men left U.5.D.65.65. at 2050 to examine enemy wire and report on condition of No Mans Land. The patrol proceeded along enemy wire from about U.5.D.85.65. to U.6.A.2.3. which was found strong and would form a very serious obstacle. No Mans Land is slippery and muddy. Activity of enemy Machine Guns greatly hampered movement of the patrol. The patrol returned to its lines at U.5.B.50.65. at 2205.

8. A patrol of 1 officer and 6 men left O.35.D.35.70. at 0315 to reconnoitre our front from this vicinity to O.35.D.6.9. Enemy wire was examined from about O.35.D.55.95. to O.35.D.70.65. and found to be very strong, consisting of spirals of barbed wire thrown loosely amongst the pegged wire. There appears to be a gap on road at O.35.D.7.9. No enemy patrols or working parties were seen, but coughing and talking could be heard in his tranches. A hostile Machine Gun was active in vicinity of O.35.D.8.8. firing in rear of trench.

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(b) Artillery. In accordance with our harassing policy thorough searching and sweeping fire was put down on to enemy communications and Strong Points.

Concentrated shoots were placed on to P.31.D.25.80. V.1.B.70.25. V.1.D.50.35. P.31.A.75.55. and O.30.D.50.05. Our Artillery responded to call from Right Brigade during the night.

(c) M.Guns. 32,000 rounds were expended in indirect fire upon tracks and occupied localities. During the night particular attention was paid to the enemys front line and wire from U.6.A. 35.35. to U.6.C.65.75. and from U.6.C.4.1. to U.12.A.40.35.

(d) T.Ms. Between 0800 and 0500 L.T.Ms fired 40 rounds on to enemy trenches in O.35.D. Patrol reported that shells were seen to burst right in trench at O.35.D.8.9.

M.T.Ms. bombarded WASP FARM and also U.6.A.5.0. with very satisfactory results. 7 rounds were fired at suspected M.G. position at U.8.C.1.9.

A very satisfactory registration with 9.45" T.Ms. was made on BAB FARM at 1300.

(e) Aircraft. Our planes were very active throughout the hours of daylight and large formations on numerous occasions patrolled the enemys forward and rear positions.

It is considered that the abnormal activity of our planes possibly accounts for the inactivity of enemy artillery.

2. ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(a) General Attitude. Very quiet during the period except for abnormal activity during the night on right Brigade front as related under (b) Artillery.

(b) Artillery. On left Brigade front enemy was again very quiet the only shoot of any note being between 2000 and 2230 when 90 5.9. H.E. from direction of WERVIOQ fell on squares O.20.D. and O.21.B.

On the right Brigade front the enemys artillery was exceptionally quiet during daylight, but increased considerably after dusk. At 1920 a barrage was placed on our forward areas extending from the Front line to POLLARD SUPPORT (U.5.C.2.6) on the right Bn of Right Brigade and in O.34.C. on Left Bn Sector, where 150 10 and 15 cm. shells fell. On the Right Sector pineapple bombs were used in large quantities, and bulk of shelling comprised 7.7.cm. and 10 cm. H.E. with a little shrapnel. 15 cm. H.E. were used on POLLARD Support and on various areas further in rear. Machine gun and rifle fire also was put down at 2045 on Right Bn Sector only. During both of the above barrages the valley of the DOUVE was shelled with 10 cm. H.E. searching from Fme De la CROIX towards the rear. During the remainder of the night the Left Bn Sector was subjected to intermittent shelling by 10 and 15 cm guns.

(c) M.Guns. Inactive on Left Brigade front but guns opposite right Brigade front showed considerable activity during the night sweeping front line parapets and shooting on duckwalks and communication trenches.

(d) T.Ms. Normal activity on whole front, except in two cases. First, when enemys T.Ms co-operated with artillery during the night

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on the right Brigade front, and second, between 2400 and 0200 when 80 L.T.M. bombs fell in vicinity of O.17.Central, coming from direction of BANG FARM.

(e) Aircraft. At 1045 three E.A. attempted to cross our lines over left Brigades, but were driven off by A.A. fire. At 1500 an E.A. was engaged by one of ours, the combat being indecisive.

(f) Movement. Visibility low. Between 0900 and 1100 small workings of the enemy were seen moving near PILL and PILLIGRAMS FARMS. Our M.G. fire being directed on them they dispersed.

(g) Enemy Defences.

Hostile M.G. located at O.35.D.8.8. at 92c T.B. from O.35.B.0.1.

L.T.Ms are suspected to be in position close to BANG FARM. There are numerous A.A. M.Guns in squares O.36.C. and U.6.A.&...

(h) Identification. :- Papers taken from the man killed at O.29.A.2.3. on night 5/6th show him to belong to the 2nd Coy 4th ROYAL MAGDELBURG PIONEER Battalion (normal)

(i) Miscellaneous. Enemy appeared very anxious during the night opposite Right Brigade front. He fired about twice the usual number of flares, especially opposite the extreme right of the right Brigade front, where sometimes two or three flares would be seen in the air at one time. The increased activity of the enemy on right Brigade front suggests that a relief has taken place. The enemy was especially active after 0400 7th Inst, sniping in particular increasing.



Captain.
for General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

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AERIAL ANNEXE to Div. Intelligence Summary No. 22.

- (1) In 1st Brigade Summary No. 5. (5-1-18) patrol reports M.G. emplacement with wire in front at about O.17.d.7.2. A study of aerial photographs of the locality reveals what appears to be a series of fortified shell-holes, Anyone of which might contain a M.G. There is very little trace of wire. Ref. 69.B.326.
- (2) In 1st. Brigade Summary No. 6. (6-1-18) it is reported men were seen walking from O.17.B.9.3. to O.17.B.3.1. This would be to crater on road at this point (O.17.b.6.1) This crater appears to be fortified and manned. Ref. 69.B.326.
- (3) In 1st. Brigade Summary No. 6. of 6-1-18. Enemy M.G. is reported firing from O.29.B.05.25. and from O.29.D.15.90. There appear to be M.Gs at O.29.B.18.20. and O.29.D.2.9. Ref. 69.B.290.
- (4) In 3rd Brigade Summary No 21. of 6-1-18. large working parties are reported at about U.6.C.2.9. Aerial photographs reveal the fact that the support trench running S from road at U.6.C.4.3. is being worked on near the road. This work will probably continue to the South. A trench has also recently been dug across the road at U.6.C.4.6. A sap from U.3.C.45.60. is being dug to the North through the wire and has reached U.6.C.5.8. This sap will probably be extended to join up with fire trench at U.3.A.45.00, this cutting off a slight re-entrant. On the N. Side of the road at U.6.C.43.60. a heavy M.G. position is evident. Ref. 69.B.184.

There are signs that the Eastern one of the three craters on road at O.29.A.8.3. is manned and has been worked on recently. Tracks lead to this crater from the E. Ref. 69.B.290.

RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHT BY 39th SQUADRON from 2.30.p.m. to 3.40.p.m. 8th January 1918.

Aerial reconnaissance on enemy trenches and U.5. U.6. U.11. U.12. U.13. U.25. U.24. O.50. O.24. O.13. O.12. O.55. .

No new work observed in or around enemys communication trenches. Saps in U.3. and U.12. very distinct and appeared to be well used.

* Enemy Machine Gun and Rifle fire from ground very accurate. 5 hits on Machine; Wire appeared to be in good order. Enemy trenches in good order.

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.ENEMY SHELLING.

