

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/42/38 Part 1

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 1st
Australian Division

March 1918



AWM4-1/42/38PART1

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 21

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
SCHERPENBERG:	1st. March.	1918.	<p>Weather cold and windy frost at night.</p> <p>The 3rd. Aust. Inf. Brigade relieved the 4th. Aust. Inf. Brigade in the right sector. While the relief was in progress the enemy raided the front line posts of the right battalion which was in process of relief by 10th Battalion. For full report see Appendix. <u>I</u></p> <p>The relief was carried out by two Battalions only in accordance with Divisional Order 62, attached to War Diary for February.</p>	APPENDIX. <u>I</u>
"	2nd. March.		<p>The Command of the Sector passed to G.O.C. 1st. Aust. Division at 10 a.m.</p> <p>Weather bitterly cold, easterly winds, from 30-35 miles per hour, temperature below freezing, some snow.</p> <p>The two remaining Battalions of the 3rd. Aust. Inf. Brigade moved from NEUVE EGLISE to Support and Reserve Battalion positions of the Right Brigade Sector.</p> <p>Daily Intelligence Summaries giving details of each days operations are appended hereto vide appendix. <u>II</u></p> <p>Morning and Evening reports for the month are also appended Vide Appendix. <u>III</u></p>	APPENDIX. <u>II</u> APPENDIX. <u>III</u>
"	3rd. March.		<p>Frosty morning. Later milder - light south east wind.</p> <p>Lt-Col. I.G. MACKAY DSO. 4th Battalion reported to D.H.Q. yesterday for duty in connection with the Organisation of the new Machine Gun Battalion. He will be the first first Commanding Officer, the War establishment has not yet been published.</p>	
"	4th. March.		<p>Wet and cold weather, some sleet.</p> <p>G.S.O.1 of this Division with G.S.O.1 of 37th Division on our left reconnoitred the Support System of the 37th Division, with view to linking up with our Support System.</p> <p>Orders for A.A. Lewis and Vickers guns (51/89) issued in sufficient numbers to distribute to all gun commanders. Vide Appendix. <u>IV</u></p>	APPENDIX. <u>IV</u>
"	5th. March.		<p>Daily tours of inspection of the forward defences are carried out by officers of the Divisional Headquarters Staff, As a general practice at least one General Staff Officer and one other officer visits the Battalion Sections.</p> <p>Today visits were made by the G.O.C. and A.D.C. GSO.11. D.M.G.O. and Div. Gas. Officer. Weather fine and bright, visibility very good. S/7522 Defence Organisation</p> <p>No. 2. issued vide Appendix. <u>V</u></p>	APPENDIX. <u>V</u>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SCHERPENBERG.	6th.	March.	<p>Fine bright sunny day. Frosty in early morning.</p> <p>Lectures are still being arranged on military and other subjects. Particulars are contained in Appendix. <i>VI</i></p> <p>The Centre Battalion (9th 5th Battalion) headquarters and reserve Company were subjected to a heavy gas bombardment and suffered severe casualties. This will be made the subject of an inquiry and the proceedings or a precis will be attached hereto <i>for</i></p>	APPENDIX. <i>VI</i>
" "	7th.	March.	<p>A new edition of the B.A.B. Trench Code No. 4. was received and issued with this Office letter S/7535.</p> <p>6.15.p.m. Telephone message from 5th. Aust. Div. on our right reported cloud gas in the ROOZEBEEK Valley - later a wire reporting Gas at OOSTAVERNE at 6.p.m. was received.</p> <p>Warnings issued to all concerned. No gas cloud attack developed.</p> <p>7.45.p.m. Telephone message from Aust Corps stated that a prisoner captured by 37th Division on our left reports that the enemy is to attack tonight, time unknown. The attack will be delivered by one battalion each of the 31st. R.I.R. and 84th. R.I.R. supported by other troops unknown.</p> <p>Their attack which was to be preceded by a gas shell bombardment was to take place from GHELUVELT to POLDERHOEK their objectives being the high ground N.W. of GHELUVELT. Brigades and C.R.A. were warned.</p> <p>The support Battalion of the Left Brigade was warned to be ready to move to the reserve line and to deliver a counter attack on our immediate left. Artillery and M.Gs also took precautionary measures.</p>	
" "	8th.	March.	<p>No infantry action developed last night but the 37th Division, artillery was very active. S/7552 reference action to be taken during gas shell bombardment issued to all concerned.</p> <p>6.p.m. Report received from 37th Division on our left that an S.O.S. Signal had gone up on their front. Our artillery and machine guns opened on their S.O.S. lines and on left Division front.</p> <p>Later. The enemy attacked 37th Division at 5.45.p.m. and succeeded in obtaining a foothold in part of their trench. System on their left brigade front.</p> <p>Counter attacks are being delivered. The enemy attack on the 37th Division right, if it developed proved completely unsuccessful.</p>	Appendix <i>VIII</i>
A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D.D. & L. Forms/C./2118/14.				

WAR DIARY

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SCHERPENBERG.	9th.	March.	<p>Fine bright sunny day. Slight frost in early morning, ground haze later. Light East wind.</p> <p>37th Division succeeded in driving the enemy from the trenches lost last night. See Intelligence and Operation summaries.</p> <p>S/7563 appendix. <u>IX</u> issued, dealing with precautionary action to be taken when hostile attack appears to be imminent.</p> <p>D.H.Q. letter 100/354 appendix <u>X</u> issued.</p>	<p>APPENDIX. <u>IX</u></p> <p>APPENDIX. <u>X</u></p>
"	"	10th.	<p>March. Lecture. "The Law, what it is and why we obey it" by Professor Geldart, Oxford University was delivered to the 2nd. Aust. Inf. Brigade. The lecture was not a great success as it was rather above the heads of the audiences and would have been more suitable for a gathering of law students.</p> <p>Corps Commander accompanied by Sir. Thomas ROBINSON Agent General for Queensland, visited D.H.Q. and lunched here.</p> <p>As indicated in the daily Summaries of operations and intelligence attached hereto, the enemy is becoming increasingly active and an attack is expected at any time. It is thought that his main effort will be directed at a point further South.</p>	
"	"	11th.	<p>March. Fine bright warm day, calm or gentle east wind, slight frost in early morning. A Divisional O.P. is now established in the 5th. Aust. Division Sector on our right which will enable us to keep the low ground East of the ZANDVOORDE ridge under observation.</p> <p>D.H.Q. letter 82/553 appendix <u>XI</u> issued dealing with Anti-Gas Measures.</p>	<p>APPENDIX. <u>XI</u></p>
"	"	12th.	<p>March. Good weather continues, fine bright sunny day.</p> <p>5th. Aust. Division on our right carried out two successful minor operations last night. They inflicted casualties, captured six prisoners and suffered six casualties. They established normal identifications opposite their front.</p>	
"	"	13th.	<p>March. Fine weather continues. Enemy artillery and trench mortars are increasing in activity and some small attacks appear probable.</p> <p>S/7587a appendix. <u>XII</u> issued reference the formation of the 1st. Aust. Machine Gun Battalion. The war establishment has now been issued, and Lt-Col I.G. MACKAY DSO has been appointed to command. The organisation of the new unit will now proceed.</p>	<p>APPENDIX. <u>XII</u></p>

A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C. 2118/14.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SCHERPENBERG.	15th. March.	1918.	Lecture on Industry after the War, Vide appendix. <u>VI</u> The G.S.O.11 is to attend the next Senior Staff School. Cambridge, his place will be filled temporarily by Major. A.W. HUTCHIN. Brigade Major. 3rd. Aust. Inf. Brigade. Major J.S.S. ANDERSON M.C. will act as Brigade Major 3rd. Aust. Inf. Bde, Major ANDERSON reported for duty this afternoon. D.H.Q. letter 100/366 issued publishing information obtained from prisoners reference the impending German Offensive Appendix. <u>XIII</u>	APPENDIX. <u>VI</u> <u>XIII</u>
" "	16th. March.		Fine bright and calm day. Major. A.W. HUTCHIN. Brigade Major. 3rd. Aust. Inf. Bde. reported to D.H.Q. to relieve G.S.O.11. during his absence at the Senior Staff Course Cambridge. Div. Order <u>63</u> . appendix. <u>XIV</u> was issued dealing with the concentration of the Reserve Brigade in the RIDGEWOOD Area. This move will bring the Reserve Brigade more than two miles nearer its position of readiness, and thus will save time and energy in the event of an enemy attack.	<u>XIV</u>
" "	17th. March.		Early morning frost. Fine sunny day. Right Brigade notified as to danger areas in Projector gas attack by 5th. Aust. Division. Normal day in Line. At night enemy put up an organised shoot of whole forward area with 5.9. 4.28 77 and gas Gas was put over as far back as the heavy batteries, and contained a considerable proportion of lachrymatory. Working parties were considerably interfered with and in some instances cancelled. He Bombardment (mutual) throughout greater part of the night. 37th Division put down a xxx C. P. shoot at 0400.	<u>XIV</u>
" "	18th. March.		Cold morning Fine day. H.V. Gun shelling LA CLYTTE. Quiet day and night in the line.	
" "	19th. March.		Normal day in line. Heavy Gas shoot over forward and back areas at night Working parties had to cease. Gas casualties have occurred daily since 17th either as aftermath of big concentration put down or odd shelling Vide special Report by Div. Gas Officer Appendix. <u>XV</u>	APPENDIX. <u>XV</u>

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
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CHERPENBERG.	20th.	March.	Normal day. Misty up to 11.a.m. fine thence onwards. H.V. Guns very active over back areas. Mutual Artillery activity, general throughout the night, No infantry action.	
"	"	21st.	March. 0400 - Enemy commenced putting over gas at dawn. Small enemy party attempted to secure identification on centre Battalion front. Party consisted of the ten, 4 men taken prisoners, 1 of whom died. H.V. guns again active on back areas. Night. Quiet generally in forward area. Bosche ration party wandered into our lines, 2 prisoners taken. New identification obtained 8th Division. 93. R.I.R.	
"	"	22nd.	March. 5th. Aust. C. P. shoot 15 minutes put down. Quiet day in line. G.O.C. visited Army H.Q.	
"	"	23rd.	March. Army Commander visited D.H.Q. and the Staff were present to receive him. Superimposed Group (4th Div. Art.) received orders to move to MERRIS for entrainment South Left Division Area today. Division received verbal orders to take over wider front consisting of 3 Battalions to the South from 5th. Aust. Division. G.O.C. 2nd. Brigade sent for and given instructions.	
"	"	24th.	March. G.S.O.1 went up to fix with Brigadiers the distribution on the front. Special Order of the Day from G.H.Q. re the fight on the SOMME issued to all units. 2nd. Brigade (less 2 batt) relieved 14th A.I. Bde. (less 2 Battn) in the line WYTSCHAETE Sector Relief reported completed at 11.p.m. without incident. 2nd. A.I. Bde remains under 5th. Aust. Div. until 10.a.m. tomorrow 26th Inst. Quiet night in the line.	
"	"	25th.	March. Weather cold a little rain. Quiet day in the line. Notification received from Corps that all Schools would close down and personnel be returned to units. People People en route for leave returned home. 1st. Aust. Inf. Bde took over Reserves water Ammunition and rations in 2nd Zone Defence from 2nd and 14th A.I. Bde. Night. 1 Battn 2nd Bde relieved 59th Battn 3rd. Brigade extended boundary to NORTH FM (exclusive) 1 Bn Lincolns relieved 3rd Bn in the line. 1st. Bde move to ENFORDON in Divisional Reserve. All reliefs completed without incident. Quiet night generally. Patrols active. Left Bde brought in a wounded Bosche Officer as result of patrol encounter.	

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HERPENBERG.	26th.	March.	Blowing throughout the day. B.G.G.S. Aust Corps visits Division re the organisation of all people left out of Battns. 5th.Aust.Div. moves from Corps Reserve to X Corps areas. Patrol encounters at night Vide Summary.	
"	"	27th.	March. G.O.C. went forward. Cold day. Normal in the line. Fidgety night. Bosche attempted raid against 10th Bn and failed. Identifications from dead were normal. 1 Prisoner taken alive from previous nights patrol.	
"	"	28th.	March. G.O.C. 49th.Division called. 37th. Division are being relieved tonight by 49th. Quiet day in the line. Enemy very keen to get identifications at frequent intervals.	
"	"	29th.	March. Early morning 6.a.m. Enemy attempted to raid posts just south of canal and failed. Enemy trench Mortar fire heavy. Blew out two posts. Division preparing to move at short notice. All units arranging to dump superfluous gear. Preliminary reconnaissance made by G.S.O.111 and O.C. "Z" Special Coy R.E. with a view to finding a suitable position to instal gas projectors for a concentration on LOCK 5. Suitable place found at I.36.C.5.3. up to which point projectors can be brought by light railway and trench tramway. All further details to be arranged between O.C. "Z" Coy and 3rd.Aust.Inf.Brigade. Army Commander met G.O.Cs, G.S.O.1s, and G.OCs Brigades of 1st.Aust. and 2nd.Aust. and 49th Divisions at hut at 1st.Aust.Div.H.Q. Major-General HARRINGTON M.G.G.S. 2nd Army spoke on to the general situation on the Battle Front and Army Commander added a few words. Corps Commander visited 2nd and 3rd Brigades in the line.	
"	"	30th.	March. Raining intermittently throughout the day. Enemy activity in all arms showed a marked decrease. Defence scheme of left Brigade received. Relief of 17th.Res.Div. opposite us, appears to be in progress.	
"	"	31st.	March. Cloudy day but warm. Observation very good. Quiet day on whole front. G.S.O.11. 19th Division arrives.	

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			<p>In addition to the Appendices shewn in the text the following are attached.</p> <p>APPENDIX. XVI. S/7540 Reporting shell fire.</p> <p>APPENDIX. XVII. S/7544 re frequency with which Gas Shell is used by the enemy.</p> <p>APPENDIX. XVIII. D.O. 64 re extension of Divisional Front.</p> <p>APPENDIX. XIX. D.O. 65 re relief of 1st Brigade from line.</p> <p>APPENDIX. XX. D.O. 66 re projector gas attack.</p> <p>APPENDIX. XXI. D.O. 67 re Minor Operation to be carried out by 2nd.A.I.Bde.</p> <p>APPENDIX. XXII. S/7765 Machine Gun Instructions.</p> <p>APPENDIX. XXIII. Strength at beginning of Month.</p> <p>APPENDIX. XXIV. Strength at end of Month.</p> <p>APPENDIX. XXV. (Casualties for Month - No of Officers and Other Ranks joined for Month.</p> <p>APPENDIX. XXVI. Divisional Gas Officers report for period 1st to 31st March.</p> <p>APPENDIX. XXVII. 2. 26 ops.</p>	

WAR DIARY

APPENDIX

OF

1st. Australian Division "General Staff"

FOR

March.

1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
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APPENDIX. II. ✓	Daily Intelligence Summaries for Month.
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APPENDIX. IV. ✓	Orders for Machine Guns and Lewis Guns on Anti-Air-Craft Duty.
APPENDIX. V. ✓	S/7522. Defence Organisation No. 2.
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APPENDIX. XVIII. ✓	D.O. 64 re extension of Divisional Front.
APPENDIX. XIX. ✓	D.O. 65 re relief of 1st. Aust. Inf. Bde from line.
APPENDIX. XX. ✓	D.O. 66. re projector gas attack.
APPENDIX. XXI. ✓	D.O. 67. re minor operation to be carried out by 2nd. Aust. Inf. Bde.
APPENDIX. XXII. ✓	S/7765 Machine Gun Instructions.
APPENDIX. XXIII. ✓	Strength at beginning of month.
APPENDIX. XXIV. ✓	Strength at end of Month.
APPENDIX. XXV. ✓	(Casualties for month of March
	(No of Officers and other ranks joined for
	(month of March
APPENDIX. XXVI. ✓	Divisional Gas Officers report for period 1st to 31st March 1918 inclusive.

APPENDIX. XXVII.

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* to Original Only.

REPORT ON ENEMY RAID ON 10th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

ON NIGHT 1/2nd.MARCH 1918.

APPENDIX I

SUMMARY.

Strength of RAIDING PARTY (estimated) 3 Officers and 189 Other Ranks.

Party wore White Bands on Left Sleeve above the Elbow.

FRONTAGE OF ATTACK.- From 0.6.c.4.2. to 0.12.a.3.8.(150 to 200 yards)

MILITARY CONDITIONS - Very favourable to the ENEMY as the Battalion was in the act of Relieving the 13th Battalion A.I.F.

WEATHER CONDITIONS.- The NIGHT was very dark.

TIME OF ATTACK. - 9.40 p.m.

ENEMY'S OBJECTIVE - Company Headquarters in Pill Box at 0.12.a. 35.95, and Posts 3.0.12, 4.0.12 and 1.0.6.

RESULT. - Enemy succeeded in overcoming Post 1.0.6 and surrounded Coy. Hqrs. Pill Box taking Prisoners. They were driven off by Posts 3.0.12 and 4.0.12 sustaining casualties of 10 Officers 30 Other Ranks killed and 1 Officer 3 Other ranks wounded and Prisoners. One unwounded German was captured. They were also reported to have had casualties in getting back through our Barrage, and to have had 8 other ranks killed by Left Post of 5 3rd. Bn.(on our right) and 1 other rank wounded and prisoner.

OUR CASUALTIES.- Killed - 1 Officer (Major H.N. Henwood) and 3 other ranks

Wounded- 1 Officer (Capt.A.H.Macdonald) and 13 other ranks

Missing(believed captured) 7 other ranks.

The 13th.A.I. Battalion also sustained casualties.

The ENEMY obtained no papers of value. Major Henwood's Maps, B.A.B. Code etc were found hidden in the Dugout when retaken. The Fullerphone was also found hidden under the Bed.

NARRATIVE.

On Night 1/2nd March the 10th. Battalion relieved the 13th Battalion AIF in Right Battalion Sector of 1st. Division on Right of CANAL.

The Relief was nearing completion when at 9.40 p.m. the ENEMY put down a Barrage of Pineapple Bombs and Minnenwerfers on our wire and Front Line Posts. About 30 minutes later a heavy Barrage of 4.2", 5.9", and 8" fell on our Front, Support, and Reserve Lines, on Battalion Headquarters, and on the OAK AVENUE and the Duckwalks leading back along the CANAL.

9.43 p.m. Our S.O.S. went up from the Front Line, and was repeated back by Visual Sig nal and by Buzzer to Brigade Headquarters and to Artillery.

9.50 p.m. Our Barrage opened. All Signals were reported down. Message sent by Runner to "B" Coy.(Reserve) at White Chateau to man Reserve Line Strong Posts and to "A" and "W"(Raiders) Companies to "Stand To".

10.5 p.m. An Officer of the 13th. Battalion came in from the Front Line Left and reported that the ENEMY was attacking on both Banks of the CANAL

10.15 p.m. ENEMY'S fire slackened.

10.35 p.m. ENEMY'S fire almost ceased.

10.40 p.m. A Man from "B" Company front Line Posts reported that the

REPORT ON ENEMY RAID ON 19th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

ON NIGHT 1/2nd. MARCH 1918 (Contd)

APPENDIX

NARRATIVE (contd)

- Enemy had Raided our Right Posts and captured Coy. Hq.
- 10.40 p.m. Sent Message to O.C. "W" (Raiders) Coy. at White Chateau to report immediately to Battalion Headquarters.
- 10.41 p.m. Verbal message received from O.C. "C" Coy. (in Support Line) that "D" Company Headquarters had been raided and that he was attacking immediately to retake them.
- 10.58 p.m. Received message from O.C. "C" Coy. sent at 10.30 p.m. confirming verbal message as above.
- 11.19 p.m. Received message from O.C. "C" Coy. (Left Front Coy) "Have retaken "D" Coy. Hqrs., and replaced casualties in Posts. My Support Line is very thin!"
- 11.29 p.m. Sent message to O.C. "A" Coy. to send two Platoons to report to O.C. "C" Coy. and reinforce Support Line.
- 11.31 p.m. O.C. "W" Coy. reported at BN.HQ.. Sent out a Fighting Patrol of 3 Officers and 35 other ranks from "W" Coy. under Capt. Macdonald with orders to report on situation of whole of Front Line.
- 11.50 p.m. Sent short report on situation to 3rd. A.I. Brigade HQ.
- Between 12 midnight and 2 a.m. four Prisoners, 1 Officer and 2 other ranks wounded and 1 other rank unwounded were received at BN.HQ and dealt with by BN.I.O. in the usual manner.
- 1 a.m. Received message from O.C. "C" Coy. "Have reconnoitred the whole of Battalion Front and report situation normal and all Posts manned."
- 2 a.m. Capt. A.H. Macdonald reported wounded and stated his Patrol had been fired at from direction of Lock & 6 when at about O.6.c.5.1.
- 2.30 a.m. I visited the Support Line and Front Line Posts and found all quiet. I obtained the following information :-

FROM LIEUT. C.J. SCOTT- At 9.40 p.m. what appeared to be a Box Barrage was put down on our Line. Some few minutes later men were observed moving through our wire from direction slightly Left of Post 1.0.6. After Bombing they rushed this Post. I was at Post 3.0.12 and turned Lewis Gun on the Party. About this time the S.O.S. went up. Another party was then observed advancing through wire between 3.0.12 and 4.0.12. The Lewis Gun was turned on them, and they were attacked with Bombs, when they retired. When I opened Fire on the First Party I sent a Runner to Coy. Hqrs. to report that Enemy was attacking our Front. By the time the Runner (Pte Searle) got to Coy. Hqrs. it was in the hands of the Enemy, and he was captured. I heard him shout out "Mr Scott" MrScott"

I next saw a party of about 6 men advancing down road South from Coy. Hqrs. They shouted out in bad English "Don't Shoot" I opened fire on them and wounded and captured a German Officer, the party scattered, the Post opened fire with rifles and three were killed between posts 2.0.12 and 3.0.12 while attempting to recross our wire. Lance Corporal Wallace and Private Reach volunteered to accompany me and reconnoitre Posts 4.0.12 1.0.6. and Coy. Hqrs. We found Post 4.0.12 withdrawn 50 yards in rear.

REPORT ON ENEMY RAID ON 10th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

ON NIGHT 1/2nd. MARCH 1918. (Contd) **APPENDIX.**

NARRATIVE (Contd) Corporal Duncan in charge of this Post stated that he was driven by shell fire from his post and took up a position 50 yards in rear where he kept up a brisk rifle fire across front of Coy. Hqrs. and Post 1.0.6. I found Coy Hqrs. deserted except for one of our own men who was wounded. The Telephones were disconnected. I then went to Post 1.0.6. and found two of the Garrison wounded and one in a dazed condition. The Lewis Gun was still in the Post and undamaged. I manned the Post with some men from Post 4.0.13 and then got into touch with Platoon Commander on my left. From personal reconnaissance I estimate the Enemy's casualties - Killed 1 Officer and 30 other ranks
Wounded and Prisoners - 1 Officer & 2 Other ranks

All the Raiding Party wore white bands on the Left Arm above the elbow.

LIEUT. DURIEU At about 9.45 p.m. after preliminary Barrage Enemy raided Post 1.0.6. which is under my Command also Coy. Hq. I was at Post 3.0.6. and the Raiders passed between me and Post 1.0.6. We opened Fire killing at least two of the Enemy. Lieut. Scott got into touch with me at about 10.30. p.m.

No. 284 Pte. Daley R. "D" Coy- When "D" Coy. reached Coy. Hqrs. the Company Sergeant Major of 13th. Bn. said a Raid was expected and Major Henwood placed an extra sentry outside Coy. Hqrs. I was in a small Pill Box in front of the big one with L.Cpl. Moody and 4 others. A barrage came down on Coy. Hqrs.. Lance Corporal Moody went outside. He rushed back and told us we were surrounded by Germans. Foreign voices yelled out "Get out of here and come up" I went up with the others and found a large number of Germans with fixed bayonets. They took us prisoners. They put us in the middle and were all round us. When we had gone about 150 yards towards the German Lines a big shell landed right amongst us and the Germans scattered. I think several were hit. I made a bolt for it and got away. Private Thomas also got away but he was wounded. When I got back to Coy. Hqrs. there was no one there. I looked into the Pill Box where I'd been before but a bomb or something had been exploded in it and all my gear was blown up.

Right Battalion Headquarters,

2/3/18.

G. L. Shaw
Major,
Temp. Commanding.
10th. INFANTRY BATTALION A.I.F.

APPENDIX II

APPENDIX

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

CONFIDENTIAL.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. No. 1.

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

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. The usual harassing and destructive fire was carried out day and night on enemy communications and centres of activity. During the day BERRY COTTS. TROT HOUSE. POOL FARM. GLASS HOUSES and GHELUVELT were engaged. At 9.43.p.m. and later a barrage was put down on our S.O.S. lines on account of an enemy raid.

(b) M.Gs. Carried out indirect fire on selected targets during the night.

(c) Aerial activity. Our planes were active during the day and patrolled the enemy lines frequently.

(d) Patrols. In addition to liaison and covering patrols sent out last night.

(1) One officer and 8. O.Rs left from J.20.B.5.4. at 2.30.a.m. to investigate Pill Boxes at J.26.B.9.4. When at J.26.B.8.4. enemy M.Gs opened on them from vicinity of J.26.A.0.4.

Patrol experienced great difficulty in moving on account of very numerous M.Gs and flares.

(2) Patrol consisting of Capt. McDONALD and 13 O.Rs left O.6.C.4.1 at midnight to clear No Mans Land after enemy raid. On reaching a point about 200 yards N.E. from post I.O.6. hostile M.G. fire was encountered and enemy were observed 50/30 yards in front and were engaged.

Capt. McDONALD and 1.O.R. were wounded.

(3) Patrol of Lieut. J. MEAD DCM and 11.O.Rs left from O.6.C.4.1. at 1.a.m. and when about 10 yards out from our wire were challenged by enemy post. Patrol moved South along our wire to HOLLEBEKE Road and proceeded E along it for about 50 yards. Patrol then returned to point of departure and were again fired on by enemy post which is approx at. O.6.C.55.00.

(e) Prisoners. One man unwounded and 1 Officer and 2 O.Rs. wounded were captured.

2. IDENTIFICATION. Prisoners belonged to 8th. Coy 76. R.I.R. 17th. Res Div. (normal.)

3. Enemy OPERATIONS.

Raid. During the relief in the right Brigade sector a hostile party of 3 Officers and 120 O.Rs, consisting of infantry and pioneers raided our line in the vicinity of posts I.O.6. (O.6.C.4.0.) and post 4.0.12. (O.12.A.40.85.) The enemy appears to have moved from an assembly position near LOCK 6. in three parties of approximately 40 each.

At 9.45. p.m. enemy opened up a heavy artillery bombardment on our right brigade front and a heavy Minenwerfer barrage on our posts south of the canal. A party of 1 Officer and 15 O.Rs of brigade which was being relieved were withdrawing when a large party of enemy were soon approaching South of the canal. The Officer in charge ran to nearest platoon Hdqrs and sent up the S.O.S. Signal which was promptly answered by our artillery and machine guns.

One party of the enemy were successful in taking post I.O.6. and after fighting pushed on to Coy H.Q. about 80 yards in rear, Coy H.Q. personnel were captured and enemy commenced to withdraw.

In the meanwhile post 4.0.12 had driven the enemy back on its front and then turned to help post I.O.6. Lewis Gun fire was opened and the enemy withdrawing with the prisoners were very severely dealt with.

Post I.O.6. was immediately re-occupied and normal conditions prevailed at 10.40.p.m.

(P.T.O.)

(2)

One Officer and 20 O.Rs of enemy are known to have been killed and 1 Officer and 3 O.Rs were taken prisoner. (1 O.R. only, being unwounded) Report on examination of these prisoners is attached.

A complete nominal roll of the enemy raiders consisting of 190 names was obtained from the wounded Officer. This list appears to include also the party who attempted a raid on posts of the division South of us.

During the raid the support and reserve systems were heavily bombarded.

4. Enemy Disposition. See information from prisoner attached.

5. Hostile Artillery. Activity slightly more active on left and quiet on right. J.25.D. was shelled during the day and night and at 9.45. p.m. there was a heavy concentration in Square I.29.C. 18 rounds (8") fell in I.35.A.&.C. from 10.a.m. and 15.(5.9) fell in J.25.D. at 6.30.a.m.

J.25.D. was also shelled with 30 5.9s. between 9.30.p.m. and 10.15.p.m. During enemy operation on right a barrage of 15. 10. and 21. c.m. shells was placed over forward communications and the front line was shelled mainly by 7.7. and 10.c.m. and a few 15. c.m. shells.

6. Enemy Attitude. Quiet. (except for operation.)

7. Enemy Defences.

Wire. Light wire was encountered in front of GAME COPSE. M.Gs. M.Gs fired on our patrols from O.6.C.55.00. and from J.26.A.0.4. A. M.G. was also active at FUNNY FARM.

T.Ms. T.Ms fired on our front line on right during enemy operation and at 9.30.p.m. heavy Minenwerfers fell in O.6.B.8.8. T.Ms were otherwise inactive.

