# AWM4

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

Formation Headquarters

**Item number:** 1/44/37 Part 3

**Title:** General Staff, Headquarters 2nd Australian Division

August 1918

AWM4-1/44/37PART3

Appendix

APPDX No. 26
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SECRET.

HEADQUARTERS 2ND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION. (GENERAL STAFF)

Copy No. 25

G.1/943/8.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION OPERATIONS.

*******

Headquarters,
5th August, 1918.

INSTRUCTIONS No. 14.

General.

1. Nucleus personnel as laid down in Circular Memo. 21/213, dated 22:6:18, from D.A.G., A.I.F., will remain at their present camp.

2. The following will be the liaison officers with the 2nd Canadian and 3rd Australian Divisions:-

2nd Canadian Division - Major J. J. L. Mc.CALL.
3rd Australian Division - Capt. E. T. BAZELEY, M.C.

3. Special arrangements will be made to send to D.H.Q. the earliest possible information. Owing to the fact that the 5th Australian Division is passing through us, it is of vital importance that the report of the capture of the GREEN line should be received at D.H.Q. at the earliest possible moment, also information regarding any delays or checks in the advance. All means of communication will therefore be exploited to the full.

4. Any enemy signal wires found in captured territory will be cut, specially those running laterally.

5. All troops taking part in the assault will be provided with a piece of white cloth. Should a man be wounded and unable to walk back, he will tie this piece of cloth to his rifle, stuck butt uppermost in the ground, or to the crops to mark his position so that stretcher bearers may find him easily.

6. The 5th A.I.Bde. will detail special liaison parties to work in co-operation with the support company of the 8th Tank Battalion which is maintaining the attack at the junction of divisions (Operations - Instructions No. 11, para. 2 (b)).

7. The jumping off line is shown on the field artillery barrage map. It will be taped in a straight line from the railway at V.1.a.8.8. to P.21.b.0.3.

8. Synchronisation of watches will be carried out by an officer who will leave D.H.Q. at about 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Y day and will visit the C.R.A., 5th, 6th and 7th A.I.Bdes. and 2nd Aust. M. G. Bn.

9. The use of telephones must be reduced from now on to the normal or, if anything, to sub-normal. Strict supervision will be exercised to ensure that no unnecessary telephone conversations take place.

10. The troops detailed by the 6th A.I. Bde. for right flank liaison will consist of two companies and not one complete battalion. Necessary alterations will be made in -

Operations Instructions No. 1, para. 7.
Operations Instructions No. 6, para. 4.
Operations Instructions No. 12, para. 1.

P.T.O.

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11. Administrative Instructions have been issued by "Q."

12. Medical arrangements will be issued by the A.D.M.S.

13. Zero hour will be notified in writing from D.H.Q. on the afternoon of Y day.

14. The command of the front will pass to the G.O.C., 5th Australian Division at zero plus four hours.

15. Acknowledge.

C. G. Helles.
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

INITIAL DISTRIBUTION.

| Copy No. | To. |
|---|---|
| 1. | C.R.A. |
| 2. | C.R.E. |
| 3. | 2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy. |
| 4. | 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. |
| 5. | 6th do. |
| 6. | 7th do. |
| 7. | 2nd Aust. M. G. Bn. |
| 8. | A.Q. |
| 9. | A.D.M.S. |
| 10. | Aust. Corps. |
| 11. | 3rd Aust. Division. |
| 12. | 4th Aust. Division. |
| 13. | 5th Aust. Division. |
| 14. | 2nd Canadian Division. |
| 15. | 2nd Tank Battalion. |
| 16. | 3rd Squadron, A.F.C. |

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SECRET.

HEADQUARTERS, 2nd AUSTRALIAN DIVISION. (GENERAL STAFF.)

G. 1/943/3.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
*****

Headquarters,
5th August, 1918.

2nd Aust. Div.Sig.Co.
5th A.I.Bde.
6th A.I.Bde.
7th A.I.Bde.
2nd A.M.G.Bn.
A.D.M.S.
A.Q.
---

The following notes are forwarded to assist commanding officers in ensuring that no points are over looked in their preparation :-

1. Routes reconnoitred and marked for preliminary moves to jumping off tapes. Silence on jumping off line.

2. Special precautions for strict march discipline. Men made to sit down if a block occurs and not allowed to wander.

3. Placing of troops to ensure maximum concealment.

4. Appointment of a Secrecy Officer.

5. Arrangements to go into battle. Maximum bayonet strength less nucleus.

6. Battle equipment complete.

7. Battle rations complete.

8. Organization and disposition of transport in battle positions.

9. Thoroughly thought out and organized arrangements in case of gas bombardment by enemy.

10. Dumps for S.A.A., bombs, water, rations, etc. arranged or in course of preparation.

11. Rest men as much as possible. No undue exertion such as swimming, cricket, etc., during last 48 hours.

12. Signal arrangements up to jumping off line.

13. Signal arrangements beyond jumping off line, including phone, wireless, visual, pigeons and runner, message rockets.

14. Complete arrangements with tanks.

15. Movement of tanks through troops on jumping off line.

16. Communications to Tanks at rallying point after GREEN line is captured in the event of their being required for counter-attack.

17. Arrangements for Liaison.

18. Arrangements for food and water forward of jumping off line.

W Dring

19. Machine gun arrangements. Trench mortar arrangements.

20. Ammunition supply for machine guns and trench mortars forward.

21. Medical arrangements - sufficiency of stretchers - collection of wounded.

22. Mule tracks planned and marked.

23. Arrangements for mule transport.

24. In view of urgent necessity for 5th Aust. Div. to have earliest information of success. Special arrangements for sending such information as speedily as possible to 2nd Aust. Div. H.Q.

25. Arrangements for signalling final position to aeroplanes.

26. Tin discs to signal to aeroplanes preferable to ground flares.

27. Supply of S.O.S. and success signals and flares.

28. Methods by which counter-attack aeroplanes indicate hostile assembly, to be known to all concerned.

29. Organization of, and orders for consolidation troops. Orders for Reserve Brigade to go under Corps.

30. Orders for return of 21st Bn.

31. Re-organization of Reserve Brigade to be prepared to move forward.

32. Disposition of troops for night of "Z" day.

C. Gibbes.
Lieut. Colonel.
General Staff.
Second Australian Divisi

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. No 194

From 5.30 p.m. 5th to 5.30 p.m. 6th August 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. The usual harassing fire programme was carried out. Areas in V.3., and P.34. were given special attention. At 6.10 p.m. an active hostile battery was silenced. At 8.10 a.m. a working party at P.22.c.10.40. was engaged by 18 pdrs. At 9.25 a.m. wagon on road in W.1.a. was fired on by 18 pdrs.

(b) Trench Mortars. Heavies fired 10 rds. in Copse at V.3.a. at 7.45pm. which threw up a lot of timber. L.T.Ms. were quiet.

(c) Machine Guns. Active throughout the night on following targets:- roads in P.34.a. and c., P.28.a.8.6., V.3.a., U.12.a. and b., U.6.c. and d., Centres of activity in P.33.c. and P.33. central. Total rounds expended 11,000.

(d) Aerial Activity. Our 'planes continued to be active in spite of less favourable weather.

(e) Patrols. Liaison patrols kept touch between posts and flanks of Right Bn. Left Bn. sent out a patrol of 1 Officer and 3 O.Rs. from P.27.c.4.6. at 9.45pm. Enemy flares and M.G. fire was normal. Three M.Gs. were seen firing from approx. P.27.c.8.4. and another from P.27.c.8.8. and also P.27.c.85.95. Branch Trench running west from P.27.c.8.6. does not appear to be occupied.

(f) Snipers. Fired over 40 shots and claim two certain hits at P.27.a.5.5. and P.27.a.6.5. One was carried away by Stretcher Bearers and the other left lying in the crop. Much movement (morning 5th) in P.21.d. and P.27.b. which continued in spite of energetic sniping. Enemy were doubling and darting about. They were not carrying but appeared to be doing something which had to be done in spite of our shooting.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Fairly active. At 8.15 p.m., 9.30. and 10.30 p.m., area P.25.d. and P.26.c. was shelled with about 30 rds. 10.5 cm. and 15 cm. each time coming from the direction of WARFUSEE. VILLERS BRETONNEUX was shelled during the night from the direction of MARCELCAVE. From 4.15 to 6am. heavy shelling took place on O.23., O.29., O.35. and O.36. by 10.5, 15 and 21 cm. with some mixed GREEN and BLUE Cross gas shells. Some scattered gas shells also fell on P.19. area, from 9.15 to 10pm. (BLUE Cross). P.27.a. and c. received 200 shells (77 mm. and 10.5 cm.) between 4.30 and 5am. from LA BASTILE MILL with which a little gas was mixed. At 3.30pm. several rounds fell near main road in O.26.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Nervous.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work and Wire. At V.1.b.9.4. 20 yards of trench with concertina wire in front can be seen. On east end of mound there is a steel loophole plate for sniper.

(b) Trench Mortars. Active on P.27.c. at 6.30pm. (40 rds.). At 5.10 a.m. 6 small M.W. fell on V.1.b.6.6. from V.2. 80 rds. M.T.M. from 123° T.B. from P.26.b.9.5. fell during yesterday afternoon on P.26.d. and P.27.c.

(c) Machine Guns. M.Gs. fired at aircraft from P.21.d.8.1. M.Gs. were active from P.27.c. (see patrols).

(d) Flares. Normal. GREEN flares were fired when enemy shells fell short.

(e) Snipers. Post on east end of mound with loophole plate. Enemy was more active in sniping yesterday.

P.T.O.

Wan Deany JAB.

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HOSTILE AIRCRAFT. Inactive.

One E.A. ~~crossed our lines at 9.5am.~~ and was engaged by A.A. and M.G. fire.

MOVEMENT. Considerable movement of individuals in back areas in rear of TAILLOUX WOOD, P.23. and P.28.b. and d. At 7.30pm. a wagon on road W.6. going towards GUILLAUCOURT. At 8.5pm. a wagon on road P.34.c. At 8.3pm. 3 parties of 10 men each in W.2. going towards WEINCOURT. At 5.45am. enemy loading hay into wagon at V.2.b. which went to BAYONVILLERS. At 6am, 3 wagons on road W.2.c. going to WEINCOURT. At 7.45am. train seen S.E. of HARBONNIERES. From 8.20 to 8.50am. train at W.7.d. then went to GUILLAUCOURT. 9am. one motor transport proceeded N. through Q.33.a. 9.40am. a wagon travelled towards BAYONVILLERS on road in W.8.b. 10.55am. one train on light railway at Q.33.a.8.7. proceeded to Q.27.d.1.3., where it was lost to sight. At 10.15am. 4 men were working on road at W.1.b. 10.25am. wagon proceeded from WIENCOURT to BAYONVILLERS. At 10.40am. another vehicle appeared on road W.10. towards HARBONNIERES. At 11.30 and 11.35am. there was individual movement in V.6.h. and V.9.c.

M.G. Denning
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. (I.S. No. 230).

SITUATION AUGUST 4TH AND NIGHT 4TH/5TH INST.

With reference to the situation on the left of the Army front, our patrols have been very active by day and night along the Corps front. The line from the SOMME to the ANCRE is held by the enemy as before. Between the ANCRE and AVELUY the enemy holds with outposts the line of the ANCRE, all the bridges but two having been blown up. We hold with our outposts the line of the railway AVELUY - DERNANCOURT. Patrol encounters have taken place in ALBERT, and the enemy appears to be holding the bridges over the ANCRE in ALBERT. One of our patrols penetrated as far as the Cathedral without opposition.

It was ascertained from dead bodies of Germans left near our posts (attacked by the enemy yesterday morning) that pioneers of the 225th Division took part in the raid. In the CASTEL sector raids were carried out by the 14th Bav. Div. showing that the 21st Div. has been relieved.

The French report also that the 24th Saxon Div. from reserve in Prince Rupprecht's Group of Armies has relieved the 6th Res. Div. in the BRACHES Sector.

These changes in the Order of Battle may account for some of the railway movement seen round ROSIERES during the last few days.

French reports show that the enemy is retiring across the AVRE between MONTDIDIER and MOREUIL. The French hold BRACHES and the line of the river to just north of HARGICOURT - W. of HARGICOURT and MARESTMONTIERS - E. of FRAMICOURT and COURTEMANCHE. The enemy still hold MORISEL and MONTDIDIER.

DESCREASE OF ESTABLISHMENT AND RIFLE STRENGTH OF GERMAN INFANTRY BNS.

In Jan. 1918 the German War Ministry laid down the strength at which a German Inf. Bn. in the field was to be maintained at 980 O.Rs. (850 for the 4 Inf. Coys. and 130 for the M.G. Coy.).

A captured document shows that, presumably owing to the difficulty in replacing the heavy casualties sustained in the German attacks since the 21st March, this establishment has been reduced, with effect from the 1st July, 1918, to 880 O.Rs. (750 for the 4 Coys. and 130 for the M.G. Coy.), i.e. a decrease of 100 O.Rs. per Bn.

The same document states that the rifle strength (GEFECHTS STARKE) is still arrived at by subtracting from the total strength permanently employed men (Regtl. H.Q, bandsmen, first line transport and train), men temporarily employed outside the Bn. and absentees (including sick).

Men at Bn. H.Q., the Bn. Signalling Section, Light M.W. detachment and L.M.G. Groups are included in the rifle strength.

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SECRET.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Ref. Map. -
Sheet 62D -
1/40,000.

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G.336.

Location of Units at 12 noon, 7th August, 1918.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Divisional Headquarters. | - | N.20.d.7.4. | GLISY. Dugouts. |
| 2nd Aust. Div. Arty. H.Q. | - | N.20.d.7.4. | GLISY. Dugouts. |
| Right Group H.Q. | - | O.28.c.5.4. | |
| 4th A.F.A. Bde. | - | O.28.c.5.4. | |
| 5th A.F.A. Bde. | - | O.28.b.2.6. | |
| 14th A.F.A. Bde. | - | O.29.a.7.9. | |
| Right Sub-Group. | - | O.19.d.5.8. | |
| 298th Army Bde. R.F.A. | - | O.19.d.5.8. | |
| 1st A.F.A. Bde. | - | O.26.d.5.9. | |
| Left Group H.Q. | - | O.15.d.3.4. | |
| 14th Army Bde., R.F.A. | - | O.15.d.3.4. | |
| 13th A.F.A. Bde. | - | O.23.d.7.7. | |
| Left Sub-Group. | - | O.16.c.9.1. | |
| 6th Army Bde., A.F.A. | - | O.16.c.9.1. | |
| 2nd A.F.A. Bde. | - | O.28.c.6.7. | |
| 2nd Aust. D.T.M.O. | - | N.24.b.2.7. | |
| 5th Aust. D.T.M.O. | - | N.22.c.3.1. | |
| 1st Aust. D.T.M.O. | - | M.18. | |
| 2nd Aust. D.A.C. | - | N.14.c.5.5. | |
| 5th Aust. D.A.C. | - | GLISY. | (Billet 23). |
| 1st Aust. D.A.C. | - | M.18. | |
| 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. | - | O.28.c.8.5. | |
| 17th Battalion. | - | O.20.c.85.75. | |
| 18th do. | - | N. 8.c.75.10. | |
| 19th do. | - | O.19.c.2.2. | |
| 20th do. | - | O.13.c.05.65. | |
| 5th A.L.T.M. Bty. | - | O.13.d.9.3. | |
| 5A Nucleus Bn. | - | M.18.d.1.5. | |
| Transport Lines. | - | M.17.b. & M.18.a. | |
| 6th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. | - | O.26.c.7.6. | LINE. |
| 21st Battalion. | - | O.30.d.0.3. | Support RIGHT. |
| 22nd do. | - | O.30.d.0.3. | Line RIGHT. |
| 23rd do. | - | O.30.b.2.1. | Support LEFT. |
| 24th do. | - | P.19.c.1.2. | Line LEFT. |
| 6th A.L.T.M. Bty. | - | O.26.c.90.95. | |
| 6A Nucleus Bn. | - | N.14.d.7.7. | |
| 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. | - | O.28.c.8.5. | |
| 25th Battalion. | - | N.36.a.6.9. | |
| 26th do. | - | O.26.c.9.3. | |
| 27th do. | - | O.26.c.9.3. | |
| 28th do. | - | O.32.a.8.7. | |
| 7th A.L.T.M. Bty. | - | O.27.c.1.4. | |
| 7A Nucleus Bn. | - | N.7.a.6.8. | |
| Transport lines. | - | M.18.b. | |
| 2nd Aust. M. G. Batt'n. | - | GLISY. Chateau. | (Rear - N.13.d.15.65.) |
| 5th Aust. M. G. Coy. | - | O.28.b.50.15. | Line RIGHT. |
| 6th do. | - | N.13.d.6.4. | Reserve. |
| 7th do. | - | O.24.a.50.05. | Line LEFT. |
| 22nd do. | - | N.13.c.6.4. | Mobile Reserve. |
| Group Headquarters. | - | O.26.c.90.95. | |
| Nucleus. | - | N.13.d.05.60. | LAMOTTE. |
| Transport Lines. | - | M.16.d.80.95. | |

P.T.O.

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C.R.E. | - N.20.d.7.4. | GLISY. | Dugouts. |
| 5th Filed Coy. A.E. | - N.23.central. | Trnspt. Lines | N.23.central, |
| 6th do. | - O.25.d.3.7. | do. | N.21.b.80.25. |
| 7th do. | - N.21.b.5.2. | do. | N.14.b.5.0. |
| 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. | - N.23.a.1.1. | do. | N.23.c.8.8. |
| A.D.M.S. ... | - N.20.d.7.4. | GLISY. | Dugouts. |
| 5th Aust. Field Amb. | - M.27.c.3.3. | | |
| 6th do. | - M.14.d.2.2. | M.D.S. | (ST.ACHEUL). |
| 7th do. | - N.26.d.1.3. | A.D.S. | |
| No. 4 Aust. Sant. Sect. | - CAGNY. | 8 Rue Mallet. | |
| 2nd Aust. Div. Train H.Q. | - N.13.d.8.7. | | |
| 15th Coy., A.A.S.C. | - M.16.b.4.7. | | |
| 16th do. | - M.9.d.8.8. | | |
| 17th do. | - M.4.a.4.4. | | |
| 20th do. | - N.14.d.2.9. | MAMOTTE - Brebiere. | |

Miscellaneous.

| | |
|---|---|
| Paymaster. | - GLISY. |
| D.A.D.V.S. | - GLISY. |
| A.P.M. | - GLISY. |
| Div. Gas Officer. | - GLISY. |
| Div. Bomb. Officer. | - N.7.b.5.1. |
| Mobile Vet. Section. | - M.9.a.9.8. |
| Div. Salvage Coy. | - M.16.a.2.8. Main dump. |
| D.A.D.O.S. | - H.19.d.2.3. |
| No. 2 Aust. M. T. Coy. | - SALEUX. |
| Div. Reinfts. Camp. | - BERTEAUCOURT-les-Dames. (LENS Sh. B.6). |
| Div. Staging Camp. | - M.16.b.15.45. |
| Div. Canteen. | - M.5.d.1.7. |
| Div. Burial Recording Officer. | - N.23.a.1.1. |

Attached Troops.

| | |
|---|---|
| Troop, 13th A.L.H. | - N.20.b.4.2. |
| Platoon, Corps Cyclist Battalion. | - N.20.b.4.0. |

Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

2nd Aust. Div. H.Q.,
7th August, 1918.