TIME.	LOCATION.	NO OF ROUNDS.	CALIBRE.	DIRECTION.
5.0.a.m.	O.22.C.	15.	4.2. H.E.	N.N.E.
8.0.a.m.	O.29.A.	10.	4.2. H.E.	COMINES.
12.30.p.m.	O.21.B.	20.	77.mm.Gas.	COMINES.
1.30.p.m. to				
3.50.p.m.	O.22.A.	18.	4.2. H.E.	COMINES.
1.30.p.m.	O.11.A.	28.	4.2.&.5.9.	TINBRIELN.
8.0.p.m. to				
10.30.p.m.	O.20.D. O.21.B.	94.	5.9. H.E.	WERVICQ.
9.0.p.m.	ROSEWOOD.	20.	4.2. H.E.	TINBRIELN.
1.0.a.m.	O.20.C.	14.	5.9. H.F.	S.E.
3.0.a.m.	O.22.A.&.B.	24.	4.2. &.77mm.	N.N.E.
4.15.a.m.	O.20.C.	12.	4.2. H.E.	WERVICQ.
5.40.a.m.	HOW FARM.	30.	4.2.&. Gas.	COMINES.
6.0.a.m. to				
9.a.m.	Forward areas.	50.	4.2s.&.5.9.	
1.10.p.m.	O.16.	8.	77mm.	
5.0.p.m. to				
5.30.p.m.	WYTSCHAETE.	8.	4.2s.	WERVICQ.
6.30.p.m.to.				
9.0.p.m.	MESSINES.	20.	4.2s.	COMINES.
7.15.p.m.	Continuous shelling front line and Right Sector.			
8.0.p.m.	Shelling ceased.			
9.30.p.m.	Light shelling of front line system on right of our Sector with 5.9s. from COMINES.			
9.42.p.m.	O.20.C.	20.	77cm.	
10.0.p.m.	TORREKEN FARM.	8.	77cm.	
10.30.p.m.	do.	5.	77cm.	
11.7.p.m.	15th Cr MESSINES RD.	4.	77cm.	
3.0.a.m.	do.	3.	4.2.	COMINES.
3.0.a.m.	VERNE ROAD.	4.	4.2.	COMINES.
4.15.a.m.	15th Cr MESSINES ROAD.	2.	4.2.	COMINES.
4.55.a.m.	do.	2.	4.2.	COMINES.
5.0.a.m.	TORREKEN CORNER.	8.	7.7.cm.	WERVICQ.
8.10.a.m.	O.20.C.	3.	5.9.	COMINES.

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.ANNEXE to 1st.Aust.Div.Intelligence Summary No. 22.

Probable reliefs of enemy opposite Divisional Front.

153. I.R.	Inter Battalion.	14/15th January.
	Inter Company.	10/11th January.
	Outposts.	8/9th January.
93. I.R.	Inter Battalion.	15/16th January.
72. I.R.	Inter Company.	9/10th January.
102. I.R.	Inter Battalion.	13/14th January.

Interesting figures comparing the enemy percentages of successful raids plus minor operations, with our own during the month of December, on the front from North to South MERCKEM-WARNETON.

Enemy	15%. *
Our.	50%.

* Including 4 enemy raids of November 30th.

Information from other sources. -

From the examination of prisoners, (recently captured) beyond rumours of an intended offensive, no operations, other than possibly local ones, appear to be contemplated on the Army front.

Statements made by prisoners and refugees that the civil population has been evacuated from the St. JOSEPH-GITS area and THOUROUT, while HALLUIN is to be cleared of civilians by March in order to make room for troops from RUSSIA, point to an offensive in the Spring. It must be remembered, however, that during the AUTUMN, the Germans were driven back on to districts which had not been cleared of civilians, hence they may now find themselves cramped for the accommodation of troops. The evacuation of villages just in rear of the forward zone must be expected, and does not necessarily point to preparations for an offensive. The evacuation of villages must be carefully watched, and prisoners and refugees closely questioned as to the reason for such evacuation.

PROMOTION OF GENERAL von EICHORN TO THE RANK OF FIELD MARSHALL.

In recognition of his services in commanding the Northern Group of Armies on the RUSSIAN front, Generaloberst von EICHORN has been promoted to the rank of Field Marshall.

General von EICHORN was born in 1843 at BRESLAU. In 1866, he obtained his first commission in the 2nd Foot Guards Regiment, and took part in the campaigns against AUSTRIA and FRANCE in 1866 and 1870. On leaving the Staff College in 1876, he obtained a General Staff appointment. In 1904, he was given command of the XVIII Corps at FRANKFURT, and in 1913 was promoted to the rank of Generaloberst. In January 1915, he was appointed to command the Tenth Army, which took part in the Battle of the Masurian Lakes, and captured KOVNO and VILNA in the subsequent campaign.

In addition to the three Royal Field Marshals, Prince LEOPOLD of BAVARIA, Crown Prince RUPPRECHT of BAVARIA and Duke ALBRECHT of WURTEMBERG, there are now five German Field Marshals, namely GRAF von HAESLER, HINDENBURG, BULOW, MACKENSEN and EICHENEN. The German CROWN PRINCE, though commanding a Group of Armies, only holds the rank of Lieutenant-General.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.CONFIDENTIAL.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 23.

From 6.a.m. 7-1-18. to 6.a.m. 8-1-18.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.(a) Patrols.

1. A patrol of 2 Officers and 15 O.R. left our line at 2230 from O.29.A.15.10. to lie in wait and engage any enemy patrol moving in front of right Battalion sector. Patrol moved out and took up a position at O.29.A.6.3. waiting there until 0030 but no enemy patrols were seen or heard. Bursts of M.G. fire came from about O.29.B.15.25. and O.29.D.25.70. No Mans Land was found very firm, but ice in shell holes very thin.

2. A patrol of 1 Officer and 15 O.R. left our line at 2000 from O.23.A.2.7. to intercept enemy patrols in front of sector. Patrol moved East to JUNE FARM which was found to be unoccupied, then proceeded due South to about O.23.A.7.5. where a deserted enemy post was found which appeared to have been destroyed by shell fire. Patrol returned to our lines at 2205 to O.23.A.2.3. via JUNE FARM without encountering any of the enemy.

3. At 0200 a patrol of 1 Officer and 10. O.R. left our line at O.23.C.2.3. to engage enemy patrols in No Mans Land. Patrol moved due East for about 100 yards, turned South to about O.23.C.5.4. then returned to our lines via JUNE FARM at 0300 to O.23.C.2.8. No enemy were encountered.

4. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 12 men left our line at 2230 from O.11.B.9.4. to inspect our wire from the outside and to engage enemy patrol in front of sector. At O.11.B.9.4. wire was found to be damaged by shell fire and easily passable, it was also found damaged at O.11.B.75.25. elsewhere it was in good condition. Patrol returned at 0005 to O.11.B.75.30. no enemy having been seen or heard.

5. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left O.35.A.7.3. at 0230 to patrol company front and prevent any hostile reconnaissance of No Mans Land. It was observed that hostile machine guns became active on a double red flare being used. nothing unusual is reported and patrol returned to its lines at O.35.D.4.8. by 0530.

6. A party of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left at 0130 to examine our wire from O.35.D.25.85. to O.35.A.75.25. returning to their lines at 0300. Our wire was found to be weak and in one or two places gaps were found, but these were not made by the enemy.

7. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left O.35.D.15.90. at 0230 to examine enemy wire opposite (No. 9. post) and patrol no Mans Land. Wire about 100 yards beyond our own was found to be in a very weak state. The night was too dark to examine thoroughly. The patrol then moved in a N. direction and finding nothing unusual returned to their lines at O.35.A.30.85. by 0345.

8. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men left U.5.B.8.8. at 2100 to examine our wire from this point to U.5.D.70.85. where patrol returned to its lines at 2330. The wire was found to be in order. This has since been partly repaired.

9. A patrol comprising 2 N.C.Os and 8 men acting as a protective patrol left U.5.D.65.70. at 2300, moved out 100 yards and then took a S. course across our front. A hostile sniper was located at U.5.D.80.35. to 80.55. and shell holes were nearly full of water. The patrol returned to its lines at U.11.B.55.85. at 0230.

10. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men left U.5.B.85.35. at 2115 to examine enemy wire and report any hostile movement, and condition of No Mans Land. The latter was found very difficult of

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passage, owing to its present muddy condition. Patrol halted for 25 minutes at U.5.C.05.95. Slight movement was heard just in rear of enemys lines at U.6.C.20.95. The enemys wire was found thick and carefully laid. Patrol then moved to its lines at U.5.D.75.70. by 2245. Lewis gun fire was directed on to enemy position where movement was heard.

(b) Artillery. Throughout the period selected centres of recent enemy activity were subjected to systematic harassing fire.