8. Hostile Aerial Activity. Enemy planes were inactive.

9. Movement. Occasional movement was seen in vicinity of BERRY COTTS. Flares. Between 9.30. p.m. and 10.p.m. enemy fired two red lights followed by two green and during the raid golden cluster rockets were fired from his front line on the right and repeated back.

J. H. Rogers
Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Report on the preliminary examination of one prisoner of the 8th.Coy. 76th.Res.I.R. 17th.Res.Div. captured on night 1/2nd March. 1918.

1. PERSONAL. Prisoner is 20 years of age, was called up for service in 1917 and sent to do railway work at KIEL. Joined the ERSATZ Battalion of his regiment at HAMBURG on 5th.Aug. and remained there till 2nd. November, when he joined his regiment in the field.
He is of poor physique and moral. He had only been two days with his company before capture, having spent about four weeks in the regimental rest station at HALLUIN.
2. METHOD OF CAPTURE. Prisoner was a member of a large raiding party which made an attack on our post in O.12.A. and O.6.C. at about 9.45.p.m. The commander of the raiding party became a casualty and prisoner attended to him and another comrado. When he left them he lost his way and wandered into one of our posts.
3. ORDER OF BATTLE. N to S 76. R.I.R. 162nd I.R. 163. I.R. (Normal.) prisoner did not know what regiment was on his right, but knew it belonged to another Division. He thought there were Bavarians on their right.
4. DISPOSITIONS. Three companies hold the front line - at present the 10th 11th and 12th (N.to.S.) Three in support, three in reserve and three in rest billets at HALLUIN.
5. METHOD OF HOLDING THE LINE. Each Company has six outposts some distance in front of the actual first line. These are, in the prisoner's company, manned only at night. During the day the garrisons sleep in dugouts. Two light M.Gs are taken into the posts.
6. RELIEFS. Nothing is known of a probable Divisional relief. The three companies in front line are relieved at the end of 4 days in line. One of these reliefs took place on night 27/28th Feby. thus another is due on night 3/4th March. The relieving Companies are due to arrive in line at about 9. to 10. p.m.
7. REST BILLETS. Are in HALLUIN.
8. COMPANY STRENGTH. The rifle strength is about 80.
9. ROUTE TO FRONT LINE. Prisoner does not know what routes were taken by the troops. The raiding party came from HALLUIN, but prisoner could not say where they debussed.
10. MACHINE GUNS. The 8th. Coy has 3 light machine guns - two of which are taken into the outpost line; the third is kept in the support line as a reserve.
11. AIR RAIDS. Many bombs have been dropped on HALLUIN and MENIN lately but very little military damage was done although there were a number of civilian casualties.
12. GENERAL. The object of last nights raid was to secure prisoners. The total number taking part was stated to be 120 all ranks; composed of 8 men of each company, 20 pioneers, and the officers. The pioneers carried two torpedoes for blowing up the wire and it was their job to see that the wire was cut. None of the members of raiding parties bore any traces of identification.

(P.T.O.)

(2).

The expedition was commanded by 2/Lieut. WALTER. who was killed by our Lewis Gun Fire.

200 Trench Mortar projectiles were to be fired in 4 minutes for wire cutting.

The raiding party carried three light machine guns. Party had been training for 6 days for this raid.

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 2.

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

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. The principal objectives shelled by our Artillery were:-
Dugouts at BLACK COTTS. J.32.A.; J.32.B.45.25. J.27.C.70.19.; TROT HO J.27.C.; FUNNY FARM. J.32.C. ALASKA HO. J.53.B. P.8.C.30.95 and P.2.D.60.85. Harassing fire was carried out during the night on enemy roads and tracks.

(b) Trench Mortars. Our heavy T.M's shelled LOCK 8. (O.6.D.) and PIN HOUSE. (P.1.C.)

Light T.M's expended 50 rounds on enemy positions between O.6.C.9.2. and O.12.B.1.9.

(c) Machine Guns. During the day Lewis Guns engaged small enemy parties. * At night Vickers guns fired continuously on enemy communications and centres of activity.

*See
para 8.

(d) Aircraft. Inactive.

(e) Patrols. Both brigade fronts were patrolled continuously during the night.

The ground in front of our posts in O.6.D.&.C. is very marshy. Enemy covering party and wiring party were seen in vicinity of O.6.D.1.3. and were engaged.

Our wire on front raided on night 1/2 March was found to be much trampled down and bodies of enemy dead recently killed were found. All of these were in possession of bombs.

Listening posts were established in front of post 7.0.6. and at O.6.C.95.35.

Two patrols operating along front of left battalion right brigade encountered rifle and grenade fire from enemy in pill boxes at GAME COPSE (P.1.C.).

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Documents taken from enemy killed on night 1/2 are forwarded herewith (Corps.)

3. Nil.

4. Hostile Artillery Activity. Enemy's artillery has been normally quiet. The principal areas shelled were J.25. J.51. and I.31. all from E.S.E. direction.

The following true bearings were obtained on the enemy batteries.

Time.	Area Shelled.	Nature.	Bearing observed from.
6-7.a.m.	I.28.D.	4.2.	ZANDVOORDE J.31.C.00.47.
9.10.30.a.m.	I.36.C.	77.	970.
11.a.m.	KLEIN-ZILLEBEKE.	4.2.	1030.
3.25.a.m.	J.32.A.	77.	110. J.32.A.65.95.

Two guns in action were observed on True bearing of 1250 from I.30.D.0.5. (pointed out to C. B. observers.)
3 gas shells fell in vicinity of Post 2.0.6.

5. Enemy's attitude. Quiet during the period.

6. Enemy Defences. Wire in front of GAME COPSE is very thin and forms a poor obstacle.

H.G. emplacements. were located at Pill box at P.1.C.2.4. and at P.1.D.8.2.

A T.M. was located at TROT HO. (J.27.C.) and was silenced by our artillery.

(P.T.O.)

(2)

7. Hostile aerial activity. Inactive.

8. Movement.

(a) Routes and tracks. Considerable movement was seen opposite left Brigade front.

Between 9.a.m. and 12 noon, several patrols of 2 and 3 men were seen in vicinity of FAIR COTTS. (J.23.B.)

At 12 noon a party of about 20 was observed working on JAGER Tr, at J.27.C.2.8. They were dispersed by Lewis Gun fire.

At 2.p.m. a large covered wagon drawn by two horses appeared at J.35.B.7.3. and disappeared behind ALASKA HOUSES.

At 6.45.p.m. an enemy party about 40 strong was observed in vicinity of CAPITAL FARM and TROT HO. They were dispersed with Lewis Gun and rifle fire.

Smoke was seen during the day at CAPITAL FM. TROT HO. and KENT FM.

Movement of individual men was seen at LOCK 6. P.2.D.1.2., P.5.C.4.3. to P.2.D.5.5.

At 7.15. a.m. a party of 30 men in groups of 5 were observed walking from P.16.D.50.25. disappearing at CROSS ROADS. TENDRIELEN. 20 men were observed digging in field at P.16.D.2.5.

(b) Railways. 3 men were seen pushing a truck on Light Railway in vicinity of LOCK 6. Unusual train movement was noticed in direction of WERVICO. BOUS BECQUE. and HALLUIN.

10. Miscellaneous. A copy of "Gazette des Ardennes". was dropped by a small red balloon in vicinity of SPOIL BANK during the afternoon of 2nd. Inst. Copy is forwarded to Corps.

H. P. Rogers Capt
for Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

APPENDIX *V*

CONFIDENTIAL.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 3.

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

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Dugouts at TROT HO (J.37.C.); P.3.D.35.82.; P.3.A.35.85. and HOLLEBEKE Chem were shelled, and also roads and tracks in O.12.B. J.35.C.2.D. J.25.A.2.B.

In addition our artillery co-operated with "B" Division in raids of last night.

Our heavies shelled WERVICQ. COMINES and TENBRIELEN.

(b) Trench Mortars. Our L.T.M.'s engaged enemy G.W. positions at O.6.C.9.2. and O.12.B.0.9. and fired on targets between LOCK 5. and LOCK 6.

(c) Machine Guns. Vickers guns fired throughout the night on enemy communications and Lewis Guns fired intermittent bursts against enemy forward posts.

(d) Aerial Activity. Inactive.

(e) Patrols. The divisional front was patrolled continuously during the night, but no enemy were encountered.

A patrol of 6 men under Lieut. NORTHCOTT. investigated FUNNY FARM. Several enemy were seen moving in vicinity and hammering was heard at EAST FARM.

A patrol of 8 men under Lieut. FOWLER. reconnoitred enemy wire in vicinity of J.26.D.8.9. Ground here is very wet and boggy and movement difficult.

A party of 9 O.R.'s under Lieut. F.J. HEAD patrolled ground for 300 yards in front of posts 10. O.6. and 7. O.6. and also along railway to O.6.D.1.1. Enemy was exceptionally quiet, and no H.G. fire was encountered and flares appeared to be fired from enemy support line.

(f) Snipers. Our snipers fired on two men in GAME COPSE and one was seen to fall.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

4. Hostile Artillery Activity. Enemy artillery was quiet on the right brigade front during day but rather more active on the left Brigade. Support line in I.25.D. was again shelled by 8.9s from easterly direction.

The Area I.28.D. was intermittently shelled from S.E. direction.

From dusk onwards artillery was more active on the right brigade front.

I.36.D. was heavily shelled. OAK Support and forward communications were lightly shelled.

During the raid by right Division enemy retaliated mainly in vicinity of O.5.A. 24. H.W. bombs fell on forward posts and support line in O.5.D. and O.6.C.

5. Enemys Attitude. Quiet except during the raid when H.G. activity increased.

6. Enemys Defences. Work. A party was heard working at EAST FARM J.32.D.

Wire. Enemy wire in vicinity of J.26.D.8.9. is very weak consisting mainly of single strands and trip wires.

H.Gs. were located firing from P.1.B.7.2. GAME COPSE. LOCK 6. FUNNY FARM. J.32.B.5.3. and BERRY COTTS.

7. Hostile Aerial Activity. Nil.

8. Movement. Small parties of 2 and 3 were observed in vicinity of BERRY COTTS at intervals during the day.

At 6.30.a.m. enemy outposts were seen withdrawing to Pill boxes near KENT FARM. (J.35.A.) They were engaged with Lewis Gun and rifle fire and casualties inflicted.

(P.T.O.)

(2)

At 9.4 a.m. a party of 15 men working on JAGER TRENCH at J.27. C. 4.4. were dispersed by Lewis Gun fire.

Individual movement was observed at LOCK 6. and in P.2.B. and along a duckboard track between P.1.C.7.4. and P.1.D.2.7.

10. Miscellaneous.

Flares. During the operation on our right at 11.45.p.m. enemy sent up numerous double red flares, which immediately brought down his barrage. Red and White and Golden Clusters flare were also put up.

At 5.15.a.m. 30 golden clusters were fired on our centre battalion front, but no subsequent action was observed.

Signals. At 2.45.a.m. a flash lamp was observed working at LOCK 5. for ten minutes.

J. H. Rogers Capt
Colonel.
General Staff.

1st Australian Division.

APPENDIX

CONFIDENTIAL.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 4.

From 6.a.m. 4-3-18. to 6.a.m. 5-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Our activity was above normal. The following special targets were fired on:-

Battalion H.Q. at J.35.B.5.3. QUART BUILDINGS (J.28.B.) BLACK COTTAGES (J.33.A.) M.G. at J.26.D.75.45. Dugouts and Farms in J.27. and J.32. Buildings, roads and Tracks in P.2. and P.3. and posts in O.12.A.

Party of enemy working at BERRY COTTS was dispersed.

(b) Trench Mortars. Our L.T.M.s engaged enemy M.G. and G.W. positions at O.6.C.85.20. LOCK 6. and O.12.B.4.6.

(c) Machine Guns. BERRY COTTS was subjected to continuous fire during the night. L.G's fired intermittently on enemy forward posts.

(d) Aerial activity. During the morning our planes patrolled the front of our right brigade.

(e) Patrols. No Mans Land was continuously patrolled but no enemy was encountered.

Ground between J.31.D.9.2. and P.1.B.3.3. is very wet and muddy.

Enemy wiring parties were heard some considerable distance E of post 3. O.12. and on W bank of the CANAL at LOCK 6. and were engaged. with L.G. fire.

2. Identifications. Nil.3. Enemys Dispositions. No movement out of ordinary was seen, which might indicate a relief.4. Hostile Artillery Activity. Enemys shelling was less active than usual. Between 9.15.a.m. and 9.45.a.m. 30. 5.9s and 4.2s fell in vicinity of THE CLUSTERS J.31.C.0.5.

J.25.D. was intermittently shelled during the day with 4.2s. from S.E. direction.

During the night forward posts in O.6.C. and areas O.5.B. and O.6.A. were fairly heavily shelled.

17 gas shells fell in O.5.B. between 2.30.a.m. and 3.30.a.m. Gun flashes of enemy 4.2. battery firing on J.25.D. during the afternoon were seen on a T. B. of 117 degrees from J.25.D.1.4.

5. Enemys Attitude. Quiet.6. Enemys Defences. Enemys M.G's were active from FUNNY FARM. vicinity of POOL FARM (J.27.A.) and J.32.B.4.6.

Working parties were heard opposite our posts 3. O.12. 4. O.12. and 1. O.6. and wiring party in the vicinity of LOCK 6.

7. Hostile Aerial Activity. Nil.8. Movement and Organisation. Considerable movement was seen throughout the day at JUNGLE HQ. (P.2.D.)

Several parties were seen at BERRY COTTS and HAMP FARM, a working party here, being dispersed by our 18-pdrs at midday. Small parties were seen at KENT FARM. BUND COTTS. TIN HOUSES. ALASKA and QUART Buildings. STONE FARM. at O.6.D.05.05. PIN HQ. at P.2.C.0.5. and in Trench at P.8.A.5.5.

10. Miscellaneous. Flares. When our bombardment commenced on the front of the division on our right, enemy fired flares bursting into two reds which immediately brought down his barrage.

Visibility. Was very bad owing to fog and rain.

 Colonel.

APPENDIX

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY, NO. 5.

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

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Our artillery again active. Targets engaged include GAMB COPSE, DAMP COPSE, CHALK FARM, TUBE CROSS ROADS, P.8.A., CAPITAL FARM, TROT HOUSE, POOL FARM, LOCK 5, LOCK 6, and roads and tracks in J.53, and J.54, and in P.2, and P.3.

100 rounds 4.5. How. were expended cutting the wire from P.1.C.50.50. to P.1.C.70.90. and from P.2.A.60.95. to J.52.D.65.00.

Our 18-pdrs engaged an enemy working party in vicinity of J.52.B.5.9. at 10.15.p.m.

Our heavies actively shelled TENBRIELIN and destroyed a small ammunition dump at VERVICO.

(b) Trench Mortars. Our L.T.M.'s fired on enemy outposts at 0.3.C.85.30. and on suspected enemy T.M. post at LOCK 6.

(c) Aerial Activity. During the day our planes were very active patrolling enemy forward positions and rear areas. They were subjected to heavy A.A. fire.

Our bombing planes were active during the early part of the night.

(d) Patrols. Continuous patrolling was carried out during the night on all battalion fronts. No Mans Land in P.1.B. S.E. of BITTER WOOD, and E. of BULGAR WOOD, is very wet and boggy.

Enemy parties were heard in GAMB COPSE and at approx. P.1.B. 9.3.

Wiring parties were heard on W. bank of the CANAL at 0.6.C.95. 10. W of GAMB COPSE and at J.20.D.8.5. Lewis gun fire was opened on each of these parties.

A patrol of 14 men under Lieut. HEAD left our lines from 0.6.C. 0.4. at 2.50.a.m. to reconnoitre enemy listening post E of post I. 0.6.

On the approach of our patrol, two of enemy were seen to run from this post which is approx at 0.12.A.55.91. and a few minutes later two more ran from a position slightly N, all making towards LOCK 5.

The L.P.'s were searched and found to be old gun pits and some bombs were found.

What was probably an artillery board was found at 0.12. A.55.91. This was painted red and white as shown.

2. Identifications. Nil.4. Hostile Artillery Activity.

Enemy's shelling was again below normal. About 120 rounds 4.2's fell in I.53.C.3.D. during the day.

Registration fire with 5.9's and 4.2's was carried out on RAILWAY Trench and IMPERIAL AVENUE.

Flash bearings. At 12.25.p.m. the flash of a big gun firing at long intervals was seen on a T.B. of 320 from J.51.C.00.45.

At 1.10.a.m. flashes from howitzers were observed on T.B. of 680 from J.51.C.00.45.

5. Enemy's Attitude. Quiet.6. Enemy's Defences. (For wiring parties see para 1. (d))

Enemy L.P. was located at 0.12.A.55.91. Pill Boxes at J.26. 5.8. and also those in vicinity of ROAT FARM (P.1.B.) were found unoccupied.

New works are in progress at about J.52.B.5.9.

(P.T.O.)

(2)

M.G.'s were noted at FUNNY FARM, LOCK.6, and GAME COPSE.
 An Observation Post is suspected in a tree at P.14.A.40.75, where
 pegs can be seen on the tree trunk.

7. Hostile Aerial Activity. Enemy planes were active during the
 day over our forward lines.

At 9.a.m. 3.p.m. 4.30.p.m. and 1.10.p.m. single planes
 flew over our Battery positions at a low altitude. They were
 all engaged by A.A. and M.G. fire but with unapparent result.

8. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemy's line.

Routes and Tracks.

A duckboard track runs from approx.
 P.2.D.7.5. to P.1.D.0.1. Another leaves the CANAL at P.7.C.0.7.
 and runs E for about 150 yards where it is lost to view.,
 A well beaten track runs from O.6.D.31.05. to O.6.D.75.40.

Movement.

Small parties were seen in vicinity of BERRY COTTS
 several times during the day.

At 4.p.m. and again at 5.15.p.m. two men one wearing gloves
 and carrying a riding crop moved cautiously down the slope near
 BERRY COTTS.

They examined our position with glasses with a map spread
 out on the ground. They returned to BERRY COTTS on each
 occasion.

Several small parties moved along the road from
 KRUISEME through P.5.B. and P.6.A.

Parties were seen and smoke rise on several occasions
 from BUND COTTS.

Fatigue carrying timber were observed P.7.B.7.2. and
 P.13.B.0.5. and from P.14.A.1.6. to SUBURB VILLAS returning to
 DACHA TRENCH.

A pegged out route resembling a buried cable runs about
 200/300 yards W. of SUBURB VILLAS.

Railways. During the morning a number of trains were
 observed in HALLUIN.

10. Miscellaneous. During the bombardment of BERRY COTTS at 2.30.
 p.m. a three star WHITE rocket was fired from the PILL BOX.

Addendum to para 4.

At 8.45.p.m. a gun flash was observed on
 magnetic bearing of 82° from J.31.C.1.5.

J. H. Rogers Capt
 General Staff.

1st Australian Division.

APPENDIX V

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY, NO. 6.

From 6.a.m. 6-3-18. to 6.a.m. 7-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. In anticipation of a probable relief of the 259th Division harassing fire by our field guns and heavies was kept on roads and approaches at dusk and throughout the night.

Principal objectives shelled during the day were GAME COPSE DAMP COPSE, CIRCUS POINT, TROT HO, RIFLE ROAD, JAGER TRENCH, in J.27.C. KENT FARM and on LOCK 5 and 6.

During enemy gas shelling from 5.p.m. onwards our counter batteries heavily shelled hostile groups in vicinity of COMINES. WERVICO and TENBRIDLEN.

Active hostile field guns at P.2.D.7.4. and P.2.D.7.7. were silenced at 8.p.m. and explosions occurred here during our shelling between 8 and 8.30.p.m.

Two small ammunition dumps were blown up near COMINES.

(b) Trench Mortars. Our L.T.M.'s fired 30 rounds on M.G. and T.M. positions at LOCK 6.

Our 6" Mortars registered on Cross Roads at J.32.B.6.4.

(c) Machine Guns. Lewis guns engaged targets in enemy forward posts during the night.

Vickers guns fired particularly on vicinity of BERRY COTTS and on tracks which would be used in case the above relief took place.

(f) Aerial Activity. Our planes continuously patrolled the front frequently crossing over the enemys lines.

At 11.20.a.m. 20 planes crossed over into enemy territory.

(g) Patrols.

Map is attached (to Aust Corps) showing all patrols on the divisional front.

Three patrols of the left brigade crossed the BASSEVILLE BECK, and found the ground very boggy and shell torn.

(i) Patrolled W of RIFLE ROAD in vicinity of J.26.D.5.7. but encountered neither wire or enemy posts.

(ii) Patrol of 6 men under Sgt. BARRON crossed the BECK at about J.32.B.2.5. and were challenged by an enemy post at about J.32.B.3.3.

Three small wiring parties were seen at J.32.B.3.2. and a party of about 20 were seen digging in vicinity of POOL FARM.

(iii) Another party under Sgt BARRON reconnoitred enemy wire in the vicinity of J.32.B.3.4.

4 strands of trip wire were found running between J.52.B.2.4. to J.52.B.3.3. Enemy liaison patrols were seen and heard challenged by enemy posts at about J.32.D.7.5. and J.32.D.7.7.

Patrols of the right brigade report hearing enemy wiring in direction of CIRCUS PT.

2. Identifications. Nil.

3. Hostile Artillery Activity. Enemys artillery was much more active than usual.

During the morning the areas J.25.D. 0.5.A. & D. WHITE CHATEAU. Outposts (0.3.C) and 0.11.B. were shelled.

Between 5.30.p.m. and 8.p.m. a heavy gas concentration from direction of COMINES was put down on Centre Battalion front, about 1500 10.c.m. shells falling on centres of activity in I.36.D. J.31.C. 0.6.B. and P.1.A.

Between 5.p.m. and 7.p.m. the areas I.29.D. I.30.C. & D; I.36.A. & B. were shelled with 4.2's H.E. and Gas at the rate of about 10 per minute.

At 12 midday about 200 5.9's fell in I.28.B. & D. The following T.Bs were taken on flashes of enemy batteries.

950 from J.25.D.1.4.

1220 "

2.30.p.m. 940 41' from I.28.A.7.C. (4.2. H.)

(P.T.O.)

(2)

4. Enemys attitude. Enemys artillery was more active than it has been for some time. He again appeared to register on communications of the Centre Battalion Sector.
5. Enemys Defences. New work which appears to be camouflaged was seen just to rear of POOL FARM. Enemy wire in vicinity of LOCK 6 was found to be very thin. Pill boxes at GAME COPSE are occupied by day and night. A M.G. was located at O.S.C.95.25. and an A.A. M.G. was observed at approx J.27.A.20.80.
6. Hostile Aerial Activity. Enemy planes were very active during the day flying low over the right brigade front. At 9.50.a.m. our planes drove down a hostile machine over enemys line in a S direction.
7. Movement and Organisation in and behind Enemys Lines.
Dumps. A small trench dump ~~is located~~ located near Pill Box at P.7.C.95.30.
Headquarters. A sontry is posted at pill-boxes O.12.B.35.65.
Tramways. A truck was seen being pushed along a tramway at about P.7.A.75.40.
Movement. Men were seen during the day at BERRY COTTS. BUND COTTS. QUART buildings. LAMB FARM. ALASKA HOUSES. Pill-box at P.2.D.3.6. and passing along duckboard track between P.1.C. and P.2.D.
 At 3.30.p.m. a party of 10 men near PACK FARM were dispersed by our artillery.
 At dusk about 40 men brought what appeared to be boxes to about O.18.D.7.7. and dumped them near the ruins there.
8. Arms and Equipment. An enemy Heavy T.M. was found by a patrol at I.32.D.45.65. but was too heavy to bring in.

J.D. Rogers
 for Colonel.
 General Staff.
 1st Australian Division.

ANNEXE.(i) From 57th. Division Summaries.

Enemy posts and M.G.'s have been located at J.26.B.85.30. and at J.27.A.35.45. HAMP FARM J.27.A.05.45.

- (ii) Further information is required on -
- (a) Enemy posts in vicinity of LOCK No. 3.
 - (b) FURRY FARM J.52.C.
 - (c) Enemy posts in vicinity of P.1.B.9.8.

CONFIDENTIAL. FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION. FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 7.

From 6.a.m. 7-3-18. to 6.a.m. 8-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery.

Our batteries were active throughout the period. During the morning our counter batteries engaged hostile guns firing on I.28. 29. 30. and 35. At 4.30.p.m. our heavies retaliated to enemy shelling of our forward area.

A shoot by the heavies also took place during the night on targets in J.27.B.3.D. (SWAGGER - MARGATE FARMS) and J.33.A.3.D. (BLACK COTTS and ALASKA HOUSES) to hamper enemy relief.

During the night bursts of fire were also directed on the CANAL BANK in P.7.C. P.9.A.70.88. LAB FARM. BUND COTTS and LARK FARM. Our shelling caused a fire and an explosion at 2.40.a.m. S.E. of ZANDVOORDE.

(b) Trench Mortars. Our T.M.'s were active on our right and fired 35 rounds on enemy positions at LOCK 6.

Our 6" Newton Mortars carried out registrations on Cross Roads at J.32.D.50.45. and road junction at J.23.D.3.0.

(c) Machine Guns. Targets were engaged during the night particularly BERRY COTTS. and enemy communications.

(d) Aerial activity. Our planes were active throughout the period and during the day frequently flew over enemy lines.

(e) Patrols.

The Divisional front was patrolled during the night but there was nothing of interest to report. Ruins at P.1.B.3.3. were examined and found unoccupied. A listening post was established at O.3.C.95.30.

2. Identifications. Nil.

4. Hostile Artillery Activity.

There was an increased activity by enemy artillery, especially on our reserve and back areas. Between 11.a.m. and 12. noon I.36.D. and J.31.C. were heavily shelled with 10.c.m. H.E. and gas shells, and between 3.30.p.m. and 4.45.p.m. J.31.C. and P.1.A. were shelled with 250 H.E.

Between 10.a.m. and 10.35. 170 10.c.m. H.E. fell in I.34. 35. During the day I.36.C. and D. I.35.A. O.4.C. and D. and O5.C. were intermittently shelled.

Time.	Location.	Rounds.	Calibre.	Direction.
9.a.m.	J.25.B.3.D.	4.	4.2.	S.E.
10 -11.45.a.m.	I.28.A.3.3.D.	260	5.9.	T.B. of 900 from I.29.C.4.5. S.E. and East.
11.25.a.m. to 12.15.p.m.	I.50. A.I.36. I.29.D.	250 Gas.	77mm.	
1 to 1.30.p.m.	I.28.B.3.D.	100	5.9.	T.B. 980 from I.29.C.4.3.
5.30.p.m.	SHREWSBURY FOREST.	22.	4.2.	East.

5. Enemy Attitude. There was an increase in artillery activity. Further registrations were carried out on parts of our forward area. Otherwise enemy attitude was quiet.

A enemy patrol of 4 men in HESSIAN WOOD was dispersed by our rifle grenade fire.

6. Enemy Defences. M.G. position was located at J.32.B.3.3. A M.G. at O.3.D.05.05. on East bank of railway near LOCK 6. was very active. Enemy work was heard going on in vicinity of J.32.B.4.4.

7. Hostile Aerial Activity. Enemy aircraft were active and flew low over our lines between 1.15.p.m. and 1.25.p.m. at 2.20.p.m. and at 4.15.p.m.

8. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemy lines.

Movement. 7 men were seen at P.2.C.7.2. one using field glasses, watching enemy bombardment of our lines. This post being kept under observation.

Our left Brigade reports constant movement of small parties near STONE FARM and other movement at BERRY COTTS. And enemy relief

(2)

appears to have taken place. In anticipation of this our Artillery took special action. Movement was also noticed near Pill-Boxes at P.2.B.6.2. and P.2.C.7.1.

10. Miscellaneous. Left Brigade reports that the enemy was unusually active with flares during the night.

H. H. Hamer
Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 8.

From 6.a.m. 8-3-18. to 6.a.m. 9-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.(a) Artillery.

Our artillery was active during the period. The following locations were shelled: POOL FARM, QUART BUILDINGS, Road J.27.D.8.0. to J.23.C.52.99. EMD FARM, BLACK COTTS and other enemy centres and approaches. Enfilade fire was directed along the CANAL DUGOUTS in O.12.B. and P.7.C. and movement in J.27.B.4.5. was engaged. Our 18 pdrs obtained 3 direct hits on Pill Box at P.2.D. 6.8. The left group promptly responded to an S.O.S. observed on the left of the division.

Our heavies successfully destroyed bridges at U.30.A.75.90. and U.30.B.50.25. and destroyed pill box in P.2.B.90.55.

In addition to the above the usual harassing and destructive fire was carried out on enemy communications and positions.

(b) Trench Mortars. During the night LOCK 6 and suspected T.M. position at O.3.D.1.4. were engaged.

(c) Machine Guns. In the evening in response to an S.O.S. from the division on the left our guns on the left opened on their S.O.S. lines and enemy forward positions. Left division reports our artillery and M.G. fire proved of valuable assistance in repelling German attack.