Corrections to be notified to D.H.Q. at once.

TO BE DESTROYED ON RECEIPT OF A LATER ISSUE.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION OPERATIONS.

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SECRET.

Copy No. 20

G.1/945/1.

Headquarters,
6th August, 1918.

App No 30

INSTRUCTIONS No. 15.

Cavalry - Armoured Cars.

Cavalry.

1. The 1st Cavalry Brigade, plus one company of Whippets attached, comes under the command of the Australian Corps at 9pm. on Y/Z night.

2. It is operating north of the AMIENS - CHAULNES railway in conjunction with the 5th Australian Division, moving via the southern side of the BOIS L'ABBE and crossing to the north side of the railway east of VILLERS BRETONNEUX.

Armoured Cars.

3. The 17th Armoured Car Battalion has been placed at the disposal of the Australian Corps. One and a half companies of this battalion have been allotted to the 5th Australian Division.

4. Acknowledge.

C. Gillilles.
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. C.R.A.
2. C.R.E.
3. 2nd Aust. Div. Sig' Coy.
4. 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.
5. 6th do.
6. 7th do.
7. 2nd Aust. M. G. Bn.
8. A.Q.
9. A.D.M.S.
10. A.P.M.
11. Aust. Corps.
12. 3rd Aust. Division.
13. 4th Aust. Division.
14. 5th Aust. Division.
15. 2nd Canadian Division.
16. 2nd Tank Bn.
17. 3rd Squad., A.F.C.

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HEADQUARTERS, 2ND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION. (GENERAL STAFF.)

S E C R E T.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 211.

Copy No. 38

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Reference Maps -
Sheets 62D., S.E. &. S.W. - 1/20,000.

Headquarters,
6th August, 1918.

Plan.

1. (a) The Australian Corps in conjunction with the Corps on our right and left is to attack the enemy on a date to be notified.
Zero will be at dawn; exact hour will be notified in writing on the afternoon of Y day.

(b) The 2nd Canadian Division (with 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade next on our flank) is attacking on our right, and the 3rd Australian Division (with 9th A.I.Bde. next on our flank) on our left.

(c) The 5th Australian Division is to pass through the Division at zero plus 4 hours and attack the RED and BLUE lines (15th A.I.Bde. right, 8th A.I.Bde. left, 14th A.I.Bde. support).

(d) Similarly the 4th Australian Division is to pass through the 3rd Australian Division.

(e) On our right the 2nd Canadian Division is carrying the attack through to the BLUE line, the 5th Canadian Infantry Brigade passing through the 4th on the GREEN line.

Information re the enemy.

2. Information re the enemy on our front, together with a map showing enemy works, has been issued separately.

Objective.

3. The objective of the division is shown in GREEN on map issued with "Operations Instructions No. 1."

Distribution.

4. The 7th A.I.Bde. will attack on the right, the 5th A.I.Bde. will attack on the left.
The 6th A.I.Bde. will be in reserve.

Boundaries.

5. The divisional and inter-brigade boundaries are shown on map issued with "Operations Instructions No. 1."

Jumping off line.

6. The jumping off line is a straight line from the railway at V.1.a.8.8. to P.21.b.0.3. as shown on the field artillery barrage map; it will be taped by the 7th Field Company in conjunction with the 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes.

P.T.O.

War Diary.

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**Assembly.**

7. The 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes. will be formed up on the jumping off line by zero minus one hour.

The 6th A.I.Bde., less covering parties, will be withdrawn to their assembly area by zero minus three hours, the covering parties being withdrawn by trenches at zero minus thirty minutes.

Separate orders have been issued for the assembly (2nd Aust. Div. Order No. 208).

**Method of attack.**

8. (a) The attack will be carried out with tanks under a creeping artillery barrage. One company (12 tanks) is allotted to each attacking brigade, "B" Company, 2nd Tank Battalion, to the 5th A.I.Bde. and "C" Company, 2nd Tank Battalion, to the 7th A.I.Bde.

Two carrying tanks are available for the division; one is allotted to each attacking brigade.

(b) The 7th and 5th A.I.Bdes. will attack and capture the GREEN line within their own boundaries.

(c) Two companies of the 6th A.I.Bde. will be detailed to follow the rear wave of the 7th A.I.Bde. on the right flank of the division north of the railway to protect our right flank and to establish liaison with the 2nd Canadian Division. These companies will be on their jumping off line at zero minus one hour and will come under the command of the G.O.C., 7th A.I.Bde., from that hour. On the capture of the GREEN line and after the attacking troops of the 5th Australian Division have passed through, these companies will be withdrawn and will return to the command of the G.O.C., 6th A.I.Bde.

The remainder of the 6th A.I.Bde. will remain in their assembly area, and, after the brigades of the 5th Australian Division have passed through them, will be organised ready to move to meet any emergency.

**Liaison.**

9. (a) On the right the 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade is sending one company astride the railway to keep touch with our right; and two companies of the 6th A.I.Bde. will move in rear of the right of the 7th A.I.Bde.

(b) On the left the 5th A.I.Bde. will detail liaison parties to meet similar parties from the 9th A.I.Bde. at the following points:-

P.22.central.
Road junction P.23.c.8.5.
DOG WOOD.
Q.19.c.5.1.

**Consolidation.**

10. As soon as the GREEN line has been captured the 5th and 7th A.I. Bdes. will dig in, and will continue consolidating until receipt of orders from D.H.Q.

As soon as the troops of the 5th Australian Division have passed through this line the 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes. will organise the defence of their subsectors on the GREEN line in depth.

Artillery .....

Appendix 31 127

Artillery.

11. The attack will be supported by nine field artillery brigades divided into two groups, the right consisting of five and the left of four brigades.

These brigades will provide a creeping barrage of H.E. starting 200 yards in front of the infantry jumping off line.

The barrage map has been issued separately.

Each 18-pdr. gun will fire 3 rounds smoke on the start line, and 3 rounds smoke on arrival on the protective barrage line.

Machine Guns.

12. One company is allotted to each attacking brigade.

The remaining two companies of the battalion will provide a barrage on the old AMIENS line. After ceasing fire they will become a mobile reserve in the hands of the divisional commander.

Map showing the position of barrage guns and their barrage lines, also the approximate positions to be taken up by the companies allotted to the attacking brigades was issued with "Operations Instructions No. 9."

Engineers and Pioneers.

13. The Engineer troops at the disposal of the division are the 7th Field Company, 2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion (less 2 companies) and a portion of a Tunnelling Company.

These will be employed directly under the orders of the C.R.E. to open up tracks, reconnoitre and develop temporary water supplies, and reconnoitre and report on dugouts suitable for occupation in captured territory.

Contact Patrols.

14. A contact patrol will fly over the GREEN line at zero plus 2 hours 30 minutes.

Leading troops will show their position to the aeroplane when demanded by the aeroplane sounding a succession of "A"s on the Klaxon horn and by firing a WHITE very light.

If the aeroplane fails to mark the line accurately it will repeat its call ten minutes later.

Should the infantry not have reached the line of the objective at the time laid down above the contact aeroplane will return at half hour intervals until flares are shown.

S.O.S.

15. (a) From zero minus 15 minutes until zero hour S.O.S. arrangements will be inoperative.

(b) From zero onwards the S.O.S. signal will be a No. 32 Grenade showing GREEN over GREEN over GREEN.

Success Signal.

16. The success signal will be a No. 32 Grenade showing WHITE over WHITE over WHITE.

Synchronisation of Watches.

17. Synchronisation of watches will be carried out by an officer who will leave D.H.Q. at about 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Y day and will visit the C.R.A., 5th, 6th and 7th A.I.Bdes., and 2nd Aust. M. G. Bn.

Watches will not be synchronised over the telephone.

P.T.O.

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Appendix 31.

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Command.

18. Command of the battle front will pass to the G.O.C., 5th Australian Division, at zero plus 4 hours.

Divisional Headquarters.

19. Divisional headquarters will remain at its present location, GLISY dugouts, N.20.d.7.4.

20. Acknowledge.

G. Lukes.
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

Issued at 4.30 p.m.

DISTRIBUTION.

| Copy No. | To. |
|---|---|
| 1. | "G.O.C." |
| 2. | "G." |
| 3. | "A.Q." |
| 4. | C.R.A. |
| 5. | C.R.E. |
| 6. | 2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy. |
| 7. | 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. |
| 8. | 6th do. |
| 9. | 7th do. |
| 10. | 2nd Aust. M. G. Bn. |
| 11. | 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. |
| 12. | 2nd Aust. Div. Train. |
| 13. | A.D.M.S. |
| 14. | D.A.D.V.S. |
| 15. | D.A.D.O.S. |
| 16. | A.P.M. |
| 17. | D.B.O. |
| 18. | D.G.O. |
| 19. | Major J. J. L. Mc.CALL. |
| 20. | Capt. E. T. BAZELEY, M.C. |
| 21. | Troop, 13th A.L.H. |
| 22. | Platoon, Corps Cyclist Bn. |
| 23/24. | Aust. Corps. |
| 25. | Aust. Corps H.A. |
| 26. | Aust. Corps R.A. |
| 27. | 1st Aust. Division. |
| 28. | 3rd Aust. Division. |
| 29. | 4th Aust. Division. |
| 30. | 5th Aust. Division. |
| 31. | 2nd Canadian Division. |
| 32. | 3rd Squad., A.F.C. |
| 33. | 5th Tank Bde. |
| 34. | 2nd Tank Bn. |
| 35. | 8th Tank Bn. |
| 36/37. | File. |
| 38/40. | War Diary. |
| 41/45. | Spare. |

Appendix 32 129

No. 63

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 5.30 p.m., 6th, to 5.30 p.m., 7th August, 1918. No. 195.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Shoots were carried out on roads, tracks, trenches and new work in P.28., P.29., P.22.d., P.23.c. and d., firing in short but frequent bursts. M.W. positions at V.2.b.4.2., P.34.a.3.8., M.G. at V.3.a.2.9., V.3.a.3.3., suspected battery position at V.4.d.6.5., and areas P.33., roads in P.34.d.

(b) Trench Mortars. H.T.M. fired 4 rds. on to tramway and railway in V.3.a., and 4 rds. on to T.M. and M.G. position at U.6.c.5.0. L.T.Ms. were inactive.

(c) Machine Guns. 14,000 rds. were fired during the night in harassing enemy positions, tracks and roads.

(d) Aerial Activity. Our 'planes actively patrolled the line, and were active in rear of enemy lines during the night.

(e) Patrols. Standing patrols covered Inter-Battalion relief on right. Left Battalion sent out a patrol from P.21.c.6.4., which moved south in no-man's-land, returning through P.27.a.4.8. No sign of enemy. Flares were numerous. No-man's-land is in good condition. Patrol, which went out in P.27.a. and c., report enemy M.G's. active, no-man's-land in a fairly solid condition, not many shell holes. No obstacles or enemy met with.

(e) Snipers. We fired over 50 shots, the majority at over 1,500 yards range. No certain hits claimed. Three rounds of A.P. were fired at enemy loophole plate reported yesterday on MOUND. No shots were fired from this loophole afterwards.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Quieter last night. Only light scattered shelling reported. 0.29.d. received 30 rounds of 10.5 and 15 cm. between 7.15 and 8 p.m. 0.30.a. 25 rds. 10.5 cm. between 9.5 and 9.15 p.m. 0.35.a. and b., 27 rds. 10.5 cm. between 2.40 and 2.50am. 30 rds. 7.7 cm. on P.32.a. and c. and 0.29. between 3am. and 5 a.m. Scattered shelling of 0.29. with 77 mm. and 10.5 cm. between 10am. and noon. During afternoon 20 rds. 15 cm. on 0.29.

From 10pm. to 11pm. 0.29. and 0.30. were shelled with 100 rds. 10.5 cm. and 50 rds. 77 mm. YELLOW Cross.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Nervous but quieter.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work and Wire. S.P. suspected at approx. P.22.c.1.4.

(b) Trench Mortars. Intermittently active on outposts. L.T.M. fell in P.32.a., and H.T.M. in P.31.d. and P.32.c., coming from direction of WARFUSEE. Active also on left Bn. front but position of mortars were not located.

(c) Machine Guns. Normal.

(d) Sniping. Inactive. A sniping 77 mm. gun was firing yesterday from direction of MARCELCAVE on to movement in P.26.

(e) Flares. Normal.

7. ENEMY AIRCRAFT. At 11.15pm. 4 bombs were dropped near HANGARS in P.25.c. and 0.30.d. Several were also unloaded in the vicinity of LAMOTTE.

8. MOVEMENT. Amount of individual movement seen was normal. At 10.7pm. 6 men in pairs were seen carrying packs or food containers in P.22.c. At 8.40pm. 12 men working in P.22.c. At 3.20pm. a G.S. wagon at W.8.b. travelled towards BAYONVILLERS.

M. E. Denning Lt.
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

P.T.O.

War Diary

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## INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

### SITUATION 5TH, AND NIGHT 5TH/6TH AUGUST.

Yesterday, our patrols found the enemy south of the ANCRE on the alert, and trenches N.W. and N. of MORLANCOURT were strongly held. A post was established by us E. of DERNANCOURT (E.21.central). The bridge at E.10.a.8.5. is not destroyed; one of our officers crossed by it yesterday; the bridges at E.4.a.2.2. and E.4.a.5.0., south of ALBERT have been only partially damaged, and can be used. Patrols confirm the rise of the water north of ALBERT and state the ground east of the railway is flooded as far south as W.23.c.1.5.
(I.S. No. 231).

### GERMAN GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

According to reliable reports, German General Headquarters are being moved back this month from SPA (South-east of LIEGE) to BONN (on the RHINE, south-east of COLOGNE).

German General Headquarters were situated at CHARLEVILLE until March, 1917, when they were moved back to KREUZNACH, prior to the retirement to the "HINDENBURG LINE." In February, 1918, prior to the German offensive, General Headquarters were moved forward to SPA.
(I.S. No. 231).

### GENERAL.

The 27th Division, of good quality, is in process of relieving the 107th Division in the MORLANCOURT sector. Apparently only one regiment has come into line. This regiment arrived early this morning and immediately carried out an attack astride the BRAY - CORBIE road, carrying our front line trenches.

Prisoner states he is ignorant of the whereabouts of the two other regiments of the division. It is extremely probable, however, that they will come into line this evening.

This division has probably been brought down for the purpose of endeavouring to regain some of the ground captured by our troops, and strongly indicates that the divisions of the Second German Army in reserve are not considered good enough to carry out even a local offensive.
(I.S. No. 231).

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APPENDIX 33

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App No 33

DISPOSITIONS OF SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION and ORDER OF BATTLE - AT ZERO HOUR.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

G.O.C. - Major-General. C.ROSENTHAL. CB. CMG. DSO.

- 2nd A.M.G.Bn. Lt.Col.A.W.RALSTON.CMG.DSO.
  - 6th A.M.G.Coy. (To Left Bde.)
  - 22nd A.M.G.Coy. (To Right Bde.)
  - 5th & 7th A.M.G.Coys. (Barrage.)
- 5th AUST.INF.BDE. (Left). G.O.C. Brig.Gen.E.MARTIN.CMG.DSO.
  - Left Line. 20th Bn Lt.Col.F.FORBES.DSO.
    - Support. 18th Bn. Major.W.ROBERTSON.MC.
  - Right Line. 19th Bn. Lt.Col.W.BATEMAN
    - Support. 17th Bn. Lt.Col.R.SAULER.MC.
- 6th AUST.INF.BDE. (Reserve.) G.O.C. Brig.Gen. J.C.ROBERTSON. CMG.DSO.
  - 24th Bn. Lt.Col.W.E.JAMES.DSO.
  - 22nd Bn. Lt.Col.A.R.WILTSHIRE.DSO.MC.
  - 2 Coys.21st Bn. Major.A.E.REED.DSO.
    - 23rd Bn. Lt.Col.W.BRAZENOR. DSO.
- 7th AUST.INF.BDE. (Right.) G.O.C. Brig.Gen. M.A.WISDOM. CB.DSO.
  - Left Line. 27th Bn. Lt.Col.W.R.CHALMERS.
  - Centre. 28th Bn. Lt.Col.P.CURRIE. DSO.
    - Support. 26th Bn. Lt.Col.W.M.DAVIS. MC.
  - Right Line. 25th Bn. Lt.Col.J.A.ROBINSON.DSO.
    - 2 Coys. 21st Bn.
- 2nd AUST.DIV.ART'Y. C.R.A. Brig.Gen. O.PHILLIPS. DSO.
  - Left Group. Lt.Col.J.H.GIBSON. DSO.
  - Right Group. Lt.Col. C.A.CALLAGHAN. DSO.

Appendix No 34

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SECRET.

63

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION OPERATIONS.

Copy No. 16

*********

G.1/947/1.

INSTRUCTIONS No. 1 - SERIES "B."

Policy for further action.

1. In view of the success attained in to-day's operations, it is intended to maintain the fight and to take full advantage of the favourable situation which has been created.

2. The first object of the operation, to disengage AMIENS and the AMIENS - PARIS Railway, has been achieved.

The second object is to push forward in the general direction of the line ROYE - CHAULNES with the least possible delay, thrusting the enemy back with determination in the direction of HAM.

The Cavalry Corps is operating with this object in view.

3. The Canadian Corps is to press on in support of the Cavalry, and the III Corps is to push forward as early as possible to gain the old AMIENS defence line between ETINEHEM and DERNANCOURT.

The Australian Corps is to pivot on the SOMME and to swing forward its right in accordance with the advance of the Canadian Corps. If the III Corps continues its advance north of the river immediately the left of the Australian Corps is to be pushed forward accordingly. If the III Corps does not advance beyond its present situation the left flank of the Australian Corps is to remain in its present position.

4. South of the road the movement is to be continued in a series of advances, the longest advance being along the railway. The rate of advance and the number of troops employed are dependent on the advance of the Canadian Corps.

The attached map shows the northern portion of the series of three probable future advances marked respectively in GREEN, RED and BLUE.