Footbridges over the YPRES-COMINES CANAL located as follows;- O.12.D.80.85. O.12.D.90.88. P.13.A.75.40 and P.13.A.85.30. were bombarded with bursts of intense fire at intervals between 6.a.m. and 7.a.m. FLY BUILDINGS. WHIZ FARM. LAW FARM. AND PILL FARM were again the recipients of intermittent bursts of fire.

Our MESSINES GROUP starting 200 yards East of their S.O.S. lines, put down searching and sweeping fire on to enemys roads, trench and communications in the Group zone.

At 8.p.m. and again at 5.15.a.m. a gas bombardment was directed against P.31.D.25.80. 4.5" Hows. effectively dealt with hostile machine gun position at O.35.B.50.50. and trench mortar position at U.3.B.35.15.

At the request of the Infantry Commander, enemy activity at BANG FARM was successfully engaged by 18 pdrs, and 4.5" Hows. Comines was shelled during the day by heavy artillery.

(c) M.Guns.

25,000 rounds were expended in indirect fire on following targets;-

POIL HO. SPUD. PAT. PILL. LAKE and BOW FARMS. tracks and occupied localities in U.12.B.&.D. and U.6.D. Our Lewis Gun engaged and temporarily silenced enemy M.Gs firing from vicinity of RIFLE FARM.

(d) T.Ms. 2 L.T.Ms engaged suspected M.G. and T.M. at U.6.C.5.5. firing 30 rounds. 10 rounds fire at enemy M.G. at O.23.B.4.6. (approx) succeeded in silencing it.

M.T.Ms fired 74 rounds on to the following targets. U.6.C.10.90. U.6.A.40.80. FLY BUILDINGS. WASP FARM. BAB and RIFLE FARM. This shooting was reported to be very effective. After the first few rounds into BAB FARM. 2 white rockets were fired from its vicinity, but no subsequent enemy action was observed.

(e) Aircraft. Our planes were very active throughout the day, constantly patrolling enemy lines. From 1000 to 1450 no less than 23 planes crossed our lines into enemy territory, being actively engaged by A.A. Artillery and M.G. fire.

2. ENEMYS ACTIVITY.

(a) General Attitude. :- Generally quiet. Artillery and M.G. and T.M. fire was below normal, except on right Brigade front, where the enemy during the day apparently took advantage of intervals of good visibility to conduct registration.

(b) Artillery. :- Generally below normal. MESSINES received some attention from 5.9. H.E. Shells during the period, a total of 260 rounds being fired into the village. WALL FARM. O.23.A. was shelled with 4.2. and 5.9. H.E. from direction of COMINES between 1200 and 1430. O.26.D.8.8. was shelled with 5.9. H.E. and gas shells from 2130 to 2300 from direction of WERVICO.

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(c) M.Gs. Below normal on left Brigade, but on right Brigade front the increased activity recently noticed has been maintained. On the extreme right it is suspected that an increase in the number of active guns has taken place.

(d) T.Ms. Granatenwerfer operated against the extreme right front line positions, and Minenwerfer against the centre of the left Brigade. Otherwise mortar activity was below normal.

(e) Aircraft. Only 7 E.A. were seen during the day, well behind enemy lines.

(f) Movement. Although at times observation of the enemy's rear areas was possible for short durations, very little movement was observed.

At 0715. several men were observed to leave BANG FARM and move E. At 1300 smoke was seen at about O.30.A.64.02.

(g) Miscellaneous. Mag Bearings of 160 and 1000 were taken from O.38.D.80.26. on to active 10 cm. batteries. At 1715 a signal lamp in direction of O.12.B.2.2. was observed sending K.B. K.B. which was continued for 25 minutes. A lamp was observed signalling in WERVICO several times between 2140 and 2400.

[Signature]
Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

ANNEXE.

The attached are shoulder straps worn by the various German Infantry Regiments, opposite the Divisional front. They are circulated to assist in identification.

Aerial summary.

39. B. 188.050. The occupied dugout with a surface trench leading into it probably concealing a large T.L. or anti-Tank gun as described in Serial Annex to Summary No.20. was located previously at O.30.A.37.98. This location is incorrect. The correct location is O.24.C.8.0.

There is no trace visible on aerial photographs taken 1-1-12. of S.P. suspected at O.23.D.3.5. A study of photographs taken later when they are obtainable will probably reveal the S.P.

APPENDIX. 1

ENEMY SHELLING.

TIME.	LOCATION.	NO OF ROUNDS.	CALIBRE.	DIRECTION.
9.0.a.m. to 10.45.a.m.	0.23.A.	22.	5.9. H.E.	COMINES.
12.0.noon to 2.30.p.m.	WALL FARM in 0.23.A.	40.	5.9.H.E. 4.2.H.E.	COMINES.
3.10.p.m.	THE WAMBEKE in 0.22.C.	10.	4.2. H.E.	HOUTHEM.
9.30.p.m. to 11.0.p.m.	0.26.D.8.8.	75.	5.9. H.E.& gas.	WERVICO.
3.10.a.m.	THE WAMBEKE in 0.22.D.	10.	4.2.	HOUTHEM.
5.20.a.m.	0.33.	20.	10.15.cm. H.F.	
6.0.a.m.	0.28.c.	15.	15cm. H.E.	
6.20.a.m. to 8.20.a.m.	MESSINES.	110.	15.cm. H.E.	
7.30.a.m.	0.34.B.&D.	30.	10.c.m. H.E.	
9.0.a.m. to 11.0.a.m.	U.5.	60.	7.7.&10.cm. H.E.	
1.0.p.m. to 3.0.p.m.	U.4.A.&B.	55.	10.&15.cm. H.E.	
4.0.p.m. to 1.30.a.m.	MESSINES.	150.	15.c.m. H.E.	
5.30.p.m. to 8.0.p.m.	U.4.A.&B.	28.	10.c.m. Gas and Shrap.	
7.0.p.m. to 10.20.p.m.	0.34.	58.	10.c.m. H.E.	
8.30.p.m.	U.5.B.	30.	7.7. cm. H.E.	
12.0. p.m. to 4.30.a.m.	0.33.	60.	10.&15.cm. H.E.	
2.30.p.m.	GREEN WOOD.		7.7.mm.	KORTEVILDE.
3.30.p.m.	0.20.C.20.80.		4.2s and 77 gas.	

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

ANNEXE to 1st.Aust.Div.Intelligence Summary. No. 23.

HISTORY OF THE TWO DIVISIONS OPPOSITE DIVISIONAL FRONT.

8th Division.

Commander;- Duke ERNST of SACHSEN-ALTENBURG.

16th Infantry Brigade.

Commander;- Colonel ZWINGER.

72nd.Inf.Regt. 93rd Inf. Regt. 153rd Inf.Regt.

Organisation.

The 8th Division is recruited in the IV Army Corps district (Prussian Saxony). The most important towns in the Army Corps District are MAGDEBURG. HALLE a.S., HALBERSTADT. TORGAU. ALTENBURG and DESSAU.

The 8th Division originally consisted of the 15th and 16th Infantry Brigades, the 15th having the 36th Fusilier Regiment and the 93rd Infantry Regiment, and the 16th having the 72nd Infantry Regiment and the 153rd Infantry Regiment.

In March 1913, the 36th Fusilier Regiment was withdrawn to form part of the reconstituted 113th Division, and the remaining three infantry regiments were grouped together in the 16th Infantry Brigade.

History. On mobilisation the IV Corps (7th and 8th Divisions) was incorporated with the First German Army under von KLUCK. It took part in the Siege of LOUVAIN, the entry into BRUSSELS, the Battle of MONS and the Battle of the MARNE. In September, 1914, it was engaged against the British left wing east of SOISSONS, during the Battle of the AISNE. Towards the end of September 1914, it was transferred from the first Army to the Sixth Army, under the Crown Prince of Bavaria, in which it still remains. In the early days of October 1914, after attacking south of ARRAS, the Corps established its line from south of the SCARPE to MONCHY-au-BOIS. At the end of May, 1915, the 8th Division was relieved in the MONCHY sector by the 11th Division and withdrawn into Army Reserve near DOUAI. In the first fortnight of June, the 7th Division was relieved south of the SCARPE by the 1 Bavarian Reserve Corps, and both divisions of the IV Corps came up to relieve the 117th Division, which had to bear the brunt of the French attacks at NOTRE DAME de LORETTE and SOUCHEZ.