(d) Aerial Activity. Our planes patrolled the front during the day and at times flew well over enemy forward areas at low altitudes.

(e) Patrols. In addition to the usual liaison patrols and covering parties, there were ten patrols out on the divisional front during the night. A well defined track was noticed running from J.32.B.2.6. along BULGAR ROAD to enemy post at J.32.B.5.6. At about J.32.B.2.3. a bridge capable of taking three men abreast was observed across the BEEM.

Ground in vicinity of J.32.B.5.6. was firm and of good going, but to the West of the BEEM the ground is still boggy and difficult.

The BEEM at J.26.D.4.4. consists of water filled shell holes and is impassable. The ground in J.32.C. South of FUNNY is becoming much firmer but down in front of HESSIAN WOOD is very wet and swampy.

2. Identifications. Nil.3. Dispositions. Nil

4. Hostile Artillery Activity. This was not so active during the period and shelling was comparatively light and scattered. During the morning about 20. 4.5s fell in J.25.A.&B. (coming from CAPE WOOD) and several 5.9's and 4.2s H.E. fell in I.23. Right Brigade reports scattered shelling over outpost and support systems, and over our approaches. Between 6.20. and 6.50. p.m. about 50 gas shells (4.2) fell around I.27.C.&D.

5. Enemy Attitude. Quiet.

6. Enemy Defences. M.G.'s and T.M. were active from LOCK 5 and 6. M.G.'s were located at about J.26.D.5.2. J.32.B.6.6. J.32.B.4.9. An enemy granatowrfer firing from LOCK 5 was silenced by our artillery.

There is a belt of single apron wire from J.26.D.2.5. to J.26.D.2.6. Enemy was heard wiring about 200 yards in front of O.6.C.8.4.

Our right brigade reports that on their right front, the enemy appears to push out small mobile listening posts and M.G.'s forward from his outpost system, which vary their position, according to our artillery fire and patrol movement.

7. Hostile Aerial Activity. Enemy planes crossed our lines once or twice flying high.

(P.T.O.)

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8. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemy lines.

Enemy wiring party heard in front of post at 0.3.0.3.4. was engaged by our L.G.'s.

At 5.30.p.m. small parties of the enemy were seen moving forward near HAMPPH. Our Lewis Guns fired on these and appeared to have inflicted casualties.

Our observation posts report the usual movement around enemy centres of activity. Transport was heard during the night near HOLLEBENE CHATEAU.

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

The left Division reports that the enemy attempted an attack on TOWER HALLS SECTOR at 5.45.p.m. yesterday which however was repulsed.

Further North the enemy gained a temporary footing in the JEMCHO-JOPPA System but was successfully ejected this morning.

Addendum to 1. (d)

A special aerial reconnaissance was made this morning by A.F.C. along our front. The road HOLLEBENE CHATEAU to ZANDVOORDE appeared to have been used by troops and trucks were observed from P.2. Control to CIRCUS POINT. Trenches were ~~marked with P.G.'s~~ from HORTWILDE to ZANDVOORDE and from HORTWILDE to PILGRIMS FARM (0.24...)

machine gunned

APPENDIX 7

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 9.

From 6.a.m. 9-5-18. to 6.a.m. 10-5-18.

1. OPERATIONS.(a) Artillery.

During the day Cross Roads at J.33.C.8.4. JAGER TRENCH in J.27.C. and J.55.A. tracks in J.27.D. CAPITAL, BASSEVILLE and KENT FARMS were subjected to harassing fire.

Enemy outposts in O.12.A. & B. were shelled.

Our 18-pdrs fired on light railway running through O.6.D. and O.12.B. and seven direct hits were obtained.

During the night strong enemy wiring parties F of LOCK 5 and 6 reported by patrols were dispersed by our artillery, and tracks in J.27.D. J.28.C. & D. and J.34. were subjected to bursts of fire.

Our counterbatteries actively engaged enemy batteries firing on I.28. and I.29.

(b) Trench Mortars. At 7.30.p.m. our H.T.M. silenced enemy granatenwerfer firing from LOCK 5 on to OAK SUPPORT (O.5.D.).

L.T.Ms fired on enemy T.M position in LOCK 6 and on suspected enemy M.G. post in the pill-box O.6.D.5.0.

(c) Aerial Activity: Our aircraft were active throughout the day and particularly at dusk.

(d) Patrols. Patrols on all battalion fronts last night report sounds of work heard in and behind enemy lines.

A strong wiring party working in front of LOCK 5 and 6 were covered by a screen lying at about 150 yards in front of posts 2. O.12. and 3. O.12.

Fire from Artillery, L.Gs and rifle grenades was directed on to this party.

Ground in the vicinity of J.23.B.5.0. is very much shell-torn and patches of barbed wire badly cut up made movement extremely difficult.

Information of enemy defences obtained by patrols is contained in para 6.

2. Identification. Nil.3. Reliefs.

Our posts in vicinity of BELGIAN WOOD report hearing sounds of many men walking on duckboards opposite their front.

Our listening post has also picked up several enemy conversations which in conjunction with the above point to an enemy roll of from about the CANAL up to BULGAR ROAD taking place over last night and tonight.

A Special shoot is taking place tonight on enemy Headquarters and tracks behind this sector.

4. Hostile Artillery Activity. During the day a marked increase generally was noted in enemys artillery activity.

Throughout the last few days enemy shelling from direction of ZANDVOORDE has increased.

Between 9.30.a.m. and 3.30.p.m. a destructive shoot consisting of about 400 8.2s and 5.9s fell in vicinity of I.28. I.29.A. & C.

Harassing fire was directed on outposts in O.6.C. & D. and in vicinity of O.11.A. O.5.C. & D. O.6.A. I.36.D. J.31.C. P.1.A. & B. I.30. J.25.D.

Registration was carried out on O.11.A. The following areas were subjected to gas shelling; - J.25.D. I.30.D. I.29.C. O.5.C.

5. Enemys Attitude. Artillery and M.Gs showed an increase in activity. Considerable sounds of work were heard approx in enemy front and support lines throughout the night.

(P.T.O.)

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6. Enemy's Defences.

Wire. Wiring parties were heard in front of LOCKS 5 and 6 and in vicinity of MOAT FARM.

Machine Guns. Were active from FUNNY FARM. LOCKS 5 and 6 and vicinity of MOAT FARM. J.26.E.9.3. POOL FARM and DAMP COPSE.

Trench Mortars. An enemy T.M. fired again from LOCK 5.

7. Hostile Aerial Activity. Enemy's planes were active over forward and rear areas of left brigade but were less active over right brigade.

8. Movement and Organisation in and behind Enemy's lines.

Small parties of men were seen in vicinity of BERRY and BUND COTTS. TROT HO. STONE FARM. ANT HO. (J.28.D) and at J.26.D.8.4.

Individual movement was observed at P.2.D.70.35. P.8.B.75.00. P.2.D.35.40. and at O.6.D.6.1.

Smoke was seen rising from pill box at J.26.D.8.1.

Posts. Two posts each holding 6 men were observed at P.2.D.6.5. and P.2.C.7.1.

O.Ps Two men were seen observing at BUND COTTS at 1.30.p.m.

J.D. Rogers Capt

Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

ANNEXE.1. Information required.

(i) Patrols of several successive days last week reported MOAT FM unoccupied.

A M.G. post is now reported there and confirmation is required.

(ii) Confirmation of M.G position reported by left brigade at J.26.C.9.2.

(iii) Enemy defences along RIFLE ROAD.

(iv) Definite information on work of snipers.

2. Intelligence. Divisional H.Q. should be notified at once if further copies of aerial photos just sent out are required.

APPENDIX

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 10.

From 6.a.m. 10-3-18. to 6.a.m. 11-5-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. The following locations were included in a pre-arranged programme, and subjected to intermittent bursts of fire throughout the period.

TUBE Cross Roads and N.E. to P.2.D.70.50. J.32.B.55.40. to J.53.C.1.9. Area enclosed by BERRY COTTS. SWAGGER FARM and CAPITAL FARM. MARGATE FARM. ALASKA HOUSE. hostile strong points at P.4.A. P.5.D.40.45. P.5.A.00.15. and P.3.A.86.38. Tracks P.2.A.77.90. to P.2.B.15.75. to 43.70. to 50.70. to P.3.A.00.90.

In response to a request from Left Brigade for covering fire, a number of rounds of 18-pdrs were expended on the following from 2.a.m. to 4.a.m.;- POOL FARM to J.32.B.50.35. J.32.B.8.5. J.26.D.70.00.

An enemy working party in P.2.C. was dispersed during the day.

(b) Trench Mortars. Inactive.

(c) Machine Guns. During the night enemys positions were subjected to intermittent bursts of fire, 21,600 rounds were expended.

(d) Aerial Activity. Our air supremacy was maintained throughout the day, our planes being constantly seen over the enemys line.

(e) Patrols. Excluding those responsible for maintaining communication with flanking units, the following left our lines with definite objectives.

A patrol of 1 Officer and 6 men left our line at 11.p.m. at J.26.C.9.8. with the object of locating enemy positions in vicinity of RIFLE ROAD at J.26.D.5.5. Patrol moved to J.26.D.4.5. to J.26.D.3.2. then back to our line at J.26.C.8.5. reaching there at 12.55.a.m. Enemy were discovered in two pillboxes at about J.26.D.5.6. No enemy patrols were encountered or working parties heard.

A fighting patrol of one Officer and 9. O.Rs left our line at J.52.A.9.9. at 1.45.a.m. to endeavour to capture enemy post previously located at J.52.B.5.6. Patrol moved along BULGAR ROAD to J.52.B.2.6. From here a reconnoitring party went forward and found the post unoccupied. Signs of recent occupation were clearly visible. An enemy wiring party was located at J.32.B.5.3. and 18 pdr shells were seen to burst among them on which working ceased. Area in vicinity of enemy post was thoroughly searched but no further signs of enemy advanced posts were seen. Patrol returned to our line at 5.15.a.m. to point of departure.

A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 6 men left J.31.D.7.2. at 7.30.p.m. and moved via W edge of FISH POND to old buildings S W of MOAT FARM, which were found unoccupied. No Mang Land is swampy and in bad condition. Machine Gun at P.1.B.70.75. was active. Patrol returned via POTSDAM Group at 11.p.m.

A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 5 men left HESSIAN WOOD Group at 7.30.p.m. and moved out close to enemy wire at P.1.C.5.8., which is fairly thick. Enemy working was heard in COPSE and another well in rear. Patrol then came in through Post 11.0.6. at 11.p.m. Two whistling sounds were heard during tour, resembling message-senders being fired.

2. Identifications. Nil.4. Hostile Artillery Activity.

active during the day.

Enemys artillery was particularly

Harassing fire over our forward and rear. communications has been the chief characteristic of his activity throughout the 24 hours, scattered shelling and a few bursts of fire

(P.T.O.)

(2)

being put over both sectors during the day.

Registration and destructive shoots were carried out by his heavies on Squares I.30. I.28. and I.29. during the afternoon.

The Support Line again received a quantity of gas shell.

5. Enemys Attitude. Machine Guns very alert along whole front, and a slight increase in artillery activity.

6. Enemys Defences. A wire entanglement is in course of construction at J.52.B.5.3. Two occupied (buildings) pill boxes surrounded by loose wire were located at J.23.D.5.8. and two pillboxes at J.52.B.6.5. are reported to be strongly occupied but not wired.

Sounds of work could be heard from GALEY COPSE. LOCK 6 and LOAT FARM. also well in rear of his lines.

Machine guns active from P.1.B.70.75. and LOCK 6.

7. Hostile Aerial Activity. Slightly below normal, only on two occasions were hostile planes seen to cross out front.

8. Movement and Organisation in and behind Enemys Lines.

Little movement was observed during the day on account of low visibility.

Movement in vicinity of KENT FARM at daybreak and dusk was again noticeable.

Pillbox at P.2.C.7.1. appears to be a Headquarters, as movement can always be seen in its vicinity, also an observer with field glasses is on duty daily. At 6.50.p.m. carrying party of 15 men were observed at this location (18-pdrs fired on same.)

10. Miscellaneous. At 5.30.a.m. a Red lamp was seen flashing from BERRY COTTS.

Between 2.30.p.m. and 3.p.m. 4 trains were observed moving N.E. near MENIN and at 6.20.a.m. one moving in an N.E. direction from WERVICO.

Signalling. From P.2.C.80.05. at 7.a.m. was observed, apparently in touch with front line.

Geo. H. Priestley
Lieut.

for
Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.CONFIDENTIAL.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 11.

From 6.a.m. 11th. to 6.a.m. 12th March.

1. OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our 18-pdrs and 4.5. hows engaged the following targets which have proved active from aerial photos and observers reports:-

Road from J.32.B.55.40 to J.33.C.1.9. BERRY COTTS. SWAGGER FARM. CAPITAL FARM. DAMP COPSE. HATCH FARM. STONE FARM. ALASKA HOUSES. BLACK COTTS. Pillboxes at P.7.C.3.1. PIE FARM. HOLLYBONE CHAU. LOCKS 4. 5. and 6. and tracks in P.1.C.2.D. P.2. P.3.A., J.32.B. and J.33.D.

Parties of enemy moving in O.12.B. and P.2.D. was dispersed at 5.p.m.

Our heavies successfully engaged hostile batteries firing on right brigade front between 5.p.m. and 6.p.m. and actively fired on enemy batteries shelling Areas I.28. I.29. I.30.C. and I.30.A. during the afternoon.

At 8.p.m. a small ammunition dump in direction of COMINES was exploded by our heavies.

Trench Mortars. Our L.T.M.'s fired 20 rounds on hostile T.M. position at LOCK 6.

Medium T.M.'s fired 10 rds on GAME COPSE.

Aerial Activity. Our planes constantly patrolled our front and the enemy's forward areas.

At 5.40.p.m. three of our planes made for a hostile balloon which was immediately pulled in.

Patrols. Our patrols on the right brigade front found the enemy's patrolling activity much above normal.

A patrol of 1 Off and 12 men left O.12.A.2.8. at midnight and reached O.12.A.35.75. where they were engaged by an enemy post or large patrol with M.G. and rifle fire and bombs at about 25 yards range. Patrol reported back and another party of 1 Off and 20 men moved out to try and intercept this hostile post, but no trace of enemy was found.

A patrol of 1 Off and 8 men patrolled to HESSIAN WOOD through enemy's wire to about P.1.C.7.9. where patrol waited to observe. A hostile patrol of 25/30 were observed moving towards our party. Our party withdrew and enemy party all lay down.

Post were warned and L.G. fire opened on enemy party. Several patrols throughout the night reported a strong enemy working and wiring party in vicinity of GAME COPSE.

Artillery were informed and opened fire at frequent intervals on the COPSE.

A patrol of 4 men under Liout. McINERNEY left P.1.A.80.45. at 11.p.m. and moved towards HESSIAN WOOD when an enemy patrol was observed moving W but was too far distant to engage.

Our patrol continued Eastward and observed another enemy patrol moving towards our post at P.1.A.3.2. near which they halted apparently to observe. Our patrol then moved round them; and on enemy commencing to retire fire was opened on them.

At this time a third large enemy patrol came in sight and leaving 5 men to watch, patrol leader retired and warned our post and brought out a stronger party. On reaching the 5 men, the latter reported that all enemy patrols had retired, and our men had distinctly seen 5 bodies being taken away, notwithstanding heavy fire of Hales grenades from our posts.

Ground from the CANAL up to MOAT FARM is still reported very boggy difficult to move across.

(P.T.O.)

(2)

Patrols also reported a large working party at MOAT FARM, definitely proving that the enemy now occupies this post nightly. Patrol reports of the left brigade were in too late to be forwarded back.

Further information obtained by patrols is contained in para 6.

2. Identifications. Nil.

3. Enemy's Order of Battle and Disposition.

From the activity in patrolling referred to above it appears probable that relief took place on the night 10/11th.

4. Hostile Artillery Activity.

Enemy's artillery was again very active on the Divisional front, a decided increase in Counter Battery work being noted.

Destructive shoots were carried out against the support system of the left brigade and on rear areas in the vicinity of MILL 60, LARCH WOOD, and VIER BRANDEN MOLEN.

Heavy scattered shelling occurred during the day on forward defences and communications on the left brigade front.

Destructive shoots were carried out on I.36, P.1.A. and O.6.E. and J.31.C.

Areas O.5.B. and O.6.A. were heavily shelled between 5.30 p.m. and 11 p.m.

15 and 21 cms hows registered on the reserve line near I.36, Central.

The following areas were shelled with gas.

At 10.15 a.m.	48 rounds on	O.5.B. and O.6.A.
10- 11 a.m.	50 "	" I.30.D.1.5. (4.2s)
11.50 a.m.	5 "	" BULGAR WOOD. (77s)
11- 11.30 p.m.	40 "	" J.26.C. (77s)

True bearings were taken from flashes on to the following enemy gun positions.

10 a.m.	920	from J.31.C.00.45.
5.50 p.m.	1530.	" J.32.A.30.90.
5-6 p.m.	1560 50'	" J.31.C.55.53.

5. Enemy's Attitude. Artillery fire was again above normal, and patrolling on the right brigade front much above normal.

6. Enemy's Defences. From Patrols and O.P.'s.

Work. Large working parties were heard at GAME COPSE and MOAT FARM. New work is visible in a trench at about J.27.A.2.0.

Wire. Enemy wire at about P.1.C.6.9. is very weak. Wire is visible near BERRY COTTS at J.27.A.30.45.

M.G.'s. Machine guns were active from J.26.D.7.0., J.26.D.8.5. POOL FARM. DAMP COPSE. P.1.E.6.4. and three from GAME COPSE.

T.M.'s. An hostile G.W. fired 14 bombs from LOCK 5 on to the front of our extreme right Coy.

20 heavy T.M. bombs fell during the morning on P.1.A. and O.6.C. and another 20 heavy and medium T.M.'s during the night on J.31.D. and P.1.A.

Posts. GAME COPSE and MOAT FARM appears to be being made into strong posts. Strong Posts are apparently under construction also at P.1.C.12.45. and at P.2.C.7.3.

7. Hostile Aerial Activity. Enemy planes were inactive on right brigade front. A few flew at a considerable height over our left front.

8. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemy lines.

At 5.30 p.m. and 6.15 p.m. men carrying packs were observed to enter TROT HO and BUND COTTS respectively.

Individual movement was observed at P.1.C.70. P.2.D.7.3. P.2.D.6.8. P.3.C.7.2. and P.3.C.0.6. and at KIKI FARM.

Smoke and flame were seen near TROT HO at 12.40 p.m.

APPENDIX ✓

(3).

Wheeled transport could be heard behind enemys lines in the direction of PACK FARM during the night.

10. Miscellaneous. During enemys patrol activity in the night a gong was heard at intervals in enemy lines.

At 6.20.p.m. a flash lamp was observed working from MORSE FARM.

Two red flares still appear to be the enemys S.O.S. signal and 2 greens the cease fire signal. Two rockets each bursting into 3 white lights was also observed to draw fire.

J. A. Blarney

Colonel.

General Staff.

1st Australian Division.

Two raids were carried out simultaneously by the Right Division last night. The night raiding party secured 5 prisoners and inflicted many casualties on the enemy. The left raiding party also captured 5 prisoners. Identifications in each case were normal. The right party had six casualties, in the left one 1

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.ANNEX to 1st. Aust. Div. Intelligence Summary No. 11.
-----Photo. 3.B.A.400.

Shows many tracks in use specially round dug-outs at P.8.B.55.40. P.9.A.30.84. P.8.D.18.42. Strong Point at P.9.C.78.15. AQUA FARM. (P.9.C.) see also photo 3.B.A.399.

3.B.A.425.

Trenches from P.2.D.4.9. to P.2.C.3.2. appear to be enlarged or dug deeper by the newly thrown earth around same.

3.B.A.80.

Tracks are seen leading from trenches at P.8.A.5.4 to cross roads at P.7.E.6.3.

3.B.A.400.

ARBROATH FARM. (J.9.C.) is apparently used as a Headquarters by the number of tracks leading into it. The concrete building at P.8.B.65.55. just past which at P.8.B.6.6. appears to be a dump undoubtedly used by the Decauville railway running from that location to P.9.B.1.9. Other pronounced centres of activity on this photo, are the concrete buildings in P.9.A.55.65. A.60.7. A.65.90. a junction of tracks also appears at P.9.B.1.9.

Aerial Trench Reconnaissance. Road leading from HOLLEBEKE CHATEAU to KORTVELDE is in good condition and much used.

New trenches at P.51.B.75.75. have been continued to river at P.51.B.75.50.

Air reconnaissance reports follows smoke screen -
P.35.C.3.0. at 3.50.p.m. P.35.A.9.5. 4.50.p.m. P.21.A.2.1. 4.58.p.m. P.27.A.95.45. 4.40.p.m. P.29.C.2.3. 4.40.p.m. P.29.A.2.1. 4.40.p.m. P.29.A.2.1. 4.50.p.m. Appeared to be screening COMINE from north west.

Information Required.

1. Suspected Headquarters at P.2.C.7.1.
2. Wire entanglement in course of construction at J.32.B.5
3. Suspected Headquarters at ARBROTH FARM in P.9.C.
4. Further information on GAME COPSE, P.1.C.

APPENDIX 2

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 13.

From 6.a.m. 13-3-18. to 6.a.m. 15-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

Artillery. In accordance with a pre-arranged programme the following centres of activity were bombarded by our 18-pdrs and 4.5. hows.

POOL. FUNNY. RUSK and ULEY FARMS. DAMP COPSE. GAME COPSE. ALASKA HOUSES. QUART BUILDINGS. TROT HO. HOLLEBIKE CHAU. and LOCKS 4 and 5.

Also roads from J.33.C.1.9. to J.33.D.2.3. and from J.33.A.3.7. to J.33.C.5.7. and tracks in J.34.B. P.1.C.2.D. P.2.B. and P.7.C. and P.12.

Our 4.5 hows silenced an enemy T.M. firing from LOCK 5. and a heavy and T.M. firing from about O.12.D.85.85.

Counter batteries actively engaged hostile heavies firing on I.28. I.29. and I.33.C. throughout the day.

Heavies shelled COMINES and caused a fire near the Station. Eastern slopes of ZANDVOORDE ridge were also shelled.

Trench Mortars.

Our L.T.M.'s fired 25 and 25 rounds respectively on LOCK 5 and LOCK 6. and 15 rounds on enemy position in RIFLE ROAD in J.23.D.

Medium T.M.'s fired 29 rounds on to LOCKS 5 and 6 O.12.B.30.50 O.6.C.95.05. and GAME COPSE.

Machine Guns. Lewis guns fired intermittently throughout the night on enemy Forward posts.

Snipers. Snipers of left brigade had a busy day on enemy movement in J.27.A.2.C.

Aerial Activity. Our planes were active throughout the day, a flight of 10 passing over to enemys lines at 5.p.m.

Patrols. No enemy patrols were encountered by any of our patrols during the night.

A patrol of 1 off and 13 men left BELGIAN WOOD at 7.30.p.m. to endeavour to intercept enemy patrols near MOAT FARM. Patrol lay in wait at about P.1.B.65.85 for 56 minutes but no enemy parties were sent out. It is estimated that 5. M.Gs are now emplaced at MOAT FM and considerable work was being carried out there.

Another patrol lay in wait in the wire W of GAME COPSE for 1½ hours but no hostile patrol were seen. Working parties were again heard.

A patrol reconnoitring FUNNY FM heard a working party in DAMP COPSE. A T.M. was firing from the COPSE and a M.G. from about J.32.C.5.3.

A hostile T.M. was observed firing from P.2.A.1.3.

2. Identifications. Nil.3. Hostile Artillery Activity. Enemys artillery was again very active. A registration shoot was carried out on IMAGE AVENUE. Counter battery work and destructive shoots took place on our positions in I.28. and I.29.

Shelling of a destructive nature is reported over all the forward area of the right brigade.

The principal areas shelled were :-

HILL 60 about 200 rounds	5.9s and 8 inch	from S.E. direction.	
J.31.D.	170	" 4.2s	" "
THE GLEN.	60	" 5.9s.	E. N. E.
J.34.A. and			
THE GLEN.	200.	" 4.2s and Gas.	S.E.
Vicinity of J.31.C.			
I.36.B., P.1.A. and			
O.6.B.	600.	" 4.2s and 77s.	from WERVICQ.
O.4.D. and O.5.C.	100.	" 7.7s.	ZANDVOORDE.
			WERVICQ.

LONE TREE DUMP (O.4.A.) and Coy H.Q. (O.6.B) were

(F.T.C.)

(2).

intermittently shelled.

The following true bearings were taken on gun flashes.

	1210	observed from	0.5.B.5.7.
	1150		do.
5.35. - 6.40.p.m.	4.1230	(4.2s shelling J.31.D)	J.25.D.30.45.
6.50.p.m.	1180.	(5.2s. "	J.31.A) do.
7.50.p.m.	1200.	(4.2s. "	J.25.C) J.25.D.1.0.
	870	(5.9s. "	0.3.B.30.55.
4.45.p.m.	1180	(9.2s. "	I.34.) I.28.D.3.3.
	800	7.7cm.	J.31.C.05.50.

A 5.9. battery was observed firing from 200 yards W of

WERVICO CHURCH.

4. Enemy's Attitude. Artillery activity again showed a slight increase.

The fact that a considerable amount of work is being carried out on enemy forward posts seems to indicate a defensive policy being maintained by enemy opposite us.

5. Enemys Defences.

Work. See para 1. Patrols.

Machine Guns. were very active against our patrols. Guns were located at FANNY FM MOAT FARM. DAMP CORSE, and J.31.D.5.3.

Trench Mortars. There is apparently an increase in the number opposite us.

Hostile granatenwerfers were located at DAMP CORSE. P.2.A.1.3 0.12.D.85.85. LOCK 5. Light and Heavy T.M.'s were also active from positions in P.2.C. P.2.B.

Flash of a T.M. or gun was observed at P.3.D.0.6.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. Inactive on right brigade front but moderately active over left brigade.

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemys lines.

Individual movement was seen in the vicinity of BERRY COTTES. STONE FARM. QUART BUILDINGS. at P.2.C.50.85. and TUBE CROSS ROADS. and around pill boxes at P.2.C.7.0. P.2.D. and P.3.D.

Dumps. Two camouflaged dumps can be plainly seen at En.dos. OBEAUX. (P.19.B.).

Observers report pillboxes at J.32.D.6.6. to be occupied.

8. Miscellaneous.

During the gas shell bombardment of BUND COTTES. At 10.30.p.m. blowing of horns and beating of gongs were heard.

J. Rogers
Colonel.
General Staff.

1st Australian Division.

ANNEXE.

- (i) From French Army Summary 27-12-17.

" During the bombardment which preceded a raid on the 26th December in the neighbourhood of HARTANSWEILLERKOPF. the enemy employed gas shell with time fuzes. Those shells, which appeared to be 10.5.cm. burst with a slight detonation about 120 feet in the air. They produced a blue cloud, with a strong smell of mustard and phosphorus, which sank slowly to the ground."

- (ii) At 7.a.m. this morning a party of WEST RIDING troops about 40 strong raided an enemy pill box at about J.17.A.7.3. under cover of a barrage. The raid was completely successful and between 30 and 40 Germans and 2 light M.Gs were captured.

Our casualties were light.

Note. With reference to para(1) "All ranks should be warned of the possibility of this gas being used".

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 13.

From 6.a.m. 13-3-18. to 6.a.m. 14-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

Enemy Raid. At 10.p.m. enemy placed a heavy barrage on the support line and C. T.'s on our Southern battalion front. This became exceptionally heavy at 11.50.p.m.
At 12.5.a.m. under cover of this barrage a party of the enemy about 70 strong approached our wire between posts 2. O.6. and 3. O.6. They were immediately engaged with Lewis Gun and rifle fire and bombs. The leader of the party was killed, and a few succeeded in crossing our wire.

A hand to hand fight ensued, and as a result at least 13 enemy were taken prisoner, and about 10 enemy dead are lying in the vicinity of the posts. Patrols report that enemy stretcher bearers were at work in No Mans Land after the raid for some time.

On account of the fact that most of the prisoners were wounded the exact number taken is not yet known.
Our casualties were light.

Strength of the party and object of the raid together with statements of prisoners are given in the attached annexo.

Artillery. Intermittent bursts of fire were placed on the following centres of activity; - J.26.D.74.45. J.32.B.45.25., CAPITAL FARM. KENT FARM. TROT HO. JUNGLE HO., M.G. at J.27.D. 15.60. CROSS Tracks at J.33.C.35.25. LOCK 6. and P.1.D.4.C.

Harassing fire was carried out on defences in P.1.C.&D. P.2.A. and trenches in J.27.C., J.28.A.&B.

4.5 Hows successfully registered on to a hostile 10.cm. Battery at P.7.C.88.80.

Working parties were dispersed at P.8.D.6.8. and at BASSE VILLE FARM.

Our heavies engaged targets in P.7.B. and P.8.C., KORTWILDE and in vicinity of WERVICQ where a fire was started at 5.20.p.m.