5. It is probable that the 1st Australian Division will be required to advance to the GREEN line, Phase "A," and possibly to the RED line, Phase "B," on the 9th instant. The 1st Australian Division would move through the 5th Australian Division taking over that portion of the line between the railway and square X.7.c.0.0.

6. Should Phase "A" only be carried out on the 9th instant it is to be carried out by the 1st and 5th Australian Divisions.

Phase "B" would probably then be carried out by the 1st and 2nd Australian Divisions on the 10th instant, the 2nd Australian Division passing through the 5th Australian Division. In this case the operation of the 2nd Australian Division would be carried out by the 6th A.I.Bde. on the right and the 5th A.I.Bde. on the left, the 7th A.I.Bde. being in support. Divisional and inter-brigade boundaries are shown on attached map.

Phase "C" would probably then be carried out on the 11th instant by the 1st and 2nd Australian Divisions, then the 3rd Australian Division would relieve the 4th Australian Division on the left.

7. In the event of Phase "A" and "B" both being carried out on the 9th instant, this would be done by the 1st and 5th Australian Divisions.

Phase "C" would probably then be carried out on the 10th instant by the 1st and 2nd Australian Divisions, the 2nd Australian Division (6th A.I.Bde. right 5th A.I.Bde. left) passing through the 5th Australian Division. The 4th Australian Division on the left would be relieved by the 3rd Australian Division.

P.T.O.

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Appendix 34.



8. The above must be taken as merely an indication of the proposals in the matter and are subject to very considerable alteration should opposition be met with which necessitated it, or should other circumstances arise that require that these arrangements should be reviewed.

A strong body of tanks would be allotted and the artillery support would be considerable.

9. 5th, 6th, 7th A.I.Bdes. and 2nd Aust. M. G. Bn. acknowledge by wire.

Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

DISTRIBUTION.

| Copy No. | To. |
|---|---|
| 1. | C.R.A. (with map). |
| 2. | C.R.E. |
| 3. | 2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy. |
| 4. | 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. (with map). |
| 5. | 6th do. (with map). |
| 6. | 7th do. (with map). |
| 7. | 2nd Aust. M. G. Bn. (with map). |
| 8. | A.Q. |
| 9. | A.D.M.S. |
| 10. | Aust. Corps. |
| 11. | 1st Aust. Division. |
| 12. | 3rd Aust. Division. |
| 13. | 4th Aust. Division. |
| 14. | 5th Aust. Division. |

Appendix 35/134
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8/8/18

OPERATIONS REPORT - No. 1.

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON OPERATIONS OF SECOND AUST. DIV. ON 8-8-18.

1. Weather.

At zero hour - 4.20 a.m. - the weather was fine and mild with a ground mist which grew increasingly thick towards 6 a.m. and finally lifted about 11 a.m.

2. Assembly.

The assembly of both attacking brigades ( 7th A.I.Bde. on right and 5th A.I.Bde. on left) was carried out satisfactorily. All coys. of both Brigades were in position by 3.20 a.m. with exception of one coy. of 19th Bn.

3. Enemy Activity prior to Zero.

At zero minus 40 minutes the enemy artillery opened up a heavy 8.9 c.m. and 77 m.m. barrage on the right flank of the right brigade. Prompt counter-battery work by our heavy artillery soon caused this shelling to ease down.

4. Our Artillery.

The artillery opened punctually at zero and is reported to have been excellent and the infantry kept well up to it.

5. Infantry Action.

The poor visibility made it very difficult for co-operation between the tanks and infantry.

The right brigade advanced to the GREEN line without any serious opposition, reaching it just after the barrage lifted on to the protective barrage.

Consolidation was at once proceeded with, platoon posts being dug and M.Gs. and T.Ms. emplaced in defensive positions. By 7.30 a.m. a good defensive line was established.

The two leading battalions of the left brigade reached their objective at 5.15 a.m. The 17th and 18th Bns. then "leapfrogged" through and finally established themselves on the GREEN line at 7 a.m. One coy. of 17th Bn. rushed WARFUSEE from the S.W., the 18th Bn. co-operating on N.W. The only stout opposition encountered was from some gunners in F.30.a. A 5.9 battery complete with officers was captured in WARFUSEE. By 8 a.m. troops were re-organised and consolidation was well under way.

The two coys. of 21st Bn. charged with maintaining liaison with the Canadians had a sharp engagement north of MARCELCAVE and materially assisted in the capture of this village.

The enemy artillery fire was very feeble and practically ceased about 8 a.m. The enemy infantry fought poorly and only isolated machine guns gave trouble.

At 8.20 a.m. the attacking brigades of 5th Aust. Div. passed the GREEN line and at 9 a.m. the cavalry passed through.

At 1.5 p.m. 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes. were instructed to cease consolidation, re-organise and refit between GREEN line and our old front line. The 6th A.I.Bde. group was placed in reserve to 1st Aust. Div. at same time.

6. Tanks.

All ranks speak enthusiastically of the work of the Tank Corps. Only one tank failed to reach the start line. They cleared up machine gun nests in fine style and one mopped up WARFUSEE.

Appendix 35/135

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7. Captures.

Prisoners and material captured during the operation were :-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wounded | - | 7 officers | 95 o.r. |
| Unwounded | - | 37 " | 1463 " |
| Total | - | 44 officers | 1558 o.r. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 77 m.m. guns | - | 27 |
| 4.2s. | - | 7 |
| 5.9s. | - | 8 |
| Total - | - | 42 |
| T.Ms. and M.W. | - | 26 |
| M.Gs. - | - | 102 |

In addition a considerable amount of gun ammunition, S.A.A., bombs, signal, medical, artillery and infantry equipment fell into our hands.

*************

D.H.Q.
9-8-18.

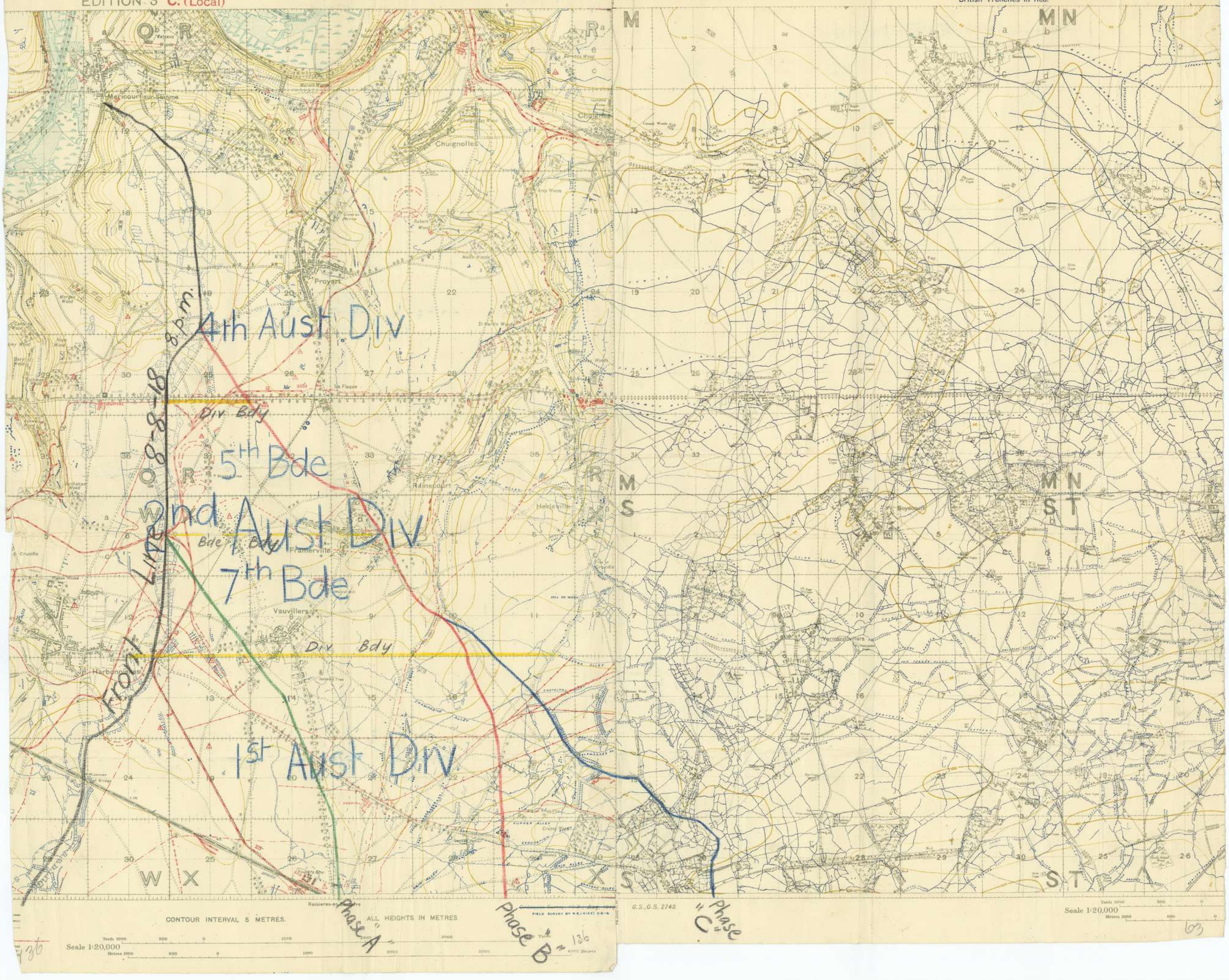
63

EDITION 3 C. (Local)

SHEET 62D S.E.

1/20.000

NOTE. CHANGE OF COLOUR.
Enemy Trenches in Blue.
British Trenches in Red.



63

Appendix No 36 98137

HEADQUARTERS 2ND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION (GENERAL STAFF)

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No 212. SECRET.

Headquarters,
9th August 18.

Reference Sheet 62D SE.

1. The Fourth Army attained all its objectives yesterday except at one or two minor points.

2. The attack is to be resumed to-day, the final objective of the Australian Corps being the general line LIHONS - FRAMERVILLE - MERICOURT. The role of the Australian Corps is to form a strong defensive flank to the advance of the Canadian Corps. The various bounds of the attack are shown on map forwarded with Operations Instructions No 1 Series B.

3. The 1st and 5th Australian Divisions (right and left respectively) are to carry out phase A of the attack at 11 a.m. to-day.

4. After the capture of the GREEN line the 2nd Aust. Div. will pass through the 5th Aust. Div. and capture the RED line in co-operation with the 1st Aust. Div. on their right.

5. The attack by the 2nd Aust. Div. will be carried out by the 7th A.I.Brigade on the right and the 5th A.I.Brigade on the left with tanks.
The 6th A.I.Brigade will be attached as reserve to the 1st Aust. Division.

6. Divisional and inter-brigade boundaries are shown on map attached to Operations Instructions No 1 Series B.

7. Three artillery brigades will support the attack, divided into two groups, one attached to each brigade.

8. Ten tanks (mark V*) 15th Tank Battalion are available for the Division and are allotted five to each brigade. Details of co-operation will be arranged direct between the Brigadiers and Tank Battalion Comdr.

9. The time of the attack cannot be stated.
The G.O.C. 7th A.I.Bde. will keep in close liaison with the G.O's.C. 2nd and 3rd A.I.Bdes. (H.Q. at W.9.c.0.0) and will be responsible for co-ordinating the attack of the 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes. with that of the brigades of the 1st Aust. Division.

10. Headquarters will be established as follows:-
D.H.Q..... Dugouts O.28.c.8.5 at 11 a.m. 9th inst.
5th A.I.Bde... Adv. CRUCIFIX W.5.c.1.5. Rear QUARRY P.30.c.5.8.
7th A.I.Bde... Adv. CRUCIFIX W.5.c.1.5. Rear PUNCH Redoubt V.4.b.5.8.
Advanced Divisional report centre will be established at BAYONVILLERS.

11. Acknowledge by wire.

G. Wilkes Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff, 2nd Aust. Divn.

Issued at 12.

Distribution;-

| Copy No | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | C.R.A. | 8 | A.Q. |
| | 2 | C.R.E. | 9 | A.D.M.S. |
| | 3 | O.C.Sigs. | 10 | Aust. Corps. |
| | 4 | 5th A.I.Bde. | 11 | 1st A.Div. |
| | 5 | 6th A.I.Bde. | 12 | 3rd A.Div. |
| | 6 | 7th A.I.Bde. | 13 | 4th A.Div. |
| | 7 | 2nd A.M.G.Bn. | 14 | 5th A.Div. |
| | | | 15 | 15th Tank Bn. |

App No 37

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
********

G.382.

Headquarters,
11th August, 1918.

Aust. Corps.
---

Herewith list of material - so far counted - captured by 2nd Aust. Div. since 9th instant inclusive.

C G Heliwell Maj Gen
Major-General.
Commanding Second Australian Division.

Goc
Ga
3 Copies Div Diary
1 Copy. A.Q.

Div Diary
RB

Appendix 37

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION. W.M. 10/2.

PROGRESS TOTAL of TROPHIES CAPTURED BY 2nd AUSTRALIAN DIVISION from 9th INSTANT (Inclusive).

**********

7th BRIGADE TROPHIES.

25th Battalion:
9th Instant: (Since)

13 Lewis Machine Guns
1 77 mm and limber.

27th Battalion:
9th instant:

1 Field Gun - 4·2
1 Hotchkiss Machine Gun
1 Lewis Machine Gun

28th Battalion:
11th instant:

16 Machine Guns.

26th Battalion:
9th instant:

7 Machine Guns
11 Rifles
1 Heavy Trench Mortar
2 Gravatenthrowers
33 Signalling sets
2 Pioneer Outfits
1 Armourer's Outfit
1 Veterinary Outfit
4 Saddles
8 Sets of Harness
2 Surveying outfits
2 Red Cross sets

11th instant:

2 Machine guns

7th BRIGADE TOTALS.

1 Field Gun - 4·2
1 77 mm gun
40 Machine Guns
1 Heavy Trench Mortar
2 Granatenwerfer
33 Signalling sets
2 Red Cross sets
2 Pioneer Outfits
1 Armourer's Outfit
1 Veterinary Outfit.
4 Saddles
8 Sets of harness
2 Surveying Outfits

5th BRIGADE TROPHIES.

The following is list of material captured by units of the 5th Brigade on 9th instant:-

14 Machine guns
13 Heavy minenwerfer
1 Light "
3 77 mm guns
1 Wagon with Signal stores
5 Loaded G.S. Waggons.
2 Lewis Guns

A considerable amount of equipment, including theodolites, medical stroes, 50 saddles, and 1 mitrailleuse, and 1 Engineer's dump, which covers several acres, and is situated in R.25 and R.26.

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App № 37

(2)

ESTIMATED CONTENTS OF DUMP:

2500 Boxes Grenades (British)
2000 Sandbags
2000 Shovels
700 Picks
250 Bundles screw pickets
1500 Coils barbed wire
Complete Armourer'e workshop
1 Oil engine (30 H.P.)
40 Drums engine oil
2000 Feet medium (1") rope
80 Trench Pumps
200 Lengths of pump hose
100 1' cement pipes 3' length
20 130 gallon casks
Carpenter's stores - nails, bolts, saws, chisels, planes, and similar hardware in good order.
80 Hurrican lamps
13 Minenwerfer
20 Broad-gauge trucks
5 Light railway trucks
3 " " water trucks
15 stacks dugout andheavy timber 90'x 20' x 16.

There are great quantities of other material not seen in a cursory examination, including such instruments of value as sighting and range-finding instruments.

App No. 39

WM 10/2

39D 10/8/18

2nd Aust Div.

The following is list of prisoners and material captured by units of this Bde on 9th inst

Prisoners

~~5 officers 260 OR.~~

14. Machine guns

18 Heavy M.W.

1 Light M.W.

3 77. mm. guns

1 wagon with signal stores

5" loaded G.S. wagons

Considerable amount of equipment including theodolite, medical stores 50 saddles, armoury 3 Lewis guns & 1 hydraulic.

One Supreme Dump

Wilhelm Colly
Capt
pro C.O.C.
5 A Inf Bde

39V App No. WM 10/1

10/8/18

2nd Aust Div.

Estimated contents of dump in R25 & R26 which covers several acres.

2500 boxes grenades (British)
2000 sandbags
2000 shovels
700 picks
250 bundles screw picket
1500 coils barbed wire
Complete armourers workshop
1 oil engine (30 HP.)
40 drums engine oil
2000 feet medium (1") rope
80 hand pumps
200 lengths pump hose
100 18" cement pipes 3' length
20 130 gallon casks
Carpenters stores. nails bolts saws chisels planes and similar hardware in good order
80 hurricane lamps
13 Heavy Mannesmann
20 Broad gauge trucks

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Appendix 37

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(2)

5 light railway trucks
3 " " water trucks
15 stacks dynamite and
heavy lumber 90'x20'x16'

There are great quantities of other material not seen in a cursory examination including such instruments of value as sighting and range finding instruments.

I would suggest that an Engineer Officer be sent forward to make closer examination.

The railway alongside is in fairly good condition.

Lt Col
Major
for GOC
5th Div

"A

MESSAGES

Army Form C. 2121
(In pads of 100.)

Prefix ..... Code ..... m | Words

Office of Origin and Service Instructions

Ser

At ..... m.

To .....

By .....

This message is on a/c of: Appn

..... Service.

(Signature of "Franking Officer.")

No. of Message .....

Recd. at ..... m.

Date .....

From .....

By .....

TO { G S O 2

Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA

Captured by 5th Bde yesterday.
260 prisoners
14 M guns. 7 M Wurfer
3 77mms 1 GS Wagon telephone
1 GS Wagon & Off kit equipment
2 Limbers
1 Dump containing
2000 boxes Mills Bombs.
7000 Sandbags. 2000 Shovels.
700 picks 2000 15.9 shells
Large quantity timber
Dump in R 26.

Unofficial

From

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

"A

MESSAGES

Army Form C. 2121
(In pads of 100.)

Prefix ..... Code ..... m | Words

Office of Origin and Service Instructions

Sen

At ..... m.

To .....

By .....

This message is on a/c of: Appn

..... Service.

(Signature of "Franking Officer.")

No. of Message .....

Recd. at ..... m.

Date .....

From .....

By .....

TO {

Sender's Number. | Day of Month. | In reply to Number. | AAA

Bde Staff appear about tired out. 6th Bde GOC & 60's gone forward to reconnoitre.
Tons 5th Bde is that they would like to know if to be relieved as if not definitely they could arrange internal relief & get up some clerks & batmen at present only G.O.C. Bde. + 10 forward.