After having resisted the French attacks at SOUCHEZ in May and June together with the 7th Division, the 8th Division was relieved at the beginning of September by the 123rd Division, and went into Army Reserve in the neighbourhood of ROUBAIX-TOURCOING. At the Battle of LOOS, the 8th Div. was rushed up hurriedly to take part in the counter-attacks against LOOS. Here it established itself in its new line and was later joined by the 7th Division.

The IV Army Corps was not seriously engaged in 1916 until the Battle of the SOMME. On the 3rd July it was replaced on the LOOS-LENS front by the extension southwards of the 11th Bavarian Army Corps and the 5th Bavarian Division, and marched via FLINES and DOUAI to FLERS, where it arrived on the morning of the 16th July. The Corps was thrown into the battle immediately on the POZIERES-LONGUEVAL-DELVILLE WOOD front, and suffered extraordinarily.

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heavy losses in its fruitless attempts to recover the ground lost by the divisions previously in line on this front. On the 28th July the Corps was relieved by the IX Reserve Army Corps, and went to refit in the VALENCIENNES area. Thence it went into line in a quiet sector opposite ARRAS relieving the 1 Bavarian Reserve Corps and the 53th Landwehr Brigade on the 9th August. After five weeks rest on this front the Corps was again called upon to take part in the SOMME battle. It was relieved opposite ARRAS by the IX Army Corps and came into line in the THIEPVAL-COURCLETTE sector, where it replaced the 45th Reserve Division on about the 16th September. Here again it saw very heavy fighting and suffered severely. It was relieved on the 1st October; the 7th Division by the 2nd Naval Division and the 8th Division by the 4th ERSATZ Division. It then returned to its old sector on the LOOS salient where the 7th Division relieved the 53rd Reserve Division south-east of LOOS, while the 8th Division relieved the 54th Reserve Division north-east of LOOS. The 7th Division, however was relieved by the 11th Reserve Division on the 10th November and came into line again, almost immediately on the right flank of the 8th Division, where it replaced the 50th Reserve Division south of LA BASSEE Canal. The total casualties admitted officially for the 8th Division for its two visits to the SOMME are as follows:-

	<u>Total casualties.</u>	<u>Percentage of establishment.</u>
8th Division.	7,878.	87.5.
153rd Inf. Regt.	3,002.	100.
72nd Inf. Regt.	3,550.	85.
93rd Inf. Regt.	2,320.	77.

not

During the winter of 1916/1917 the IV Army Corps was engaged in any fighting on a large scale. In April, May and June, however heavy casualties were inflicted on the 8th Divn. in the course of numerous raids which were carried out against it by British Troops. The 153rd Regt, alone lost 130 prisoners.

At the end of July and early in August the 8th Division suffered severely from artillery fire, and when the British attack North of LENS became imminent was relieved by the 7th Division.

The 8th Division entrained on the 6th August in the CARVIN area and detrained on the following day in the area west of REHUEL. A document now shows that the division was in line in the REIMS area on the 9th August.

Moral. After the fighting in 1914 the 8th Division has confined itself almost entirely to the defensive. It has, however, always fought well when attacked and defended its position stubbornly. Its moral can be described as good.

Order of Battle.

<u>8th Division.</u>	
<u>16th Infantry Brigade.</u>	
	72nd Infantry Regiment.
	93rd Infantry Regiment.
	153rd Infantry Regiment.
	A squadron of 10th Hussar Regt.
	74th F.A. Regt.
<u>Divisional Cavalry;</u>	2nd Field Coy. 1 Pioneer Bn. No. 4. 8th Div
<u>Field Artillery.</u>	Bridging Train. 8th Minenwerfer Company.
<u>Engineers.</u>	8th Telephonic Detachment. 41st Field
<u>Communication Troops.</u>	Hospital. Field Post Office. No. 891.

(3).

32nd Division.

Commander;- Major-General v.d. DECKEN.

63rd Infantry Brigade.

Commander:- Col. v. WITZLEBERN.

102nd. Inf. Regt. 103rd Inf. Regt. 177th. Inf. Regt.

The 32nd Division is recruited in the XII Army Corps District (SAXONY). The principal towns in this district are DRESDEN, BAUTZEN, ZITTAU, FREIBERG, LOBAU, MEISSEN, OSCHATZ, PIRNA.

On mobilisation the 32nd Division consisted of the 63rd Infantry Brigade (102nd and 103rd Infantry Regiments) and the 64th Infantry Brigade (177th and 178th Infantry Regiments). In April 1915, the 178th Infantry Regiment was withdrawn to join a new 123rd Division and the remaining three regiments were grouped in the 63rd Infantry Brigade.

On the outbreak of war the 32nd Division formed part of the 3rd German Army under General von HAUSEN and was engaged on the right bank of the MEUSE, between FAHUR and NEUFCHATEAU. It fought in the CHALONS sector in the Battle of the MARNE. The division was then transferred to the 7th German Army under General von HEERINGEN, and took part in the fighting near REIMS; when trench warfare began, it took up its position in the BERRY-au-BAC sector, north-west of REIMS, and remained there till July 1916.

Early in January 1915, the 1st battalion of the 177th Infantry Regiment was sent to the TAHURE sector in CHAMPAGNE to reinforce the 16th Division. This battalion had rejoined the 32nd Division by the end of the month.

At the beginning of the successful Franco-British offensive on the Somme in July 1916, the German Higher Command, having used up all the divisions in reserve at its disposal was obliged to "milk" the majority of divisions in line between the battle area and CHAMPAGNE to obtain a force to stop the gaps in its line south of the river. In response to this demand for reinforcements the 32nd Division sent up the 3rd Battalion of the 102nd Infantry Regiment, which was engaged in the BELLOY Sector from the 3rd to the 8th July.

On about the 20th July the 32nd Division was withdrawn from line north-west of REIMS. Two of its regiments, the 102nd and 103rd together with the 100th Grenadier Regiment, from the 23rd Division, and the 12th Jäger Battalion were combined to form a composite unit called "FRANKE's Division" and were transferred to the Somme. This division came into line in the DENIECOURT-VERMANDOVILLERS sector at the end of July and saw very severe fighting. On the 4th September the 177th Infantry Regiment which had remained behind in the BERRY au-BAC area, joined up with the 102nd and 103rd Infantry Regiments, and the 32nd Division then again assumed its normal composition. The division was relieved on the 7th September and transferred to ARGONNE. The total casualties, admitted officially for the engagement of the 32nd Division on the Somme are as follows -

<u>Total casualties.</u>	<u>Percentage of Establishment.</u>
6,218.	62.

In Argonne the 32nd Division replaced elements of the 4th Division. On the 2nd November the division was relieved by elements of the 9th Division and the 28th Reserve Division, and returned to the SOMME. It entrained at GRANPRE on the 3rd November and came by rail to HERSON, whence it marched, by easy stages, to the area north of ST. QUENTIN.

The 32nd Division relieved the 8th Ersatz Division in the BEUCHAVESNES-CLERY-sur-SOMME sector on the 18th November. It was not

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seriously engaged in this sector although in a local attack made by the British troops on the 4th March, 1917, the division lost 177 prisoners. Towards the end of March the division took part in the early stages of the withdrawal of the German forces on the SOMME to the HINDENBURG Line, and was then replaced by the 9th Reserve Division.

When the French offensive in CHAMPAGNE began, the 32nd Division which had been resting at the SISSONE camp since the end of March, was rushed up to the sector north-west of AUBERIVE, where it replaced the 214th Division on the 13th April. As it was withdrawn again on the following day it can be deduced that its losses were very severe.

The 32nd Division next appeared in the quiet sector at TAHURE (CHAMPAGNE) where it had relieved the 54th Reserve Div.