Trench Mortars. Our L.T.M.'s fired 12 rounds on hostile M.G. and T.M. positions in LOCK 5. and 50 rounds on GAME COPSE at midnight silencing a M.G. there. Medium T.M.'s fired on J.32.B. Central. P.1.C.7.7. and on GAME COPSE.

Snipers. Our snipers were again active and an enemy sentry is believed to have been hit at J.27.C.1.9.

Aerial Activity. Throughout the day our planes were again active. Targets in J.27.C. were engaged with M.G. fire during the morning.

Patrols. A number of strong fighting patrols were out on the divisional front during the night. All parties report hostile M.Gs much more active than usual.

A party of 1 Officer and 20 men were out from 3.30.a.m. until 6.30.a.m. to examine our wire and look for enemy dead in front of the posts where the enemy raided.

Distinct gaps were found in our wire in front of posts 4. O.12. and 3. O.6. Wire cutters had apparently been used. No enemy dead were found but enemy stretcher bearers could be heard at work.

A fighting patrol of 28 men under Lieuts HEAD and SHARLANI left our lines in two parties to reconnoitre enemy post at O.12. A.6.8. and if possible secure prisoners. The wire around the post was found to be much improved. Two rows were negotiated and patrol was penetrating the third when the enemy opened up heavy M.G., rifle and bombing fire. Our patrol retaliated but being in the open sustained 5 casualties and had to withdraw.

(2)

Another patrol of 1 Off and 13 Other ranks passed out between FISH and VET PONDS to reconnoitre MOAT FARM. At P.1.B.4.8. very heavy fire from apparently 5. M.Gs at MOAT FARM. was encountered. The patrol leader was slightly wounded and party penetrated to about P.1.B.5.7. when hostile artillery and H.G. fire necessitated a withdrawal.

Two patrols were out at 7.45.p.m. and at midnight respectively to watch GALT COPSE. A H.G. fired from there, but no working parties could be heard.

Transport could be heard on roads in rear of the COPSE.

2. Identifications.

(a) Prisoners taken belonged to the 3rd. Company 1st Battalion 70. I.R. 51st. Division.

A brief history of this division is given in the attached annexe.

(ii) A German messenger dog apparently belonging to the Coy opposite our extreme left strayed into the lines of the Division on our left last night. In the collar was found a complete map of the dispositions of two platoons of the 23rd Bav. R.I.R. (8th. Bav. Res. Division.) and according to the sketch these platoons had on their Northern flank the 86th. R.I.R. (18th. Res. Division.)

3. Hostile Artillery Activity. Hostile Artillery has shown a decrease during the period.

Except for the barrage put down between 10.30.p.m. and 12.45. a.m. shelling was more scattered than usual and of a harassing nature over the whole of the forward areas.

The following areas were subjected to heavier shelling:- J.31.C. & D.1.A. J.25.B. to I.33.B. J.25.D.0.1., I.30.D., O.5. and O.6.

True bearings were taken on to enemy batteries as follows:-

7.50. - 8.10.p.m.	4.2. shelling J.32.C. at 870 from J.31.C.00.45.
10.p.m.	H.V.guns. " KEMMEL at 1200 " M.17.B.95.40.
8.25 - 9.5.a.m.	4.2s and 77s J.25.D. at 1060 J.25.D.00.35.
2.50 - 4.10.p.m.	77s. J.31.B. at 910 do.
4.25.p.m.	4.2s. and gas J.25.A. at 1160. do.
7.30.p.m.	77s and gas. J.25.C. & D.1230. do.
10.a.m.	77s. J.26.B. 1450 J.21.B.70.35.

4. Enemys Attitude. Hostile artillery has shown a decrease in activity

The Right Brigade report the enemy exceptionally alert, any movement on our part at once drawing H.G. fire.

5. Enemys Defences.

Wire. Three new belts of wire have been placed in front of the hostile outpost at O.12.A.6.8.

Machine Guns. were very active firing from J.32.D.7.0. O.12.A.6. MOAT FARM (5 guns) GALT COPSE. HOLLEBEKE CHAU. (The latter gun enfilades CHATEAU ROAD)

Our posts and approaches in P.1.A. were actively engaged.

Trench Mortars. Hostile T.Ms were very active against our Right Brigade front from LOCKS 5. and 6.

A new line of Camouflage is in position at about J.33.C.0.0.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. Enemy planes were more active than usual, but most of his attempts to cross our lines were frustrated by A.A. and H.G. fire.

At 12.15.p.m. our planes forced a hostile plane down in enemy territory.

At 5.30.p.m. two message balloons containing copies of the "Gazette des Ardennes" were dropped by a hostile plane.

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind Enemys lines.

Movement was observed at BERRY COTTS. STONE FARM. Pillboxes at J.28.D.0.1. J.33.C.1.7. and P.2.D. and on OUDERRUISECKE - MENIN Road

Trenches. A working party of 10 men were observed in a trench at P.2.B.5.4. and dispersed by our artillery.

A trench about 200 yards N of large pillbox at P.2.C.7.5. is frequently used by enemy.

Miscellaneous. At 12.15.p.m. an enemy plane flying at a great height over our rear areas left a horse shoe shaped trail of dense white smoke.

[Signature]
Colonel.

APPENDIX 7

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Preliminary interrogation of prisoners captured
by 1st Australian Division this morning in O.G.C.

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Identification. Prisoners belonged 1st Battalion 70th. Inf.
Regiment. 31st. Division.

Movements of the 31st Division.

Until the 31st Decr., 1917, the Div. was holding the Lako NAROTCH sector in Russia. On that date they entrained at KOBYLNICK and travelled via KONSTANTINOFF and LYNPUY to VILNA, where they detrained on the evening of 2nd Feby, and in which Town they remained until the 12th, billeted in the JUNKERSCHULE. On the 12th they entrained and travelled via KONIGSBERG. ELBING. DIRSCHAU. BALBURG. SIEGBURG. AIX-LA-CHAPELLE. VERVIER and ST NICHOLAS to ST GILLIES, where they detrained about 18th Dec. Two companies, including the prisoner's, then marched to MEERDONCK on the Dutch frontier, where they remained until 14th Jan. Other companies were billeted at VERREBROECK. On the 14th Jan. they entrained at ST GILLES and detrained at WAEREGHEM, whence they marched to OOSTROOSEBEKE. They remained two days and two nights at OOSTROOSEBEKE, then went into the sector on the YPRES front.

Method of capture of the above prisoners.

A silent raiding party of 2 Officers 1 Offizierstellvertreter and between 70 - 80 other ranks, after special training, and careful preparation embussed in MENIN at 8.p.m. on the 13th Inst, with the ultimate objective of surrounding 3 of our posts located in O.G.C. and netting in, or dealing with, any of our smaller patrols, should they have had the misfortune to run across them.

The training for this fruitless enterprise appears to have been carried out with extreme precision and care, on no less than 5 occasions did the party practice the scheme on a replica of the ground to be covered, in MENIN.

The idea was for the whole patrol to get out into NO MANS LAND. there divide into two parties one to work round the northern most post and the other party round the southern most post, meet behind, extend, then sweep to their lines. A light 08 pattern M.G. was to take up a position on the bank of the canal, thus affording flank protection on the right. * (See Diagram.)

First prisoner was on the left of the left party and owing to the fog failed to recognise, points he had been taught to remember by heart, his friend who accompanied him fell wounded in NO MANS LAND prisoner continued leaving the wounded man to his fate, until he himself fell into a deep shell hole filled with water, after which he seemed to have little care for this world, and being completely alone and desolate, wandered on until he found himself being escorted down the duckboards.

Every man of the party was equipped with his rifle, 20 rounds of S.A.A. and 3 or 4 hand grenades, which were distributed in MENIN, and in addition party had one light pattern M.G. mentioned above.

All means of identification had been removed from prisoners including identity discs, and before the raid took place, they were told to give the number of any regiment other than their own.

The whole of the operating party were drawn from the 1st. Battalion, every man being detailed for the job, the young strong single men being given the honor, most of them very much against their will.

Prisoners having never been in the sector before had absolutely no knowledge of any headquarters, or rear locations, and were therefore unable to furnish any acceptable targets for our own or flank divisions.

(P.T.O.)

(2).

Prisoners know of no contemplated attack along this front, and state that everything appears to them to be quite normal round about MENIN and COURTRAI, as regards movement etc.

None of them had seen or heard of any German Tanks along this front.

The 31st Division has in no way carried out any form of manoeuvres or special training, since leaving Russia.

The moral of the prisoners was very poor.

Extract on moral of this division taken from a summary dated 6-2-19.

When recently on the Dutch frontier, 50 men of the 174th Regt. (31st Div) escaped into Holland. They were mostly Alsations and Lorrainers; and included one Alsatian Officer. In prisoners

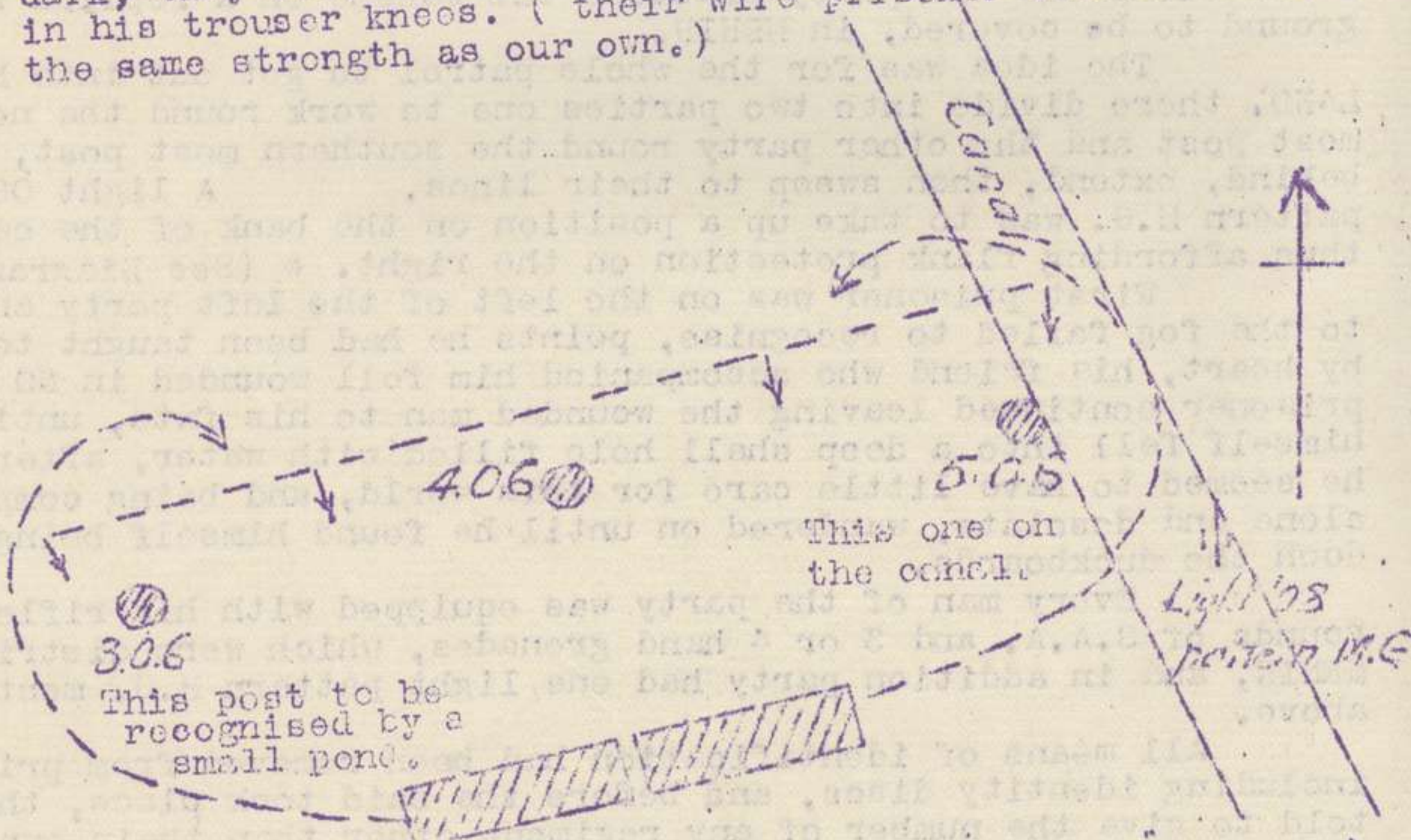
Company there were ten such deserters. The moral of the Prussians in the Regiment is very bad. They were very much upset at being brought from Russia to the Flanders Front and are very frightened of our artillery. The Coy Officer is also very nervous and not at all clever.

Relief. Prisoners were confident that the 1st Battalion of the 70th I.R. 31st Division had relieved one Battalion of the 76.R.I.R. 17th Res. Division.

One prisoner was a deserter who attempted to desert whilst up in the MOORSLEDE sector and who was sent back for duty with a road formation, who know of his attempt to escape.

Food. One prisoner who recently returned from leave, where he had stayed with his people quite close to the frontier of Alsace, states that whilst there he had excellent food, but a tremendous lot of food and material is being constantly sent into Germany.

Our wire. Prisoners states our wire hampered them, but it being dark, they were able to climb over it, showing as a proof 2 holes in his trouser knees. (their wire prisoner stated was just about the same strength as our own.)



Patrol divided into two in
No Mans Land.

APPENDIX

CONFIDENTIAL.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 14.

From 6.a.m. 14-3-18. to 6.a.m. 15-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS. Our tactical operations were confined to active patrolling along the whole Divisional front.
- Artillery. The following locations were among those selected, and subjected to intermittent bursts of fire during the period.
- Suspected Headquarters at P.4.A.3.5. PACK FARM., road from J.33.A.7.7. to J.33.A.35.70. Strong Points at P.3.A.85.42. and P.2.D.36.59. road from J.33.B.30.53. to J.34.C.27.75. LOCK 5 and P.1.D.4.9. In addition the following hostile M.G. positions were dealt with during the day J.26.D.70.75. J.27.C.00.50. J.27.A.5.5. J.32.B.5.3. J.32.C.3.3. and minenwerfer at J.26.B.85.30.
- A number of rounds were expended by all batteries in checking zero lines and registrations.
- At 9.20.P.M. our left group Batteries co-operated in a raid carried out by the Division on our left, by subjecting the road J.33.B.60.43. to J.34.C.27.75. to intense enfilade fire.
- An S.O.S. signal was sent up to the North of our Sector at 4.40. a.m. Our artillery and M.G. opened up on their S.O.S. lines for five minutes, when all was reported quiet.
- Trench Mortars. Our Stokes Mortars fired 25 rounds on hostile M.G. positions in vicinity of O.12.B.7.5. effectively silencing same. M.G. and T.M. positions in vicinity of LOCKS 5 and 6 were shelled by 33 rounds.
- Harassing fire by 30 rounds was put over on enemy M.G. position at P.1.C.7.7. Total ammunition expended 83 rounds.
- Aerial Activity. Our planes were active at dawn, and just before dusk, patrolling our own and the enemys forward areas.
- Patrols. Other than liaison and protective the following patrols left our lines with definite objectives.
- Right Brigade - A patrol of 1 Officer (Lieut. CLARKE) and 12 other Ranks left P.1.A.8.4. at 8.p.m. and proceeded in the direction of GAME COPSE for 150 yards. Whilst at this location an enemy M.G. was observed firing from E side of GAME COPSE. No enemy working parties or movement were observed. Patrol then moved towards HESSIAN Group and came in at O.6.D.8.9. at 11.30.p.m. without meeting any hostile patrol. The rumble of transport was distinctly heard in rear of enemy lines.
- A patrol of 12 other ranks under Lieut. GUDGEON. left BELGIAN Group at 12.30.a.m. and proceeded in direction of MOAT FARM. About 40 yards out from our wire a new belt of hurriedly constructed wire which did not prove a very effective barrier, was discovered. This was followed for about 20 yards where the party laid in wait for about 45 minutes. The enemy could be plainly heard working at MOAT FARM with heavy material. Patrol then came in at POTSDAM Group by 4.30.a.m. and whilst returning were fired on by M. Gun from MOAT FARM and by a L.T. Mortar which was not located.
- A patrol of 1.N.C.O. and 6 men left HESSIAN Group at 7.30.p. and moved via Western edge of WET POND towards MOAT FARM, which was watched for an hour. Machine Guns (5) were very active and the garri of posts were exceeding watchful and alert, firing on the least noise.
- A signalling plant was observed due East from MOAT FARM, which shows a very powerful light. Patrol then returned via BELGIAN WOOD coming in at 11.25.p.m. No Mans Land is in a very bad condition and very slippery.
- A patrol of 10 other ranks led by Lieut. KING. moved on from O.6.C.5.4. at 8.p.m. and established a line of listening posts 200 yards in advance of our posts Nos. 1.O.6., 2.O.6., 3.O.6.
- A little M.G. fire was observed from LOCK 6, otherwise the enemy was quiet. They came in at 10.p.m.
- Left Brigade. - A patrol of 1 Officer and 10. O.R. left our line at J.26.C.8.4. at 10.30.p.m. to intercept and engage any enemy patrol.

(P.T.O.).

(2)

in front of sector. Patrol moved to J.26.D.4.3. thence North to our line at J.26.B.3.1. reaching there at 12.45 a.m. Sounds of men working at sandbagging in the vicinity of J.26.D.3.4. were heard but no enemy were encountered.

2. Identifications. Nil.

3. Hostile Artillery Activity.

Artillery activity for the period remains fairly persistent but has been slightly less active over our left Brigade area and over our rear communications.

The areas receiving the greatest attention from the hostile artillery includes the following, - P.1.A. shelled by 20 rounds 15cm. and 30 rounds 21cm. O.S.B. by 25 rounds 21cm, 22 rounds 10cm, 22 rounds 7.7cm, and 20 rounds 10cm, during the day. I.26.D.2.D. and J.26.B. were shelled during the afternoon, the former was a counter battery shoot, the latter a destructive shoot against our pillboxes.

5. Enemys Defences.

Trench Mortars. A considerable increase in T.M. bombing has been reported during the last two days on our right Brigade front, the following table gives an estimate of their activity during the period under review.

7 a.m.	25 rounds	in J.31.D.
8 - 8.30 a.m.	25 "	" GRAVES COPSE.
8.30. - 9 a.m.	52 Granatenwerfer	" O.S.D.
9.15. - 11.30 p.m.	23 rounds.	Over left and right Company posts.

O.S.A. B. and C. O.11.B. and P.1.A. were also lightly shelled at intervals.

Trench Mortars were observed firing from positions at the S end of pillboxes at P.7.A.75.41. and P.7.A.30.35. in each case two men could be seen operating the mortars, another mortar was seen firing from O.12.D.9.9. on to our positions on the CANAL in O.S.C.

Machine Gun Their Machine Gun activity shows a slight decrease during the period. No Mans Land was swept at intervals, but there was a noticeable decrease in the amount of fire directed on our approaches.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. No enemy machines were over our sector during the day.

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind the enemys lines.

At 8 a.m. several small parties were observed moving E from LOCKS 5 and 3. Later a party of about 20 attempted to follow and forced to take cover, being engaged by our snipers and M.Gs, but no casualties were observed. Normal individual movement was observed during the day, and all such targets were immediately taken advantage of.

8. Miscellaneous.

Two small screens have been erected at P.2.D.2.4. it is possible they may hide M.G. as they have been reported firing from this direction.

At dawn stretcher parties were seen carrying wounded back from near enemy wire opposite our posts 1.O.S. to 5.O.S.

At 1.30 a.m. the enemy fired a considerable number of air bursting gas shells on to our rear areas and battery positions.

4.45 a.m. an S.O.S. Signal was put up to the north of our Sector, our artillery and M.Gs opened for a few minutes on their S.O.S. lines.

Enemy shelled vicinity of LA CLYTON cross roads N.7.C.9.9 with H.V.Gun at 4 minute intervals, starting 12.20 a.m. 9 or 10 rounds in all being fired.

Geo. H. Purkley

21 for Colonel.
General Staff.

1st Australian Division.

APPENDIX

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 15.

From 6.a.m. 15-3-18. to 6.a.m. 16-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

Throughout the last 24 hours our field batteries have actively engaged known enemy centres of activity. Intermittent bursts of fire were placed on FUNNY and CAPITAL FARMS, DAMP COPSE, RUPERTS COPSE, LOCKS 4, 5, and 6. Strong Points at J.27.C.35.00. J.27.D.01.70. and from J.32.B.91.20. to J.32.D.99.90.

Roads from J.27.D.50.75. to J.27.D.77.28. and J.33.D.16.36. to J.34.C.57.42., track from P.2.A.05.20. to P.2.A.80.30., and trench between J.33.B.20.55. to J.34.A.97.38. were thoroughly swept during the evening and early morning.

Working parties at pill-boxes at P.2.D.68. and P.8.B.15.85. and P.13.A. were dispersed. Accurate shooting was also observed on pill-box at LOCK 4 and on L.G. post at J.35.A.35.75.

Concentrated fire was put down on enemy granatenwerfer firing gas bombs on our right brigade front.

4.5 Hows successfully engaged hostile 7.7 batteries at P.3.A.00.60. and P.2.B.75.60.

All batteries expended a number of rounds on practice in replying to aeroplane calls. Our heavies engaged targets in WERVICO and ZANDVOORDE.

Trench Mortars. Medium T.Ms carried out destructive shoots on to LOCKS 5 and 6 and on GAME COPSE.

Light T.Ms engaged hostile M.Gs in GAME COPSE and hostile T.Ms firing from HOLLEBUKE CHAU and LOCK 5.

Machine Guns. 13,000 rounds were fired during the night on to enemy positions and tracks.

Aerial Activity. During the day our planes were active penetrating to some distance behind his lines. At night several flights of planes were heard to pass over and bombs were heard dropping in the direction of WERVICO and MINNIN.

Patrols.

Right Brigade. Patrols on the right brigade front report hearing enemy working party near the CANAL about 100 yards S of LOCK 6. This party was dispersed by L. G. fire.

Working parties were also heard in the vicinity of GAME COPSE and at about P.1.B.5.31 hammering and driving stakes into the ground.

A enemy patrol was also observed to move South from the pill-box just South of GAME COPSE, and were then lost to view.

Left Brigade. One patrol left to ascertain if enemy post at J.32.2.3. was occupied and if so to attempt to take prisoners. Post was found to be occupied but our artillery prevented the patrol from proceeding further.

Another patrol set out to examine RIFLE ROAD and to intercept enemy patrols. When our party was at about J.23.B.70.05. an enemy patrol of about 12 was seen at about J.23.B.70.40. Patrol endeavoured to intercept them but lost them in the darkness.

Condition of ground. Ground in P.1.B.&.C. is still reported boggy. Ground W of the BASSEVILLE BECK in J.32.A.&.B. is reported firmer but shell holes are still full of water. In 26.B. it is quite good to move on.

2. Identifications. Nil.

3. Hostile Artillery Activity. On the left brigade front enemy's artillery was normal but increased activity is reported by the right brigade. Registration shoots were carried out on the Support Lines and C.Ts, and on and immediately in rear of our Outpost system in O.6.

Between 3.a.m. and 4.50.a.m. scattered but fairly heavy gas shelling occurred on J.32. and J.33. A number of these shells burst from 20-50 feet from the ground with a blue cloud which lost its

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colour in a few seconds.

Other areas heavily shelled were :-

11.a.m. - 6.p.m.	100.	4.2s and 5.9s	fell near MOUNT SORREL.
11.30.a.m. - 7.p.m.)	150.	5.9s.	I.28.D. and
12 midnight- 1.30.)			I.29.C.
4.30.p.m. - 6.40.p.m.	120.	4.2s. and 77s.	J.25.D. and
			J.23.A.
	180	4.2s and 77s.	I.36.C. and J.31.C
	120	4.2s	O.11.A.
	120	4.2s and 77cm.	O.6.C.
	80	4.2s	O.4.B.

Between 1.15.a.m. and 1.35.a.m. our front system from about the CANAL to J.31.D. was heavily shelled by granatenwerfer & bombs. These mortars were heard firing from the direction of CIRCUIT POINT, CHALK FARM, MAY FARM, GAME COPSE, LOCK 5. and LOCK 6. and O.12.D.9.9. No blinds could be found.

Trench mortars were observed by the left brigade observers firing from J.32.D.45.40. from rear of LONG FARM and on True bearing of 1210 from J.33.A.15.05.

4. Enemys Attitude. Slightly increased hostile T.M. activity has been noticed and particularly just N of the CANAL.

Working parties have again been very busy. Work is always continued till dawn.

Machine gun activity was below normal.

5. Enemy Defences.

Machine Guns. were located at GAME COPSE LOCK 5 and at J.33. B.80.40.

Wire in front of GAME COPSE is thick and in good condition. A little new wire is visible at P.8.A.5.9.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. Very little activity. Several were observed at a very high altitude.

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemys lines.

At 7.25.a.m. 8 men passed from P.2.C.1.9. to P.2.C.7.1. to P.2.D.3.7. they carried shovels but no equipment.

A party of 12 men wearing peak caps, some carrying sticks, moved along ridge from approx. P.8.A.5.9. to P.2.B.9.3. This appeared to be a reconnaissance party.

Smoke was seen rising from pillbox at P.1.B.01.65. Movement was also observed at pillbox at P.7.A.7.4., P.2.C.7.1., P.7.C.9.3. P.7.A.85.05. P.13.A.6.3. P.8.B.15.85. Also at Pillbox at J.33.C.45.00., at Pillboxes near KENT FARM, at BERRY COTTS, at GENERALS DUGOUTS, at STONE FARM. J.28.B.15.50. at J.28.D.00.12. A man appeared to be observing from pillbox at P.13.A.6.6. Artillery was informed, and fired, obtaining several direct hits.

Six men were working on a trench near JUNGLE HOUSE. P.2.D. Central. Considerable movement was again seen in the vicinity of the pillboxes around P.2.C.7.1.

Railways. At 12.30.p.m. a train was seen travelling N.E. from WERVICQ. at 6.50.p.m. a train entered COMINES from the South.

Dumps. The two camouflaged dumps reported on the 12th Inst at Fm. des. OBREAUX have been removed.

8. Miscellaneous.

Observation Balloons. were observed at bearing of 840 true from O.5.C.75.20. and at 760, 960, 1120, 1350, 1570 true from O.6.A.25.95. At 1440 A Signal Lamp could be seen sending ... continuously from a pillbox at about P.8.A.7.7.

At 9.30.p.m. Orange clusters were fired by the enemy and repeated three times to the rear. No action followed.

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1st Australian Division.

Note. Whenever patrols are being sent out some distance into No Man's Land, Unit Commanders should invariably inform our artillery through the attached F.O.O.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 16.

From 6.a.m. 16-3-18. to 6.a.m. 17-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.Artillery.

The following positions proved active from recent observers reports and from aerial photos were bombarded during the period:-

BERRY COTTS, STONE FARM, RUSK FARM, GAME COPSE, Strong Points at J.33.C.20.10., and P.3.A.83.30., TIN HOUSES, Trenches from J.28.D.13.15. to J.34.A.76.93., J.34.A.80.90. to J.28.D.87.10. and J.34.C.25.85. to J.34.A.70.00. and LOCKS 5 and 6.

4.5" Hows expended a number of rounds on cutting wire in front of GAME COPSE at P.1.C.30.75., and from O.12.A.60.70. to O.12.A.75.95.

Good shooting was observed on hostile working parties at P.8.B.2.8. O.12.D.90.85. P.13.A.6.3. PUNNY FARM and at J.23.C.1.3.

During the night selected roads and tracks in P.2.A.2.B. P.7.A.2.B. P.8. and J.22. were thoroughly swept in intermittent bursts.

Active hostile T.Ms at P.1.C.7.8. and P.2.C.48.55. were silenced by our 18-pdrs.

At 5.14.p.m. our heavies scored a direct hit on a gun emplacement in P.10.C. and the crew of the gun were soon to scatter and disperse.

Trench Mortars. Stokes Mortars fired 50 rounds on GAME COPSE, 15 rounds on to hostile T.M. post at O.12.A.30.45. and 20 rounds on LOCKS 5 and 6.

Hostile H.Gs and T.Ms in vicinity of HOLLEBEKE CHAU were engaged.

Medium T.Ms silenced enemy T.Ms firing from vicinity of LOCK 6.

Machine Guns. Vickers guns expended 27,000 rounds during the night in intermittent bursts of fire on to the following targets.

CHALK FARM.

BASSEVILLE FARM.

CIRCUS POINT.

PIE FARM.

Road from P.2.C.55.65 to P.2.A.9.5.

Road from P.7.A.5.4. to P.7.B.5.3.

Railway embankment from O.12.B.8.0. to P.7.C.4.2.

BERRY COTTS, HAIP FARM, TROT HOUSE, PACK FARM, LONG FARM, KINT FARM and BUND COTTS. Roads and tracks in J.33.C. were also subjected to intermittent bursts of fire.

Aerial Activity. Our planes were very active throughout the day. Considerable A.A. and H.G fire was directed at them.