19th Bn & 20th Bn not suffered many casualties
17th ~~suffered~~ had approx 30 to midnight
18th about 1 Off & 30 OR

E Bazley Capt

From

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

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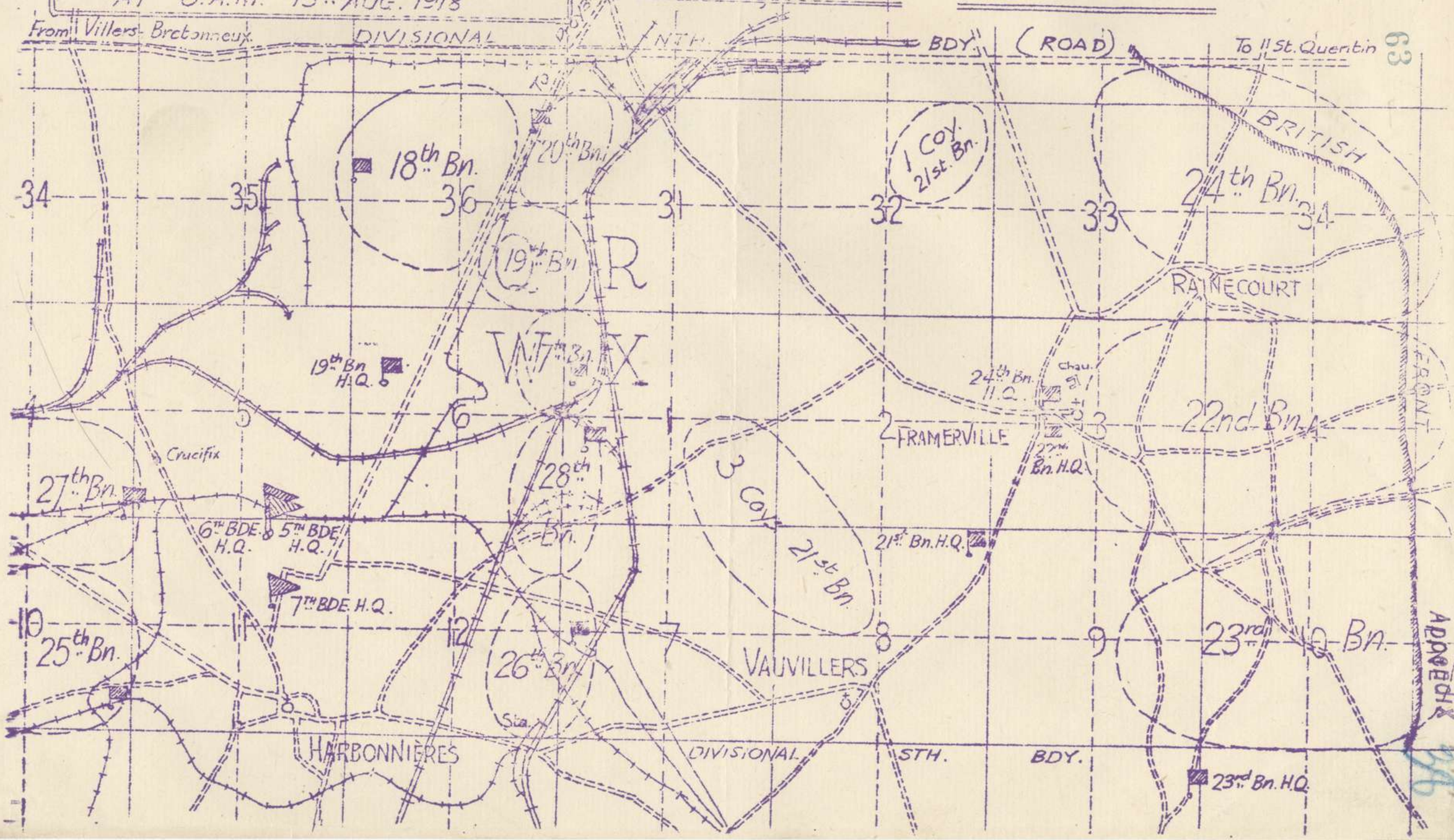
Appx No 38

Copy No. 63

# DISPOSITION OF BATTALIONS AT 8.A.M. 13th AUG. 1918

Ref. Sheet 62d. S.E.
SCALE 1/20000

SECRET S.



Appendix No 39. 145

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6.0 p.m., 11th, to 6.0 p.m., 12th August, 1918. No. 196.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Every opportunity was taken of engaging movement and 18-pdrs. inflicted a number of casualties on parties in the enemy forward areas.

Observed shoots were carried out by 4.5" Hows. and 18-pdrs. on hostile M.Gs. and two are reported destroyed.

German observers were fired on and chased from their posts.

Enemy trenches and areas were harassed during the night.

(b) Aerial Activity. Our 'planes continued to be extremely active, reconnaissance, contact and bombing 'planes operating throughout the period.

(c) Patrols. Liaison patrols kept touch with flank brigades.

(d) Captures. Prisoners, 3 O.Rs. Material, one motor ambulance, now in use by us.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 227 R.I.R., (Bn. H.Q., 2nd Bn. and 3rd Coy.).
52 R.I.R., 7th Coy.

3. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS. No new formations have been identified opposite the divisional front during the period. Owing to the disorganisation of German units, it is impossible to obtain information as to dispositions. Units appear to be considerably mixed up within Regts. and Divisions.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Active, particularly on area in X.10., where several hundred rounds of 77 mm. and 10.5 cm. fell between 2.45 a.m. and 4 a.m. Some sneezing gas shells fell in X.15.b. at 4.30 a.m. VAUVILLERS, FRAME VILLE and RAINECOURT were heavily shelled at intervals. BAYONVILLERS, HARBONNIERES and WARFUSEE - LAMOTTE received some attention from heavy calibre guns. VILLERS BRETONNEUX received a few rounds from an H.V. gun.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. A general stiffening in his defence is apparent, and more artillery has come into action. No further counter attacks are reported on the Corps front.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Machine Guns. Active between 10pm. and 1am. over X.16. from the direction of X.18., and on the centre battalion front from the direction of PROYART. No M.G's. were definitely located.

(b) Flares. Normal. They appear to come from not less than 500 yards from our line of outposts.

7. ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Extremely active during the night, bombing forward and rear areas. E.A. patrolled our line at 4am., 6.30am. and 7.30 a.m.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES. There was considerable horse transport during the morning in M.25. and M.28. going to the gully behind CHUIGNOLLES; otherwise there has been little abnormal movement during the day. The CAPPY - CHUIGNOLLES - FOUCAUCOURT - CHAULNES area was kept under air observation during the afternoon, but there was no signs of concentration.

J. M. Cass Major
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. ... P.T.O.

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INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. I.S. No. 237.

SITUATION AUGUST 11TH AND NIGHT 11TH/12TH INSTANT. As the result of our operations north of the SOMME, ETINEHEM was captured, and ground gained towards BRAY, which village we command from the high ground immediately west of it. The enemy, strengthened by the arrival of the 26th Res. Div. made a counter-attack west of BRAY which was repulsed. The enemy attempted no further action last night.

North of DERNANCOURT, our patrols have been active, and encounters with the enemy took place. No enemy were seen in MEAULTE. South of the SOMME, RAINECOURT was captured, and the situation at LIHONS cleared up. In the latter area, fighting was very heavy, the 5th Bav. Division being strengthened by the newly arrived 38th Division.

At HALLU, strong counter-attacks were made, probably by the 119th Div. our troops being forced to evacuate the village.

PRISONERS. The number of prisoners captured by the Fourth Army since the 8th instant, who have passed through Cages or C.C.S. now amounts to 19,953, of which 490 are officers.

DIVISIONS IDENTIFIED AND POSSIBLE RESERVES.

(a) The following divisions from reserve have so far been identified since the beginning of operations:-

1st day, 8th inst. - Nil.
2nd Day, 9th inst. - 119th Res. Div., 243rd Div., 107th Div.
*1st Res. Div., 233rd Div. (milked).
3rd Day, 10th inst. - 5th Bav. Div. 79th Res. Div.,
*221st Div.
*82nd Res. Div.
4th Day, 11th inst. - 26th Res. Div., 38th Div.,
*204th Div.
5th day, 12th inst. - 121st Div.

*Also engaged by the French.

Total of 24 divisions identified by the Army since the 8th instant, of which 7 have also been engaged by the French.

The total number of divisions engaged by the Army and the 1st and 3rd French Armies, since the commencement of operations, is 33.

(b) Most probable reinforcements are as under:-

185th Div. - North of SOMME.

19th Div.)
84th Div.) - South of SOMME.
223rd Div.)

Jager Div.)
6th Bav. Div.) - Either front.
208th Div.)

In addition, Prince RUPPRECHT has 9 fresh divisions available for the battle front.

BOMBING RAIDS AND DESTRUCTION OF GOTHA.

(a) Ours.

(i) By day. - 54 112-lb. and 459 25lb. bombs were dropped on various targets including PERONNE station. Bursts were seen on the station, sidings and village.

(ii) By night. - 5 112-lb. and 174 25-lb. bombs were dropped on various targets, including transport on the HAM - NESLE road on which a direct hit was claimed.

(b) Enemy.

During the night 10th/11th Aug. a giant "Gotha" over the north of the Army area was engaged by A.A. fire, and later by our 'planes. It was seen to crash 500 yards south of TALMAS, 7 bodies being found near the debris.

ENEMY RFM ORGANISATIONS .....

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES (Continued).

ENEMY REAR ORGANISATIONS.

Bridges and Railways. Photographs of 11th show both the road and railway bridges at PERONNE still intact. Rolling stock for 5 trains is shown in PERONNE station at 8 a.m. on 11th. Rolling stock for about a dozen trains is shown in PERONNE and PERONNE Sud stations at 8 a.m. on 9th and 7 trains at 6 p.m. on 10th August. (I.S. No.237).

INFORMATION REGARDING THE 34TH INF. BATTERY.

It is now established that the personnel are drawn from artillery-men. The strength of the battery is 133 or 134 all ranks, including 5 officers. There are 4 horse-drawn Austrian 75 mm. guns (pattern Gotha Gebirges Kanone 15) which have an extreme range of 6,500 yards with a fourth charge, but normally fire between 700 and 1,500 yards with 3 charges. Only H.E. and shrapnel are fired, no armour piercing ammunition, though tanks are engaged. The chief tactical use of these guns is to destroy machine guns in the enemy's front line, and to engage tanks. Open sights are used. The battery is only put into the line in offensive or defensive operations; during ordinary trench warfare it is withdrawn to the back areas for training. Previous to coming into line the battery underwent 14 days' training in the LILLE area. It entrained at LILLE last Thursday and arrived at PERONNE the same night, arriving in the line at 3 p,m. Friday afternoon. The whole battery came down, but the whereabouts of the other guns is unknown. The men were all trained in the school at ROISIN between 25th May and 9th July.
(I.S. No. 237).

ANTI-TANK MINES.

A captured document, issued by the XI Corps and dated 31:7:18, makes mention of accidents having occurred with anti-tank mines (Tankminen) when carrying out practices with them.

The document gives no details of the construction of these mines. Specimens are required for examination. (I.S. No. 237).

SITUATION WIRE.

Following from 3rd Aust. Division, timed 6.5 p.m., 12:8:18:-

Our line now runs AVENUE CROSS - R.28.a.3.2. - R.21.d.4.2. - then along BOCHE Trenches to junction of railway and road in R.21.a., then along L.15.d. up to 15.central, 9.central. North of 9.central obscure but believe hold trench to R.3.c.0.0. Captures about 300 prisoners and some machine guns.

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. No. 197.

From 6.0 p.m., 12th, to 6.0 p.m., 13th August, 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Active. Fired on active 77 mm. Battery at R.35.b. 8.6. on request of infantry at 5 a.m. and effectively silenced it. Also fired on enemy transport heard on roads leading south into HERLEVILLE at 5 p.m. (12th), at the request of the Infantry.

(b) Machine Guns. 10,000 rds. were fired on Woods in R.34.b. and R.35.a.

(c) Aerial Activity. Very active patrolling by day and bombing by night.

(d) Patrols. Standing patrols were sent out on right of Right Bn. On left of Right Bn. a patrol of 1 Officer and 8 O.Rs. with L.G. proceeded from X.5.c.1.4. towards village HERLEVILLE. Patrol passed trees on road X.5.c.9.7. and saw no signs of enemy until X.5.d.2.8. was reached when flares were fired from approx. X.5.b.2.0. M.Gs. opened fire. From X.5.c.7.7. the road is sunken to a depth of 8' (where flares were first fired on patrol). Voices were heard from village, but no movement seen. Centre Bn. patrol went out at 5pm. from X.4.b.3.8., but sniping made progress impossible. Similarly when an attempt was made to move out from X.4.b.3.4. At 10 p.m. a patrol of 1 officer and 10 O.Rs. moved out from X.4.b.3.9. and went to road at R.35.c.0.0. thence East. Belts of broken wire were passed through. At 150 yards from post of exit an unoccupied trench runs approx. parallel to our line. At X.5.a.1.8. is another trench, very shallow and unoccupied. Further east is a third line which is in good condition but also unoccupied. No enemy posts found in a distance of 500 yards east of our post. Patrol of Left Bn. moved along Road from R.34.d.9.8. to R.35.a.5.2. and encountered no enemy. Patrol of one officer and 16 O.Rs. with L.G. and Signal (Telephonic) connection to T.M., moved north along trench from X.11.d.7.8. towards Hill 90. Patrol met with some resistance at a trench block at X.12.a.0.3., but overcame this, the Germans retiring. Patrol then moved across road in two parties at X.12.a.1.4. and X.12.a.1.5. and bombed and fired on enemy who were in post about 20 yards east of road. 5 casualties were inflicted on enemy who fought strongly. Estimated 50 to 60 Germans in trench at this point. Some Germans were noticed going east with full packs on. The enemy sent up two S.O.S. signals, Twin REDS, on our approach, resulting in some slight retaliation on X.10.cent.

(e) Lewis Guns. L.Gs. fired on party of enemy on main road 100 strong at 5.45 p.m.

(f) Infantry. Right Bn. pushed out its line of posts which now runs X.11.d.60.05. - X.11.d.35.50. - X.11.d.75.80. - X.11.b.6.2. - X.11.b.3.3. - X.11.a.6.5. - X.5.c.35.00. - X.5.c.0.5. Centre Bn. line now runs from X.4.d.8.4. - X.4.b.4.4. - R.34.d.3.0. Left Bn. line continues to R.34.d.5.0. - R.34.d.7.4. - R.34.b.3.2. - R.28.c.5.4., where it is in touch with flank unit.

(g) Captures. Four O.R's. and 4 M.Gs.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Three prisoners of 376 I.R. captured in X.11. One prisoner, 52nd R.I.R., captured by Left Bn. Prisoner was found hiding in our Coy. H.Q. dugout.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Increased during the night. (58c) 77 mm. gun was firing into FRAMERVILLE from Grid Bearing of " from X.10.b.9.3. Character of shelling was vigorous bursts of harassing fire over villages and roads in X.10.d. and X.16.b., Gully in X.10.c. received special attention. Gully in X.4.d. and Quarry X.4.a. were also heavily shelled at intervals. Some Blue Cross Gas Shells were mixed with H.E. on left Bn. sector., X.2. and X.3., also R.34.c. received considerable attention.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Alert and resisting.

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6. ENEMY DEFENCES.
Machine Guns. Active from approx. X.5.b.9.8. - X.6.c.4.9. also from Left flank, firing down gully in X.4.a. and X.4.c. Reported positions X.5.central, ST.DENIS WOOD X.35.a.4.6.

7. HOSTILE AIRCRAFT. Active patrolling over lines at intervals and in bombing front lines and rear areas all night.

8. MOVEMENT. At 5.30 p.m. approx. 100 men seen moving towards front line along road R.28.d. They extended to the right. Little other movement observed.

M.E. Denning Lt.
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

SITUATION AUGUST 12th and NIGHT 12th/13th INST.

North of the SOMME, the remaining hostile positions between ETINEHEM and BRAY fell into our hands. The enemy delivered no counter-attacks in this part of the front. Elements of the 54th Res.Div. are still in the line, other hostile formations being the 243rd and 26th Res.Divs. Of these two Divs., however, only one Regt. in each has been identified by prisoners, hence it is not possible to estimate their fighting value with any degree of accuracy.

Between the SOMME and the AMIENS/ST QUENTIN Road, MERICOURT, CATEAUX WOOD, and ST GERMAIN WOOD, as well as the village of PROYART, were captured by the Australians, together with over 300 prisoners. The units identified consisted of elements of the 13th, 107th, and 108th Division.

In the LIHONS area it was thought that a possible concentration of hostile troops was taking place yesterday afternoon. A special low-flying reconnaissance proved this to be incorrect, but reported that the hostile trenches were strongly manned by men who appeared to be wearing dark blue uniform. These troops are very probably a Jaeger formation (dark green) and corroborate the statements of prisoners captured yester day, that Jaegers have arrived on the battlefield. It is not at present certain whether this indicates the arrival of the ALPINE CORPS or whether a dismounted cavalry brigade, to which a battalion of Jaegers has been attached, is in the line. From information received it appears that the latter is more probable.

In the FOUQUESCOURT area a small attack was carried out by the enemy, but was repulsed, our line remaining intact.

From the fact that Regiments of the same Division have been identified some distance apart, it is apparent that the enemy is still very disorganised.

A new division was identified yesterday near FOUQUESCOURT.

The enemy are now in greater strength between this village and ROYE than in other parts of the front. It is anticipated that a fresh division will be identified today astride the main AMIENS/ST QUENTIN Road.

PRISONERS.

The number of prisoners who passed through Cages and C.C.S.since the 8th inst., now amounts to 20,585., of whom 507 are officers.

DIVISIONS IDENTIFIED AND POSSIBLE RESERVES.

(a) No fresh division, other than those enumerated in yesterday's summary, have been identified by the Army.

The 84th Div. from reserve is now engaged opposite the French.

The total of divisions engaged by the Army and 1st and 3rd French Armies, since the commencement of operations, is 34.

(b) Prince RUPPRECHT has now at his disposal 10 fresh divisions, while the Crown Prince has 9 fit to fight. In addition there are 4 fresh divisions in rest in the Southern Group of Armies.

/ Page 3.

ENEMY INTENTIONS.

No definite information has been received as to whether the enemy intend to withdraw beyond the SOMME.

ALSATIANS captured by the French state that if seriously attacked the Germans had orders to retire 30 kilometres. This points to the HINDENBERG LINE. Not too much reliance should be placed on these statements.

At the moment there is no doubt that the enemy has strongly reinforced his line and means to resist any attempt at an advance by us with vigour. He has also brought up some artillery.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Aircraft. 3 of our 'planes are missing.

Lieut BILLIK, the German airman who is reported to have brought down 31 of our 'planes, and who is believed to belong to the 1st Pursuit Squadron, (RICHTOFENS) was forced to land in our lines on the 10th.