Towards the middle of June, the 54th Reserve Division returned to its old sector and the 32nd Division was withdrawn to rest. It entrained on the 10th/11th August at NEUFLIZE CIENNES - LILLE - NIVIN and LEDGEHEM, where it detrained. Thence it marched to GHIELWEE and became the "Counter-attack" division of the BECELAERE sector. On the 24th August it came into line and made a vigorous counter-attack on INVERNESS COPSE. After this attack, which was only partly successful the division should have been withdrawn, but as the 34th Division holding the sector was practically exhausted, it remained and took the place of that Division. On the 2nd September the division was relieved by the Bavarian Ersatz Division, and withdrawn.

The 32nd Division is probably one of the best Saxon divisions. The moral of the men is fairly good, and although their attitude is nearly always passive, usually counter-attack with plenty of vigour.

For details of the Order of Battle see page 51 "The German Forces in the Field" 4th Revision. The 64th F.A. Regt has been withdrawn. The 32nd Div. has Field Post Office No. 939.

Note;- Relieved by Bavarian Ersatz Division in VELDHOEK sector on September 24th.

The Saxons (32nd Division) however, are comparatively fresh and may be expected to make a stout resistance.

The 177th I.R. has already been identified in counter-attacks, when it suffered considerable losses.

The proportion of the 1918 Classes in this Division amounts to about a third and is on the increase as some companies are not yet up to strenuous

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 24.

From 6.a.m. 8-1-18. to 6.a.m. 9-1-18.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.(a) Patrols. ; - In addition to usual liaison patrols, following special patrols left our lines. -

1. A patrol of 2 Officers and 16 O.R. left our line at 0.29.A.2.1. to endeavour to come in contact with any enemy patrol. Patrol moved out to about 0.29.A.7.2. then turned in a Southerly direction to 0.29.C.7.8. thence to our line at 0.29.C.25.70., none of the enemy being seen. An enemy M.G. was observed firing from BEEK FARM and digging was heard in the vicinity of FEATHER FARM (0.50.C.4.8.).

2. A patrol of 1 Officer and 15 O.R. left our line at 0.35.A.9.8. at 0215 to engage any enemy patrol in front of sector. Patrol moved out about 250 yards where it remained for half an hour, returning by direct route to our line at 0.17.C.9.1. at 0400; no enemy were encountered.

3. A patrol of 1 Officer and 15 O.R. left our line at 0.17.C.8.0. at 0400 to intercept and engage any enemy patrol in front of sector. Patrol proceeded for about 250 yards in a N.E. direction. At this point a man was heard calling "Hi.Kamerad", but he could not be located. Patrol returned to our line at 0500 at 0.17.C.7.5., none of the enemy having been encountered.

4. At 0040 a patrol of 1 Officer and 10 O.R. left our line at 0.11.B.85.45. and proceeded in direction of the GIANT, the object being to locate enemy M.G. believed to be pushed out in front of this point. When at about 0.12.A.2.1., patrol came under M.G. fire, but gun could not be located. Patrol returned to our line at 0.11.B.6.2. at 0200.

5. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men left U.11.B.55.85. for purpose of examining condition of No Mans Land and enemy wire. Patrol moved N across our front and as close to enemy wire as visibility permitted, to about U.5.D.65.65. where they returned to their lines at 2315. Enemys wire was found strong and thick. Hostile machine guns were active and occasionally swept No Mans Land. Many flares were fired by the enemy.

6. At 2230 a patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left U.5.B.8.7. to locate hostile wiring party and ascertain its strength. Patrol proceeded to about U.6.A.3.4. and laid in wait for 25 minutes; hostile party was located at U.6.A.4.6. and comprised about 30 men repairing trench. Patrol reported same on return to U.5.B.80.05. and a party of our Rifle Grenadiers moved forward and successfully dispersed the party. Time of patrols return 0045.

7. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men left 0.35.A.50.25. at 0400 night of 7/8th) to see result of enemy shelling on left of No.11 Post (0.35.A) Our wire although very thin, was intact and no other damage was observed. Patrol returned at 0500.

(b) Artillery. Prearranged programme was completed by all batteries, and included the thorough harassing of enemies roads, tracks and strong points in the Divisional zone.

In addition the following selected points were subjected to intermittent bursts of intense fire; - LAKE FARM. POLL HOUSE. PUMP HOUSE. PILL FARM. LAKE FARM. AND BOMB FARM.

At 11.50. 40 rounds of gas shell were expended on cross roads at V.1.D.40.40.

8. Destructive shoots were carried out by the MESSINES GROUP on to active hostile trench mortars at U.6.D. Central and T.11.B. The latter was reported to be cutting the wire in front of our Right Battalion at 12.30 a.m. and the above mentioned destructive shoot effectively dealt with same. Counter battery fire was also asked for on three occasions by our Right Bn. to counteract hostile shelling of POLLARD SUPPORT and NEW CROSS C.T. in U.6.C.

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... of ... 1700.

(c) M.Guns. During the night our M.Guns fired on to selected targets composed of tracks and centres of activity in squares U.6. and U.12. and on HOLLEBEKE CHAT. SPUD. MURPHY PAT. PILLEGRENS. LAKE. BOW. AND SALEON FARMS.

(d) T.M.S. In conjunction with artillery shoot at 2130 our L.T.s expended 20 rounds on enemy positions in front of centre of left Brigade. 35 rounds were fired into occupied shell holes and posts in vicinity of O.35.B.9.4.

Our Medium Mortars expended 32 rounds of 6" Newtons on The TWINS. FLY BUILDINGS. U.6.C.10.90. and O.36.C.50.50. and 23 rounds of 9.45" were put down on to O.11.D.90.25. and BAB FARM. These were reported to very satisfactory shoots, several direct hits were obtained on FLY BUILDINGS. timber, iron, bricks and a new wooden door flying into the air.

The whole of the area around O.23.B.65.95. was searched for machine gun emplacements and occupied shell holes.

(e) Aircraft. Our planes only slightly active during the morning owing to weather conditions. Later in the day, activity over enemy lines increased being met with heavy A.A. fire.

2. ENEMYS ACTIVITY.

(a) General Attitude. Quiet except for heavy artillery and Trench Mortar fire on right Brigade front.

(b) Artillery. On the left Brigade front, enemy artillery was less active than usual except in O.23.A. 6 direct hits were obtained on WALL FARM.

On the right Brigade front a decidedly increased activity was again observed. Within a radius of 200 yards in vicinity of POLLARD SUPPORT and NEW CROSS C.T. (U.5.C) over 700 shells fell. NEW CROSS CT was made impassable for a distance of 300 yards, and 4 shelters in POLLARD SUPPORT were damaged. MESSINES and vicinity were intermittently shelled by 7.7. 10 and 15 c.m. shells more particularly at 1215/1300 and again at 1700/2400.

Table of Enemy shelling attached.

(c) M.Guns. Were less active than usual along whole front.

(d) T.M.S. On left Brigade front T.M. activity was below normal. On right Brigade front 38 rounds of heavy and light minenwerfer fell in O.35.A. and D. and about 16 rounds minenwerfer in U.5.B. A large number of granatenwerfer and minenwerfer bombs were fired into our wire and in vicinity of Post at U.11.B.6.7. with evident intention of cutting wire in front of our post. Little damage is reported.

(e) Aircraft. Nil.

(f) Movement. Visibility was good at times during the day and movement observed was normal. At 0920 a party of 50 were observed working on trench in V.8.C. They dispersed shortly afterwards. Another party was observed in V.13.A. just E of HAIRIE-de-WARNETON-SUD. At 1020 four men in vicinity of WHALE FARM (O.30.D.) were seen.

The following group were dispersed by our Lewis Gunners. 4 men on road in O.36.b. - Six of the enemy working in rear of their wire in O.36.A.

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Several parties of the enemy were observed on road between P.5.C.50.15. and P.5.C.40.50. They were engaged by heavy Artillery. Smoke was seen during the day at O.30.A.3.1. At 1500 men were observed walking along a camouflaged track running from O.50.A.7.1. to O.50.D.7.3. A train was seen at 11.15 moving from WERVICO towards COMINES. A train was observed at 1420 to the W of WERVICO moving North.