Patrols. The attached map (to Corps) shows routes taken by all patrols of the division during the night.

Patrols of the right brigade report -

Enemy H.Guns very active from LOCK 6 and MOAT FARM.

Hostile T.M. and granatwerfer active from LOCK 6. Enemy wiring party was heard at GAME COPSE and at MOAT FARM, at the latter place shovelling metal.

No Mans Land on front of HESSIAN Group to CHATEAU Road was passable, but wet and muddy in places. Condition of ground from POTSDAM Group to between WET and FISH Ponds is fairly good, and a good approach to MOAT FARM was noted at P.1.B.65.75. but enemy wire is strong at this point. From front of POTSDAM Group to HESSIAN Group is fairly good, but at O.6.D.9.7. and P.1.C.8.1. it is muddy, and in places impassable. No hostile patrols were observed.

A patrol of 8 men under LIEUT. BINNS made a complete reconnaissance of RIFLE ROAD in the vicinity of J.26.D.8.9. RIFLE ROAD is fascined between J.26.B.8.0. and J.26.D.7.9. but covered by shell holes. A partially demolished and unoccupied pillbox was located at approx. J.26.D.5.7. Rusted cupolas with an old tape running back to the German lines were discovered at about J.26.D.

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75. Ground between J.26.B.4.4. and J.26.B.8.0. is fairly dry and free from obstacles but in the vicinity of J.26.F.3.8. is very rough making movement extremely difficult and noisy.

A Patrol of 1 Off and 12 O.R.s reconnoitred state of ground and obstacles in the vicinity of FUNNY FARM. Party moved from J.26.A.7.5. to J.32.C.3.8. from whence they observed a large enemy working party covered by a patrol near FUNNY FARM. Our artillery were notified and dispersed the party. The ground traversed is still very badly cut up and marshy. At several points patches of old and damaged wire on low stakes were encountered.

2. Identification. Nil.

3. Hostile Artillery Activity. Enemy activity was normal during the period. Shelling was mostly of a harassing nature and was directed chiefly on the following areas.

I.36.C.2.D.	125 rounds.	77s 4.2s and 5.9s.
O.6.A.2.B.	140 "	mostly 7.7s shrapnel.
WHITE CHATEAU.	44. "	5.9s and 9.2s.
O.5.C.2.D.	150 "	4.2s and 7.7s.

About 70 77s and 4.2s fell on our outposts in O.6. and O.12.

Between 9.a.m. and 1.p.m. about 300 4.2s and 5.9s fell in the area KLEIN ZILLEBEKE along Reserve line to MOUNT SORREL along IMAGE AVENUE to THE GLEN.

From 11.30. to 2.p.m. 100 rounds 5.9 Gas and H.E. fell around KLEIN ZILLEBEKE. Between 12.30.p.m. and 2.p.m. our front system in J.26. and J.32. was intermittently shelled.

J.25. Central was shelled fairly heavily between 1.30. and 4.30.p.m. A destructive shoot on I.29.A.2.D. was carried out between 9.55.p.m. and 11.15.p.m. about 150 rounds 5.9s falling. Flashes were observed on true bearings of 1150 and 1350 at 2.32.p.m. and 3.35.p.m. respectively, from J.25.D.60.45.

Flashes were also observed as follows :-

1000	True bearing from O.5.B.6.7.	(flash to report 8 secs.)
1050	" " " " O.5.C.75.20.	
370	" " " " J.31.D.55.55.	(77 battery.)

4. Enemy attitude. Quiet but alert. Works are still being pushed ahead in enemy front posts.

5. Enemy Defences.

Work. As reported in para 1. (Patrols) Working parties were heard at MOAT FARM. FUNNY FARM and at GAME COPSE and at J.27.C.1.3.

Wire. Wiring parties were seen at GAME COPSE. Wire has been strengthened in front of BERRY COTTES and POOL FARM. In front of MOAT FARM and GAME COPSE it is thick and low forming a good obstacle.

Machine Guns. were active from BERRY COTTES. J.32.B.3.9. KENT Farm and immediately N of FUNNY FARM.

Trench Mortars. Enemy T.M.s were again active on the outpost line of the right brigade, Post 3.0.3. being destroyed. One fired from approx. KENT FARM.

A screen has been put up along ridge from J.33.A.4.8. to J.27.C.4.5. It is evidently intended to continue the work for 8 poles are in position to take more screening.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. Enemy planes were not active. Balloons were observed on the following True bearings.

9.25.a.m.	1070. 1100. 1430.	from I.29.C.80.25.
5.p.m.	1250. 1280.	" " "
	370. 850. 480. 1250.	I.36.C.25.05.
	390. 1210. 1410.	J.25.D.60.45.
	1240. 1410. 1120. 990. 950.	O.5.B.3.7.

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemy lines.

At 7.10.a.m. 8 men wearing peak caps and carrying sticks were seen moving about on the ridge in P.2.D. At about the same time a fatigue party approached P.2.D.5.3. where 20 boxes were stacked, camouflaged; two men carried one box.

APPENDIX

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At 12.30.p.m. 12 men were seen at pillbox at O.12.D.90.85. Artillery was notified and party dispersed.

Three men were observed near pillbox at P.13.A.6.6. at 1.30.p.m. Artillery fired on this target and no more movement was seen. Between 3.30.p.m. and 5.p.m. three men were observed crawling round pillbox at O.6.D.55.17. They appeared to be observing. Movement of small parties of from 2 to 3 men of individuals was observed during the day at BERRY COTTS, BUND COTTS, STONE FARM and at a Pillbox about J.29.D.5.3, P.5.B.5.8, J.36.C.15.70, P.2.C.2.D, P.8.B. and at LAMB COTTS, P.3.A.

8. Miscellaneous.

A number of small white flags were observed which marked line from PAN COTTS (P.2.D.) to KIKI FARM (P.8.C.) passing close to pillbox at P.8.B.10.80.

At 8.10.p.m. a signal lamp was operating from MORSE FARM. (P.21.A)

A red lamp was sending a succession of dashes from vicinity of WERVICQ. at 8.p.m.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

(i) A patrol on approaching an enemy post in the vicinity of PONT ROUGE (U.29.), heard a whistle blown in the post. Immediately afterwards our patrol was engaged with very heavy bombing fire from the enemy post.

(ii) The enemy's S.O.S. still appears to be a White light bursting into two Reds, and a white light bursting into two green appears to be used to indicate the place where he is raided.

(iii) At J.17.A. a small party of the enemy carrying a white flag approached a pillbox we had raided evidently in search of wounded; they were not fired on. We sent out a similar party which was at once fired on by M.Gs.

(iv) A prisoner states that very great damage has been caused at the railway station and on dumps at MENIN, by our bombing. Most of the civilians have been evacuated.

(v) The Army on our right has recently reported several instances of divisions in back areas sending forward troops to carry out raids etc, instead of employing the troops of division actually holding the line.

J. H. Rogers Capt
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1st Australian Division.

APPENDIX

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

From 6.a.m. 17-3-18. to 6.a.m. 18-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

Artillery. The chief feature of our action was the thorough searching and sweeping of enemy roads and tracks in P.8. P.12. J.32.E.&D. and J.27. In addition the following selected centres of recent activity were subjected to intermittent bursts of fire during the period. NAPOO. LAMB and SWAGGER FARMS. BELL BUILDINGS. COSY COTTES. LOCKS 5 and 6 Machine Guns in J.32.C. and P.2.B. dugouts in J.28.B. and J.33.A. and Trench Mortars active at P.1.C.8.7. and P.1.D.78.75.

With the object of engaging any enemy patrols and working parties in No Mans Land during the early morning, a barrage was put down by the Left Group on the line J.26.B.9.1. J.26.D.45.70. J.26.D.35.00. J.32.B.05.40. J.32.C.42.45. and subsequently making two lifts each of 50 yards and sweeping to cover the whole zone, 4.5. Hows co-operated by simultaneously bombarding POOL. FUNNY and EAST FARMS. Trench Mortars at J.32.B.52.18. and J.32.D.46.48. and trench from J.32.B.51.51. to J.32.B.55.12.

Trench Mortars. Our stokes mortars directed harassing fire on enemy outpost at P.1.B.6.6. P.1.C.7.7. and P.1.C.75.80. to the extent of some 30 rounds.

LOCKS 5. and 6. granatenwerfer position at O.12.A.80.45. and T.M. and M.G. positions in vicinity of HOLLEBEKE CHATEAU were shelled, also a suspected M.G. position at about J.26.D.8.5. received attention. In all 95 rounds were expended.

Machine Guns. Our M.Guns during the darker hours of the evening and night released some 27.500 rounds of S.A.A. The selected targets included the following.

BASSEVILLE FARM. GAME COPSE. EAST FARM. PIN HOUSE. BERRY COTTES. HAMP FARM. TROT HOUSE. PACK LONG. and KENT FARMS. and known enemy tracks.

Aerial Activity. Seizing the opportunity, our airmen took every advantage of the improved conditions of visibility, and were to be seen throughout the day, patrolling the enemys forward area as well as our own.

Patrols. In addition to liaison and protective patrols, several special patrols went out from our right Brigade sector.

Hostile M.Guns were active from GAME COPSE. MAY FARM. and MOAT FARM. Hostile T.M.s were active from Southern pillbox of GAME COPSE.

Except for above activity and a working party heard well in rear of GAME COPSE, the enemy was very quiet, no signs of hostile patrols were seen. Gas in No Mans Land hampered patrol movement.

From our left Brigade Sector the two following reports are the outstanding features of the nights patrolling.

1. A patrol of 1 Officer and 12 O.Rs left our lines at 10.30.p.m. from J.32.C.3.8. to locate and report on the nature of the approaches to FUNNY FARM and to locate enemy wire in the vicinity. Patrol moved directly to FUNNY FARM without opposition reaching there at 12.55.a.m. The farm was found to be unoccupied and showed signs of recent use. The pillbox is about 15 feet by 10 feet, consisting of two compartments one containing a table and a bunk. It is untenable, having been partially blown in by shell fire the previous day. Very little M.G. fire was experienced by the patrol, but the going was extremely difficult owing to the swampy nature of the country. Two belts of wire, 40 to 60 yards from the farm were met with but were easily crossed on account of being damaged by shell fire. No enemy were encountered and patrol returned to our lines at point of departure at 1.30.a.m.

2. A patrol of one Officer and 10 O.Rs left our lines at J.26.B.4.3. at 1.15.a.m. to intercept and engage any enemy patrols

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in front of sector. Patrol moved out to about J.27.A.0.4. and from here enemy were located in a trench about J.27.A.2.4. No enemy patrols were seen or heard and patrol returned to our lines at 4.a.m. to point of departure. During the time the patrol was out many flares were fired by the enemy but M.Gs were not very active.

Lieut. S. TINDALL was in charge of No. 1. Patrol, and 2/Lieut. P. BINNS in charge of No. 2.

2. Identification. Nil.

3. Hostile Artillery Activity.

An all round increased activity in all calibres and species of shell, was noted during the 24 hours under review.

Heavier shelling of the Reserve Support and Battery positions occurred, whilst outpost groups were shelled as usual.

Heavy concentration of gas shell were put down in the vicinity of our Support and Reserve Systems, on our right Brigade front the enemy used his L.T.M. mostly for this shoot which lasted from 10.30.p.m. to 1.a.m.

From 5.p.m. to 11.p.m. our battery positions in the vicinity of HILL 60 were fired on by gas shell.

From 10.p.m. to midnight a very heavy gas concentration (phosgene) was put down over I.33. I.34. and O.3. A lighter concentration was put down in various areas forward of this.

During the day active harassing fire was directed on our forward communications and trenches, and movement in the forward zone. C.Ts were blown in in several places, and Coy Headquarters of right battalion slightly damaged.

4. Enemys attitude. A more aggressive attitude has been adopted during the 24 hours under review by enemy artillery and T.Mortars. Machine Gun fire was very easily drawn in No Mans Land, but no infantry patrolling appears to take place.

5. Enemys Defences.

Work. An outpost can be seen at P.2.A.7.9. and well worn tracks can be seen leading to same. A new enemy trench is suspected from O.12.B.4.7. to O.6.D.72.33. Camouflage screening previously reported is now completed to TROT HOUSE. Several poles are lying on the ground at the end of the screen, and it is evident intended to continue the work.

Machine Guns. On our right Brigade front especially the hostile machine guns, have been very active, and exceptionally alert, firing over our forward approaches from MOAT FARM and GAME COPSE. A M.Gun emplacement is suspected at O.6.D.72.33.

Trench Mortars. Very active, on left sector of right Brigade they co-operated with enemy artillery in gas bombardment of our forward posts with gas bombs.

T.M. bombs fell in vicinity of P.1.A. and O.6.A. and C. On our right Battalion sector, heavy minenwerfer and granatenwerfer fired 140 rounds for the period chiefly over O.5.D. and O.6.C.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. Seven hostile planes were observed between 5.p.m. and 7.p.m. several of which unsuccessfully attacked one of our planes over their lines.

Two other planes were also observed during the day, but no attempts were made to cross our lines.

Six hostile balloons were up during latter part of the day opposite the Divisional Sector.

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind the enemys lines.

Improved visibility probably accounts for increased movement observed. Individual movement was observed throughout the day, all living targets were immediately taken advantage of.

At 12.45.p.m. a sontry was observed in trench at J.27.A. 1.4. At 4.p.m. a pigeon was released from pillbox at J.29.C.5.3.

8. Miscellaneous. A fire was observed in direction of TRENCH at 10.30.p.m. Gun flashes were observed at true bearings of 940 and 990 from O.5.C.75.25. the former (77cm) being active all day, and

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and the latter a heavy gun (probably 21cm) fired during evening on I.34. Gun flashes also observed on T.B. of 1260 1300 and 1400 from J.25.D.60.45.

Balloons were observed during the day on T.B.s of 650. 700. 930. 970. 990. and 1150. from J.25.D.75.35.

Geo. H. Priestley
Lt Col. Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

APPENDIX. ✓

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

From 6.a.m. 18-3-18. to 6.a.m. 19-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

In anticipation of an enemy relief opposite our centre battalion front, our field guns fired intermittent bursts on all enemy tracks in that vicinity.

Harassing fire was maintained by all Batteries throughout the period, and the following selected points of activity as shown by recent air-photos and other Intelligence, were systematically bombarded;- ALASKA HOUSES, TRAM FARM, TRACK HOUSES, BUND COTTS, MARGATE FARM, Strong Points in J.26.D. and P.2.C. and PILL BOX in P.1.D.

At 6.30. a.m. 7.16.a.m. and 3.p.m. Our 18-pdrs were successful in silencing active hostile Trench Mortars at J.32.D.99.88., LOCKS 5 and 6 of the CANAL, P.1.D.95.10., and MAY FARM. A number of rounds were expended on practice in replying to aeroplane calls.

A large working party at P.1.C.5.7. was dispersed at 10.25. p.m.

In co-operation with a raid carried out by the Division on our left the 1st Battery barraged the line J.26.D.65.55.-J.32.B.55.40. for five minutes, afterwards lifting to J.27.C.40.65.-J.33.A.45.43., whilst the 2nd Battery bombarded the area enclosed by CAPITAL FARM - SWAGGER FARM - TROT HOUSE - MARGATE FARM, 4.5" Hows. simultaneously shelled the latter targets.

With the object of engaging any enemy patrols and working parties during the early morning our Left Group Batteries thoroughly searched and swept No Mans Land with 18-pdrs at 4.30.a.m. for five minutes, whilst the 102nd How.Bty., bombarded FUNNY POOL and EAST FARMS., Trench Mortar at J.32.B.52.18. and J.32.D.45.28. and trench from J.32.B.51.51. to J.32.B.65.12.

29 rounds of 6" Newton bombs were expended by No. 1 Battery Medium Trench Mortars in counter shoots on to active Trench Mortars at O.12.B.6.1., LOCK 5 and P.1.C.15.45., with very effective results.

Machine Guns. Our Vickers Guns expended 30,000 rounds on enemy centres of activity, the following special targets being engaged;- BASSEVILLE FARM. PIN HOUSE.
TUBE CROSS ROADS. PIE FARM.

Road from P.7.A.5.4. to P.7.B.4.3.

Road from P.2.C.5.7. to P.2.A.9.3.

Railway ombankment from O.12.D.90.95. to P.7.C.4.2.

TROT HO. Tracks in J.27.C. and J.33.A. PACK. LONG. and KENT FARMS and BUND COTTS.

A special barrage was put down between J.27.A.05.35. and J.27.B.08.95. to assist in the minor operation carried out by the division on our left at 2.30.a.m.

Lewis Guns engaged enemy forward positions and it is reported inflicted casualties on an enemy party.

Snipers. Snipers of the left Brigade found a number of targets at dawn and at dusk. A small party at Cross Roads J.32.B.5.4. were fired on at 7.a.m. Two of the enemy fell, the bodies were seen there throughout the day.

Aerial Activity. Our aeroplanes were again very active. At 6.30.p.m. several scouts opened with their M.Gs on enemy lines. Patrols. Patrols out during the night report;- Three hostile M.Gs active from MOAT FARM and others at P.1.C.20.55.(approx) and GAME COPSE and POOL FARM.

MOAT FARM is strongly garrisoned. A working party was observed slightly South of GAME COPSE (dispersed by 18-pdrs) and another at J.33.A.0.5.

Whilst endeavouring to ascertain strength of enemy wire

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in front of GAME COPSE, a hostile party of 16 were observed to leave Southern edge of GAME COPSE and move towards our line, but on hearing movement from our patrol, they took cover and were not seen again, although position was watched for an hour afterwards.

M.Guns and T.Mortars were active and garrison of posts alert. One of our patrols was fired on from MOAT FARM.

2. Identifications. Nil.

3. Hostile Artillery Activity. The hostile artillery activity showed a slight increase during the 24 hours under review, the characteristics of his days shoots being a box barrage put round HESSIAN WOOD and POTSDAM GROUPS, the Support line of the Divisions centre battalion was heavily shelled at times, also the forward ends of the communications trenches received attention, several direct hits being obtained, on the Left Brigade front his shelling was mostly against our defensive systems.

4. Enemys Attitude. With the exception of his artillery he was much quieter than usual on our right Brigade front. On the left Brigade front he adopted a slightly more aggressive attitude firing T.Ms at intervals throughout the night.

Along the whole divisional front the enemys grow more alert and nervy every day, upon the least sound or movement, his M.Gs are opened at random.

5. Enemys Defences.

Work. Camouflage screening in vicinity of TROT HOUSE has been continued for 100 yards towards BERRY COTTS. and some new wire has been erected at approx. P.8.B.15.85.

Trench Mortars. Heavy T.Ms were observed firing from J.26.D.60.45. (believed to be near Pillboxes at J.32.D.95.80. and J.32.D.99.88.). Heavy and light Trench Mortars were active on our right Brigade front, our outpost line receiving most of the bombing, but no serious damage was done.

A trench mortar firing from O.12.D.8.9. was silenced by our 18-pdrs, this T.M. has been previously reported.

Trench Mortars were also active from vicinity of HOLLEBEKE CHATEAU and CIRQUE POINT.

Machine Guns. The following hostile M.Guns are those reported as having been active during the period.

3 Machine guns very active from MOAT FARM. and from vicinity of J.26.D.9.5. and J.32.B.4.3.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. With the exception of seven hostile planes seen during the morning, and which just crossed our lines, no hostile aeroplanes was seen.

Balloons were ascending and descending during the day from points, on T.B. of 900. 1030. 1050. 1250. 1270. 1300. and 1400. at 7.45.a.m. and 1570. 1640. 1816. 1830. 1910. between 12.30.p.m. and 1.p.m. from J.29.D.8.2.

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemys lines.

Considerable individual movement was observed throughout the day, the following places and locations being the main centres of movement.

BERRY COTTS. STONE FARM. J.32.D.9.8. J.33.C.4.3. O.12.D.9.8. P.7.C.45.10. P.2.C.7.1. P.2.D.60.35.

At 7.20.p.m. 8 men moved from P.2.D.5.1. to P.2.C.7.1.

A party of 10 men at O.12.B.2.7. was dispersed by 18-pdrs.

8. Miscellaneous. At 2.p.m. a smoke cloud rose from about Q.24. and drifted N.E. across the outskirts of MENIN.

Two lines of small white flags with a black vertical stripe run from P.8.B.15.35. to KIKI FARM. (P.8.C.) to CHATEAU FARM (P.7.A) and from BASSEVILLE FARM (P.7.B) through CHATEAU FARM to O.12.D.9.9. thence along railway to LOCK 4.

Several fuses of 21 cm shells which have been used lately in destructive shoots on pillboxes, have been collected and all are set for detonation (O.V) without delayed action.

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At 5.30.P.M. a dense cloud of white smoke was observed on a true bearing of 127° from J.31.C.10.48.

Flares were fired from pillboxes well in rear of enemy lines at 3.5 p.m. No action followed.

At 1.35.a.m. enemy shells dropped short near BERRY COTTS. on which a white flare breaking into two Reds was sent up from the Pillbox, and again at 2.50.p.m. shell fell short and 11 similar flares were fired.

At 3.5.a.m. six more flares breaking into White clusters were fired from the Pillbox and repeated at STONE FARM. Dumps. An alteration in the

Dumps. An alteration in the dump previously reported at P.7.C.95.35. has been noticed, and what appear to be decauville trucks tipped off the track can be seen - no decauville line is visible.

Geo. H. Bussey.

Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

ANNEXE to 1st. Australian Division Intelligence Summary.

No. 18.

3.B.A. 492. TRACK HOUSES. P.4.A., it is suspected by the number of tracks leading into and around this area, that a headquarters, possibly that of a regiment, would be stationed here, and the number of tracks leading from this suspected headquarters down to RUPERTS COPSE, again shows the considerable movement and activity round about the latter location (P.3.D.7.8) careful study of photo 3.B.A.564 of the 16th Inst shows distinct attempts to camouflage certain new work on the eastern edge of the COPSE, then again new work appears at P.3.D.4.3. which from the lay of the ground and the design of the structure leads one to suspect an O.P.

In general, talking of this area covered by the above photos S.E. of ZANDVOORDE (P.3.D.) should be kept under especially close observation, as all photos show considerable activity in this area.

3.B.A.593. of the 18-3-18.

Shows a considerable number of new tracks leading from LARK FARM. P.3.B.35.65. leading up to TIN HOUSE then on up to BLACK COTTS (J.33.A.8.2.)

3.B.A.235. NAPOO FARM. P.8.A.70.25. shows great signs of life by the number of tracks leading into same, also the trench system and wire appears to be constantly renovated.

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APPENDIX

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

From 6.a.m. 19-3-18. to 6.a.m. 20-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our policy of aggressive harassing fire was continued by all batteries in accordance with recent intelligence.

Intermittent bursts of fire were directed on to the following locations CHALK and UGLY FARMS. DAMP COPSE. JELLY and JAEGER trenches ZANDVOORDE. QUART BUILDINGS. CIRCUS POINT. BUND COTTS and dugouts at J.32.B.45.25. In addition roads in P.2.B.&C. were thoroughly searched and swept during the late evening and early morning.

The Right Group were successful in silencing hostile Trench Mortars and M.G. at P.1.C.95.10. P.1.C.15.45. P.1.D.45.95. P.2.A.6.9. P.2.C.35.05. P.2.C.08.97. by a systematic gas bombardment at 9.5.p.m. 10.48.p.m. and 12.10.a.m.

At 6.30.a.m. movement in P.1.C.75.82. and P.1.D.40.95. was dealt with by our 18-pdrs.

No.1.M.T.M. Battery carried out a destructive shoot on to Trench Mortars at O.3.D.35.25.

Trench Mortars. 60 rounds were fired from our STOKES Mortars during the period, 25 of which were used on GAME COPSE the remainder directed on hostile M.G. and T.M. positions at LOCKS 5 and 6.

Machine Guns. Vickers guns constantly swept enemy positions and approaches with bursts of fire during the night. 26,500 rounds of S.A.A. were expended. The following were included in the list of targets to receive special attention. CHALK FARM. PIE FARM. CIRCUS POINT. BASSEVILLE FARM. BERRY COTTS. CAPITAL FARM. TROT HOUSE. PACK. LONG and KENT FARMS. numerous road junctions and known centres of activity.

Snipers. On account of low visibility snipers opportunities did not present themselves, they were therefore inactive.

Aerial Activity. Adverse weather conditions considerably hampered our aerial activity, and with the exception of a few planes seen during the early morning, conditions prevented flying during the remainder of the day.

Patrols. Liaison patrols maintained communications with flanking units and formations.

Listening posts were established at five points on the right Brigade front, and four special patrols moved out from our centre Battalion sector. They report:-

MOAT FARM and GAME COPSE garrisons were very quiet. M.Gs at LOCKS 5 and 6 were more active than usual, whilst those at GAME COPSE and MOAT FARM fired occasional bursts throughout the night.

The rain has left No Mans Land in a very bad state and it is extremely difficult to move quietly.

The same difficulty was met with by our Left Brigade who report that No Mans Land is in a very swampy condition, and the BEEK is impassable.

2. Identification. Nil.3. Hostile Artillery Activity. A marked decrease of shelling was noticeable during the 24 hours under review.

Between 3.p.m. and 5.p.m. 17 21cm shells fell along OLAF AVENUE in I.36.D. two hits being obtained. From 11.30.a.m. to 1.p.m. a concentrated shoot of 15cm and 7.7cm was carried out on THE CLUSTERS.

On the Left Brigade, the forward area received most attention composed mainly of harassing fire from light calibre guns.

A destructive shoot took place between 4.30.p.m. and 5.p.m. on to VERBRANDEN ROAD in I.28.D.

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4. Enemys Attitude. Undoubtedly owing to low visibility, the enemys activity has shown a slight decrease in all combatant branches.

Trench Mortars were still very active on the right Brigade front, and fire was very easily drawn from his M.Guns, confirming the continuation of his very alert attitude.

5. Enemys Defences.

Work. A Trench appears to be under construction from MOAT FARM towards FISH POND, this cannot be definitely located by ground observers.

Camouflage screening between PACK FARM. and TROT HOUSE has been broken in 9 places.

A large mound of earth is visible at J.33.C.15.22. near which movement of men was observed during the day.

Trench Mortars. From 6.30.a.m. to 7.30.a.m. O.3.C. and O.1. B. were heavily bombed by heavy and light T.Mortars. This appears to be regular habit of the enemy, the mortars engaged in these shoots probably fire from O.12.D.9.9. P.7.A.7.3. P.7.A.30.35. where they have been seen in action on several occasions.

It is believed that several other Trench Mortars are emplaced on the Railway embankment between O.12.B. Central and O.3.D.1.0.

Other approximate locations from which hostile trench mortars activity is suspected include MOAT FARM. GAME COPSE. CIRCUS POINT. CHALK FARM BERRY COTTES. LAMB FARM. Pillbox at J.32.B.99.90. and from P.2.C.35.05.

M.Guns. A M.Gun firing throughout the night was particularly active from about J.32.B.5.5. Others also firing from LOCKS 5. and 6 at intervals during the night.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. Three enemy planes flying very high were engaged by our A.A. guns in the early morning and were forced to return. Enemy observation balloons were up during the day on T.B.s of 540. 580. 810. 860. 1330. and 1480 from J.25.D. 60.45.

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemys lines.

Several working parties were observed on the ridge in P.2.B. just after daybreak, they appeared to be digging.

At 7.a.m. men carried some heavy timber from P.2.C.2.2. to P.2.C.7.4. where a dump was formed. There appears to be a post at P.2.D.1.3. men were seen moving between here and pillbox at P.2.D.10.15. Pillbox at O.12.D.9.8. appears to be used by the enemy as an O.P. Smoke was seen rising from pillbox at P.13.A.5.6.

Six men were seen working at J.32.D.99.77. during the early morning, 5 men were seen at pillbox at J.32.D.99.90.

The usual movement of small parties of men was again observed at BERRY COTTES. BUND COTTES. STONE FARM. and QUART BUILDINGS.

8. Miscellaneous.

Two flares breaking into YELLOW clusters were fired from vicinity of BERRY COTTES. and repeated at STONE FARM at 6.10.p.m. and again at 6.15.p.m.

At 10.30.p.m. when our artillery opened fire on the centre Divisional front enemy fired 15 flares bursting into two reds, commencing in the area bombarded, they were fired in succession working northwards.

Geo. H. Priestley

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

ANNEXE to 1st Australian Divisional Intelligence Summary.
No. 19.