Movements Observation was at times difficult yesterday owing to haze. No railway movement of importance was observed in the Army area, and rolling stock in stations showed a distinct decrease, especially in PERONNE. Rail activity during the afternoon and evening was noticeably slight.

An air reconnaissance over amount the enemy's back areas in the early morning reported an abnormal of rolling stock in SOMAIN and VALENCIENNES Stations, and movement with a southerly trend on the SOMAIN - CAMBRAI railways between 5.45 and 6.45 a.m.

There was a fair amount of traffic, mainly of motor transport, on roads just N. and S. of the SOMME, W. of PERONNE, during the morning and afternoon; the main trend of this movement seemed to be Eastwards. With the exception of a column of infantry, estimated at about 150 men, no bodies of troops were seen on the move.

Night Reconnaissance. Visibility was bad throughout the night; a large number of flares were used, but did not assist observation. A certain amount of movement was detected in a South Westerly direction through NESLE, and more lights, moving and stationary, were seen than usual in the Army area generally. A good many lights were noticed in TERTRY WOOD, and MISERY WOOD, and a few in CROSX, BAZENTIN, HARDECOURT, and LICOURT. Transport at NESLE and MARICOURT was bombed.

Dawn Reconnaissance. (today, 13th). Rail and road movement showed a further distinct decrease early this morning. Rolling stock for 4 trains was seen in HAM at 5.30 a.m.; Two trains with steam up, and rolling stock for 3 trains, in PERONNE at 6.30 a.m. With the exception of 200 men going from BEAULENCOURT to GUEUDECOURT no troop movement was seen.

BOMBING RAIDS.

(i) By Day. 32, 112 lb. and 36, 25 lb. bombs were dropped by Army squadrons on PERONNE Station and sidings, and CAPPY. Direct hits were claimed on the line and sidings, and bursts were seen in the village.

(ii) By Night. 300, 25 lb. bombs were dropped on various targets including the ST CHRIST and FALVY bridges and transport and roads and NESLE and MARICOURT.

BOUNDARY BETWEEN 2nd and 18th GERMAN ARMIES.

From documentary evidence it appears that the boundary between the 2nd and 18th German Armies, is on a line between LIANCOURT and NESLE.

BRIDGES. Photographs of 12th show bridges intact at EPENANCOURT (lock bridge), PARGNY (road bridge), BETHENCOURT (double road), VOYENNES (road), and OFFOY (lock). These are the only bridges in this strech of the SOMME Canal and River.

P.T.O.

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EFFECT OF OUR LOW FLYING PLANES.

Prisoners are unanimous in their statements concerning the great moral effect and material loss caused by our low-flying planes. On several occasions roads were completely blocked by direct hits on transport, and serious casualties were inflicted. Losses were frequently inflicted on parties of the enemy by machine gun fire.

MAN POWER IN GERMANY.

The following order, issued by LUDENDORFF, shows the stress laid by the German Higher Command on the necessity for economizing men, owing to the present situation as regards man-power in Germany :-

C.G.S. of the Field Army. G.H.Q.
Ia/11 No. 8950. Secret op. 25-6-18.

It is essential that all commanders, of whatever rank, and all troops should be imbued with the idea that the war cannot be won by stubborn defence, but only by a further succession of vigorous attacks. These attacks, however, cannot lead to victory, unless we adhere to and improve on the methods of warfare adopted in the recent offensives.

In every case where the well-tried principles of the "Manual of Infantry Training in War (Part II), and the appropriate additions made to them by the Higher Command as a result of actual experience, were properly applied success was gained at small cost. For example, the 11th Division, in the course of the attack south-west of NOYON from the 9th June onwards, succeeded in very difficult, hilly and wooded country, strongly entangled with wire, in breaking down the enemy's resistance, and fought there with good results for many days. It suffered, however, very small casualties, considering the violent nature of the fighting, because the new principles of warfare were properly applied by leaders of all grades.

Not only the probability of obtaining other successes by these methods but also the situation as regards reinforcements, compels us to perfect them still further.

It is absolutely essential that we should avoid our old fault of attacking in too dense formations, and reduce our casualties by every possible means.

This necessity holds equally good for defensive fronts , even for those which, sooner or later, may become offensive fronts again. Divisions in line must do their utmost to reduce their casualties to an absolute minimum, by the distribution in depth and the creation of an extended outpost zone.

In spite of all instructions, too much attention is still paid to the possession of ground, to holding or retaking portions of trench, villages, parts of woods, etc., and to fighting for points whose only value is "prestige" (Prestigepunkte).

Now more than ever, divisions in line in hostile attacks, both large and small, must if possible make use of the elastic defence (literally elastic avoidance), even on the so-called unhealthy fronts. This procedure has proved its value repeatedly in the Group of Armies of Duke Albrecht of Wurttemberg.

Owing to our reduced strebgth in the line, it will frequently be impossible to make the front line a continuous line of trenches, but it will almost always be found possible to create centres of resistance, concealed as far as possible from observation. "No Man's Land" must be secured by mobile patrols, in order to render enemy enterprises difficult in it.

Should the enemy gain a footing in our lines, commanders of all ranks must carefully consider whether a counter-attack is really necessary.

Very often, troops are, in the end, quite happy without the possession of a particular piece of ground or trench, to recapture which a commander, without due consideration, thought he must risk a large number of lives.

It is therefore essential for the future conduct of the war to maintain everywhere our fighting strength and the spirit of the offensive. These two elements only will ensure our eventual success.

(sgd) LUDENDORFF.

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 198.

From 6.0 p.m., 13th, to 6.0 p.m., 14th August, 1918.

Note. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Very active in harassing fire on enemy centres of activity and roads.

(b) Trench Mortars. 24 rds. fired at 6 a.m. (13th) on to trenches in X.12.a. and c. Inactive during night.

(c) Machine Guns. 5,000 rds. were fired on WOOD at R.35.a.4.8.

(d) Aerial Activity. Active patrolling by day and bombing by night.

(e) Patrols. One Officer and 5 O.Rs. moved east from X.5.d.0.7. along road to X.5.central (approx.). No touch with enemy. Standing patrols on Right Bn. front only owing to infantry change of position. Nothing to report. A patrol of 1 Officer and 3 O.Rs. moved out to R.35.a.3.5. Much movement was seen in R.29.c. and R.34.b. including two men on bicycles. Patrol fired on two men who were afterwards carried away on stretchers. Another patrol moved out to R.34.b.5.4., and report considerable movement in trenches west of ST. DENIS WOOD and many German dead in Gully R.34.b. A patrol attempted to go out at noon (13th) in a N.W. direction from R.34.b.4.3., but were forced to return by snipers.

(f) Snipers. Active and alert. A hit is claimed in X.12.a.

2. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Very active from 9.30 p.m. onwards. Areas principally shelled were X.10.central, to X.15.b.7.3. from a N.E. direction, VAUVILLERS, FRAMERVILLE, RAINECOURT, X.3., X.4., X.2. A considerable amount of BLUE and GREEN Cross shells were included in last nights shelling, especially between 3.15 a.m. and 4.30 a.m. on front area of Left Bn. Artillery was active during the day on X.4.a. and c. and X.10.a. and c.

3. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Active defence policy especially in harassing artillery fire at short and frequent intervals.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Posts. A camouflaged post is reported at R.34.b.40.75.

(b) M.W. Active from HERLEVILLE towards X.11.a.

(c) Machine Guns. Less active than previously.

(d) Flares. Less numerous. GOLDEN Clusters, twin REDS and twin GREENS were noticed, the two former being followed by more or less intense artillery. Flares appeared to be a considerable distance from our lines, 600 - 800 yards.

7. ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Active bombing rear areas. At 4 a.m. an E.A. flew across our lines west of HERLEVILLE. A hostile 'plane is reported to have crashed in vicinity of LIHONS at 5.55 a.m. Cause unknown. E.A. over our lines also at 5.15 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. 13th, and 3.15pm. on 14th instant.

8. MOVEMENT. Considerable amount along road in S.8.d. and in X.12.a. and S.7.d. Movement in trench east of CRUCIFIX TREE. Horse transport heard north of HERLEVILLE at day-break, and in R.29. Groups of 2 and 3 were seen at 7.35 p.m. moving in M.32.d. towards FOUCAUCOURT.

G.H.M. Cave Major
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

War Diary

(TRANSLATION)

ORDER OF THE DAY.

TO FRENCH ARMIES IN THE FIELD.

Four years of efforts with our faithful Allies; four years of hardships stoically endured, begin to bear their fruits.

Smashed in his fifth attempt of 1918, the invader retires. His fighting strength decreases, his spirit wavers, whilst by your sides your American brothers, just landed, make the disconcerted enemy feel the power of their blows.

Always at the vanguard of the Allies, you have prepared tomorrow's triumphs.

I said to you yesterday:

Obstinancy, patience; the comrades arrive ---

I say to you today:

Tenacity, audacity, and you will force victory.

Soldiers of France, I salute your colours, endowed with a new glory.

(Signed) Pétain.
G.H.Q., 6/8/1918.

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INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

Situation August 13th and Night 13th/14th instant.

Beyond a small attack carried out by the enemy with about 200 men, in the FOUQUESCOURT area yesterday morning, no hostile infantry action has been reported.

North of the SOMME, from the identifications obtained, it appears that hostile units are very disorganised, as battalions belonging to the 233rd, 54th Res., 108th, 27th, 43rd Res., and 26th Reserve Divisions were identified by prisoners and documents between MORLANCOURT and BRAY yesterday morning. A company of the 17th Pioneer Bn. (43rd Res. Div.) was also identified by prisoners. They had been sent forward to reinforce the line west of BRAY.

From an air reconnaissance last night, it appears that a considerable number of moving lights were seen on the roads in the MONTAUBAN, GUILLEMONT and COMBLES area, possibly denoting the arrival of a fresh division, though no movement was seen yesterday pointing to this possibility.

South of the SOMME, between the river and the main AMIENS - ST. QUENTIN road, the same disorganization of units exists, prisoners belonging to the 13th, 108th and 243rd Divisions being captured. It was anticipated that a fresh division would arrive in this area yesterday, but there is nothing to show that this supposition is correct.

In the LIHONS area, elements of the 21st Division were identified. This division was formerly in the line south of the AVRE, and had only been recently relieved prior to the 8th August. Its fighting value should not be great, and it will probably not have been brought up to strength.

No change in the order of battle is reported between CHAULNES and ROYE. The enemy appear to have strengthened their artillery in this sector, and the shooting has improved in quality.

Prisoners.

The number of prisoners who have passed through Cages and C.C.S. since the 8th instant now totals 21,132 of whom 511 are officers.

German Reserves.

(a) The 21st Div. - a semi-tired division - was identified by prisoners of one regt. north of LIHONS.

(b) The 208th Div., from reserve, was identified by the French yesterday.

(c) The number of divisions engaged wholly or partly by the 4th Army is now 25, of which 13 were in reserve; two in line beyond the attack were milked and 8 were also engaged by the French.

(d) On the whole front of the attack, 38 divs. have been engaged.

Aircraft.

Enemy aircraft activity yesterday showed a slight decrease, 127 planes only being seen.

Considerably more interest was taken by reconnaissance and artillery planes in the centre sector.

Strong patrols of F.E.A., including one of 14, were seen, operating chiefly over the southern sector.

Two long distance reconnaissances were carried out, one R.F.A. at 9.40, at 17,000 feet over AMIENS, and another at 9.50 a.m. at 18,000 feet over ST. VAST.

Forty five combats took place as a result of which 4 E.A. were destroyed, and 2 E.A. driven down out of control.

One of our planes is missing.

Movement.

Visibility was fair during the early part of the day, improving in the evening.

No unusual amount of train movement was seen on lines opposite the Army front. PERONNE station was active, EQUANCOURT and HAM stations more active than usual. About 300 trucks were seen in RUMILLY station in the evening.

There.....

Appendix 41.



There was a fair amount ~~of~~ transport movement on roads in the PERONNE and ATHIES areas; the trend seemed to be mainly eastward. Large convoys seen included 40 M.T. going from MARICOURT towards PERONNE, and 30 M.T. stationary between BIACHES and HERBECOURT, facing east, at 8.30 a.m.; 30 M.T. going east from BRIE, 20 M.T. east from ST. CHRIST, and 15 M.T. going west into BRAY at 11 a.m.; 40 M.T. going N.E. and 20 M.T. going S.W. on the MARQUAIX - VILLERS FAUCON road, shortly after noon. Transport activity was maintained through the afternoon and evening. A good deal of scattered troop and transport movement eastwards on the main road through ESTREES and VILLERS-CARBONNEL was reported at 2.30 p.m. An evening reconnaissance over the enemy's back areas reported considerable traffic on roads around CAMBRAI.

Night reconnaissance (10 p.m. - 2 a.m.).

Night flying machines reported considerable numbers of lights moving along roads in the MONTAUBAN, GUILLEMONT and COMBLES areas, between 10 and 10.30 p.m. An unusual number of stationary lights were also seen in woods and villages in these areas. Activity was observed in DOMPIERRE, HERBECOURT, Woods N.E. of RANCOURT, PERTAIN, and Wood N. of TREFCON.

This possibly indicates the arrival of fresh troops in the area N. of the SOMME.

Bombing Raids - By Day.

20 112-lb. and 8 25-lb. bombs were dropped on PERONNE station, Two direct hits were observed on sidings. In addition, 46 25-lb bombs were dropped on dumps at CHAULNES; bursts were seen on the dump, and 3 direct hits were observed on Rolling Stock on sidings.

Photographs.

Photographs 25 1 6128, 6129 show a large fire burning in CAMBRAI East Station at 8.10 a.m. 12th August. An air reconnaissance on the morning of 13th reports fires still burning in the town. Fires were also reported yesterday at the dump S.W. of BRAY, ROYE and in HAM square, and a large explosion at C ARCHILLOT Fme. E. of MEAULTE. This explosion was not caused by our shelling.

Distribution of Enemy Forces.

13th Division. - 13th I.R. east PROYART Aug.13, prisoner; 15th I.R. east PROYART Aug.13th, prisoner. This division has suffered extremely heavy casualties and may be considered as practically wiped out.

Effect of our low-flying Machines.

A British prisoner of war who escaped during the last few days from PERONNE, stated that he saw on the 8th instant a large amount of transport and stores of different regiments retiring through PERONNE. They were attacked by one of our low-flying machines, which caused a very great deal of confusion and a considerable number of casualties.

Austrian Personnel.

A British prisoner of war who escaped on the 8th instant from PERONNE, states that an Austrian Labour Bn., was working there. He also saw an Austrian battery near MISERY.

Enemy's intentions previous to the Allied attack on the SOMME.

A captured secret document of the 26th Inf. Bde. 13th Div., dated 8th July 18, states that preparations for attacks were being made along the whole of the Western front at that date, and that the Bde. had been ordered to make preparations for a limited attack in the VILLERS BRETONNEUX sector, to be ready within two weeks. The necessity for secrecy and the concealment of all work which could be seen from the air is emphasized.

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

OPERATION REPORT - No. 2.

Preliminary Report on Operations of 2nd Aust. Div. on 9th August, 1918.

1. OBJECTIVE.

On the morning of the 9th instant instructions were issued that our success of the 8th instant was to be exploited at once and that the Division would attack the line LA FLAQUE - FRANCEVILLE - VAUVILLERS during the day, simultaneously with the advance of the division on our right to the RED line.

Tanks were to co-operate in the advance.

2. ASSEMBLY.

The 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes. were, at the time of receipt of the above orders, bivouaced in the divisional area west of the GREEN line.

The 5th A.I.Bde. at once concentrated in the area q.32., North of BAYONVILLERS, while the 7th A.I.Bde. moved to the area E. and S.E. of that village.

Conferences of the Commanding officers of both brigades were held well forward on the ground during the morning.

3. ACTION PRIOR TO ATTACK.

Zero hour was 4.30 p.m.

Brigades reached their forming up line just west of the old AMIENS defence line well before zero without suffering many casualties.

The 7th A.I.Bde. was on the right with the 5th A.I.Bde. on the left. The 6th A.I.Bde. was in reserve to the 1st Aust. Div. The 14th A.I.Bde. was placed at the disposal of the G.O.C. 2nd Aust. Div. as divisional reserve.

4. ARTILLERY.

There was no artillery barrage to cover the advance. Artillery groups worked with the infantry brigade groups which they were covering. Batteries were given selected targets and were controlled by F.O.O's Forward sections were pushed forward to take advantage of fleeting targets.

5. INFANTRY ACTION.

(a) Right Brigade Sector.

The 25th Bn. attacked on the right and 27th Bn. on the left - each battalion on a two-coy frontage.

The 26th and 28th Bns. were in support and reserve respectively and moved forward in artillery formation.

A certain amount of resistance was met with on the eastern outskirts of FRANCEVILLE and heavy machine gun and rifle fire from X.16.b. and X.17.a.

The 25th Bn. lost touch with the division on the right and gradually worked to the right and south of the divisional boundary. Touch on this flank was not regained until 8 p.m.

At 6.30 p.m. the general line X.16.central - X.10.d.4.0. - X.10.central - X.4.c.7.0. - X.4.c.2.4. was taken up and consolidation commenced.

The 26th Bn. moved into support east of VAUVILLERS and 28th Bn. into reserve in X.1.d. and X.7.b.

(b) Left Brigade Sector.

The 17th Bn. attacked on the right and 18th Bn. on the left. The 20th and 19th Bns. were in support and reserve respectively.

on/

5. (b) continued.

On passing to R.32. the left battalion experienced heavy machine gun fire which caused considerable casualties. In order to secure this flank two platoons of support battalion moved forward and established platoon posts at R.26.c.5.7. and R.26.d.5.7.

Meanwhile the attacking battalions had consolidated the line X.3.d.8.9. - X.3.b.7.5. - R.33.c.8.0. - R.33.c.8.2. thence along road to LA FLAQUE cross roads.

Owing to enfilade machine gun fire the left flank was later swung back on to line R.26.c.7.5. - R.32.b.8.8. - R.33.a.0.3. - R.33.c.8.2. and thence as before. The 12th A.I. Bde. on the left then swung forward their right to conform with our advance on this flank

Neither brigade met with excessive hostile artillery fire during the advance. The enemy appeared to be using mainly guns of heavy calibre and devoted particular attention to FRAMERVILLE after its capture.

6. SUBSEQUENT INFANTRY ACTION.

As the 18th Bn. had suffered fairly heavy casualties in the attack it was relieved by 20th Bn. during the night, and moved into brigade reserve in the AMIENS line. The 19th Bn. was also in support in this line.

The division on our right intended to advance to their BLUE line on the morning of the 10th August. Accordingly the right battalion - 25th Bn. - moved forward their right flank at 6 a.m. on the 10th to the line X.16.d.7.5. - X.16.b.3.7. but very heavy machine gun fire prevented a further advance without considerable loss so this line was consolidated.