(g) Miscellaneous.

(E) Flares. Between 1900 and 2030 an exceptional number of flares were fired by the enemy on left Brigade front. Besides the ordinary illuminating flare, single RED, double RED, double GREEN and double YELLOW were fired. No apparent result was observed to follow.

On right Brigade front opposite Right Coy the enemy fired a number of double green flares at 1915, which were reported to roar and to his flanks. Also a few minutes later some orange clusters were sent up from various points and repeated to flanks. At 1950 the firing of colored flares ceased, very few being seen for remainder of the night. During this display a battery of 7.7.cm. from WARMETON was firing on various points in forward area. No other action was observed.

(2) A small fire burning for 2 hours was seen in the rear huts W of Wood V.16.B.

Clough
Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

ANNEXE.

Further or more accurate information is desired upon the following points:-

- (1) Aerial photos show what may be stretches of newly erected wire between RIFLE FARM and WARM FARM. Aerial observers state that no enemy wire is visible between these two points. Patrols should be able to determine whether there is enemy wire and if so to what extent.
- (2) It is suspected that the enemy takes advantage of the cover provided by snow storms to shell rear areas with gas-shells from light guns situated not far in rear of his front line. Watch should be kept for gas shelling which synchronises with falls of snow.
- (3) According to aerial photographs, the enemy is devoting labour to improving his support line running from road at U.6.C.3.6. South to U.12.A.4.0. He also appears to be running a trench from U.6.C.4.6. North to join trench at about U.6.A.4.4. Ground observers should be able to observe working parties at these points.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.ENEMY SHELLING. 9-1-18.

TIME.	LOCATION.	NO OF ROUNDS.	Calibre.	DIRECTION.
9.50.a.m.	O.20.D.	24.	4.2.H.E.	WERVICO.
10.10.a.m. to				
10.15.a.m.	O.22.B.&O.23.A.	36.	4.2. H.E.	COMINES.
11.0.a.m.	O.11.A.	20.	4.2.	TENBRIELEN.
11.20.a.m. to				
4.10.p.m.	O.23.A.	24.	4.2.H.E.	COMINES.
3.0.p.m. to			5.9.	
5.30.p.m.	The RAVINE.	30.	4.2.	COMINES.
8.0.p.m. to				
8.50.p.m.	OOSTTAVERNE WOOD.	28.	5.9. H.E.	N.E.
9.50.p.m.	WALL FARM.	10.	5.9. H.E.	COMINES.
6.20.a.m.	MESSINES.	20.	10.cm. H.E.	
7.30.a.m.				
12.25.p.m.	U.4.A.&C.	51.	10.&15.cm.H.E.	
1.15.a.m.	U.3.A.&B.	50.	10.cm. H.E.	
11.30.a.m. to				
12.0.noon.	U.5.A.&C.	58.	10.c.m. H.E.	
12.15.p.m. to	MESSINES &			
1.15.p.m.	vicinity.	270.	10.&15.cm. H.E.	
2.15.p.m. to				
7.0.p.m.	U.5.C.	600.	10.&15.cm. H.E.	
8.0.p.m. to				
9.0.p.m.	MESSINES.	40.	10.&15.cm. H.E.	
6.15.a.m.to				
12.30.p.m.	O.34.A.B.&D.	100.	7.7.and10.c.m. H.E.	
2.0.p.m. to				
8.0.p.m.	O.33.and 34.	162.	10.&15.cm.	
8.30.p.m.	O.34.	35.	15.cm.H.E.	
9.30.p.m. to				
3.30.a.m.	O.33.	125.	10.&15.cm.H.E.	
8.50.a.m.	O.26.A.	15.	4.2.	WERVICO.
12.0.p.m.	MESSINES.	50.	4.2.	WERVICO.
3.0.p.m.	MESSINES.	6.	4.2.	WERVICO.
12.0.p.m.	O.34.D.		4.2.	
12.45.p.m.	MESSINES.		77mm gas.	WARNETON.
2.40.p.m.	Right Bn and Supports. &		5.9. &	
	Communication Trench.		4.2.	
3.30.p.m.	" "		"	COMINES.
4.5.p.m. to				
5.5.p.m.	" "		"	
5.13.p.m.	O.54.A.		"	

APPENDIX

AERIAL SUMMARY NO. 24.

- (1) 3rd Brigade Summary No. 23 (8-1-17) - Suspected T.M. and M.G. positions at U.6.C.5.5.
Aerial photographs show what seems to be a M.G. position at side of road at U.6.C.47.50. Tracks lead from this across to probable occupied dugout at U.6.C.57.50.
Ref. 69.B.184.
- (2) M.G. fire from O.29.D. has been reported more than once. There is an enemy post at O.29.D.35.70. and a line of fortified shell holes from O.29.D.15.60. to O.29.D.10.90. which probably contains active M.Gs. Ref. 69.B.290.
- (3) A cursory examination of 69.B.395. taken 9th Inst reveals following points of interest.
Probable M.G. Positions at O.17.b.78.98. O.11.D.82.18. (with tracks to it from the road) O.12.C.25.30. O.12.C.05.67.
Enemy post and M.G. at O.17.B.75.80.
Camouflaged M.G. Position or shelter at O.12.C.75.93.
What appear to be T.M. Positions exist at O.17.B.9.4. and O.18.A.05.
-

APPENDIX

AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE.

Special flight reconnaissance made from 1420 to 1530 today reports as follows:-

- " New work (trench) at U.6.C.4.8. Two bombs were dropped, one at U.6.C.4.8. and one at P.20.C.15.00. Both were observed to burst on their objectives by the observer. 80 rounds S.A.A. fired at huts in P.14.C. & P.20.A. 600 rounds S.A.A. fired at M.G. position at P.25.A. P.25.B. P.25.C. U.13.C. and saphead at U.24.C.85.05. which succeeded in neutralising enemy M.G. fire. "

The new work at U.6.C.4.8. is the work referred to in Aerial Annex to 1st. Aust. Div. Summary No. 22 of 7th Inst. Apparently the enemy is continuing this work. Large working parties were observed at this spot by the right Brigade and reported in 3rd Brigade Summary No. 21.

PxO

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 24

From 6.a.m. 9-1-18. to 6.a.m. 10-1-18.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

- (a) Patrols. In addition to usual liaison patrols, following special patrols left our lines:-
1. A patrol of 1 Officer and 15 O.R. left our line at 0.35.C.25.80. at 2245 for the purpose of intercepting and engaging any enemy patrol in front of sector. Patrol moved in an Easterly direction to about 0.29.A.8.0., then turned north to about 0.29.A.7.2., returning to our line at 0.29.A.2.1. at 2400. No enemy were encountered or heard. No Mans Land was found to be very muddy and hard going on account of the thaw.
 2. A patrol of 1 Officer and 15 O.R. left our line at 0.25.C.15.70. at 1550 to engage any hostile patrol opposite sector. Patrol moved to about 0.25.A.8.0., then turned South to about 0.35.C.6.4., passing JUNE FARM. At 0.25.A.8.0. an old tape line was found on a beaten track running North and South. No enemy were seen or heard and patrol returned to our lines at 0.25.C.6.3. at 0445.
 3. A patrol of 1 Officer and 15 O.R. left our line at 0.17.C.8.5. at 0200 to intercept and engage any enemy patrol in front of sector. Patrol moved to 0.17.D.2.4. where wire 6' wide was met with, and then proceeded North along wire to 0.17.D.2.9. The first half of wire traversed was found in good condition but the second half was badly damaged, containing several gaps. No enemy were encountered and patrol returned to our line at 0.17.A.9.2. at 0545.
 4. At 0010 a patrol of 1 Officer and 9. O.R. left our line at 0.11.C.6.3. to reconnoitre No Mans Land between 0.11.C.6.5. and 0.17.B.2.3. and engage any enemy patrols in that vicinity. No enemy were seen or heard and patrol returned to point of departure at 0130. After crossing the ROOZEBEEK at 0.11.C.9.1. no wire could be found for a distance of 400 yards.
 5. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men left U.5.D.6.6. at 0100 to reconnoitre No Mans Land. examine enemy wire and secure identification if possible. Patrol moved E as far as enemy wire and moved S along same to about U.5.D.75.25. when they returned to their lines at U.5.D.5.5. by 0230. Enemy wire was found to be very thick and composed mostly of barbed wire with occasional bolts of French mixed with it. No enemy patrols were met. At U.5.D.75.25. the patrol moved too close to wire and were observed by the enemy, from Strong Post, two men of patrol being wounded by hand grenades. These men were brought in safely. The thaw hindered movement in No Mans Land. Hostile M.Guns and snipers were fairly active.
 6. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 6 men left 0.35.D.65.35. at 0200 for purpose of examination of our own and the enemys wire, and condition of No Mans Land. The patrol traversed No Mans Land between 0.35.D.35.85. and 0.35.D.70.35. and no hostile patrols were met. Both our own and enemys wire were found in good condition. Two hostile M.Guns were active from 0.35.D.75.20. and 0.35.D.95.55. Patrol returned to its line at 0.35.D.45.55. by 0410.