ALLIED AIRCRAFT ACHIEVEMENTS. A remarkable record has been achieved by Allied Aviators this year. An analysis compiled from official despatches shows no fewer than 843 aerial victories attained by Allied aviators and of these 464 are credited to British airmen in the West. The allied total is made up as follows;— January 292, February 273, seventeen days of March 278. During January British airmen on the Western Front and Naval airmen in fighter patrols accounted for 144 enemy machines, of which 90 were destroyed, 53 driven down out of control and one captured intact. In February they accounted for 138 German machines. In 4 days alone, from 16th to 19th Feby., British airmen destroyed 49 German aeroplanes and drove down 14 with loss of 12 only to themselves. Of the 138, 92 were destroyed, 3 brought down by gunners and infantry, 6 landed in our lines and 37 were driven down out of control. Of the March totals 202 are to the credit of British Army and Naval aviators in the West, of which 123 German machines destroyed, 1 four-seater captured, 78 driven down out of control and doubtless many of these rendered useless for further service. British Western total for 1918 thus summarised; Destroyed 316, Disabled 168, total 484. Comparing the number of enemy machines actually destroyed and captured with those of British machines reported as missing the German total losses are 316 and the British total losses 117; balance in British favor 199. The French do not regularly return their losses. Their victories, however are 123 German machines totally destroyed and 93 disabled. Thus of the total of 843 German machines accounted for, 770 have been lost on the Western Front. These losses are progressive in severity and enemy aviation corps have never suffered a more decisive defeat than during the last fortnight. In addition the enemy suffered heavy losses on the Italian front. German headquarter Communique states that Germany lost 61 aeroplanes during February. The above analysis shows the inaccuracy of this announcement. British and French airmen alone definitely destroyed 140 during February and probably destroyed a considerably larger number.

R.N.A.S. OPERATIONS. The Admiralty announces that during offensive patrols carried out by British Naval airmen from Dunkirk March 14/17th five enemy machines were destroyed and five shot down out of control. In one engagement two enemy observers were seen to have been killed. All British machines returned safely.

GERMAN OCCUPATION IN BELGIUM. It is reported from Le Havre that at Tournai all the raw material has been removed from the wool, flax, and cotton spinning factories and the furnaces seized and dismantled in the metal factories. All the copper in stock was seized. The Germans have installed themselves in various factories where workmen are forced under direct constraint to work for their account and under their orders. Since October 1916 the Germans have seized at Tournai all the copper, all wine and empty bottles, even to the corks, also all fruit, milk, eggs, butter and meat. The inhabitants are only allowed 75 grammes of meat per head per week. All the wool in mattresses was requisitioned by the Germans at a cheap price for which they offered in exchange under the name of vegetable horse-hair a kind of hay for which they charged a very high price. The death rate increased by half in the last six months of 1917.

APPENDIX ✓

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

From 6.a.m. 20-3-18. to 6.a.m. 21-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

Artillery. During the period the following locations were systematically harassed with intermittent bursts of fire;- COPSE COTTS, SWAGGER FARM, MARGATE FARM, COSY COTTS, ANT HOUSE, QUARTZ BUILDINGS, MAY FARM, DAMP COPSE, PILLBOX at J.26.D.8.1., and M.Gs at J.28.B.00.46., J.26.D.50.60., P.1.D.40.00., P.1.D.20.10., P.1.D.30.00. and J.32.B.50.10.

In addition tracks and roads in J.28.D., J.33.C., J.34.V.&D., J.29.C.Z.D., and O.12.B. were thoroughly searched and swept from 8.p.m. to 6.a.m. in anticipation of an enemy relief.

Working parties at P.2.C. and J.33., were dispersed during the day. A number of rounds were expended by the LEFT GROUP in cutting wire from J.32.B.51.30., to J.32.B.50.25., Hostile Trench Mortars in P.1.C.&D., P.2.C. and O.12.B. were dealt with by gas from our 4.5" Hows., and H.E. from 18-pdrs.

At 5.46. a.m. our LEFT GROUP reported having received an S.O.S. from the Left Battalion, and opened up on their S.O.S. lines. The Superimposed Group were also instructed to open up and did so at 5.48.a.m. Later reports were to the effect that Infantry did not require S.O.S. and at 5.55. and 6.1. a.m. our LEFT and SUPERIMPOSED GROUPS respectively ceased firing.

A second S.O.S. was reported to have gone up on the RIGHT GROUP front at 6.30.a.m. and our RIGHT AND SUPERIMPOSED GROUPS again put down their S.O.S. barrages, until 7.a.m., when Infantry having reported everything practically normal, all Batteries ceased firing.

Trench Mortars. 490 rounds were fired by our Stokes Mortars during the period, 340 of which were fired on to our S.O.S. lines between 5.30. and 6.a.m. the remainder being used in harassing and destructive shoots, on known enemy targets.

Machine Guns. Vickers Guns expended some 23,500 rounds of S.A.A. against enemy positions and approaches during the night, they also put down a barrage on their S.O.S. lines when S.O.S. signal was fired at 5.30.a.m.

Aerial Activity. For the greater part of the day, no activity occurred. Towards evening, when weather became more favourable, a few of our planes patrolled our own and the enemy's forward areas.

Patrols. Our Right Brigade patrols report as follows. Hostile M.Gs were active from LOCKS 5 and 6. Pillbox at O.6.C.9.2. and GAME COPSE.

No Mans Land is in a very bad condition and almost impassable in O.6.C. Other portions opposite the Right Brigade front, are very wet and muddy.

Enemy listening posts were located at O.6.C.95.15. and at P.1.B.90.95.

GAME COPSE and approaches to same were reconnoitred, patrol moving via P.1.C.4.9. to P.1.C.75.90. 75.80. and P.1.C.70.75. No enemy were encountered. The northern Pillbox is not occupied. Patrol was fired on by M.Gun and Trench Mortars from the second pillbox (counting from the north) this pillbox is strongly garrisoned, and the remaining two pillboxes were also occupied.

The above patrol was commanded by Liout. DAVIDSON. The Left Brigade Patrols report;-

1. A patrol of one Officer and 10 O.R. left our lines at 3.a.m. (20th) at J.26.B.45.45. to reconnoitre enemy post in vicinity of J.26.D.8.7. Patrol moved to J.26.D.8.9. to J.26.D.7.7. thence back to our line to point of departure at 5.30.a.m. Movement was extremely difficult on account of the rough nature of the ground. Enemy movement was observed in the vicinity of the post and as far as could be

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seen seems to be isolated and protected by wire which has a in the centre.

2. A patrol of one Officer and 16 men left our lines at 10. p.m. at J.26.B.4.5. to reconnoitre enemy position in the vicinity of J.26.B.4.1. and J.26.D.9.9. Patrol moved to J.26.B.8.2. to J.26.B.8.0. thence back to our line at J.26.B.45.45. reaching there at 1.a.m. No Mans Land was found very marshy and movement very difficult. A pillbox at J.26.B.95.10. is occupied by the enemy and has a trench leading to it from a post at J.27.A.00.15. A sentry was observed on duty at this point during the day. One party of two and one party of 3 men were observed by patrol to move from the post towards post at J.26.D.8.7.

3. A patrol of one Officer 15.0.R. left our lines at 11.30 p.m. at J.32.A.9.9. to intercept and engage any enemy patrols in front of sector. Patrol moved from J.32.B.2.9. to J.26.D.2.2. thence back to our line at J.26.C.8.3. at 2.10.a.m. The party waited in vicinity of J.26.D.2.2. for about an hour but no enemy movement was seen. A dog was heard to growl from vicinity of J.26.D.7.0. and immediately enemy M.G. opened from same spot. Enemy whelled transport could be plainly heard from direction of LONG FARM.

2. Identification. 4 prisoners, 2 unwounded and 2 wounded, one of which has since died, were taken this morning at about 0.6.D.8.9. they belonged to the

2nd. Battalion. 153. I.R. 8th. Division.

As an ANNEXE to this Intelligence Summary, a short history of the 8th Division, along with the preliminary interrogation of the above prisoners will be found.

3. Hostile Activity.

Operations. Two minor operations in the form of raids, were attempted by the enemy opposite our division during the early hours of this morning.

(a) Attempted Raid against our post in J.32.C. was feebly carried out, enemy retiring when fired on by Lewis Gunners.

(b) Attempted raid, against our posts in CHATEAU GROUP 0.6.D. which resulted in 4 of the enemy being left in our hands.

Artillery. Activity was of a normal nature during the day, but at 10.20.p.m. enemy commenced an extensive gas and H.E. shelling of our battery areas, especially in I.33. and I.28.

This was followed by heavy shelling of our support and reserve systems at 10.45.p.m. which lasted until about 11.30. when things were much quieter.

Considerable 4.2" gas and H.E. shelling of J.31. was reported from 3.30. to 5.a.m. and at 5.46 the above S.O.S. was acted upon.

4. Enemys Attitude. With the exception of the two attempted raids, one opposite each Brigade front, and the increased artillery and T.M. activity on our left Brigade front, the general hostile attitude along the whole divisional shows a slight decrease.

5. Enemys Defences. Enemy posts were located at J.26.D.85.75. J.27.A.00.15. and an occupied Pillbox at J.26.B.95.10. Trench Mortars were active during the night from BERRY COTTS. J.32.B.05.05. J.32.D.99.90. and a flash of a heavy T.M. was observed on a T.B. of 1350 from J.25.B.60.45. Between 6.a.m. and 7.a.m. 30 heavy minenwerfer bombs fell on the outpost system of our Right Battalion.

Enemy M.Gs were much quieter than usual except for those at LOCK 6 which continuously swept No Mans Land in 0.6.C.&D. his M.Gs were also active firing from BERRY COTTS. J.26.D.7.0. and J.32.B.65.25.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. Enemy aircraft were slightly more active than usual, six planes crossing our lines during the afternoon. At 9.45. P.M. enemy machine dropped two bombs in vicinity of I.27.C. At 7.30.p.m. a plane flew at a low altitude over the forward area of our right Battalion. It then flew along the canal and dropped two bombs near RODNEY DUMP. It was then immediately engaged by A.A. and M.Guns, and was finally heard flying towards WERVICQ.

APPENDIX ✓

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7. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemys lines.

Movement of parties of two and three men were seen during the day in vicinity of J.22.D.99.88. BERRY and BUND COTTS. A sentry was observed in trench at J.27.C.2.5.

Between 5.30.p.m. and 7.15.p.m. 44 men were seen to move in parties of 3 or 4 from STONE FARM along duckwalk track to J.29.A.7.7. where they disappeared, all were wearing full packs. Other small parties were observed at LOCK 5. and pill box at P.2.C.10.82. both of which were dispersed by our 18-pdrs.

8. Miscellaneous. At 8.15.a.m. a large dog was seen to move from POOL FARM to pillbox at I.26.D.70.35.

During enemy shelling in the morning, one shell when it burst, throw two WHITE lights into the air which floated slowly to the ground.

New notice boards have been erected at O.12.D.46.75. and P.7.C.90.55.

A small red cross flag can be seen at P.7.C.0.7. At 5.30.p.m. a lamp was seen operating from PUMP FARM.

Geo. H. Pies Hey.

Lt for Colonel.

General Staff.

1st Australian Division.

P10

ANNEXE to 1st. Australian Division Intelligence Summary.
No. 20.

Preliminary examination of prisoners taken
this morning in O.6.D.7.8. by the Division.

1. Identification.

Prisoners (two) belong to 8th. Coy. 2nd Battalion.
153. I.R. 8th. Division.

2. Method of Capture. Prisoners formed part of a patrol of 10 including
the leader.

They had the following instructions given them before
leaving their support lines.

(a) That their artillery would be firing on our battery
positions with gas shell between the hours of 3.30.a.m. and 8.00.
then a 5 minutes barrage would be put up, under the cover of which
the patrol had to move forward, observe the effect of their
artillery & bring back an identification. Four of the patrol were
accounted for, two wounded and 2 unwounded prisoners being taken
by us, one of the wounded having since died.

Patrol lost direction and because disorganised, walked on
too far, and the above were taken prisoners.

3. Reliefs. The first Battalion came into the line during the night
7/8th being relieved by the 2nd Battalion during the night 17/18th,
and inter-battalion reliefs take place every 10 days.

Inter-company relief, the 2 companies in support relieving
the two companies in the front line every 5 nights, next inter-
company relief tomorrow night 22nd/23rd Inst.

4. Disposition. of the 153. I.R.

1st. Battalion. in rest around MENIN.

2nd. Battalion. 2 Coy front line and 2 in support about
1.000 meters in rear of front posts.

3rd. Battalion. 1 Coy in line, 1 in support and 2 Coy in res

5. Order of Battle. Prisoner was very vague on this point, but is
under the impression that the following was the order of battle from
N.3. 72.I.R. 93.I.R. 153.I.R. 76.R.I.R.

6. Company Strength. Trench strength. 45.

Composed as follows:-

2 groupe of 8. O.R. and 1 N.C.O.	18.
4 light pattern M.G. 4 men each.	16.
Company Commander M.C.O. and runners.	11.
	<u>45.</u>

7. TRAINING. Prisoners company had undergone strenuous training in
Battalion, Regimental and Divisional manoeuvres whilst in the
vicinity of MENIN, but no other divisions participated.

One prisoner had heard it rumoured that their division was to
act as a MARSCH DIVISION, or consolidating division, they were to
follow up an attack and then consolidate.

The methods of training, were of a trench warfare nature.

8. Units seen in rear around MENIN.

83. R.I.R. 18th. Res. Division.

132. I.R. }
163. I.R. } 17th. Res. Division.

9. German Tanks. Of either real or represented tanks, prisoners had
not heard or seen anything.

10. Headquarters. Regt in MENIN.

is not known.

Battalion on the hill near ZANDVOORDE, exact location
Company three block houses just round CHICK FARM

P.I.C.

11. NAMES OF OFFICERS.

Regt Commander	Major. Kurrremann
Batt "	Capt. Von. Schenk.
Coy. "	Lieut. Darge.

(.P.T.O.)

APPENDIX ✓

(2).

12. Gas MASKS and effect of our gas shelling.

Leather gas masks were worn by prisoners. They were in support line when they noticed our gas on the evening of the 19th, prisoners know of no casualties having been caused by same.

Effect of our Artillery shelling.

Prisoners all held a very high estimate of our artillery stating that whenever shelling commenced, every body, ran for their lives into comparative safety.

Short history and composition of the 8th Division, identified opposite this Divisional Sector this morning.

8th. Division.

Commander;- Duke ERNST of SACHSEN-ALTENBURG.

16th. Infantry Brigade.

Commander;- Colonel ZWINGER.

72nd Inf. Regt.

93rd. Inf. Regt.

163rd. 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 Fusiler Regiment and the 93rd Infantry Regiment, and the 16th having the 72nd Infantry Regiment and the 163rd Infantry Regiment.

In March, 1913, the 36th Fusiler 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 mobilization 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 111th 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 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 11nd Bavarian Army

(3).

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 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 38th 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-COURCELETTE sector, where it replaced the 45th Reserve Division on about the 18th Sept. Here again it saw very heavy fighting and suffered severely. It was relieved on the 1st October; by the 7th Division. 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 33rd 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.	3.556.	85.
93rd. Inf. Regt.	2.320.	77.

Composition.

8th. Division.

16th. Infantry Brigade.

72nd. Infantry. Regiment.
93rd. Infantry. Regiment.
153rd. Infantry. Regiment.

Divisional Cavalry.

A squadron of 10th Muscar Regt.

Field Artillery.

74th. F.A. Regt.

Engineers.

2nd. Field. Coy., 1 Pioneer Bn. No. 4.
8th. Divisional Bridging Train.
8th. Minenwerfer Company.

Communication Troops.

8th Telephone Detachment.

41st. Field. Hospital.

Field. Post. Office. No. 891.

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APPENDIX

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

From. 6.a.m. 21-3-18. to 6.a.m. 22-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Continual harassing fire was maintained by all Batteries on to the chief centres of activity opposite the Divisional Front.

Roads tracks in P.2.C. P.2.A.&B. P.3.A. J.27.C.&D. and J.33. were intermittently searched and swept.

The following locations were subjected to bursts of fire at intervals during the period. EAST FARM. CIRCUS POINT. WIND COTTS. CHALK FARM. DUMP FARM. ALASKA HOUSES. LAMB FARM. BUND COTTS. and at the request of our left Brigade LONG and PACK FARMS.

Active hostile M.Guns in J.27.A. O.6.C. and O.12.B. were silenced by our Right Group in addition to T.Ms at O.12.B. 35.50. and P.7.A.75.41.

At 11.45.a.m. hostile gun flashes were observed at J.33.B.9.5. and Battery was effectively neutralised by fire from the 102nd How. Battery.

Between 2.p.m. and 5.p.m. an observed wire cutting shoot was carried out by the 4th and 102nd Batteries on to J.32.B.51.38. to J.32.B.50.25.

Trench Mortars. 15 rounds of 6" NEWTON BOMBS were expended by No.1.H.T.M. Bty during the early morning of the 21st Inst, on to hostile T.M. positions and strong points in P.1.B.C.&D. and P.7.A. Infantry report these shoots very satisfactory several direct hits being observed.

STOKES MORTARS fired 10 rounds on to a granatenwerfer position at O.12.A.80.45. 20 rounds on M.G. and T.M. position at LOCKS 5. and 30 rounds on M.Guns at P.1.C.15.45. and O.6.D.65.15. Total expenditure of ammunition 60 rounds.

Machine Guns.

Vickers guns expended 27.500 rounds on to known enemy positions and approaches, and centres of activity, including the following.

BASSEVILLE FARM. CIRCUS POINT. PIN HOUSE. PIE FARM. PACK. LONG. KENT. SWAGGER and MARGATE FARM.

Road from P.2.C.5.7. to P.2.A.9.3. Road from P.7.A.5.4. to P.7.B.5.3.

Lewis Guns. Dispersed hostile working party in advance of our post 2.0.6.

Snipers. Snipers were active during the day, and seven enemy casualties are claimed in vicinity of POOL FARM.

Aerial Activity. Our planes were again active during the day, and whenever weather permitted, enemy forward positions were kept under constant observation.

Patrols. Liaison patrols maintained communication with flank-ing units and formations. Special reconnaissance patrols report as follows:-

Our wire has been broken in several places between HESSIAN and BELGIAN WOOD GROUPS.

MOAT FARM was kept under observation but very little movement was noticeable.

GAME COPSE was also watched. 2.M.Guns and L.T.M were active, otherwise no signs of movement were observed. Enemy wire in front of COPSE reported strong.

Hostile M.Gs were active from LOCKS 5. and 6. and voices were heard at the latter.

Another M.Gun was very active from railway embankment in close vicinity of LOCK 6, which forced one of our patrols to with-draw. Enemy working party about 20 strong observed at about J.25.D.

(P.T.O.)

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- 9.5. No Mans Land is still in a bad condition but improving.
 2. Identification. Two prisoners taken last night belong to the 2 Coy. 1st. Battalion. 93.I.R. 8th.Division.

Order of Battle. North to South. 72.I.R. 93.I.R. 153.I.R.
Method of Capture. The two prisoners along with a third man, were detailed to bring up the rum issue to the enemy front posts.

They apparently over stepped their original destination, and walked on until challenged by one of our patrols, two of them immediately surrendered, the third dropping all he possessed, bolted towards the German lines.

3. Hostile Artillery Activity. was active throughout the period maintaining a desultory gas and H.E. bombardment on both forward and back areas. Phosgene and mustard gas were identified.

4. Enemys Attitude. A general decrease in hostile activity, was evident during the 24 hours under review.

5. Enemy Defences.

Work. He does not appear to be working so vigorously on his wire and defences during the last two days. Wire is being erected at J.26.D.9.5.

A granatonwerfor was located at about J.26.D.8.4. and M.Guns were active from J.32.B.5.1. and J.32.B.4.5. during the night.

Trench Mortars. Heavy and Light T.M. opened at intervals on our Right Battalion outpost system, but were immediately silenced by our 18-pdrs.

M.Guns. M.Guns were active throughout the night, No Mans Land was persistently swept, also the forward approaches.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. The only hostile plane seen over our sector yesterday was at 7.10.p.m. when an enemy scout flew over our forward area. He was engaged by M.Guns and quickly driven off.

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemys lines.

Owing to low visibility little movement could be observed. At 2.15.a.m. a enemy working party opposite Post 2.0.6. was dispersed by rifle grenades. Movement of individual men was observed during the afternoon at BERRY COTTS. POLL FARM. PILLBOX at J.32.P.9.9. and at BUND COTTS.

8. Miscellaneous. At 7.35.p.m. an enemy plane fired a flare busiting into White over Red over White whereupon enemy artillery commenced a bombardment for 15 minutes to the left of our sector.

Light Signals. At 6.40.a.m. two flares, red bursting into yellow clusters were fired by the enemy opposite our right Battalion sector, a light shelling of the forward area was immediately opened.

Geo. H. Price M.C.

Lt. Col. Colonel.

General Staff.

1st Australian Division.

ANNEXE to FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
NO. 21.

THE NAVAL POSITION.

The navy's most arduous task has been the incessant struggle to guard our lines, both military and economic, and no work it ever had to perform has called for more exacting toll of devotion or higher technical skill. The result has been to defeat the enemy's purpose. The convoy system has been markedly effective in reducing losses and since it started the total percentage of loss to vessels while actually in convoy, whether as the result of enemy action or marine risks, has been 0.82. Since the beginning of the war between 40% and 50% of the German submarines which operated in home-waters have been captured, sunk or destroyed. In September the over-seas sailings of all ships were 20% greater in numbers and 50% greater in tonnage than in April. The net reduction in tonnage is 50% less than the estimated framed last July by our own authorities of the probable losses in the second half of the year and the total net reduction from all causes to the end of December 1917 since the beginning of the war of ships over 1800 tons on the official register is 2½ million tons gross or 16%. As against this the American mercantile fleet has very largely increased.

Regarding the German losses during the present war at the commencement Germany had 925 merchant ships abroad whereof 158 reached home. In the aggregate the German mercantile marine consisted of over five million tons. At the present time nearly half this has been sunk or captured by the Allies and the bulk of the rest are lying useless in harbour.

How far from the truth is the German legend that our fleet is always lurking in harbour appears from the record of its movements. During one recent month the mileage steamed by battleships, cruisers, and destroyers in home-waters alone exceeded one million miles and it is estimated that in the same period the mileage of the auxiliary patrol forces in home-waters exceeded six million miles. In transportation up to the end of last August, the last date where for complete statistics are available, there have been shipped over-seas 15 million men, 2 million horses and mules, half a million vehicles and 25 million tons of explosives. Out of 13 million men transported the losses total only 5500 whereof 2700 were caused by enemy action including 542 in hospital-ships.

BRITISH OFFICIAL REPORTS. (27-5-18)

10.50.p.m. At about 3.a.m. this morning, after an intense bombardment of both high explosive and gas shells on forward positions and back areas, a powerful infantry attack was launched by the enemy on a front of over 50 miles extending from the RIVER OISE in the neighbourhood of LA FERE to the SARTRE RIVER about CROISELLES. Hostile artillery demonstrations have taken place on a wide front north of the LA BASSEE Canal and in the YPRES sector. The attack, which for some time past was known to be in course of preparation, has been pressed with the greatest vigour and determination throughout the day. In the course of the fighting the enemy broke through our out-post positions and succeeded in penetrating into our battle positions in certain parts of the front. The attacks were delivered in large masses and have been extremely costly to the hostile troops engaged whose losses have been exceptionally heavy. Severe fighting continues along the whole front. Large numbers of hostile reinforcing troops have been observed during the day moving forward behind the enemy's lines. Several enemy divisions which have been specially trained for this great attack have already been identified, including units of the guard. Captured maps depicting the enemy's intentions show that on no part of the long front of attack has he attained his objectives.

FRENCH OFFICIAL. During the day the German artillery activity was very violently maintained between the MEUSE and the AISNE, in the

(.P.T.O.)

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whole of the REIMS region and on the CHATELAIN front, particularly between the region of the OISE and VILLERS-BOULON. The French batteries replied vigorously everywhere. In the REIMS sector the GERMANS made three successive attacks which were broken up by our fire or our counter-attacks. East of the BUIPPY raids attempted by the enemy failed completely. Our artillery bombarded and dispersed German columns which were advancing in the region to the south of REIMS. On the right bank of the MEUSE and at some points in the REIMS rather intense bombardments of our front lines.

20-5-18. Both artilleries showed activity. The German fire was principally that of long range shelling of our communications.

21-5-18. During the night in the course of a naval engagement off DUNKERK our coast was bombarded near LA PALME by enemy ships. The enemy's artillery violently shelled our batteries with gas shells on the whole front; our batteries replied energetically. This great activity of the artilleries with gas shells continued throughout the whole day of 21st. Our communications were violently shelled.

MR. DONAR. LAW. ON THE OFFENSIVE.

In the House of Commons on the 21st. inst. Mr. Donar. Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, stated "I think it is known to most members of the house that an infantry attack was launched by the Germans this morning on our front. The attack covered almost the whole of the front from the Scarpe to the Oise, a front of something like fifty miles. This is an attack on a larger scale than any made at any stage of the war on any part of the front. We have not yet received any information which enables us to give the House any indication as to what the result will be of this attack. We know that on part of that front our out-posts where the line was lightly held have been withdrawn to the battle-zone but that was according to instructions in the event of such an attack. In discussing the military situation a week or two ago I pointed out that it was certain if such an attack did take place the attacking party would gain a certain amount of ground and our information so far does not lead us to suppose anything beyond what has happened. There's absolutely nothing in the nature of a surprise in connection with what has happened. Our staff and the Versailles Council have naturally been considering what would happen in the event of an attack taking place and I may say that this attack has been launched in the very part of our lines which we were informed would be attacked by the enemy if an attack were undertaken. I may say that days ago we received information at the Cabinet from Headquarters in France that they had now definitely come to the conclusion that the attack was going to be launched immediately. We should be well able to meet it. Nothing that has happened gives us in this country any cause whatever for additional anxiety."

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 22.

From 6 a.m. 22-3-18. to 6 a.m. 23-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Our batteries engaged enemy posts and approaches during the day and night. An effective gas shoot was carried out at 9 p.m. on enemy Trench Mortars at O.12.B.35.50. LOCK 6 and J.32.D. and enemy machine guns in J.32.B. and J.33.D. were fired on and silenced. A hostile party at P.7.C.35.10. was shelled and dispersed and at 2.30 a.m. active mortars in POOL, PACK and LONG FARMS were effectively quietened.

A special wire-cutting programme was carried out by our left groups between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on enemy wire from J.32.B.51.38. to J.32.B.30.25. and from J.27.A.30.50. to J.27.A.32.40.

Trench Mortars.

Our medium mortars fired on enemy granatwerfer position at O.12.A.30.45. an enemy party observed at O.6.D.80.20. and along RIFLE ROAD.

Our Stokes Mortars harassed enemy M.G. and T.M. positions in vicinity of LOCKS 5 and 8, J.27.A. and other centres.

Machine Guns. Frequent fire was maintained during the night on enemy forward posts, headquarters, roads and tracks, and along the railway embankment from O.12.D.3.9. to P.7.C.4.2. 27,750 rounds of S.A.A. were expended.

Aerial Activity. From 10 a.m. our planes were busy on patrol and made frequent flights over enemy lines.

Patrols. The divisional front was actively patrolled during the night. Forward of the centre battalion, No mans land is rapidly becoming dry and passable.

2. Identification. Nil.

3. Hostile Artillery. Our right brigade reports slight increase in enemy artillery activity but in the left brigade area it has been quiet except for shoots against our batteries and positions in I.29.C. OAK AVENUE and OAK Support were shelled during the night from a S.E. direction instead of as previously from ZANDVOORDE. The following is a table of the principal areas and positions shelled.

Location.	Rounds.	Calibre.	Direction.
I.33.C.2.D.	370.	7.7.	From mainly ZANDVOORDE.
P.1.A.	265.	"	" "
J.31.C.2.D.	260.	"	" "
O.6.A.2.B.	280.	7.7. 10.2.15.cm.	" "
O.5.C.2.D.	220.	10.cm.	mainly WERVICO.
O.5.A.2.B.	135.	"	some gas.
I.29.E.0.5. 10.30.to 12.30 p.m.)	160.	4.2s and gas.	E.S.E.
J.31.B. 2.18.to 2.55 p.m.	80.	5.9.	UGLY WOOD.
J.25. (10.30 p.m.)	70.	7.7.gas.	TENBRIELEN.

4. Enemy attitude. Slight increase of enemy artillery activity on right front where the enemy is reported to be alert and nervous. On the left, except for slight increase in T.M. fire he was quiet.

5. Enemy Defences. Our patrols gained the following information.

There was increased activity at GAME COPSE and enemy were very alert there. The wire 50 yards in front of pill box at P.1.C.55.70. was strong but broken in places by our shell fire, some gaps were 18 feet wide. An enemy post 300 yards forward from O.6.D.7.8. was located and three other posts in the vicinity including a pill box strongly garrisoned. T.M. fired occasionally from behind these posts and from LOCK 6. One of our patrols moving from J.32.C.2.6.

(P.I.C.)

(2)).

- to J.32.0.5.5, came under enemy T.M. fire.
6. Hostile aerial activity. Several enemy planes were on patrol during the day but did not cross our lines. Between 7.40.p.m. and 9.p.m. an enemy plane dropped bombs on the BLUFF. An enemy balloon was seen to break loose at 8.50.p.m.
7. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemy lines.

There was no unusual movement to report.