7. TANKS.

The tanks again moved up well and used their guns with great effect on the huts and buildings in the villages. The flat open nature of the country however prevented any element of surprise and the anti-tank guns proved most effective in disabling them.

8. CASUALTIES.

The casualties for the operation were :-

| | Officers. | | | Other Ranks. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Killed | Wnded. | Miss. | Killed. | Wounded. | Missing. |
| 5th Aldde. | - | 13 | 1 | 14 | 112 | 18 |
| 7th -do- | 1 | 7 | - | 13 | 96 | - |
| Total | 1 | 20 | 1 | 27 | 208 | 18 |

9. CAPTURES.

Prisoners and material captured during the operation were:-

Prisoners.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Officers | ... | ... | 6 |
| Other ranks | ... | ... | 329 |

Materiel.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4.2 How. | ... | ... | 1 |
| 77 mm. gun | ... | ... | 1 |
| Anti-tank gun | ... | ... | 1 |
| Machine guns | ... | ... | 38 |
| Heavy M.G. | ... | ... | 13 |
| Lewis guns | ... | ... | 2 |
| Medium M.G. | ... | ... | 1 |
| Field kitchens | ... | ... | 3 |

9. Captures (ctd.)

Material (ctd.)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Field Ambulance | ... | ... | 1 | |
| G.S. Wagons | ... | ... | 6 | ( 1 wagon containing officers kits). |

In addition a large amount of medical, signal and armourers equipment, saddlery and a large R.E. dump.

The enemy killed are estimated at about 400.

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SECRET.

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G3/229
14/8/18

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

OPERATION REPORT - No. 3.

Preliminary Report on Operations of 2nd Aust. Div. on 11th Aug.1918.

1. OBJECTIVE.

In conjunction with the 1st Aust. Div. on the right the Division was to advance and capture the BLUE line (Phase "C"). The attack took place under an artillery barrage. No tanks co-operated in the attack.

2. WEATHER.

The morning was fine and warm with a very heavy fog which finally lifted about noon.

3. ACTION PRIOR TO THE ATTACK.

Zero hour was 4 a.m.
The 7th A.I.Bde. was on the right, 5th A.I.Bde. on the left and 6th A.I.Bde. in reserve.
The jumping off line on the left brigade front was along the road R.26.d.8.3. - R.33.c.8.0. thence to X.3.b.1.0. On the right brigade front it was about 750 yards in advance of this line.
The attacking troops on the left brigade front were in position at zero minus 45 minutes and on the right brigade front at zero minus one hour.

4. ARTILLERY.

The attack was supported by four Field Artillery Brigades which supplied a creeping barrage under which the infantry advanced. This barrage is reported to have been excellent both from the point of view of accuracy and density.

5. INFANTRY ACTION.

(a) Right Brigade Sub-sector.

Owing to the fact that the jumping off line on this brigade front was in advance of that on left the attacking infantry did not move forward till 4.15 a.m.
At that hour the 26th and 28th Bns. moved through the line battalions, each battalion attacking on a three-company frontage. Little opposition was met with on the right but the left battalion encountered fairly heavy machine gun fire. There was also a considerable amount of enemy artillery fire.
A good line was taken up from X.11.c.0.0. to X.5.a.0.0. and immediately consolidated. As the division on the right did not advance as far as intended there was a gap of about 700 yds. between the right flank of the 26th Bn. and the 1st Aust. Division's left flank. This was covered by the formation of a defensive flank consisting of a series of posts between X.17.a.00.50. and X.11.c.0.0.

(b) Left Brigade Sub-sector.

The 19th Bn. attacked on the right and 20th Bn. on the left, 17th Bn. posts in advance of jumping off line being withdrawn at zero minus 3 minutes. As soon as the attacking battalions advanced the 17th and 18th Bns. re-occupied the original line.

each/.

5 (b) (ctd.)

Each battalion attacked on a two-company frontage, special parties being detailed for the mopping up of RAINECOURT.

With the exception of machine gun fire from the direction of FRUYART the enemy infantry resistance was feeble. By 5 a.m. consolidation had commenced on the line, - X.4.b.9.0. - R.35.c.00.45. - R.34.b.0.3. - R.27.d.8.1. - R.27.d.3.4.

One Coy. 20th Bn. formed a defensive flank along the main road in R.27.c., a coy. of 18th Bn. later taking over this duty.

During the day the 10th A.I.Bde. moved forward and junctioned up on the left at R.27.d.3.4.

At 8.30 a.m. the enemy made a small local counter-attack in R.34.b. which was easily repulsed by rifle and machine gun fire.

During the day FRAMERVILLE and RAINECOURT were heavily shelled by the enemy.

6. CASUALTIES.

The casualties for the operation were :-

| | Officers. | | | Other Ranks. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | K. | W. | M. | K. | W. | M. |
| 5th AIBde. | 3 | 5 | - | 33 | 130 | 23 |
| 7th -do- | 1 | 4 | - | 9 | 94 | - |
| Total - | 4 | 9 | - | 42 | 224 | 23 |

7. CAPTURES

Prisoners and material captured during the operation were:-

Prisoners.

| | |
|---|---|
| Officers ... ... | 6 |
| Other ranks ... ... | 290 |

Materiel.

| | |
|---|---|
| Machine guns .. ... | 53 |
| Lewis guns ... ... | 2 |
| Trench Mortars ... | 1 |

A quantity of signalling equipment was also taken.

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App No 44

HEADQUARTERS
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
(GENERAL STAFF.)

Ca. 13.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Headquarters,
14th August, 1918.

To: All recipients of O.O. 213.

2nd Aust. Div. Order No. 213 is cancelled AAA Acknowledge
AAA Addsd. all recipients of O.O. 213.

F. J. Borwick Lieut-Colonel
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

War Diary

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SECRET.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 213.
*****************

Copy No.....

Headquarters,
14th August, 1918.

Ref. Map - HARBONNIERES 1/40,000.

1. The Australian Corps in conjunction with the Canadian Corps is to continue operations against the enemy on the 16th instant. Zero will be at dawn; exact hour will be notified later.

2. The 4th Aust. Div. is to attack on our right. The 17th Div. is holding the line on our left but is not advancing.

3. The role of the Division is to advance its right flank in conjunction with the advance of the 4th Australian Division.

4. This operation will be carried out by the 6th A.I.Bde. The 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes. will be in support and will remain in their present positions.

5. The objective for the 6th A.I.Bde. and the divisional boundaries are shown in green on attached map.

6. The attack will be carried out under an artillery barrage. The barrage fire will include approximately 15% of smoke shell. Barrage map is being issued separately.

7. Two machine gun companies are allotted to the 6th A.I.Bde.; details of their action will be arranged by the C.O., 2nd A.M.G.Bn. direct with the G.O.C. 6th A.I.Bde.

8. Immediately on the objective being captured it will be consolidated as the main line of resistance. The 6th A.I.Bde. will be re-organised and distributed in depth for the defence of this line.

9. Tanks are being employed for the attack of the 4th Aust. Div., but no tanks are allotted to this division.

10. The times at which counter-attack patrols will be over the line will be notified later.

11. Watches will be synchronised by an officer from D.H.Q. who will visit the C.R.A., 5th, 6th and 7th A.I.Bdes. and M.G.Bn. at a time to be notified later on the afternoon of the 15th instant.

12. D.H.Q. will remain at its present position, O.28.c.8.5.

13. Acknowledge.

L.E. Borwick Major
for Lieut.Colonel.
General Staff.
Second Australian Division.

Issued at 6 a.m.

DISTRIBUTION. - P.T.O.

Barrage

DISTRIBUTION.

| Copy No. | To. |
|---|---|
| 1 | G.O.C. |
| 2 | G. |
| 3 | A.Q. |
| 4 | C.R.A. * |
| 5 | C.R.E. * |
| 6 | 5th A.I.Bde. * |
| 7 | 6th A.I.Bde. * |
| 8 | 7th A.I.Bde. * |
| 9 | 2nd A.Div.Sig.Co.* |
| 10 | 2nd A.M.G.Bn.* |
| 11 | 2nd A.Div.Train. |
| 12 | 2nd A.Pioneer Bn. |
| 13 | A.D.M.S. * |
| 14 | D.A.D.V.S. |
| 15 | D.A.D.O.S. |
| 16 | A.P.M. |
| 17 | D.B.O. |
| 18 | D.G.O. |
| 19 | Troop 13th A.L.H. |
| 20 | Platoon Corps Cyclists. |
| 21/22 | Aust. Corps. |
| 23 | " " H.A. |
| 24 | " " R.A. |
| 25 | 1st Aust. Div. |
| 26 | 3rd Aust. Div. |
| 27 | 4th Aust. Div. |
| 28 | 5th Aust. Div. |
| 29 | 17th Div. |
| 30 | 3rd Squad. A.F.C. |
| 31 | 5th Tank Bde. |
| 32/33 | File. |
| 34/8 | War Diary. |
| 36/40 | Spare. |

* Map attached

Appendix qqq

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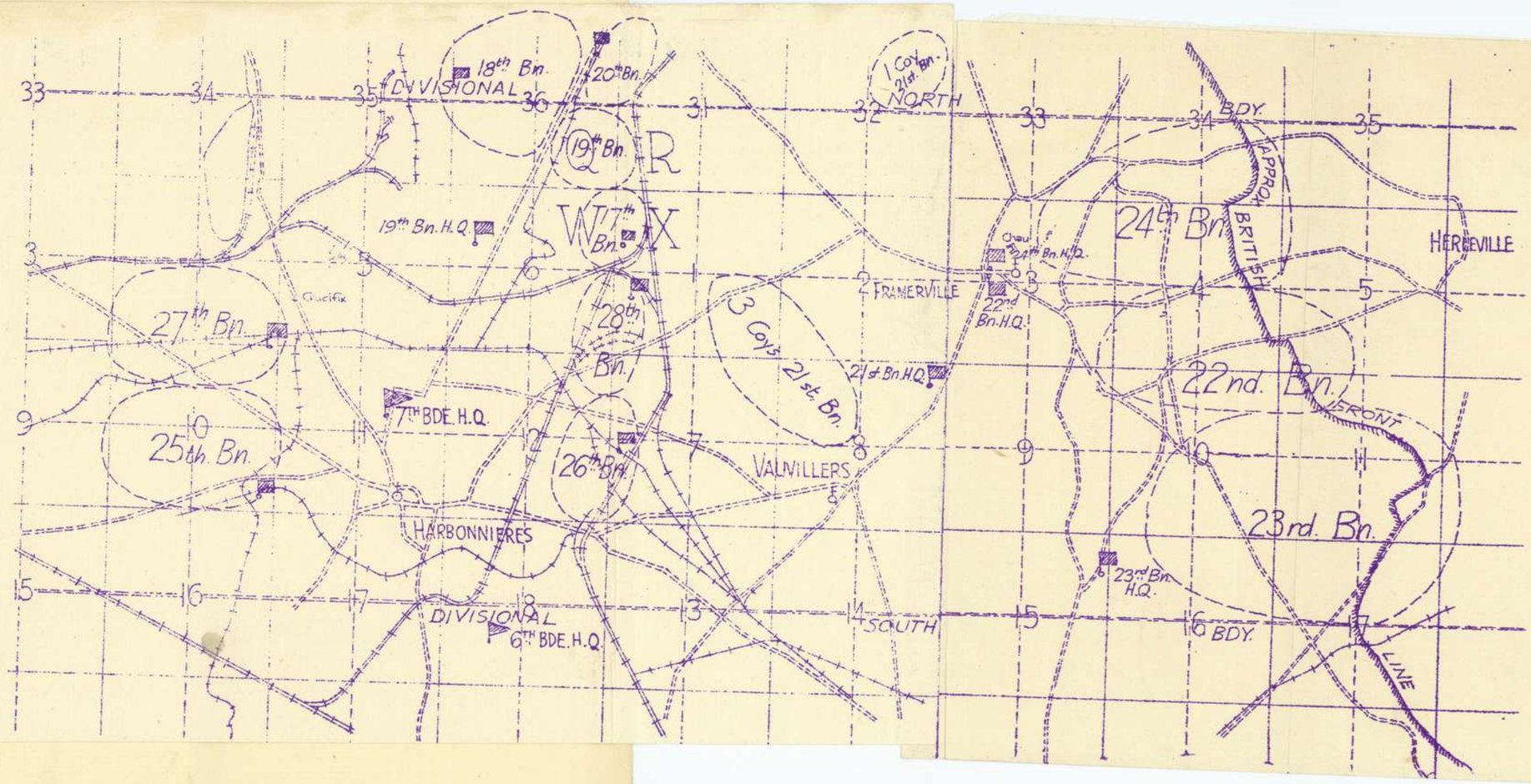
App 1/9 45 164




SECRET

S. Copy No. 47

DISPOSITION OF INFANTRY AT 6 A.M. 15.8.18

Ref. Sheet 62D S.E. Scale 1-20000.

NOTE:- 5th BDE. H.Qrs. AT BAYONVILLERS.

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Appendix No 46
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SECRET.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Ref. Map -
Sheet 62D. -
1/40,000.

G.12.

****

Location of units at 6 a.m., 15th August, 1918.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Divisional Headquarters, | - | O.28.c.8.5. |
| Report Centre. | - | W.18.c.6.6. |
| 2nd Aust. Div. Arty. H.Q. | - | O.28.c.5.4. |
| Right Group. | | |
| 5th A.F.A. Bde. | - | W.11.d.45.30. |
| 4th A.F.A. Bde. | - | W.18.c.6.6. |
| Left Group. | | |
| 14th Army Bde. R.F.A. | - | W.11.b.1.9. |
| 23rd Army Bde., R.F.A. | - | W.7.a.0.2. |
| 2nd Aust. D.T.M.O. | - | N.24.b.2.7. |
| 2nd Aust. D.A.C. | - | P.35.d.4.5. |
| 14th B.A.C. (R.F.A.) | - | P.30.b.15.75. |
| 23rd do. | - | P.30.d.0.6. |
| 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. | - | Q.32.c.3.3. Advanced. |
| | - | P.30.c.7.7. Rear. |
| 17th Battalion. | - | X.1.a.05.35. |
| 18th do. | - | Q.36.a.0.2. |
| 19th do. | - | W.6.a.3.3. |
| 20th do. | - | Q.36.b.7.7. |
| 6th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. | - | W.18.c.6.6. |
| 21st Battalion. | - | X.8.b.82.70. |
| 22nd do. | - | X.4.a.2.3. |
| 23rd do. | - | X.16.a.05.80. |
| 24th do. | - | X.4.a.10.45. |
| 6th A.L.T.M. Bty. | - | X.8.c.0.6. |
| 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. | - | W.11.b.4.2. |
| 25th Battalion. | - | W.10.d.8.0. |
| 26th do. | - | X.7.c.1.9. |
| 27th do. | - | W.4.d.9.0. |
| 28th do. | - | X.1.c.2.7. |
| 2nd Aust. M. G. Bn. | - | O.28.b.50.25. |
| 5th Aust. M. G. Coy. | - | X.8.b.8.8. |
| 6th do. | - | Q.30.c.60.45. |
| 7th do. | - | Q.29.d.9.6. |
| 22nd do. | - | W.11.a.6.6. |
| Nucleus. | - | V.4.b.30.95. |
| Transport Lines. | - | P.34.d.5.3. |
| C.R.E. | - | O.34.b.8.7. |
| 5th Field Coy. | - | Q.32.c.3.3. |
| 6th do. | - | P.20.c.6.0. |
| 7th do. | - | W.9.c.4.1. |
| 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. | - | P.35.d.6.9. |
| A.D.M.S. | - | O.28.c.8.5. QUARRY. |
| 5th Aust. Field Amb. | - | O.26.c.9.4. Reserve Amb. |
| 6th do. | - | Q.25.d.8.3. A.D.S. |
| 7th do. | - | O.26.c.9.4. M.D.S. |
| No. 2 Aust. Sant. Sect. | - | O.29.d.8.7. |

P.T.O.

War Diary.

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2nd Aust. Div. Train H.Q. | - | 0.27.a.3.5. |
| 18th Coy., A.A.S.C. | - | 0.18.c.5.7. |
| 16th do. | - | 0.15.b.3.7. |
| 17th do. | - | 0.10.b.3.0. |
| 20th do. | - | 0.18.a.5.2. |

Miscellaneous.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| D.A.D.O.S. | - | 0.11.central. | |
| Paymaster. | - | Rue d'Amiens. | VILLERS BRETONNEUX. |
| D.A.D.V.S. | - | 0.28.c.8.5. | |
| 2nd Aust. Mob.Vet.Sect. | - | P.34.d.4.0. | |
| Div. Gas Officer. | - | 0.28.c.8.5. | Camp Commandant's Office. |
| 2nd Aust. Div. Salvage Coy. | | Rue d'Amiens. | VILLERS BRETONNEUX. |
| A.P.M. | - | 0.27.d.8.7. | |
| Div. Burial Recording Officer. | - | Rue de la Mairie. | VILLERS BRETONNEUX. |
| P.O.W. Cage. | - | 0.27.d.8.7. | |
| Staging Camp. | - | N.13.d.9.6. | |
| Cyclist Platoon. | - | 0.28.c.8.5. | |
| Troop, 13th A.L.H. | - | GLISY. | |
| 5th Tank Bde. H.Q. | - | N.22.d.3.8. | |
| 8th Tank Bn. | - | P.30.a.3.6. | |
| 1st Aust. Div. H.Q. | - | 0.20.d.5.5. | Red Chateau. V. BRETONNEUX. |
| 3rd Aust. Div. H.Q. | - | Chateau. | BUSSY. |
| 17th Division. | - | P.7.c.1.8. | |
| 4th Aust. D.H.Q. | - | CORBIE. | |
| 5th do. | - | 025.c.1.1. | |

Gollingwood Capt
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

2nd Aust. Div. H.Q.,
14th August, 1918.

---

Corrections to be notified to D.H.Q. at once.

TO BE DESTROYED ON RECEIPT OF A LATER ISSUE.

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6.0 p.m., 14th, to 6.0 p.m., 15th August, 1918. No. 199.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Infantry. Our line was pushed forward last night without opposition, except at "Hill 90 work" where the enemy put up strong resistance. Our Right Bn. forced the enemy back at this point by means of energetic bombing and close co-operation of T.M. and Artillery. A local counter-attack developed at 3.30 a.m. against our post here but was repulsed with loss to the enemy. We estimate 15 to 20 casualties against one of our own. Our line now runs R.34.b.6.0. - R.34.b.9.2. - R.35.c.0.2. - X.5.a.1.9. - X.5.d.25.95 - X.11.b.95.50. - X.12.a.15.45. - X.12.a.10.25. - X.11.d.7.9. - X.11.d.85.75. - S. along east side of road to FAIDHERBE ALLEY, thence east to X.17.b.95.95., thence south to X.17. b.8.1.