(b) Artillery. During the period under review, all Batteries carried out their pre-arranged programmes of harassing and destructive fire. Searching and swooping of enemy roads, communications and other known centres of activity was proceeded with, and intermittent bursts of intense fire, were put down on to the following selected points:- THE TWINS. FAT FARM. WHIZ FARM. the

(P.T.O.)

(2)

GIANT. PULP FARM. PILLEGRENS FARM. PILL FARM. and LAKE FARM. At 7.15.p.m. our 4.5" Hows. thoroughly searched the road and railway from U.12.B.40.30. to V.1.C.70.00.

During the early morning the line of trees from U.6.B.20.15. to U.6.D.40.90. and area around P.31.D.25.75. were subjected to a slow bombardment with gas shell.

(c) M.Guns. Carried out usual harassing fire on enemy tracks and centres of activity.

(d) T.Ms. L.T.Ms carried out shoots on selected targets. At 0500 One gun fired 30 rounds on enemy trench U.6.A.5.0. to U.6.A.5.4.

M.T.Ms fired 10 rounds on KIVI FARM (0.30.0.) and 10 rounds on hostile M.G. at U.6.C.1.9.

Under covering fire put down by 18 pdrs. our 9.45" Trench Mortars carried out a very satisfactory registration and destructive shoot on to RIFLE FARM. 0.23.D.10.90. Direct hits were observed on earthworks, and one round sent up a quantity of timber and iron cupolas.

(e) Aircraft. Were normally active and patrolled our forward positions until 1400. At 1030, two of our planes were observed to collide and crash near COMINES.

(f) Two listening posts have been established in front of Posts at U.11.B.5.7. and U.11.B.5.0. (Right Coy of Right Sector).

2. ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(a) General Attitude. Quieter than usual. Aerial Activity slightly above normal.

(b) Artillery. The enemy's shelling showed less activity than on the two previous periods, scattered shelling only occurring over our forward and rear areas.

WULVERGHEM-MESSINES road (T.5.C. and 6.C. and D.) was lightly searched by 77 cm. Battery about 2100. The centre forward area of Left Brigade received particular attention from about 1530 to 1430. Attached is table of enemy shelling.

(c) M.Guns. Sweeping fire on No Mans Land and Lines of Communication. Quieter than usual.

(d) T.Ms. Normal. Front lines of left Coy Right Brigade received 50 granatenwerfer bombs.

(e) Hostile Aircraft. Were active between 1000 and 1300 patrol their lines and rear areas. Five planes flew over our lines at 1030 but were driven back by A.A. fire, one plane (Albatross) being brought down in 0.30.D while a second appeared to be hit, but when within a few hundred feet of the ground, recovered itself and flew away.

(f) Enemy Defences. M.Gs located at about 0.12.A.3.2. 0.11.D. 6.5. 0.29.B.1.8. 0.29.D.2.9.

(g) Movement. At 0930 a periscope was observed in a shell hole at about 0.29.A.8.8. A party of 6 of the enemy was seen walking towards SQUARE FARM at 1000. At 1215, during the bombardment of our H.Tms., 12 of the enemy were seen to leave RIFLE FARM in pairs and run to BAB FARM. At 1225 smoke was seen in HOUTHEM. At 0950 two men were seen to walk from P.31.B.30.75. to P.32.B.4.4. At 0955 one man left new trench at V.8.C.2.3. and moved in direction of COMINES.

(3)

0800 3 men seen walking down road from P.32.A.08.32. to PONT MALHET twining to L after crossing bridge and disappearing from view. 0805 1 man seen at P.32.A.08.32. walked to PONT MALHET and disappeared from view. 0807 4 men appeared at PONT MALHET walked along road to P.32.A.08.32. disappearing from view. Considerable train movement in WERVICO during early movement.

(h) Miscellaneous.

A gun flash was observed on a T.B. of 700 from O.16.D.9.1. it appeared to be behind wood in P.5.

Blanching
Cap

Colonel.
for General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

APPENDIX I

ENEMY SHELLING. (No. 24)

TIME.	LOCATION.	NO OF ROUNDS.	CALIBRE.	DIRECTION.
7.55.a.m.	0.26.D.8.8.	10.	5.9. H.E.	WERVICQ.
9.0.a.m.	GUN FARM.	10.	5.9. H.E.	WERVICQ.
9.15 to 9.45.a.m.	0.23.A.	24.	4.2. H.E.	WERVICQ.
10.0.a.m.	0.11.B.&.D.	27.	4.2. H.E.	ZANDVORDE
12.35.p.m.	0.21.D.	6.	4.2. H.E.	WERVICQ.
1.35.p.m. to			4.2. H.E.	
2.30.p.m.	0.17.C.&.0.23.A.	132.	5.9. H.E.	S.E.
8.0.p.m.	0.21.A.	15.	4.2. H.E.	COMINES.
9.0.p.m. to				
12.midnight.	0.20.B.	15.	5.9. &.2 H.E.	S.E.
3.0.a.m. to				
4.0.a.m.	DERRY HOUSE.	25.	5.9. H.E.	WERVICQ.
8.30.a.m.	0.34.B.	17.	7.7. cm. H.E.	
10.0.a.m. to				
12.15.p.m.	0.28.C.	42.	15.cm. H.E.	
11.0.a.m. to				
4.0.p.m.	U.5.	45.	7.7. cm. H.E.	
1.00.p.m.	0.35.A.	30.	15.cm. H.E.	
7.0.p.m. to				
8.0.p.m.	U.4.B.&.C.	12.	10.cm. H.E.	
12.0.midnight.	U.8.B.	8.	10.cm. H.E.	
3.50.a.m. to				
4.0.a.m.	U.35.C.&.D.	26.	7.7.&.15.cm. H.E.	
11.50.a.m.	Front Line.			
	about centre of Sector.	10.	4.2.H.E.	COMINES.
11.5.a.m.	0.9.A.	20.	4.2.	COMINES.
12noon.	0.26.A.	2.	4.2.	COMINES.
12.noon.	0.23.C.	6.	5.9. H.E.	COMINES.
1.10.p.m.	0.27.A.	4.	4.2.H.E.	COMINES.
1.30.p.m.	Front system in	25.	4.2."How.	ZANDVOOR
1.45.p.m.	0.17.C.			
	0.26.B.	8.	4.2."H.E.	COMINES.

(P.T.O.)

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

CONFIDENTIAL.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 26.

From 6.a.m. 10-1-18. to 3.a.m. 11-1-18.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Patrols. 1. At 0400 a patrol of 2 Officers and 18 O.R. left our line at 0.29.C.2.7. to intercept and engage any enemy patrols in front of sector. Patrol proceeded in an Easterly direction to about 0.29.C.8.8., then turned North to about 0.29.A.7.2. No enemy were encountered, but patrol came under considerable M.G. fire from direction of 0.29.D.5.5. Patrol returned to our line at 0.29.A.15.10. at 0610.