8. Miscellaneous. During our shelling of BERRY COTTS at 7.5.p.m. the enemy fired 15 Orange cluster flares along the ridge East to GHELVELT MILL. Many similar flares were fired in front of 10th brigade between 9.15.p.m. and 10.p.m.

At 2.p.m. our shelling seemed to cause an explosion near LOCK 6, which sent up flares and volumes of white smoke. An enemy dump was set on fire at P.17.B. which burnt for two hours. Between 5.15.p.m. and 7.p.m. large volumes of smoke rose from a house in P.12.D. during our shelling.

FL. Hammond
for Colonel,
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

ANNEXE to 1st. Aust. Division Intelligence Summary.
No. 22.

Identification and description of German shell
forwarded by 3rd. Aust. Inf. Brigade on the morning
of the 21st. Inst.

E.K.Z. 16. or E.K.Z.

(a) DESCRIPTION.

This fuze is very similar to I.K.Z. 16.
The differences are :-

1. The percussion pellet is locked by screws, and is fixed.
2. The needle pellet is locked by centrifugal bolts, and is moveable.
3. A plunger is inserted into the channel in the nose of the fuze. This plunger has a disc of thin brass attached to it, and locks inside the channel just above the head of the needle pellet.

A small lead plug is removed from the opening of the channel in the top of the fuze, and the plunger inserted before firing.

(b) ACTION.

On shock of discharge - nothing.

On rotation, needle is released, and the flash channel of the obturating shutter is brought into line with the detonator and flash channel to gain.

On impact, plunger drives in the needle, which fires the ignition cap. The flash burns through the delay pellet, if one is provided, passes to the detonator, which detonates the picric acid in the shutter, the detonating wave finally passing by way of the gain to the filling of the shell.

(c) USE. Field Gun. 7.7. cms.

(d) EXAMINATION. As for I.K.Z. 16.

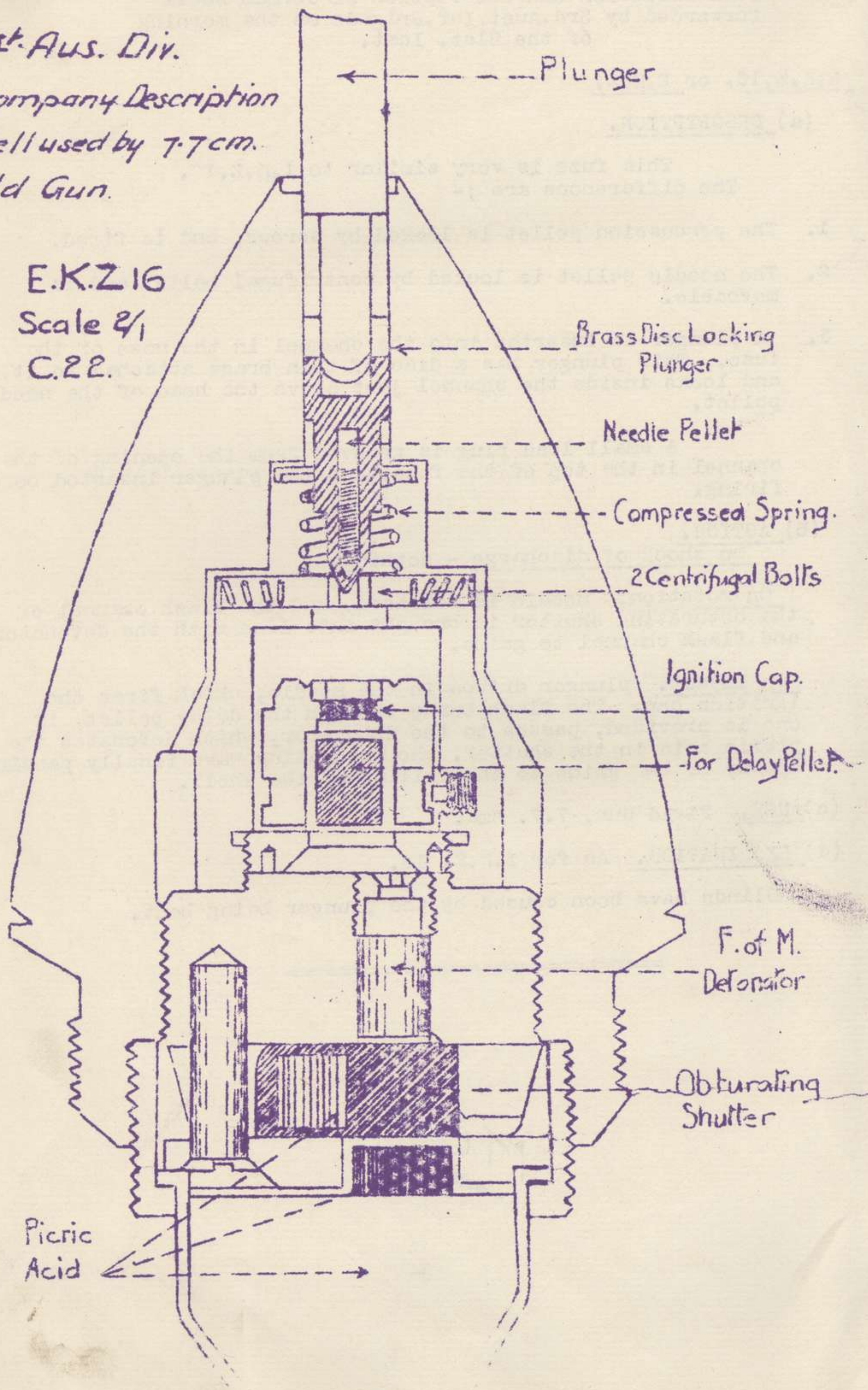
Blinds have been caused by the plunger being bent.

P40

1st Aus. Div.

To accompany Description
of Shell used by 7.7 cm.
Field Gun.

E.K.Z 16
Scale 2/1
C.22.



APPENDIX

CONFIDENTIAL.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 23.

From 6.a.m. 23-3-18. to 6.a.m. 24-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Our field guns thoroughly swept enemy centres of activity and communications in J.32, J.33, J.34, and J.27, and P.2, P.8, and P.3.

COPSE COTTS, PACK FARM, POLL FARM and JELLY TRENCH were bombarded at intervals.

Enemy parties were dispersed in the vicinity of GAME COPSE at 1.15.a.m. and near the Pillboxes in P.2.D. and P.8.A. at 4.30.p.m.

Wire cutting was carried out between J.27.A.3.5. to J.27.A.3.4. and between J.32.B.5.4. and J.32.B.50.25. Active hostile T.Ms. positions in P.1, P.2, and P.7, and at LOCK 7, were engaged during the night with H.E. and gas.

Between 2.a.m. and 2.15.a.m. a gas bombardment was carried on on LONG, POOL and PACK FARMS.

Trench Mortars. Stokes Mortars fired 60 rounds during the night on to hostile M.G. and T.M. positions at HOLLEBEKE CHAU, LOCKS 5 and 6. 20 rounds were fired on to an enemy working party near GAME COPSE.

Machine Guns. Vickers guns expended 22,500 rounds on enemy posts, communications and centres of activity.

Snipers. A number of targets were engaged at dawn and at dusk.

Aerial Activity. Our planes again constantly patrolled our own and enemy lines during the day. Bombing by our planes was heard during the night in the direction of MENIN and ZANDVOORDE.

Patrols. The attached map (to Aust Corps) shows routes taken by all patrols on the Divisional front.

Bright moonlight made patrol work difficult. Patrols of the right brigade report enemy Machine Guns very active during the early morning; slight sapping sounds were heard at LOCK 6; No Mans Land is drying but the shell holes still contain water.

Patrols of the left brigade examined the suspected enemy post at J.26.D.5.8. and the pill-boxes at FUNNY FARM. Both were found unoccupied. One of the pillboxes at FUNNY FARM contained a wooden table, a bunk and a number of flares. The ground in this vicinity was found easily passable.

2. Identification, Nil.

3. Hostile Artillery Activity. Enemy's artillery activity was below normal particularly on the left brigade front. The areas most heavily shelled were:-

J.32.A. - 125 rounds 4.2s from the direction of CAPE WOOD.

J.26. 50 rounds 4.2s from the direction of WERVICQ.

I.28.B. & D. 100 rounds 4.2s.

Areas O.11.B. and O.3.C. were shelled by 8" from the direction of WERVICQ.

Hostile T.Ms were active on to forward posts in J.21.C. J.31.C. and P.1.A. and on O.6. and O.12.

4. Enemy's Attitude, Quiet, but nervous and alert opposite our right.

5. Enemy's Defences. Work. A working party was heard in the vicinity of GAME COPSE. This was effectively dealt with by our artillery. There appears to be an O.P. midway between PACK and LONG FARMS with a camouflage trench leading to it from the former.

Machine Guns. A hostile gun from direction of SPUD FARM fired bursts occasionally on the Sally port in OAK SUPPORT. The enemy showed the usual activity during the night.

T.Ms. Enemy mortars were again active during the night and early morning from vicinity of LOCK 6 but were silenced by our field guns.

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6. Hostile aerial activity. During the day no enemy planes were seen except at 3.30 p.m. when one, flying S.E. at a great height, crossed our lines.

7. Organisation and Movement in and behind enemy's lines. At 3.30 p.m. a party of the enemy at P.8.A.5.9. was dispersed by our shell fire.

The vicinity of the pillbox at J.29.D.5.3. seems to be an active centre.

8. Miscellaneous. Many balloons were observed from 1.53.5.8.3. on T.Bs of 330 and 1530, from 0.5.5.5.7. on T.Bs of 1260 and 1530, and from 0.5.5.75.30. on grid bearing of 1200. The flash of a large calibre gun was observed at a grid bearing of 1120 from .0.5.5.8.2.

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

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 24.

From 6.a.m. 24-5-18. to 6.a.m. 25-5-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

Artillery.

Aggressive harassing fire was maintained by all batteries against the chief centres of recent enemy activity.

The following locations were subjected to intermittent bursts of fire during the period MAY FARM. JUNGLE HOUSE. DAMP COPSE. CIRCUS POINT. TUBE CROSS ROADS. NAPOO FARM. BERRY COTTS. TRACK HOUSES and KENT FARM. O.25.B. LOCK 4. OAKNEY Tr. HOLLEBEKE HILL. BANG. PUMP and BOMB FARMS and POLL HOUSE.

In addition roads and tracks in P.2.B.2.C. P.5.A. P.8.A. P.7.A. J.33.B.2.C. and J.32.D.

A number of rounds were expended by our left group in cutting wire in J.32.B. and J.27.A.

Active Trench Mortars at LOCK 5 and 6 P.1.B.85.85. P.1.D.30.95. P.1.C.95.10. and P.7.B.35.90. were effectively dealt with during the night.

Our heavies shelled WERVICO. COMINES and HOUTHEM. Two small dumpsons at approx. O.12.D.8.8. and the other N of HOUTHEM Church were exploded.

Trench Mortars.

Our 6" NEWTON trench Mortars expended 27 rounds in sweeping area between O.12.A.8.2. and O.3.D.9.1. to destroy hostile trench mortars, and in destructive shoots on to J.26.D.8.5. and LOCK 3.

Stokes Mortars fired 10 rounds on GAMB COPSE, and between 10.P.M. and 3.a.m. put over 50 rounds on hostile M.Guns and trench mortars positions at P.1.C.15.45. O.3.D.35.15. O.12.A.80.45. and LOCKS 5. and 6.

Machine Guns.

During the night Vickers guns used 22,000 rounds in harassing enemy Headquarters, and occupied posts and communications.

Our Lewis Guns fired 2,000 rounds from shell hole positions on to enemy posts. This was found to greatly reduce hostile M.G. fire.

Aerial Activity.

Our planes were normally active and penetrated some distance behind enemy lines. At 10.p.m. 4 bombs were dropped in J.27.

Patrols.

Bright moonlight made patrolling again very difficult. From patrol reports it appears in general that on

(i) Right Brigade - enemy is working hard but otherwise quiet, Not patrolling.

(ii) Centro Brigade - Quiet except for T.M. activity, Not patrolling.

(iii) Left Brigade - Quiet but alert and actively patrolling.

Machine guns were active from POLL HOUSE. SPUD FARM. MAY FARM. GAMB COPSE. FUNNY FARM. POOL FARM.

Trench Mortars were located at MAY FARM and at P.1.D.4.7.

Working parties were heard at CHALK FARM, about 200-300 yards E of THE GIANT and at BANG FARM. At the latter two locations work was being carried out with metal. Transport and noises were heard in the direction of KORTEWILDE.

Ground in O.3.C. and along the valley of the ROOZEBEEK is still swampy and wet.

2. Hostile Operations.

At 7.45.a.m. a party of 20 enemy approached our posts in J.32.C. but were driven off with Lewis Gun and rifle fire. They immediately withdrew under cover of barrage which was put down in answer to a flare signal.

3. Hostile Artillery Activity.

Enemy artillery again showed a marked decrease in activity. Destructive area shoots were carried out on (i) Our wire in O.17.B.2.D. (150 rounds from direction of COMINES.) (ii) J.31.C. (350 4.2s direction 125o T.B. from J.26.D.5.5.)

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(iii) O.G.B. and P.L.A.&B. (1,000 4.2s and 7.7s from ZANDVOORDE and TENBRIELEN)

In addition to the above shoots light harassing fire only was directed on our forward areas. 19 rounds of 8" How and 8 rounds 12" How are reported to have fallen in GREEN WOOD between 3 and 4.p.m. from the direction of COMINES.

The H.V. gun which shells BAILLEUL fires from the railway between WERVICQ and MENIN.

4. Enemys Attitude. A decrease in activity of all arms is noticeable, but enemy is very alert. At three points on our front, destructive shoots were carried out. These appear to indicate minor operations being premeditated in the vicinity of O.17.B.&D. and on the front O.G.B. P.L.A.

5. Enemys Defences. In addition to enemy M.Gs, T.Ms, and working parties reported under "Patrols" observers report:-

M.G. was active from about J.32.D.3.9. Trench Mortars were active on the whole of our front. Positions were noted in vicinity of MIDGE FARM, PACK FARM, KENT FARM.

Wire is visible round the Pillbox at J.26.D.8.5.

6. Hostile aerial activity. Enemys planes were rather more active than usual several flying quite low over our forward areas. These were heavily engaged with A.A. and M.G. fire. At 12.45. a hostile plane appeared to be hit by our machine guns and volplaned down behind his lines. At 10.15.p.m. a hostile plane dropped bombs in the vicinity of RAILWAY DUMP (I.35.D.)

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind Enemys Lines.

Considerable individual movement was again seen round the pill-boxes in P.2.C.&D. an P.B. and along the road running from CROWS NEST to KRUISECKE in P.5.B.

At 8.55.a.m. about 30 men were seen moving in single file into BERRY COTTS, where they commenced work. They were dispersed by 18-pdrs. A working party E of BOMB FM was also dispersed.

Movement was seen also at HOLLEBEKE MILL, BUND COTTS and NUT FARM (suspected to be an Officers H.Q.)

8. Miscellaneous.

Flash bearings. Enemy battery in house on T.B. of 1220 from I.36.D.2.8. at 3.55.p.m. at 1170 from O.5.C.8.2. (Gun did not appear to be in a pit as camouflago was pulled over it after firing)

At 4.45.p.m. 15 cm How at 1100 from O.5.C.8.2. This Howitzer is near some houses in P.16.D.

At 5.45.p.m. three guns in action at 1140 from O.5.C.8.2. Two outside guns were about 30 40 yards N and S respectively of the Centre gun to which the above bearing was taken.

Signalling. At 2.a.m. a signalling lamp was observed flashing from FLY BUILDINGS. A red signalling lamp was noted on a T.B. of 120 from I.36.D.2.8. The following letters were picked up:- W.R.S.T.W.E.R.W.E.R. 1ST DOR T L.S.L.S.

[Signature]
Colonel.
General Staff.

1st Australian Division.

ANNEXE.

(i) Observers should at present, note particularly all train movement opposite our front.

(ii) From a flanking Div. Summary.

Following out a plan for keeping enemy L.W. quiet. 4 batteries fired 80 rounds each in bursts of fire throughout the night, each battery firing for 2 hours. The first started at 10.p.m. and the last ended at 6.a.m. No L.W. were reported during the night and the plan proved most successful.

APPENDIX

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 25.

From 6.a.m. 25-3-18. to 6.a.m. 26-3-18.

1. Operations.

(a) Artillery. At frequent intervals during the period bursts of fire were directed on various enemy posts and active centres opposite our front. In the evening and early morning roads and tracks used by the enemy were frequently harassed.

Our left group obtained some good results on enemy mortar positions at LOOKS 5 and 6. 0.12.B.2.8. and 0.12.B.40.45. Our 4.5 Hows. and 18-pdrs shelled and effectively silenced minenwerfers at WHIZ and BANG FARMS. POLL HOUSE and FLY BUILDINGS. A working party in P.2.C.05.50. was successfully dispersed at 7.50.a.m. and another good shoot was observed later against a large working party on the main road at P.3.D.30.50. Our observers noticed that the shelling of enemy PILL BOX at 0.24.C.30.00 caused 4 casualties among what appeared to be five officers making a reconnaissance.

(b) Trench Mortars. On the left 40 rounds were expended on T.Ms and M.G. positions in the vicinity of LOCK 5 and HOLLEBEKE CHATEAU. 15 rounds were also fired on GAME COPSE.

Some good shoots were observed on the TWINS during the night and against enemy M.Gs firing from RIFLE, WHIZ and GYM FARMS. 30 rounds in all were expended on the right front.

(c) Machine Guns. 2,000 rounds were expended on targets in 0.12.C.7.9. and 0.18.A.73.56. On the left, enemy posts, headquarters and approaches were fired on, 10,000 rounds being expended.

(d) Snipers. One of our snipers was successful in obtaining a hit on a man at WHIZ FARM during the evening.

(e) Aerial activity. Our planes were active at times during the day. No enemy planes are reported.

(f) Patrols. Patrolling was rendered difficult owing to the bright moonlight.

The ground in 0.17.B. is reported as being in fairly good condition, but around 0.17.C.9.1. it is very wet.

In the valley of the ROOZEBEEK it is very swampy. One patrol worked round the rear of GREEN FARM from which post 3 enemy were seen to run towards BANG FARM. Our patrol immediately opened fire, but no results were observed. An enemy patrol of 20 was sighted moving S.W. towards the road from about 0.17.D.15.30. Our patrol attempted to cut it off but was observed by the enemy, who fled towards FLY BUILDINGS from which heavy M.G. fire was opened on our men.

On the left of our front enemy M.G. fire was active and hampered movement. Information gained is given under "Enemy Defences". A patrol encounter took place in the vicinity of WET POND. We suffered some casualties, and one wounded enemy Officer was taken prisoner, further details are not yet to hand.

2. Identifications. One wounded German Officer was captured in Sq. P.1.C. in patrol encounter. He belonged to 3rd. Bn, 153. Inf. Regt., 8th. Div. (normal.)

3. Hostile Artillery Activity. Enemy artillery was quiet during the period. 0.5.C.8.2. received some attention, 60 rounds of 10. c.m. being counted. Other places shelled included J.31.C. 100 rounds 5.9s 90s from J.31.C.00.45. 0.6.A.&B. 70 rounds 7.7s from ZANDVOORDE. I.36.A.B.&D. 60 rounds 10.c.m. etc. (some gas)

4. Enemys Attitude. Artillery has been quiet but T.Ms and M.Gs have been rather active, especially the former.

5. Enemys Defences. Work. A party was heard driving in stakes at LOCK 5. Wire. A wiring party was observed at MAY FARM. Wire in front of the GIANT is very strong.

M.Gs. A gun is suspected at P.2.D.6.8.

T.Ms. These were active from WHIZ and BANG FARMS. FLY BUILDINGS POLL HOUSE. LOOKS 5 and 6, and 0.12.D.9.8. Our artillery effectively,

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engaged them. T.M.s. are suspected at 0.12.B.2.8. 0.12.B.4.5. and 0.12.B.2.1. and showed some activity during the night until silenced by our artillery.

Post. An enemy post was located on road WEST of BEE FARM.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. Nil.

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemy lines.

Our observers report considerable train movement mainly MENIN to HALLUIN to RONCO. A column of enemy transport moving along road in K.31.C. was successfully engaged by our artillery.

Other movement seen and engaged by our guns is reported elsewhere. Some movement was noticed around Pill Boxes in P.2.D. towards centre of Sq.

8. Miscellaneous. Flashes.

910 T.B. from 0.5.B.5.7. near GHELUWE. 760 T.B. from 0.15.D.7.5. (our artillery seemed to get on to this battery.)

830 T.B. from 0.15.D.7.5. in front and to left of hospital in GHELUWE. 900 T.B. from 0.15.D.7.5. firing towards ARMENTIERES.

Gun seen firing on our rear positions from MENIN-WERVICQ Railway. From flash to report 42 secs.

106, 105, 1040 T.B. 5.9s (at about 3,500 yards) from 0.16.A.95.75.

890 T.B. from 0.20.D.20.05. firing towards KEMMEL 8. to 3.a.m.

At 11.30.a.m. flashes were observed at P.8.D.8.2.

Signalling. Lamps were seen in use from FLY BUILDINGS and from LOOK 4.

7/7/1918
Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

APPENDIX

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 26.

From 6 a.m. 23-5-13. to 6 a.m. 27-5-13.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Throughout the period extensive harassing and destructive fire was carried out by all Batteries in accordance with pre-arranged programmes, and any suitable targets reported by our Observers, were engaged.

BERRY COTTS, CURTIS BUILDINGS, TIN HOUSE, FLY BUILDINGS, HOLLE - BEKE HILL, POLL HOUSE, LONG MARGATE, KENT, SALMON, WHIZ, DICE, APILL, and BANG FARMS and PONT MALLET DULP in P.31.B, were subjected to intermittent bursts of fire, having all been recently reported as centres of much enemy movement.

From 8 to 8.25 p.m. our left group put down a screen around GAME COPSE to cover the return of one of our patrols, which had been unable to return the previous night.

Much enemy movement in P.18.B, P.19.A, P.15.C, and working parties at O.24.C.80.85, O.14.C.50.00, J.35.A.55.10, and P.2.C.85.45, were all effectively dealt with during the day.

At 4.15 a.m. and S.O.S. was reported on our left sector, and the Left Group Batteries put down their S.O.S. Barrage until 4.40 a.m. when all being reported quiet, Batteries ceased firing.

Trench Mortars. These were active at intervals throughout the night, included in the targets engaged were FLY BUILDINGS, GY and BEE FARMS, good bursts being observed on the latter.

Our Stokes Mortars expended 32 rounds on hostile M.Gs at GAME COPSE and P.1.C.15.45.

At 4.45 a.m. in reply to S.O.S. from the right battalions of our left Brigade, 5 guns opened rapid fire on front of positions being raided, good shooting is reported, shells falling in midst of enemy raiding party. In all 252 rounds of ammunition were expended.

Machine Guns. Our Vickers maintained harassing fire on the undermentioned targets during the night.

PIN FARM, CIRCUS POINT, PIN HOUSE, BASSEVILLE FARM, TUBE CROSS ROADS. Road from P.2.C.5.7, to P.2.A.9.3. Road from P.7.A.5.4, to P.7.B.5.5.

Hostile Aircraft over our forward positions were also engaged.

14,400 rounds of S.A.A. expended.

Snipers. Owing to absence of movement in forward area no targets were obtained.

Aerial Activity. Our planes were busy both by day and at night. At 9 a.m. 4 of our planes drove an enemy scout down out of control behind his own lines.

Bombing of the enemy lines particularly in the direction of COMINES was carried out.

Patrols. The following information is extracted from our patrol reports, reading from right to left along the Divisional front.

Listening posts were established in front of our Right Battalion. They report.

Much enemy transport could be heard in rear of enemy's lines. A suspected enemy post in vicinity of WAIN FARM was inspected and found unoccupied. An enemy party of about 20 was observed about O.25.D.2.9, moving in an easterly direction.

An enemy patrol of about 18 was seen moving quickly in the direction of FLY BUILDINGS at 11.15 p.m.

Two men were observed beside tree at O.17.D.2.0. A belt of wire, behind which is a short trench about 50 yards long, is situated at about O.17.D.2.1. The trench at about O.17.D.2.2, appeared to be manned.

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Working parties, voices, and the clanking sounds of iron were heard at FLY BUILDINGS.

At about 0.23.B.2.8. men were seen walking between two mounds as though sentries on a post.

Several short lines of wire forming serious obstacles are scattered over No Mans Land in 0.17.D. One strong bolt of wire runs from 0.17.C.9.1. to 0.17.D.9.3. No Mans Land in 0.17.D. is reported very wet.

Machine Gun fire from THE GIANT and about 0.12.A.5.3.

Wiring between THE GIANT and THE TWINS could be distinctly heard. No Mans Land in 0.11.D. is fair but marshy in places. Enemy movement was observed at LOCK 5 and a hostile listening post was located in CANAL BANK opposite our post 7.0.6.

No Mans Land is improving rapidly particularly in 0.6.C. west of the CANAL, but East of CANAL the ground is very marshy.

On the Left Brigade front, hostile M.Guns became much more active after midnight, previous to which they had been quiet.

2. Identifications. A prisoner of the 5th Coy 2nd. Battalion 93. I.R. 8th Division was captured near MOAT FARM. He was a member of a patrol of 20 men on the previous night, had been cut off and spent the whole day in a damaged pillbox in vicinity of MOAT FARM.

In an attempted raid on our posts in 0.6.C. two of the enemy were killed and belonged to the 76. R.I.R. 17th. Res. Division. Both above identifications being normal.

Order of battle. The order of Battle of Regiments of the 8th Division has not changed, but Battalion and inter-company reliefs have taken place. The 76. R.I.R. is still holding the Northern sector of the 17th. Res. Division, astride the YPRES-COMINES CANAL.

Hostile Activity. Minor Operations. At 3.50.a.m. enemy put down a barrage of T.H.s and Field Guns on our Outpost and Support Systems; this ceased at 4.5.a.m.

Immediately following, this a party of the enemy about 40 strong was seen approaching our wire opposite post 3. 0.12. of the Right Bn. Our Lewis Guns opened fire and the S.O.S. was fired by our post. Enemy did not attempt to cross our wire but withdrew hurriedly. The ground was searched later by our patrols, but no enemy could be found.

Under cover of the above, which appears to have been a feint attack, another party of the enemy about 25 strong approached our wire, immediately north of the canal between posts 8.0.Y. and 9.0.Y.

This party was engaged by rifle and Lewis Gun fire also bombs by our posts Nos. 6.0.6. and 7.0.6. 8.0.6. Post No. 9.0.6. had in the meantime been blown out. The enemy then retired in disorder leaving two killed behind; these were searched but only one piece of paper could be found, which gave the identification of No. 1. Coy. 1st. Bn. 76th. R.I.R. The enemy did not obtain any identifications.

3. Hostile Artillery Activity. Showed a slightly more aggressive attitude especially between 3.50.a.m. and 9.p.m. when the VERBRANDEN - MOLEN VALLEY and 0.5.B. was subjected to heavy 4.2s and 5.9s shelling, and our position in 0.5.B. received 50 rounds of 8".

Trench Mortars. Hostile Trench Mortars were fairly active during the night from direction of CHALK HAY and FUNNY FARMS. Trench Mortars were located firing from positions at 0.12.B.35.35. 0.13.D.9.9. and P.7.A.30.35. A T.H. fired from east of BEE FARM on to centre Battalion right Brigade front posts during the morning.

Trench Mortars also co-operated with enemy artillery barrage at 3.50.a.m.

Machine Guns. Active from THE GIANTS and THE TWINS. M.G. position located at approximately 0.12.A.5.2. and 0.12.A.60.75.

Work. Iron rails or other similar material in vicinity of FLY BUILDINGS could be heard being used.

4. Enemy Attitude. All arms have shown increased activity during the 24 hours. Enemy is very alert and appears to be very anxious to get continual identifications.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. At 7.20.a.m. an enemy plane patrolled our forward area and was later driven off by 4 of our planes.

APPENDIX ✓

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At 2.30.p.m. 3.30.p.m. and again at 5.30.p.m. one plane flying very low circled three times over the right of our Divisional front, firing M.Guns into our trenches.

On our Left Brigade front, enemy machines crossed our lines on several occasions during the day.

For the last four nights it has been the habit of the enemy to fly a scout machine very low over our forward area between the hours of 7.p.m. and 8.p.m.

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind the enemys lines.

A party of the enemy at P.1.C.7.7. was dispersed by artillery at 11.30.a.m. At 6.15.a.m. six men left pillbox at P.8.C.87.40. and moved towards LINKS WOOD.

Between 7.a.m. and 7.20.a.m. seven men moved from pillbox P.7.C.9.3. to pillbox at P.7.A.80.35. Movement was also observed at KIKI FM, and pillboxes at P.8.C.0.6., P.8.C.75.45., P.8.C.95.45., P.2.C.7.1.