(b) Artillery. Harassing fire on enemy posts, tracks and approaches, and sniping of movement and forward activity. Co-operation with infantry was given on request.

(c) Trench Mortars. T.Ms. fired 132 rounds L.T.M. on MAZE and other trenches in X.12.a. in co-operation with infantry action. Communication with advancing infantry party was continuously maintained by telephone.

(d) Machine Guns. 5,000 rds. on WOOD in R.34.b., 5,000 rds. on WOOD in R.35.a., 5,000 rds. on MADAM WOOD, and 5,000 rds. on Cross Roads and trenches in S.8.c. were fired during the night.

(e) Patrols. See Infantry action.

Patrol of 1 Officer and 1 O.R. investigated trenches in R.35.c. between 6 and 8 p.m. and found them unoccupied.

2 Officers and 9 O.Rs. with M.Gs. reconnoitred road and trench line from X.5.b.2.0. to R.35.c.0.0.; found it unoccupied but enemy were heard in front of HERLEVILLE.

(f) Snipers. Active. One hit is claimed.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Prisoner 7th Coy., 376th I.R., 109th Division.

3. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS. From North to South - 2nd Gren. R., 376th I.R., 26th R.I.R. (P.S.).

Prisoner states that the flanks and outskirts of HERLEVILLE are held, but does not know detailed dispositions.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Fairly active throughout night. Gun flashes observed on T.B. of 100° and 103° from X.17.b.3.8. firing on sector on our right at 8 p.m. Front area was harassed all night at approx. 15 minute intervals. Area R.34. and X.4., X.10, X.8. received special attention.

Gas. BLUE and YELLOW Cross was mixed with the shelling: shelling was most active between 1.15 and 3.15 a.m.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work and Wire. New earth is visible at S.13.d.1.8.; Suspected Snipers position.. Movement noticed in trench system near road S.7.b. to S.8.c.

(b) Trench Mortars. A L.T.M. is reported at X.6.c.40.25.

(c) Machine Guns. Quiet during night, except from direction of MADAM WOOD. Two guns were firing from this direction during our infantry action. Gun at R.28.d.5.4. was active at intervals.

(d) Flares. Normal and some distance from our line. Many GREENS observed without apparent action following. RED brought down light artillery fire.

P.T.O.

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7. ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Fairly active bombing at night and reconnoitring from dawn to 6 a.m.

8. MOVEMENT. Individual movement seen at X.6.c. and X.12.a.3.5. and X.17.d.7.6. 5 men seen in trench at R.35.c. (one sniped). Individuals seen near ST.DENIS WOOD.

9. MISCELLANEOUS. Enemy sniper in trees at X.6.c.0.9. fired on our movement at X.11.central. Fire was seen for 15 minutes on a T.B. of 33° from X.8.b.9.6. at 10.30 p.m. and at 10.35 p.m. a fire was seen on T.B. of 90° which lasted for 30 minutes. Enemy observer descended from balloon in parachute at 6.5 p.m. on a T.B. of 65° from X.17.b.3.8. Balloon was drawn down.

Strengths. 7th Coy., 376 I.R. - 1 Officer 40 O.Rs. 3 L.M.Gs. (P.S.).

Intentions. There is no knowledge of any intention on the part of the enemy either to attack, or withdraw. (P.S.).

Rations. No rations were received at all during the first three days of the battle. Since then the field kitchens have come up at various times every night and rationing has been normal. (P.S.)

Kelling in Capt
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

GERMAN ANTI-TANK RIFLE. The following extracts from provisional "Instructions in the use of the Anti-Tank Rifle" are given:

Organisation and tactical employment. Each anti-tank rifle is served by two men, a rifleman and a reserve rifleman (ammunition carrier). The rifleman carries and handles the weapon, and is primarily responsible for it. He carries a cartridge pouch holding 20 rounds on his left hip and a tool bag on his belt. The reserve rifleman carries two cartridge pouches each containing 20 rounds, one on either hip. He also carries a box of 72 rounds, either slung or in his hand. Both riflemen carry, in addition, assault kit, pistol and bayonet.

On the move, the bipod remains attached to the rifle, which, like the light machine gun, is either carried on the shoulder or on the right hip suspended from a sling. The riflemen must be picked men, powerful, resolute and cool; they must also be skilled marksmen.

The employment of anti-tank rifles in squads, each of about 3 rifles or of a single rifle, depends on the tactical situation and on the ground. Their employment in conjunction with machine guns using armour-piercing ammunition is still more effective. (I.S.239).

EXTRACTS FROM WEEKLY SUMMARIES OF THE 41ST DIV. OF THE 25TH JULY AND 1ST AUGUST.

25th July.

General Appreciation. The enemy's attacks of the 17th and 22nd July have given him a favourable position, especially as regards good observation. The continuation of his attacks on both sides of the Roman road must be reckoned with. There are no signs of an attack on a large scale.

Losses.

| | Killed. | Wounded. | Missing. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Officers. | 8 | 5 | 2 |
| O.Rs. | 108 | 268 | 93 |
| | (plus 3 gas cases). | | |

| | Kill. | Wndd. | Miss. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Attd. men. | 3 | 4 | 0 |
| Horses. | 6. | 14. | 0. |
| Sick Cases. | - | 48 | 0. |

No. sick men on light duty - 299.

Drafts. Page 3.

Drafts. 2 men for infantry. 5 men for Artillery.

Health. Further decrease in "Grippe" cases, but the exhaustion following upon the illness not yet overcome.

Fighting value. The fighting power of the 18th and 148th Inf. Regts. is diminished as the result of losses in the last engagements, the constant state of readiness and the almost unbroken period in line for all companies of the regiments. With a quieter period to come, it will be possible by regular reliefs to increase the fighting power.

Average trench strength of battalions.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18th | Inf. Regt., | 270 | men plus | 70 | machine guns. |
| 148th | do. | 254 | do. | 74 | do. |
| 152nd | do. | 385 | do. | 74 | do. |

Light M.G. teams per company.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18th | Inf. Regt. | 7 | (of which | 2 | are Res. teams). |
| 148th | do. | 7 | " | 2 | " " |
| 152nd | do. | 10 | " | 5 | " " |

(Sd.) GRASER.

1st August.

General Appreciation. There are no signs of an attack on a large scale.

Losses.

| | Killed. | Wounded. | Missing. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Officers. | - | (1 gas case). | - |
| O.R's. | 22 | 142. (33 gas cases). | 0 |

Health. Further decrease in "Grippe," only a few cases daily. Considerable increase in stomach complaints, due partly to the effects of the "Grippe."

Fighting value. No change since the report of the 25th July. After the occupation of the blue line, the possibility of sending back into rest one battalion from each infantry regiment will raise the fighting power.

Average trench strength of battalions.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18th | Inf. Regt. | - | 255 | men plus | 67 machine gnrs. |
| 148th | " | - | 286 | " | 66 " |
| 152nd | " | - | 404 | " | 78 " |

Light M. G. teams per company.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18th | Inf. Regt. | - | 8 | (of which | 3 are Res. teams). |
| 148th | " | - | 7 | " | 2 " " |
| 152nd | " | - | 10 | " | 5 " " |

(Sd) GRASER.

NOTE. - A light machine gun team consists of the gun commander and 4 men.

A German infantry company at full strength has 6 light machine gun groups, each group consisting of one team and one reserve team.

(I.S. No. 239).

SITUATION AUGUST 14TH AND NIGHT 14TH/15TH INST.

North of the SOMME, our patrols were very active and encountered the enemy along the whole front from ALBERT to BRAY. The Left Corps obtained a normal identification and captured a machine gun north of ALBERT. ALBERT is strongly held by enemy posts, one of which is in the immediate vicinity of the Cathedral.

Between LIHONS and ROYE, the Canadian troops advanced their line at PARVILLERS, but the village still remains in the hands of the enemy.

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Prisoners were captured here whose identifications showed that the 79th Res. and the 121st Divisions are still holding this part of the front.

Artillery fire increased, and the activity of the enemy gave the impression that the defence was stiffening in this part of the front.

Air reconnaissances showed no movement by road or rail indicating the arrival of fresh divisions. Activity round HAM dumps indicates that the enemy is removing material further east. (I.S. No. 240).

PRISONERS.

The official figures concerning the number of prisoners captured by the Fourth Army since the commencement of operations show an increase over those hitherto reported. The total number of prisoners who passed through Cages and C.C.S. is now as under:-

| | Off. | O.R's. |
|---|---|---|
| (a) Through Corps Cages, (unwounded). ... | 380. | 18,759. |
| (b) Through C.C.S. (wounded). ... ... | 102. | 2, 603. |

Total = 21,844 prisoners, of whom 482 are officers. (I.S. No. 240).

RESERVES.

(a) No fresh divisions were identified by the Fourth Army, or the French Armies yesterday.

(b) On the whole front, 36 divisions have been engaged.

(c) There are now 11 infantry divisions in reserve, fit to fight, between the Sea and the OISE, and a total of 23 infantry divisions (and 2 dismounted cavalry divisions) in reserve in the Western Theatre available for immediate operations. (I.S. No. 240).

COMMAND.

(a) According to the official German communique of the 14th August, 1918, Gen. -Oberst von BOEHN, previously in command of the Seventh German Army on the AISNE front, is now in command of a Group of Armies astride the River SOMME.

From the above, it is certain that this Group comprises the Second and Eighteenth German Armies, but the Ninth German Army may also belong to it.

A captured document shows that the Eighteenth German Army, which is now under General von BOEHN'S Group, passed from the German Crown Prince's Group of Armies to Crown Prince RUPPRECHT'S Group of Armies at 9 p.m. on the 23rd July, 1918. (I.S. No. 240).

ENEMY INTENTIONS.

An unposted letter taken from the dead body of a man killed last night north of ALBERT, (448th I.R., 233rd Div. ), reads:-

"We are going to retire about 4 kilometres."

This retirement would make the German front line trenches run along the line LA BOISELLE - FRICOURT, i.e., the pre-SOMME line. (I.S. No. 240).

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(a). Aircraft. Enemy aeroplane activity showed a considerable decrease both in general activity and in the strength of fighting patrol

Sixty-six planes were seen. About 50 per cent of the total activity was composed of R.E.A. and artillery machines evenly distributed over the whole front.

One long distance flight was reported, at 10.20 a.m., at 18,000 feet over VIGNACOURT.

As a result of 38 combats, 4 E.A. were destroyed and 6 E.A. driven down out of control. One of our machines is missing.

In addition to the above, on the 13th instant, 3 E.A. were brought down by A.A. fire, and another one was seen diving steeply to earth east of BRAY.

On the 14th, one E.A. was also brought down by the A.A.

(b). Movement. - Page 5.

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(b) Movement. A long distance reconnaissance yesterday morning reported general rail movement above normal between 6 and 7 a.m., with no definite trend, except between DOUAI and CAMBRAI where it was southwards. In the Army area, train movement as observed during the day was slight, but a considerable amount of Rolling Stock was reported in stations generally, possibly indicating increased night movement, which may mean the arrival of fresh troops; these are expected.

A fair amount of transport movement was seen on roads, but with no particular tendency. A great deal of mixed traffic was reported going both ways on the PERONNE - CAMBRAI road between 10.30 and 11.30 a.m. Excepting a body of 80 men marching south from HERBECOURT to ASSEVILLERS, no troop movement was observed.

Night Reconnaissance. More trains were seen in the Army area than usual, but no big movement was reported. Roads appeared to be fairly clear; a few cars were seen on various roads in the HAM area, at 12 midnight. Stationary lights were seen innATHIES Wood, and in LE SARS, GINCHY, and DOMPIERRE. No unusual activity was detected in back areas.

Dawn Reconnaissance (to-day). Rail and road activity seemed slight in the Army area between 4.50 and 6.20 a.m.; visibility was poor. (I.S. No. 240).

BOMBING RAIDS.

(a) By Day. 16 112-lb. and 32 25-lb. bombs were dropped on PERONNE station and sidings. Ten bursts were seen on the target, and several on the village and main road north from it.

46 25-lb. bombs were also dropped on OMIECOURT Dump. Bursts were seen on the Dump, and in the village of CHAULNES.

(b) By Night. 252 25-lb. bombs were dropped on various targets, including ST. CHRIST bridge, billets at TINCOURT and ATHIES, and on trains and transport. Two fires were started at TINCOURT and ATHIES, and good bursts were observed near a train at ST. QUENTIN. (I.S.240).

ENEMY DEFENCES. A great deal of trench work is reported to be in progress in S.21. and S.27. (I.S. No. 240).

LOSSES OF THE ENEMY BY REGIMENTS. The losses suffered by the enemy in prisoners (wounded and unwounded) alone are given below. This list, which is incomplete at present, will be supplemented from time to time as further information is received.

| Div. | Regt. | Off. | O.R. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 54 Res. | 246 RIR. | 1. | 59 | 60. |
| (milked | 247 RIR. | 4. | 191 | 195. |
| divisn). | 248 RIR. | 4. | 159. | 163. |
| (43 Res. | 201 RIR. | 2 | 472 | 474 |
| (in pro- | 202 RIR. | 1 | 63 | 64 |
| cess re- | 203 RIR. | 1 | 61 | 62 |
| lief on 8th). | | | | |
| 13. | 15 I.R. | 14 | 677 | 691 |
| (in line | 13 I.R. | 20 | 964 | 984 |
| on 8th). | 55 I.R. | 8 | 1080. | 1088 |
| 109. | 2 Gren. | 9 | 264 | 273 |
| | 26 RIR. | 13 | 308 | 321 |
| | 376 I.R. | 3 | 297. | 300. |

| Div. | Regt. | Off. | O.R. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 117 | 157 I.R. | 18 | 755 | 773 |
| In line | 11 Gren. | 21 | 658 | 679 |
| on 8th. | 22 RIR. | 9 | 397 | 406. |
| 41. | 152 I.R. | 19 | 729 | 748 |
| (in line | 18 I.R. | 27 | 1016. | 1043 |
| on 8th). | 148 I.R. | 1 | 696 | 697. |
| 107 | 227 I.R. | 7 | 274 | 281. |
| Res. | 232 RIR. | 9. | 80. | 89. |
| | 52 RIR. | 5. | 114. | 119. |

AMENDMENT.

Page 4, under heading "ENEMY INTENTIONS,"

For "We are going to retire about 4 kilometres,"

read "We have retired 4 kilometres,"

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S E C R E T.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Copy No.....

WARNING ORDER.

G.3/1/978.

Headquarters,
16th August, 1918.

1. The Division (less Artillery) will be relieved by the 32nd Division (less Artillery) between the 17th and 19th August.

2. On relief Brigade Groups will be concentrated in the following areas:-

5th Aust. Inf. Bde. Group - FOUILLOY Area.

5th Aust. Inf. Bde.
6th M. G. Coy.
5th Field Coy.
5th Field Ambulance.

6th Aust. Inf. Bde. Group - AUBIGNY Area.

6th Aust. Inf. Bde.
5th M. G. Coy.
7th M. G. Coy.
6th Field Coy.
6th Field Ambulance.

7th Aust. Inf. Bde. Group - VECQUEMONT Area.

7th Aust. Inf. Bde.
22nd M. G. Coy.
7th Field Coy.
7th Field Ambulance.
2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn.

3. Probable moves for the relief will be:-

(a) Night 17/18th August.

96th Inf. Bde. arrives by train, detraining GUILLAUCOURT, and relieves 7th Aust. Inf. Bde., taking over positions of 26th, 27th and 28th Bns.7th A. I. Bde. will provide guides to meet the trains, and direct units to their billeting areas.

97th Inf. Bde. arrives by train, detraining WIENCOURT and relieves 5th A.I. Bde., taking over positions of 17th, 19th and 20th Bns. 5th A.I. Bde. will provide guides to meet the trains and direct units to their billeting areas.

5th and 7th A.I. Bdes on being relieved will move back by train, entraining at WIENCOURT and GILLAUCOURT respectively.

16th H.L.I. (Pioneers) arrives by train, detraining WIENCOURT, and relieves 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. Guides will be provided by 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. to meet train and conduct unit to billeting area. On relief the 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. will move back by train, entraining at WIENCOURT.

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(2)

(b) Night 18/19th August:

96th Inf. Bde. (right) and 97th Inf. Bde. (left) will relieve 6th A.I. Bde. in the line.

96th Inf. Bde. will be disposed as follows:-

One Bn. line relieving 23rd Bn.
One Bn. Support in W.15. A. and B.
One Bn. Reserve in W.12.d.

97th Inf. Bde. will be disposed as follows:-

Two Bns. line relieving 22nd and 24th Bns.
One Bn. Support in W.1. B. and D. relieving 21st Bn.

Both Bde. H.Q. will be at W.18.c.6.6.

On being relieved the 6th A.I. Bde. moves back by train, entraining at GUILLACCOURT.

14th Inf. Bde. arrives by train, detraining at GUILLAUCOURT, and moves to reserve position as follows:-

Bde. H.Q. HARBONNIERES, W.11.b.4.2.
Three Bns. in the old AMIENS line, one in W.6.D., one in W.6.B., and one in Q.36.D.

96th and 97th Inf. Bdes. will provide the necessary guides to meet the trains.

4. Advance Parties from 96th and 97th Inf. Bdes will report as follows:-

(a) From 96th Inf. Bde.-

One Bus-load will report at 7th A.I. Bde. H.Q. at 12 noon 17th inst., and will proceed to the billeting areas for that night. 7th A.I. Bde. will provide guides.
One Bus-load will report at 7th A.I. Bde. H.Q. at 8 p.m. 17th inst., and will go into the line that night. 6th A.I. Bde. will provide guides to meet them at 7th A.I. Bde. H.Q.

(b) From 97th Inf. Bde.-

One Bus-load will report at 5th A.I. Bde. H.Q. at 12 noon 17th inst., and will proceed to the billeting area for that night. 5th A.I. Bde. will provide guides.

One Bus-load will report at 7th A.I. Bde. H.Q. at 8 p.m. 17th inst., and will go into the line that night. 6th A.I. Bde. will provide guides to meet them at 7th A.I. Bde. H.Q.

5. Command of the Front will pass to the G.O.C. 32nd Div. at 10 a.m. 19th August, at which hour D.H.Q. will close at O.28.c.8.5. and open at ALLONVILLE.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

G Wilkes
Lieut.Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

Issued at 5 p.m.

DISTRIBUTION - P. T. O.