2. A patrol of 1 Officer and 10. O.R. left our line at 0400 from 0.25.C.13.80. to inspect enemy wire between RIFLE and WAM FARMS. Patrol proceeded towards RIFLE FARM meeting wire at 0.25.D.2.9. then worked along wire to 0.25.D.1.3., returning to our line at 0.23.C.2.3. at 0515. Patrol reports that there are signs of recent work, but wire is not continuous and varies from 10 feet to 15 feet in width. This agrees with 69.B.187 as outlined in 1st.Aust.Div. Summary No. 20.

3. At 1745 a patrol of 1 Officer and 10. O.R. left our line at 0.11.D.2.7. to deny position to enemy H.G. pushed out in front of the GIANT at 0.11.D.7.5. Patrol proceeded to a point about 0.11.D.8.6. but no sign was seen or heard of the enemy. Patrol reports a thin belt of wire in front of the GIANT and that No Mans Land is very muddy and hard going. All shell holes are full of water. Patrol returned to our line at 2030 to point of departure.

4. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 6 men left 0.35.A.4.9. at 0230 to examine our wire and the enemy's, and report on condition of No Mans Land. Patrol traversed No Mans Land from 0.36.A.4.9. to 0.35.D.1.9, and found it very slippery and boggy. Our wire in this vicinity is reported in good condition. The patrol returned to our lines at 0.35.D.1.9. by 0430. Touch with the enemy was not gained.

5. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left U.5.B.8.6. at 1200 to reconnoitre No Mans Land and watch for hostile movement. Patrol reconnoitred No Mans Land from U.5.B.85.60. to U.5.B.85.00. moving out about 100 yards. Ground was very muddy and slippery on account of thaw. No hostile patrols or working parties were observed. Hostile H.G. was active at U.6.A.22.00. and flares were fired from U.6.A.15.40. and U.6.A.22.00. Patrol returned to its lines at U.5.B.85.00. by 0230.

6. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 4 men left U.5.D.55.10. at 1745 to examine our wire on front U.5.D.55.10. to U.11.B.50.65. This was found in good order. Also to examine ground 40 yards in advance of U.11.D.50.65. This was done and no sign or sound of the enemy was seen or heard. Very few flares were fired. Patrol returned to U.11.D.50.65. at 1915.

7. A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men left U.5.D.7.7. at 1850 to report any hostile movement and reconnoitre No Mans Land. Patrol moved S to U.5.D.8.2. No enemy were seen and our wire was found in good condition. No Mans Land was muddy. Patrol returned to its lines at U.5.D.7.6. by 2000.

(b) Artillery. The usual harassing policy was carried out. In addition bursts of fire were directed on to selected targets, including, CANAL BANK. at 0.22.D.80.79. COPSE FARM. BANG FARM. TWINS. PILL FARM. LAKE FM. H.G. positions in squares 0.12.D. C.29.1. 0.23.D. 0.35.B. and T.M. position at 0.36.C.50.50. In answer to a call from our right Bn, Left Brigade, our counter-batteries engaged and silenced enemy guns firing in vicinity of LUM FM between 1800 and 2000. At 1500 - 1600 Heavy Artillery fired on P.34. but results could not be observed by Infantry

(P.T.O.)

APPENDIX I

(2).

Observers. At 2200 a special shoot against enemy positions in O.23.D. and O.29.B. was indulged in.

(c) M.Guns. Harassing fire was maintained upon known tracks and positions. KINGSCLERE and tracks in the vicinity received special attention.

(d) T.Ms. Hostile M.G. at O.35.D.8.9. (approx) was silenced by L.T.M. fire. Our L.T.Ms also co-operated with artillery in shoot on O.23.D. and O.29.B. at 2200. M.T.Ms fired 14 rounds on hostile M.Guns at U.6.C.05.80. and U.6.C.15.95.

(e) Aircraft. Our planes were very active throughout daylight frequently crossing the enemys lines. At 0945 two of our planes flying low were observed over HOUTHEM. At 1350 12 of our machines were seen returning from direction of COMINES. They were heavily engaged by A.A. batteries without result.

2. ENEMYS ACTIVITY.

(a) General Attitude. With the exception of Artillery fire on left Brigade front, enemy activity was below normal.

(b) Artillery. There was very little hostile shelling on right Brigade front. Enemy shelling was more active than usual on left Brigade front. This unusual activity was limited however, to vicinity of LUM Fm and squares O.17.C. O.19.D. and O.20.C. Most of this shelling seemed to come from the direction of WERVICO.

(c) M.Guns. Usual intermittent burst of fire against our positions and communications was maintained during the night. Patrols located a M.G. firing from U.6.A.22.00. M.Gs were also active at O.35.B.2.5. and O.35.B.7.2.

(d) T.Ms. On left Brigade front T.Ms were not active. Post at U.5.D.8.9. on right Brigade front was bombed for 10 minutes. A number of granatonwerfer bombs fell in vicinity of U.11.B.8.8. A T.M. position has been located at O.36.C.6.5.

(e) Aircraft. Activity was normal over enemys own lines. A few planes crossed our lines but were apparently deterred from further progress by the fire of our A.A. guns.

(f) Enemy Defences. A new trench and wire has been located running from vicinity of U.6.Central to a spot close to WARMETON TOWER. M.G. and T.M. positions located as in Para c and d.

(g) Movement. Between 0730 and 0830 parties of the enemy were observed moving N.W. from LAKE Fm. About 50 were observed moving in parties of 3 or 4, all going to same position. They disappeared at a point on a magnetic bearing of 1070 from O.21.D.0.5. At 0910, hostile party of 30 men were observed working at V.16. central. Constant movement of individual men from 0700 to 0900 was observed between O.35.B.1.9. (approx) GUARD FARM (O.29.D.4.1) and ANGLE FARM (O.36.A.8.7.) Light engine was observed at Dump P.25.D. at 0830, and moved N.E. at 0845, and at 1235 another was seen close to HALLET FARM (P.25.D.) small engine was seen at O. 3 4.3. at 1350.

Train Movement.

Considerable activity was observed in the enemys rear areas throughout the hours of daylight. Movement table as under:-

Time.	Direction.	Locality.
0735.	1 train moving N.	N. of WERVICO.
0740.	1 " " N.	S. of WERVICO.
0800/1000.	5 " " N.	S. of COMINES.
0800/1000.	3 " " S.	E. of " "
1025.	1 " " N.E.	LINCELLES.
1050.	1 " " N.E.	" "
1130.	1 " " E.	WERVICO.
1135.	1 " " S.	110 degs T.B.
1200.	1 " " N.	80 deg. T.B.
1300/1400.	1 " Shunting.	N.E. of WERVICO.
1415.	1 " moving. S.	WERVICO.
1515.	2 " shunting.	N. of WERVICO.
1645.	1 " moving N.	LINCELLES.

(bearings taken from O.35.C.40.35).

(3).

0830. COMINES to WERVICO.
 1100 COMINES to WERVICO.
 1400 2 trains in ZANDVOORDE.
 1520 WERVICO to COMINES.

(h) Miscellaneous. A number of tracks are clearly visible to ground observers running from PIKE HOUSE to ARROW FARM. A lamp signalling was observed on the outskirts of COMINES about square V.4. At 0730 three "GOLDEN RAIN" flares were fired from enemy lines in O.33.A. No action was observed to follow. A fire was seen in vicinity of SQUARE FARM and burnt from 0015 to about 0400. A large fire was observed near KORTWILDE at 2330 and was still burning at 0500.

At 1230, dense smoke was observed rising from U.13.Central, which lasted for 20 minutes, our artillery were not active in that vicinity. Hostile searchlights were active from vicinity of TENDRIELLEN and LINGELLES at 1745.

The following bearings were taken to enemy gun flashes from O.19.D.65.85.

	4 deg	left of WERVICO CHURCH.	
	3 deg.30 mm	right of	do.
	6 deg.	left of	do.
	7 deg.	left of	do.
(8" How.)	4 deg.	right of	do.
	25 deg.	left of	do.

Angus
 for Colonel.
 General Staff.
 1st Australian Division.

ANNEXE.

Further or more accurate information is required upon the following points.

- (1) Action taken in the case of 50 of the enemy observed moving in parties of 3 or 4 North West from LAKE EL.
- (2) Action taken in the case of enemy party of 30 men observed working at V.13.Central.