From 9 to 12 p.m. the noise of much traffic was heard in rear of enemy lines and it seemed much heavier transport than usual. Two enemy were observed apparently laying wire at about O.30.B.0.5. At 8.30.p.m. a party of six men near WHIZ FARM were dispersed by L.G. fire; also at 7.30.p.m. near GYM FARM. At 7.p.m. seven men walked from a trench behind the TWINS and disappeared in a trench between THE TWINS and the ROOZEBEEK. They were engaged with rifle fire apparently without effect.

Movement of parties of 2 and 3 was seen continuously throughout the day on the CROWS NEST - KRUISECKE road.

At 11.15. about 200 men in parties of 20 were seen to proceed along the ZANDVOORDE - TENBRIELEN road, disappearing at about P.3.D.4.4. Our 18-pdrs and 6" Hows opened but results could not be seen as the men had disappeared over the crest.

At 14.40. a party of men were seen at WIND COTTES. Our artillery opened and two shells fell right amongst the party.

Between 16.30 and 17.15, 7 two horse wagons accompanied by men were seen on MENIN ROAD in K.31.B. moving North.

At 0925, dense clouds of thick black smoke seen rising behind GHELUVELT. At 5.40.p.m. a smoke screen covered MENIN and HALLUIN. Considerable train movement was again observed throughout the day, and is given in detail in the Annex to Aust Corps.

8. Miscellaneous. During yesterday a flag coloured RED, YELLOW and BLACK was flying from MENIN BELFRY. At 1500 a gun was seen firing from Railway in MENIN in approx. R.13.C.

The following enemy message in Morse was observed last night at 710 T.B. from O.19.B.3.2.

P,OH,I,T,CH,A,N,U,N,D,I,H,R,R,F,T,K,D,T,A,N,A,N,D,P,K,S,CH,V,N,D,P,K,E,H,CH,8,A,A,R,

At 11.p.m. and again at 4.20.a.m. S.O.S. was fired on our right and left respectively. During the bombardment at 11.p.m. and 4.a.m. red clusters were fired by the enemy. The following balloons were observed, 80, 81, 62, 69, 88, 101 degrees true from O.20.D.05.20. 70, 78, and 80 degrees mag, from O.13.D.95.30.

109 degrees true from O.10.D.85.95. This balloon was up and down at irregular intervals throughout the day and is about 9000 yards distant. It was plainly visible when on the ground. About 6.35.p.m. a heavy smoke barrage was released from about P.19.C.6.8. obscuring COMINES.

Gun Flashes as follows. -

76, 88, 109, 92 degrees True from O.20.D.05.20. Flash of heavy gun 82 degrees True from O.20.D.05.20. Chimney stack 83 degrees True from O.20.D.05.20. was noticed smoking.

Geo. F. P. M. M. J. 1
Lt. Col.
Colonel,
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

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From 6.a.m. 27-3-18. to 28-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Bursts of fire were directed at intervals on active enemy centres and roads and tracks. Two direct hits were obtained on POLL HOUSE. A gas bombardment was carried out against FORT BUILDINGS and centres of movement around DICE FARM from 10.30. p.m. to 11.30.p.m. Our 4.5s shelled an enemy battery in P.15.C. starting fire among the ammunition and causing the enemy to run for cover. On several occasions active enemy T.Ms were effectively silenced. At 4.10.a.m. in answer to an S.O.S. signal on the right of the left brigade our guns opened fire and continued until 4.25.a.m.

(b) Trench Mortars. 255 rounds were expended on the left brigade front. 25 rounds were fired into an enemy working party near HOLLEBEKE. Several enemy casualties are reported and the party hastily dispersed.

On the right brigade front our 3" Stokes fired 53 rounds and the heavies fired 13. A direct hit was obtained on the GIANT effectively silencing a M.G. there.

(c) Machine Guns. On our left front 9,000 rounds S.A.A. were fired on enemy centres and approaches. In addition 1,750 rounds were expended on a low flying enemy plane in the early evening.

On the right 2,750 rounds were expended on similar targets.

(d) Aerial activity. Our planes were out during the day flying over ~~our~~ and enemy lines.

(e) Patrols. The Divisional front was actively patrolled during the night. No Mans Land from WALL FARM to BEE FARM is reported to be very boggy and almost impassable. GREEN FARM was found unoccupied, the ground in the vicinity was fairly dry.

On the left Brigade front search was made opposite the right battalion, for any enemy dead from the previous nights raid, none were found. The ground on the left front is now fairly dry although shell holes still contain water.

At 3.30.a.m. A small enemy party approaching the right battalion front left brigade was fired on by the left post of the right brigade, and the enemy retired. A patrol went out to search for any of the enemy but only an enemy ground sheet and a bomb were found.

At 5.a.m. on the 27th Inst One of our patrols fired a Lewis Gun on a party of 5 of the enemy making towards JUNE FARM, and the enemy ran back to a larger patrol of about 20. Our patrol tried to follow but the whole enemy party quickly retired on JUNE FARM.

Enemy Minor Operation. At 4.a.m. this morning, the enemy opened a T.M. barrage round our posts 1.0.6. and 2.0.6. on the right front of the left brigade.

At 4.9.a.m. a party of the enemy about 10 in number approached post 1.0.6. They were immediately engaged by Lewis Guns, rifle fire and bombs. The artillery responded immediately to our S.O.S. The nearest post of the flank brigade assisted and the enemy retired. Two of the enemy were seen to fall. Following on the enemy retirement a strong Fighting Patrol left our lines to search for any of the enemy. None were found but there were signs of a body having been dragged along the ground. No identification was obtained by the enemy.

2. Identifications. Nil.

3. Hostile Artillery Activity. Enemy artillery activity shows a slight increase. On the right sector the shelling was scattered but on the left it was more confined to the forward area. A few gas shells fell in Sq. J.51. at 4.10.p.m. and also between 8.p.m. and 9.15.p.m.

4. Enemy Attitude. Alert. Slight increase of activity in all arms opposite left sectors where the enemy appears to be anxious to secure identifications.

(P.T.O.)

(2)

4. Enemys Defences.

Work. A hostile party was heard working in the vicinity of LOCK 5. between 3 and 4.a.m. and our machine guns engaged it.

Wire. Concertina wire 150 yards W. of BEE FARM 3 trip wires encountered 100 yards from BEE FARM. Main wire in front of BEE FARM is out about 80 yards and consists of loosely twisted wire, on screw pegs about 3 feet high and 10 to 20 feet wide.

M.G. posts. Guns fired from BEE FARM. O.17.D.6.6. O.17.B.85.50. and one is suspected at P.7.C.1.6. Guns were also active at MOAT HAY. and CHALK FARMS and at O.12.A.60.75.

Trench Mortars. Enemy mortars showed much activity especially at LOCKS 5 and 6. at 4.a.m. preceding attempted enemy raid.

Mortars were located at O.12.B.2.8. O.12.B.4.5. O.12.B.2.1. O.12.B.35.35. and one is suspected at O.20.D.80.25. and at P.3.D. 35.30.

Track. A well beaten track runs from O.23.C.3.8. towards RIFLE FARM.

6. Hostile Aerial Activity. At 5.15.p.m. one low flying enemy plane flew across ROOZEBEEK VALLEY and over our outpost system particularly towards the centre of the divisional front. The plane was a three seater and black, and attempted to fly very low. Our A.A. guns opened fire and with the approach of one of our machines, the enemy plane flew off.

7. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemy lines.

At P.1.D.7.4. a tree with a platform 12 feet from the ground and ladder attached was observed at dusk. Movement was noticed in the vicinity. The artillery are attending to this matter.

Much wheeled traffic was heard behind enemy lines opposite our right front at 4.30.a.m.


8. Miscellaneous. The following flashes were noted.

800 and 800 5 secs. T.B. from O.15.D.70.55. 990 grid from O.10.C.6.6.

At 4.15.p.m. flash seen near VILJERS FARM P.9.D.9.7. 96. 97½. 940 T.B. from O.20.D.05.20.

Enemy battery observed at about P.15.A.1.9.

Flares. At 10.30.p.m. numerous flares bursting into double red brought down enemy artillery on our right front.

Colonel 
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

ANNEXE. The 239 (German) Division which was relieved on our front about the 8-10th Inst, has now appeared on the battle front in the South.

APPENDIX ✓

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 28.

From 6.a.m. 28-3-18. to 6.a.m. 29-3-18.

1. Operations.

Artillery. The chief activity of our gunners during the period, was the directing of systematic harassing fire, recently reported enemy centres of activity and communications.

Roads and tracks east of S.O.S. lines were thoroughly searched, and swept during the late evening and early morning, and in addition the following locations subjected to intermittent bursts of fire:- CIRCUS POINT. DARP COPSE. TUBE CROSSROADS. PERRIGRINE FARM. HEIZE FARM. BOMB FARM. Headquarters at P.8.C.30.93. concrete dugouts at P.15.B.7.8. and CODE FARM.

Large working parties at O.12.A.60.77. P.7.C.1.7. and FORT BUILDINGS were effectively engaged and dispersed at 5.15.a.m. 6.25.P.M. and 9.p.m. respectively.

An active hostile Battery in action at P.8.D.20.36. was silenced at 4.30.p.m. by the 103rd Battery. 4.5.Hows, set fire to a dump on a grid bearing of 1800 from J.31.C.10.48.

Our heavies very successfully engaged a hostile 4.2. battery in P.5.D. on a True bearing of 760 from O.15.D.70.85. Direct hits were reported. A shoot also took place on BELLS BUILDINGS and on works in J.32.

Trench Mortars. 104 rounds in all were expended on known centres of activity and on T.M. or H.G. emplacements BEE FARM. GYM FARM. The TWINS and FLY BUILDINGS were engaged, and also GAMB COPSE and LOCKS 5 and 6.

Machine Guns. 16,000 rounds of S.A.A. were expended in maintaining harassing fire on enemy targets including the following.

BOMB CENTRE. SPUD FARM. PIM HOUSE. PID FARM. BASSEVILLE FARM.

Snipers. The enemy gave no favorable opportunities to our snipers during the period.

Aerial Activity. Although the weather conditions were unsuitable for flying, our planes were up on two or three occasions patrolling the enemys lines.

Patrols. The following information was gained by patrols during the night. A track was picked up running east and leading to RIFLE FARM which was found unoccupied at about 11.p.m.

A track runs from RIFLE to JULY FARM. Wire in front of JULY FARM was found to be thick, including numerous trip wires.

A flare was fired from a H.G. post at about O.23.B.2.4. A German rifle well ciled and dry was picked up at O.23.C.3.9. An enemy patrol of 8 came towards our patrol from about JULY FARM. Our patrol crawled towards them but encountered some more wire in front of JULY FARM, but by this time the enemy had disappeared. The enemy party could be heard talking about 30 yards away on the other side of the wire, but as the latter was too strong to get through our party crawled back to JUNE FARM.

A.H.G. fired from RIFLE FARM at about 3.30.p.m. The engine of a light railway could be distinctly heard to the rear of JULY FARM. An enemy listening post was located at O.17.D.3.7. Four Mortars were observed firing from POLL HOUSE. Dump about a 1,000 yards east of WHIZ FARM was observed burning.

A patrol moved to within about 40 yards of the GIANT. The only wire encountered being a low trip wire. No enemy was seen or heard, and no H. Guns fired from THE GIANT.

No Hans Land along the left Brigade front is in a very wet condition but the route taken by the patrol to within 40 yards of the GIANT was comparatively good.

Our patrol moved to O.6.C.45.10. where they were sniped at. A.H.G. fired two bursts from O.6.C.75.40. A hostile working party with screen was observed at O.6.C.7.1. HOAT FARM was reported to have been unoccupied during the tour of one patrol.

The condition of No Hans Land is again wet and in a bad condition, and very boggy between WET POND and BILGEM WOOD.

APPENDIX V

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

CONFIDENTIAL.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 29.

From 6.a.m. 29th to 6.a.m. 30-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Harassing and destructive programmes were carried out on roads, tracks and centres of activity. Good shooting is reported by infantry observers to have taken place during special shoots on JULY and LAKE FARMS and on a hostile battery position at P.8.D.40.45.

Gas concentrations were fired on to vicinity of P.13.B. 70.55. and on active hostile T.Ms at POLL HO. MURPHY FARM. BOMB FM. FORT BUILDINGS and COPSE FARM. Active hostile 4.2 battery at P.8.D. 95.25 and 77 battery at P.8.D.92.52. were effectively silenced with gas and H.F.

Trench Mortar positions in P.1.D. 0.12.A.2.B. P.1.C.2.D. and M.Gs at DAMP COPSE were also shelled.

Parties at BOMB FARM. HOUTHEM CH along the HOUTHEM road were dispersed.

(b) Trench Mortars. Stokes guns fired 35 rounds on T.M. and M.Gb post in DAMP COPSE, and HOLLEBEKE CHAU, and 37 rounds on FLY BUILDINGS GYM FM and THE TWINS.

(c) Machine Guns. 17,000 rounds were fired on specially selected targets, active pillboxes, tracks etc.

(d) Snipers. Our snipers hit a German soon at 0.17.D.35.60.

(e) Aerial Activity. Our activity was much below normal on account of unfavourable weather conditions.

(f) Patrols. Several attempts were made during the night to way lay and capture enemy patrols on known roads, but no enemy were encountered.

Patrols report; M.Gs active from 0.17.D.65.40. and LOCK 5. Enemy posts were discovered at 0.17.D.60.57. 0.17.D.55.90. (both of these have been previously reported) and also at 0.17.D.6.9. Working parties were heard driving in wooden stakes in the vicinity of LOCK 5 and wiring some distance E of THE GIANT.

Wire in front of post at 0.17.D.6.9. is about 8 foot thick. No Mars Land has again become difficult for movement.

2. Identifications. Nil.

3. Enemy's Order of Battle. The fact, that parties of the enemy opposite our left Brigade front have been observed about much more freely and carelessly, over forward areas, seems to point to a relief having taken place in that sector.

4. Hostile Artillery Activity. Enemy shelling was much below normal, consisting chiefly of scattered harassing fire.

About 100. 5.9s and 4.2s from TENBRIELLEN and WERVICQ. fell in the vicinity of OOSTAVERNE WOOD. 200 rounds of 4.2 fell between BATTLE WOOD and KLEIN ZILLEBEKE. 100 rounds 4.2 from the direction of COMINES fell round WHITE CHAU in 0.4.

5. Enemy's attitude. A decreased activity in all arms has occurred.

6. Enemy's Defences.

M.Gs. have been less active than usual. Guns were located active at BEE and JULY FMS. LOCK 5 and at 0.17.D.65.40.

Wire, in front of WAM farms is about 12 yards wide but not dense. In front of post at 0.17.D.6.9. it is 8 feet thick.

T.Ms. showed a considerable decrease in activity. Positions were noted at 0.24.A.08.75. 0.24.A.3.8. and at LOCKS 5 and 6.

7. Hostile Aerial Activity. Nil.

8. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemy's lines.

Routes and Tracks. Small parties were seen throughout the day at pillboxes at P.2.D.2.5. P.12.B.30.60. P.9.A.90.55. P.14.A.5.9. P.7.C.1.7. P.8.A.70.25. P.3.C.75.45. P.2.B.1.1. P.7.A.40.90. also at HOLLEBEKE MILL in Wood at P.9.A.3.4. Bomb, COPSE, KIKI, CHATEAU and NAPOO FMS, and along road at 0.18.D.8.4. From the pillbox at P.2.D.2.5. men proceeded by road through P.2.D. and thence, duckwalks through P.3.D. to ZANDVOORDE. At 10.15.a.m. 12 men passed along road in P.16.D. towards TENBRIELLEN.

(2)

Railways. A track was seen on a light-railway at 0.8.D.75.15. Men were seen working on this railway at 0.3.D.65.10.

Hoadquarters. Constant movement to and from the pillboxes at 0.12.B.33.32. point to a H.Q. A sentry also is often observed there.

9. Miscellaneous.

Signalling. From 7.50. to 8.5.p.m. two lamps were observed signalling at 910 and 950 from 0.20.D.0.2.

At 5.p.m. signalling was observed at 1150 29' from 0.8.D.65.80.

Gun Flashes.

6.43.p.m.	840	True from 0.15.C.6.9.	5.9s.
7.14.p.m.		do.	do.
"	1200	from.	0.11.A.2.4.
"	1250	"	0.11.A.2.4.
"	670	"	0.20.D.0.2.
"	830	"	"
"	900	"	"
9.20.a.m.	1000 51'	"	0.8.D.65.85. Heavy Gun.
4.10.p.m.	1240	"	4.2 Battery.
5.45.p.m.	990 30'	"	77
11.30.a.m.	990	"	0.9.A.5.8. -4.2.

Flashes were also observed at 1200, 1010, 1230 and 1500 true from J.31.C.10.48. and at 920 54' true from 0.19.D.52.55.

J. B. Rogers Capt
for Colonel.
General Staff.

ANNEX.

1st Australian Division.

(i) The following is a brief summary of the work done by three Squadrons working with the 3rd Army on the 26th and 27th Inst.

26th.Inst.

240 - 201b bombs were dropped on BAPAUME and on troops transport and camps between BAPAUME and ALBERT, and approximately 32,450 rounds were fired from H.Gs.

Direct hits with bombs were obtained on many objectives. Horse transport was dispersed, troops were scattered and great disorder resulted. A camp at SAPIGNIERS was set on fire, transport between CROISILLES and FONTAIN-CROISILLES was observed to pile up in a heap. It was practically impossible to miss them with bombs or machine guns, since the targets presented were usually immense masses of Germans crowded together on roads and in towns. A panic was inevitably caused every time each pilot attacked. Pilots report seeing dead literally piled in heaps by the sides of the roads. Almost all the above work was done under 1,000 feet.

27th.Inst. 186 - 20 lb bombs were dropped and about 14,840 rounds fired. Direct hits were obtained on a column of German infantry on the march along a road near MONTAUBAN, on the railway west of ERVILLERS, and on transport between MARICOURT and BRAY, at CHENGUES, on the SUZANNE-BRAY road and near ERVILLERS.

In many cases transport stampeded, great confusion was caused amongst large bodies of troops and many casualties were inflicted. Two F.A. were destroyed.

In addition on the 26th Inst Another Squadron dropped 50 - 1121b bombs on BAPAUME.

(ii) Situation with regard to German Divisions on the Western Front.

Up to the evening of the 25th Inst, 31 Divisions have been engaged on the battle front. The estimated number of fresh divisions in reserve is 20, of which 12 Divisions are considered to be in the battle area.

APPENDIX V

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 50.

From 6.a.m. 30-3-18. to 6.a.m. 31-3-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

Artillery. With the object of harassing the enemys communication to the utmost extent all Batteries maintained sweeping, and searching fire on roads and tracks east of S.O.S. lines along the Divisional front.

In addition, the following locations were selected as centres of much recent activity and subjected to intermittent bursts of fire, GAME COPSE, MAY FARM, CIRCUS POINT, CHALK FARM, TUBE CROSS ROADS, POMP, PIP, LAKE, CODE, SPUD, MURPHY, COPSE, DITE PAT and HIGH FARMS, FORT and FLY BUILDINGS.

A number of gas shells were expended on to hostile trench mortar positions.

Trench Mortars. At 3.30.p.m. Our heavy trench mortars fired on WHIZ FARM for 15 minutes with good effect. Our Stokes mortars fired about 100 rounds during the period, special targets receiving attention included GAME COPSE and hostile H.G. in vicinity. Enemy working party at P.I.C.I.S. were dispersed by 16 rounds. LOCKS 5 and 6 received 41 rounds of harassing fire.

Machine Guns. The usual harassing fire was carried out by our machine guns during the darker hours of evening, and night, and one hostile aeroplane was engaged by our machine gunners when flying at a low altitude.

Aerial Activity. During the spells of favourable weather our planes were to be seen, patrolling our own and the enemy forward positions, throughout the day.

Patrols. The following information is collated from reconnaissance patrols reports.

Night 29/30th Inst. JILL FARM was found water logged. A granatemorfer fired from direction of FLY BUILDINGS. H.Guns fired from BAB FARM and 0.23.B.2.8. No Mans Land was found wet in 0.23.A.

Night 30/31st. Wire about 15 yards wide and 3 feet high, 40 yards in front of WAI FARM was discovered. A. H. Gun fired from WAI FARM. No Mans Land along the valley of the WAIERKE is very wet. No Mans Land in 0.17.C.2.D. is in fair condition, but shell holes contain a good deal of water. Two dugouts could be discerned at about 0.12.A.4.2. Talking heard in THE GIANT. Two flares were fired from LOCK 5 and a H.G. opened fire from the TWINS. No Mans Land in 0.11.B. and 0.12.A. was found in bad condition. In vicinity of 0.6.D.55.55. two listening posts (evacuated by the enemy two nights ago on approach of our patrol) were examined and found unoccupied. At 0.6.D.15.25. there are three single lines of German wire.

No Mans Land opposite our Left Brigade front is again reported as being very muddy, and passage by patrols made extremely difficult.

2. Identifications. Nil.

3. Enemy Activity.

Artillery. Hostile shelling was much below normal during the 24 hours under review with the exception of a destructive shoot on battery positions in 0.9. the remainder, consisted of harassing fire against our forward areas, and communications.

Trench Mortars. Enemy trench mortars displayed a normal activity their main items being 20 rounds in GREEN WOOD from a heavy T.M. at 0.18.C.35.70. Granatemorfer bombs fired from LOCK 5 on to vicinity of FORNET FARM and at 8.a.m. 10 rounds fell in vicinity of WALL FARM from WHIZ FARM.

H.Guns. General activity much below normal. Active machine guns were located at the following centres - BAB, JULY, WAI, WHIZ FARMS, LOCK 5, The TWINS, FLY BUILDINGS, 0.23.B.2.8. and from about 0.17.D.55.40.

(2)

7. Hostile Aerial Activity. Between 11 and 11.30.a.m. an enemy scout machine flew very low over our forward area, it was heavily engaged by A.A. and H.Guns. At 7.a.m. enemy machine was observed at a high altitude, but did not attempt to cross our lines.
8. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemy lines.

Small parties of men were observed throughout the day, moving from one location to another. When within range fire was brought to bear on them.

In the form of an annex to this Summary, a special time table of train movements is published.

9. Miscellaneous. Two men observed repairing telephone wire at 0.12.B.6.6. A well defined track can be traced from pill-box at P.7.A.75.30. to P.7.A.10.25.

Gun flashes were observed as follows

Time.	Bearing from Calire	Area shelled	Approx distance.
10.30.a.m.	86 deg 0.15.C.6.8. 77s.	HOLLEBIKE.	P.13.B.9.4.
11.45.a.m.	84 deg 0.15.C.6.8. 77s.	HOLLEBIKE.	P.13.B.9.7.
do.	90 deg 0.20.D.0.2.	"	6.000 yards.
do.	do. do.		5.000 yards.
1.30.p.m.	100 deg. 0.16.D.95.25.		
9.45.a.m.	80 deg. 0.16.D.95.25.		
	115 deg. 0.11.A.2.4.		
and	98 deg.		
	96 deg. 0.10.D.85.80.		3.000.yards.

Geo. H. P. M.
Colonel.
General Staff.
1st. Australian Division.

ANNEX.

TRAIN MOVEMENT.

<u>TIME.</u>	<u>FROM.</u>	<u>TO.</u>
11.55.a.m.	TENDRIELLEN.	HOUTHEN.
11.10.a.m.	do.	WERVICO.
11.24.a.m.	GHELUWE.	do.
11.55.a.m.	HOUTHEN.	do.
12. noon.	-	- Shunting east of HOUTHEN.
12.5.p.m.	WERVICO.	TENDRIELLEN.
12.10.p.m.	WERVICO.	MININ.
12.15.p.m.	-	- Two trains entered TENDRIELLEN.
12.20.p.m.	WERVICO.	TENDRIELLEN.
12.30.p.m.	TENDRIELLEN.	WERVICO. Fast train.
12.50.p.m.	WERVICO.	TENDRIELLEN.
1.30.p.m.	MININ.	WERVICO.
1.50.p.m.	do.	do.
2.20.p.m.	do.	do.
12.Noon.	WERVICO.	MININ.
2.15.p.m.	HALLUIN.	going South.

APPENDIX V

CONFIDENTIAL.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 31.

From 6.a.m. 31-3-18. to 6.a.m. 1-4-18.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Our artillery fire was on the increase, advantage being taken of the excellent visibility prevailing. In anticipation of an enemy relief opposite our right group, special shoots were made during the evening on enemy approaches. At 8.a.m. our 18-pdrs engaged an enemy working party on ZANDVOORDT Ridge and quickly dispersed it.

During the day some good hits on buildings in the vicinity of THURMELIN were observed, and on a pill box in P.8.C. Enemy movement along the Canal and at several other points was observed and effectively dealt with.

During the night gas shoots were carried out on localities where enemy activity was likely.

(b) T.M. 53 rounds were fired on the GIANT, WAR FARM, FLY BUILDINGS, BLUE FARM. On the left 30 rounds were fired on GALT COPSE and hostile M.Gs in the vicinity.

(c) M.Gs. During the night 14,000 rounds were fired on enemy centres of activity and used roads and tracks. During the day 2,400 rounds were fired at hostile aircraft.

(d) Aerial Activity. With the good visibility conditions our planes showed increased activity and made several reconnaissance flights over enemy lines.

(e) Patrols. No Hans Land is reported to be improving in O.23.C. but in the Southern portion of O.17.C. it is still wet and muddy. A suspected post at O.12.A.4.1. was found unoccupied, tracks in the vicinity showing no signs of recent use.

The ground around O.12.A.4.1. is reported to be in good condition but further out becomes very wet. A gong was heard in the GIANT and this is believed to have been caused by a member of one of our patrols encountering an enemy trip wire.

On the left our listening posts were again established but had nothing to report. No Hans Land there is improving. An enemy listening post at O.6.D.55.55. was watched by one of our patrols, but no enemy were seen to occupy it.

2. Identifications. Nil.

3. Hostile Artillery Activity. Hostile shelling showed a decrease during the period. Our left brigade reports that an alteration in the grouping of enemy artillery seems to have been made and enemy shelling now comes from a SOUTH EASTERLY direction.

On the right brigade front the following squares were shelled but not heavily. Parts of O.11.B.3.D. O.14.D. O.20.B.3.D. O.23.A.

On the left I.32.C.3.D. I.33. I.54.C. I.35.A. and I.53.A. received most attention, but not to any marked degree.

Our left artillery group reports a marked change of policy by the enemy. Day artillery, a number of new targets being bombarded and more day shelling taking place than has been the case for the last three weeks.

4. Enemy attitude. Quiet. Left Brigade reports that the enemy appears to be working hard on his defences and that he fired an unusually large number of flares during the night.

5. Enemy Defences.

Work. Work was noticed in process at WAR FARM and our artillery were informed. Our guns dispersed a party of the enemy working near LOCK 6, at O.30.B.0.5. and O.P. or else repairs to a dug-out appears to be in course of construction.

Wire. The wire in front of BEE FARM is 15 feet wide and 3 foot high. It appears to be strong in front of the enemy's position at O.17.D.55.60. and from that point to O.17.D.63.80. The wire in front of WHIZ FARM posts does not seem to be a difficult obstacle.

M.G. Posts. An enemy gun appears to be located at O.6.C.10.05.

T.Ms. Minnowwerfers were fired from POLL HOUSE, and from WAR FARM. On the left medium and heavy T.Ms were active from LOCKS 5 and firing on O.5.D. O.6.C. and O.12.A.

- posts. A Hostile M.G. fired on one of our patrols from post at 0.6.0.05.35. This post appeared to be strongly garrisoned.
- Snipers. An enemy sniper is reported to be at 0.12.A.30.75.
6. Hostile Aerial Activity. An enemy plane flew low over our forward system at 9.30 a.m. and was heavily engaged by our A.A. and H.Guns, another low flying plane was reported over a battery position at 11 a.m. At 7 p.m. three enemy planes approached our lines but made off on being engaged by our A.A. guns.
7. Movement and Organisation in and behind enemy lines. Movement observed around pillboxes in P.3.D. was reported to artillery and our 18-pdrs and 4.5 Hows quickly scattered the gathering (12.10 p.m.) Individual movement on roads and around pill-boxes and other centres was observed during the day. Men were seen moving along the KNUISCHKE - CROWS HEST Road, the duckwalk from WIND COTTES to BELLS BUILDINGS and over the ridge, also on the ZANDVOORDE-TENBERGEN Road in P.3.D. The majority of the men wore packs and as during the morning men were noticed moving about the pill boxes as though reconnoitring, a relief may possibly have taken place.
8. Miscellaneous.
- Flares.
- 5.30 p.m. 810 G.B. from 0.15.D.70.55. 5.9s in 0.7.A.
 - 4.45 p.m. 850 G.B. from do.
 - 5.05 p.m. 1100, 24', 1040, 50' G.B. from 0.19.D.52.53.
 - 7.05 p.m. 720 G.B. from 0.15.D.70.55. in rear of main road.
 - 10.15 a.m. 1540 G.B. from 0.5.D.5.7.
 - 10 a.m. 1360 G.B. from 0.5.D.5.7.

H. H. Hamerlin
for Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.