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(3)

DISTRIBUTION.

| Copy No. | To. |
|---|---|
| 1 | G. O. C. |
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| 4 | C. R. A. |
| 5 | C. R. E. |
| 6 | 5th A. I. Bde. |
| 7 | 6th A. I. Bde. |
| 8 | 7th A. I. Bde. |
| 9 | 2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy. |
| 10 | 2nd Aust. M.G. Bn. |
| 11 | 2nd Aust. Div. Train |
| 12 | 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. |
| 13 | A.D.M. S. |
| 14 | D. A. D.V. S. |
| 15 | D. A. D. O. S. |
| 16 | A. P. M. |
| 17 | D. B. O. |
| 18 | D. G. O. |
| 19 | Troop 13th A.L.H. |
| 20 | Platoon Corps Cyclists |
| 21 | Camp Commandant |
| 22 | Div Wing Corps Reinf. Camp. |
| 23/24 | Aust. Corps |
| 25 | 1st Aust.Div. |
| 26 | 3rd Aust.Div. |
| 27 | 4th Aust.Div. |
| 28 | 5th Aust.Div. |
| 29 | 32nd Div. |
| 30/31 | File |
| 32/34 | War Diary |
| 35/40 | Spare. |

-*-*-*-*-*-

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HEADQUARTERS, 2ND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION. (GENERAL STAFF.)

S E C R E T.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION OPERATIONS.

Copy No. 26

********

Headquarters, G.1/958.
15th August, 1918.

Instructions No. 1. Series "C."

1. Under instructions from Australian Corps operations on this front have been postponed until further orders.

2. In order to prepare for these future operations, the nibbling tactics lately employed will be continued. The attached map shows in green the general objective which should be the aim of these tactics.

3. The 6th A.I.Bde. will push out on to the line of this objective keeping close liaison with the brigades on either flank. Any artillery support required will be arranged by the G.O.C., 6th A.I.Bde. direct with the Artillery group commanders.

4. As soon as the green line has been reached, it will be consolidated and organised as the main line of resistance. It is not desired to go beyond this line without further orders but outposts may be pushed further out if so desired.

5. The 5th and 7th A.I.Bdes. will remain in their present positions and will continue with the work of salvage. It is desired that as much signal cable as possible should be salved and returned to the divisional signal dump.

6. Reports tend to show that the present enemy artillery activity is almost entirely based on the employment of larger guns such as 5.9" guns. The enemy has however employed heavy gas shoots on the fronts of the French, Canadian and III Corps. It is, therefore, to be anticipated that these tactics will be pursued, and careful arrangements will be made with regard to all places likely to be objectives of artillery action of this nature. Troops should be withdrawn from woods and villages and from any other places which it may be anticipated that the enemy will shell. Where carrying parties are required to pass through such localities, special measures will be prepared to ensure that they are checked and adequate police arrangements made in the event of a gas bombardment

7. Acknowledge.

G. Hebbles
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

DISTRIBUTION.

| Copy No. | To. |
|---|---|
| *1. | C.R.A. |
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| *4. | 5th Aust Inf. Bde. |
| *5. | 6th do. |
| *6. | 7th do. |
| *7. | 2nd Aust M. G. Bn. |
| 8. | 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. |
| *9. | A.Q. |
| *10. | A.D.M.S. |
| *11. | Aust: Corps. |
| 12. | Aust Corps R.A. |
| 13. | Aust. Corps H.A. |
| 14. | 1st Aust. Division. |
| 15. | 3rd Aust. Division. |
| *16. | 4th Aust. Division. |
| *17. | 5th Aust. Division. |
| 18. | 17th Division. |
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| 24/28. | Spare. |

* Map Attached.

War Diary

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 p.m. 15th to 6 p.m. 16th August 1918. No 200.
Note - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Infantry. Right Bn. pushed their line out and established posts as follows: X.18.a.80.35, X.18.a.75.55, X.18.a.70.85, X.12.c.3.3, X.12.c.15.70, X.12.c.22.92, X.12.a.18.00, X.12.a.25.30, X.12.a.15.35. Touch was gained with brigade on right.

(b) Artillery was active. Special harassing shoots on enemy forward area in R.35.c. and X.5.b. was carried out in retaliation to enemy activity. Movement was also engaged in S.8.a. and S.13.d.2.8. A direct hit on enemy suspected O.P. at CRUCIFIX in X.6.c. was obtained. Transport on roads R.36.a. and c. and valley in R.34.b. were engaged during night.

(c) Machine guns. 22,000 rounds were fired on woods in R.34.b, R.35.a., roads in X.6.c and trench running east of that point, cross roads at S.8.c.6.6 to S.8.c.2.8, MADAM Wood in S.13.b. and d.

(d) Aircraft. Active.

(e) Patrols. (1) At 5 p.m. 2 o.r's proceeded east from X.12.a 2.3 across road. Enemy post encountered 50 yards out. Bombs were exchanged. Patrol withdrew. (2) Two o.r's. went out to X.12.a.3.2 in daylight and covered our occupation of that point. No enemy encountered. (3) One officer and 6 o.r's. moved out from X.18.a.8.3 at 10.45 p.m. and worked to left of MADAM Wood and towards road in rear. A party of 4 enemy were seen to leave the wood and disappear into a post. Flares and open nature of ground rendered the movement of patrol difficult. (4) Patrol of one officer and 6 o.r's. moved out to X.5.a. 4.3. and found unoccupied gun pits and dugouts. Moving to sunken road an enemy covering party was seen at about X.5.a.50.05. no action taken. (5) One officer and 6 o.r's went out to approx. X.5.d.9.2., No enemy encountered. (6) One officer and 10 o.r's went out from R. 4.d.8.5 to R.35.c.0.5 th nce to R.35.c.2.7 thence south along old track to R.35.c. 7.4. No enemy encountered but posts were located (see enemy defences). Picking and hammering and the plucking of grass. (7) One n.c.o. and 10 men worked down FOCH Alley to approx. R.35.c.7.1. This patrol also heard similar noises to No 6 patrol at about R.35.c.9.4. (8) One n.c.o. and 2 o.r's. left X.5.d.3.9 and moved along road. Report line of enemy posts parallel to ours, location undecided.

(f) Snipers. About 40 shots were fired and a killed claimed at X.5.b.7.8. Also three very probable hits in X.12.a.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Considerable activity. Counter preparation commenced at 9.30 p.m. and was heaviest on X.3, X.4, X.10, and X.11, at short intervals until midnight. X.16.a. was subjected to heavy fire at intervals during the night. The predominating calibres were 10.5 and 15 cm. General line of shelling seems to be on road S.E. through X.3.d and X.10.a and d. Front line on right shelled only lightly. A very light gun is reported to have shelled our outpost line in X.5.d and X.11.b from a position just in rear of CRUCIFIX.

Gas. About 200 rounds YELLOW CROSS on X.8 and X.9 during night. Some GREEN CROSS also mixed with H.E. shelling on left Bn. sector during night.

H.V. guns shelled HARBONNIERES, BAYONVILLERS and VILLERS BRETONNEUX during the day. Fairly heavy shelling of X.15. between 9 and 10.45 a.m. X.3. between 9.30 and 9.50, X.3, X.4, X.10 between 10.30 and 11.45 a.m.; FRAMERVILLE, VAUVILLERS, X.10 and X.15 were shelled during the afternoon.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Nervous and alert.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Posts. Located by patrol at R.35.c.7.6, R.35.c.4.8, R.35.c.9.4. Post is also suspected at X.12.c.6.6. Enemy talking and movement was heard at our advanced post from approx. S.13.b.0.8. Movement appeared to extend toward MADAM Wood. At 5 a.m. further movement was heard at approx X.12.c.9.0. Road in this direction is not under observation.

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6. ENEMY DEFENCES. (Continued).

(a) Posts (Continued).

FAIDHERBE ALLEY in front of our post has a lot of tangled wire in it.

(b) Trench Mortars. A L.T.M. was seen to fire from vicinity of CRUCIFIX.

(c) Machine Guns. Slight activity only on right and from guns placed well in rear. A.A. machine gun fire from trench in S.7.c. M.G. fired also from approx. X.13.a.2.4. and X.13.c.2.8. M.G's. located by patrol at R.35.c.4.8. and R.35.c.9.4. 12 M.G's. are reported from S.7.c. and S.13.a. firing at our 'planes.

(d) Flares. Quiet.

(e) Snipers. Active from R.34.b.7.8.

(f) Infantry Action. At 10.30 p.m. a heavy M.G. and 77 mm. barrage was placed on our posts at R.34.d.7.5. and vicinity. A party of the enemy about 12 came down valley under cover of this until they sighted our post R.34.d.7.5. A single GREEN flare was then fired and the barrage lengthened. The party attacked our post with bombs but were driven off with loss by Lewis Gun and rifle fire. Our casualties nil.

7. ENEMY AIRCRAFT. Bombing activity was less on front area but fairly constant over rear areas. At 5 a.m. 2 E.A. made a low flying tour of our lines to X.18.central. E.A. also flew over our lines at 10.10 a.m.

8. MOVEMENT. Increase in amount of individual movement seen. In S.13.a. and S.7.c. individuals were seen. A man was seen climbing a tree in West edge of MADAM WOOD. He was shot. At dusk a party of 10 was seen in GULLY North of HERLEVILLE in R.38.c. Two parties of 15 each were seen moving at R.35.d.9.2. At 4.30 a.m. Red Cross Flag at R.34.b.8.8. Movement seen around ST.DENIS WOOD. Stretcher party with white flag here at 6.30 a.m.

M.E. Denning Lt
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

TRANSLATION OF CAPTURED GERMAN DOCUMENTS.

1. 6:7:18.

Second Army.

The enemy has in his minor enterprises again taken prisoner a complete front line battalion and part of a support battalion. The reason for this is faulty leadership. The forward positions, which were produced by the offensive, are still too thickly occupied. The main fight takes place too far forward and is not elastic enough. The forward zone is not deep enough or is not used enough for the conduct of the battle.

This is followed by orders for the revision of the distribution of troops. A forward zone of 500 - 1000 metres is ordered, except in the case of bridge heads on the ANCRE and AVRE. The order is signed by von der MARWITZ. A postcript says amongst other things: "In general, it is again pointed out that the change in our dispositions must be concealed from the enemy as long as possible, in order that he may not draw the conclusion that we are only acting on the defensive."

2. 9:7:18.

41st Division.

"The enemy penetrated the forward zone of the 108th Div. by means of large patrols at midnight on 8:7:18 without artillery preparation and on the same day at 11 p.m. with artillery preparation astride the MARCELCAVE - VILLERS BRETONNEUX railway. He occupied the trench, where our most advanced putpost lay, and apparently took the occupants, comprising 15 men prisoner. The larger part of the forward zone has been lost."

Then follow special ....

Then follows special instructions to prevent the re-occurrence of these episodes of which the following are extracts:-

"The picquets must protect their flanks and rear by continuous "observation, as our enemy, who has grown up in the Australian bush, "wriggles up to our posts with great dexterity from the flank and rear "in the high crops, in order to overwhelm them."

"In the case of the present trench division it has often happened that complete picquets have disappeared from the forward zone without a trace."

"I expect the division to remember its good reputation in the seriousness of the task which has been set it here."

3. 2nd Army H.Q. Secret. 18th July, 1918.

"During the last few days the English have succeeded in penetrating or taking prisoner single posts and picquets; they have gradually -- sometimes even in daylight -- succeeded in getting possession of the majority of the forward zone of a division.

"The tactical situation of a great part of the Army front zone has owing to this been considerably impaired. The reason for this mischance lies chiefly in the fact that the garrisons of the forward zone were immediately set out in accordance with the orders of the Army dated 6:7:18, before the local conditions had been accurately examined and before the principles for the conduct of fighting in the forward zone could be instilled into the troops. For instance in one place there was neither visual or any other liaison between the outpost line and the company, so that the removal of the former (by the enemy) was not even noticed: counter-attacks followed too late and were a complete failure. Co-operation with the artillery by means of special batteries for the forward zone had not yet been worked out."

The order goes on to explain the functions of the troops in the forward zone, who are to delay attacking troops, keep the main line of resistance from surprise. The forward zone must be immediately retaken by counter attack except by special order from Army.

"Troops must fight. They must not give way at every opportunity and seek to avoid fighting, otherwise they will get the feeling that the enemy are superior to them."

Later, "The best way to make the enemy more careful in his attempt to drive us bit by bit out of the outpost line and forward zone, is to do active reconnaissance and carry out patrol encounters oneself. In this respect, absolutely nothing seems to have been done. If the enemy can succeed in scoring a success without any special support by artillery or assistance from special troops, we must be in a position to do the same."

The order finishes by the recommendation to G.O.C's. that they encourage their troops to carry out minor enterprises, both to raise their moral and lower that of the enemy, and to obtain information about the order of battle. The difficult position of the infantry is recognised.

The document is signed by von der MARWITZ.

This is passed on by the XI Corps with like comments and the remark that the troops must at all costs be made to feel superior to the Australian enemy. Further comments from the division are added.

NOTE. - The above documents have been captured during the recent fighting and afford good evidence of the seriousness which the enemy attached to the taking of HAMEL and the effect of his moral of this operation and the subsequent minor operations.

(I.S. No. 223).

P.T.O.

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2nd Aust. Div. I.S. No.200.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES (Continued).

SITUATION AUGUST 15TH and NIGHT 15TH/16TH INST. North of the SOMME, the situation remains unchanged. The enemy appear to hold posts, possibly only at night, on the line of the ETINEHEM - MEAULTE road. Hostile patrols were seen on the eastern bank of the ANCRE, south of ALBERT and south of MEAULTE, also in and north of ALBERT. During the night, our line was pushed forward N.E. of MORLANCOURT, but a post further north was driven in by the enemy at 7 p.m. - since re-established. (I.S. 241).

Between LIHONS and ROYE, the Canadians attacked and captured PARVILLERS and DAMERY, the latter innthe early afternoon. The Germans unsuccessfully counter-attacked at 4.30 p.m., leaving 200 prisoners belonging to the 121st Div. in our hands.

From prisoners' statements, it is quite certain that the Alpine Corps has reinforced the line between LA CHAVATTE and probably CHILLY, hence local counter-attacks may be expected. The Alpine Corps is regarded as a fine fighting formation, but lost very heavily at KEMMEL.

During the night, only slight retaliation was called for by our harassing fire in this area, but FOUQUESCOURT, ROUVROY and PARVILLERS were shelled late yesterday evening.

Movement yesterday was slight, and indicated the arrival of no fresh divisions. The French, however, report activity S. and E. of ROYE.

Reviewing the situation as a whole the enemy appears to be decidedly weak between the SOMME and the CHAULNES railway. Between the railway and ROYE, the Alpine Corps has considerably strengthened the line. (I.S. 241).

PRISONERS. The number of prisoners who passed through Corps Cages and C.C.S. is 22,010, of whom 482 are officers. (I.S. 241).

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Aircraft. Enemy aircraft activity was below normal. Thirty-two 'planes crossed the line. About half the activity was composed of R.E.A./ and Artillery machines evenly distributed over the Army front.

Only one strong patrol formation was met of 15 F.E.A. in the southern sector.

Dawn Reconnaissance (16:8:18). Large parts of the northern and southern reconnaissance areas were obscured by cloud during the early morning. There seemed to be a fair amount of activity on railways in the PERONNE - ROISEL area about 6 a.m. Two trains were seen going east through HAM, and two with steam up in HAM station. Main roads between YOYE, NESLE and HAM seemed clear, but the report is not a negative one. (I.S. 241).

RESERVES. The Alpine Corps from reserve has now been identified in the line, hence between the Sea and the OISE there are now 10 infantry divisions in reserve fit to fight and a total of 22 infantry and two dismounted cavalry divisions in the Western Theatre available for immediate operations.

ENEMY INTENTIONS.

(a) Prisoners captured at DAMERY, as the result of the German counter attack yesterday afternoon, state their attack was intended to induce us to believe that the Germans meant to contest every inch of ground.

They were further of opinion that they would retire to east of the SOMME, if attacked in strength, especially with tanks. They stated trenches were being prepared between PERONNE and FALVY for their reception.

(Note. - There is an old German line here, and it is well wired). Also, that bridges have been prepared ready to throw across the SOMME but little work is being done on trenches west of the SOMME, but that pioneers are busy strengthening the wire in front of the trenches running west of FIRSNOY and FRANSART, which was their main line of resistance, and to which troops in front of it would retire in the first instance if attacked.

(b) Prisoners of the 204th Div., captured yesterday, by the French, state that they have received orders to retire to some position (not known to them), in rear. (I.S. 241).

CAPTURED ORDERS OF THE 13TH DIV. .....

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES (Continued).

CAPTURED ORDERS OF THE 13TH DIV.

(i) Extracts from weekly strength returns made by Regts. of 13th Div.- 12th June, 1918. - Average fighting strength of battalions:-

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 13th Inf. Regt. | - 369 | - Machine Gun Coy. | - | 78. |
| 15th Inf. Regt. | - 284 | - " " " | - | 79. |
| 55th Inf. Regt. | - 396. | - " " " | - | 79. |

Drafts received since last report:-

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 13th Inf. Regt. | - 1 Off. | - 46 O.Rs. | - | - horses. |
| 15th Inf. Regt. | - 2 " | - 22 " | - | - " |
| 55th Inf. Regt. | - 1 " | - -- " | - | - " |

The troops are in need of several weeks' rest and training.

(Signed) HAGENBERG.

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2nd July. - No important change since last report. The new drafts made a favourable impression on the whole, but coming, as they do, chiefly from LANDWEHR formations on the RUMANIAN front, they are not yet familiar with conditions in the west. Proof of their imperfect discipline is given by the fact that, when warned for the trenches, numerous men absented themselves without leave.

9th July. - The heavy fighting on the 4th, and the not inconsiderable losses of the following days, . . . . . have seriously diminished the fighting power of the troops. The 13th Inf. Regt. has suffered the most severely.

The large number of casualties among officers has very much reduced the fighting quality of the troops.

Average strength of battalions:-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 13th Inf. Regt. | - Field Str. 416 | - Tr. str. | 178. |
| 15th Inf. Regt. | - Field str. 510 | - Tr. str. | 262. |
| 55th Inf. Regt. | - Field Str. 507 | - Tr. str. | 309. |

16th July. - No important change since the last report. There has been no improvement in the conditions of the fighting nor in the billeting of troops. The men are suffering under the frequent gas shelling and are seriously troubled by lice. (I.S. 241).

(ii) On the 20th July, the 26th Bde. applied to the division for a quick supply of drafts, pointing out that the regiments suffered greatly from the lack of trained men, and that owing to the weak trench strengths it was not possible to make up the deficiency by courses behind the front. The 13th Division replied as follows:-

"The conditions described are known to the division and to
"the Higher Authorities. A supply of drafts cannot be expected
"before the 15th August. Conditions are even more unfavourable
"among neighbouring units. In the interests of all, the
"situation must be tolerated."

(Signed) v. BORRIES.

(I.S. No. 241).

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