

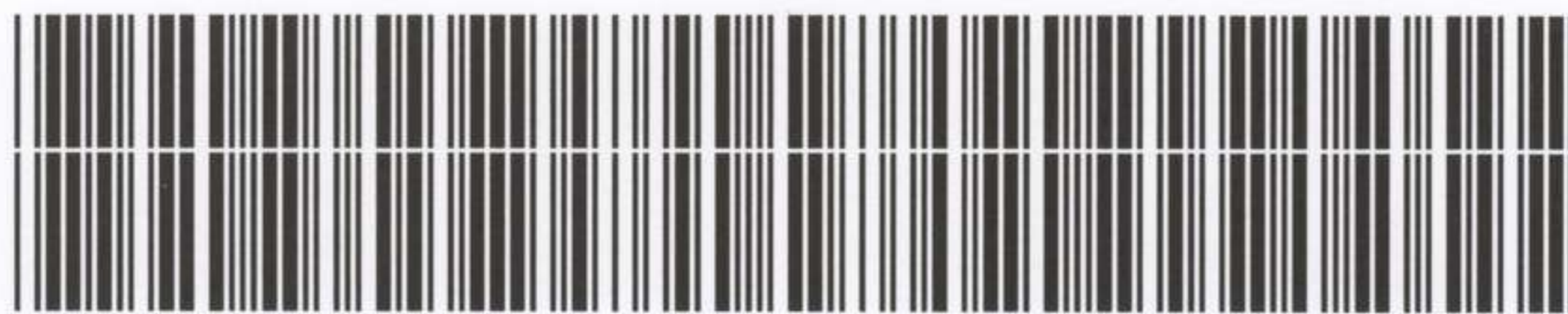
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Formation Headquarters

**Item number:** 1/50/25 Part 4

**Title:** General Staff, Headquarters 5th  
Australian Division

March 1918



AWM4-1/50/25PART4

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SECRET.

Aust.C.H.A.  
No. 9/395.  
1st March, 1918.

Copy No. 4

AUSTRALIAN CORPS

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER NO. 127.

----- \* -----

Reference Target Maps:  
WARNETON, HOUTHER,  
1/10,000.

1. On "Z" Day and the day following, to be known as "A" Day, dates to be notified later, the 3rd Australian Division are carrying out raids. Simultaneously, the 5th Australian Division are carrying out raids and a "Chinese Attack".
2. The points to be raided are as follows:-
  - (a). 3rd Aust. Division.  
9th Aust. Inf. Bde.  
Between the following points:-  
U.12.c.0020    U.12.c.3337.  
U.18.a.2855    U.18.a.7085.  
penetrating along communication trench to U.12.c.7505.  
11th Aust. Inf. Bde. will also carry out an operation on their front on the same days and at hours to be notified.
  - (b). 5th Aust. Division.  
15th Aust. Inf. Bde.  
(i). Point of entry approximately U.5.d.7023.  
(ii).       "       "       "       "       "       0.35.d.8080.  
14th Aust. Inf. Bde.  
(iii). Point of ontr. approximately 0.17.d.8575.  
(iv). Chinese Attack about       0.11.d.9525.
3. Hours of zero will be notified later, but zero hour for operation to be carried out by 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. will be 10 minutes before zero hour for 9th Aust. Inf. Bde.
4. Co-operation of Heavy Artillery is shown in attached Table A.
5. All batteries (including "silent" batteries) not detailed in Table "A" will be engaged in Counter-battery work under instructions issued by C.B.S.O. from zero to zero plus 60 minutes. Certain batteries under Table "A" will be available for Counter-battery work from zero plus 30 mins. onwards.
6. On "Z" and "A" Days, Brigades will each detail one officer to synchronise watches at Left Group Headqrs. 3rd Aust. Divl. Arty. at 6 p.m.
7. Artillery Action will be exactly similar for both "Z" & "A" Days.
8. Registration is to be carried out on 2nd and 3rd March, but to be reduced to a minimum, and every effort must be made to avoid giving any indication of a forthcoming operation.
9. 106 fuzos will not be used unless specially ordered.
10. The "S.O.S." signal will be inoperative on the front of each raid from zero minus 30 minutes to zero plus 60 minutes.
11. Rates of fire:- 60-prs. ) 1 round per gun per minute  
6" Hows.) with occasional pauses.

*Handwritten signatures and notes:*  
 G. J. ...  
 ...  
 ...

B.

12. Gas shell will not be fired unless the Code Word "CHOKEM" is received from this office.
13. ACKNOWLEDGE. *vfm*

*gan*  
*2/3/18*

Issued at 8 p.m.

*R. Hardet*

Major, R.A.

Brigade Major, Aust. Corps H.A.

Issued to:-

- Copy No. 1. G.O.C.R.A. Aust. Corps.  
 2. 3rd Aust. Divn. G.  
 3. 3rd Aust. D.A.  
 4. 5th Aust. Divn. G.  
 5. 5th Aust. Divn. Arty.  
 6. 12th Brigade, R.G.A.  
 7. 18th "  
 8. 33th "  
 9. 41st "  
 10. 52nd "  
 11. C.B.S.O.  
 12. Staff Captain.  
 13. 3rd Squadron, A.F.C.  
 14. 3th Balloon Coy.  
 15. File.  
 16 -18. War Diary.

---- \* ----

TABLE 'A'

## HEAVY ARTILLERY ACTION DURING RAIDS.

DAY.	T I M E.		BRIGADE.	BATTERY.	CALIBRE.	SHELL.	FUZE.	Maximum No of rds. to be expended.	TARGET.	REMARKS.
	FRO.	TO								
	Zero	Zero plus 50 minutes	41 Bde.RGA.	N.Midland Ivy. Bty.	60-pdr	Gas or H.E.	- Delay.	150.	(T.M. & M.G. EMPLACEMENTS (at SPINNING MILL AND WICART FARL. U.18.c.96.92. U.18.c.97.92. U.18.c.96.72. U.18.c.71.62. U.18.c.71.52. U.18.d.10.33. U.18.d.07.95. U.18.c.25.05. U.24.a.15.97 U.24.a.64.85.	RAID carried out by 3rd AUST. Div:
	"	"	52 Bde.RGA.	259 Siege	6" How.	H.E.		200		
	"	"	36 Bde.RGA.	155 Siege. (1.Section).	3" How	H.E.	Delay.	100	(HQRS & DUGOUTS U.12.d.50.75.	
	"	"	36 Bde.RGA.	155 Siege. (1.Section).	"	H.E.	Delay & pro- portion of 100.	100	DUGOUTS. U.12.b.50.30.	
	"	"	36 Bde.RGA.	140 Heavy. (1.Section.)	60-pdr.	GAS or H.E.	- 100.	100.	H.Q. SUPPORTS. V.8.a.0.1.	
	"	"	36 Bde.RGA.	140 Heavy. (1.Section.)	"	GAS or H.E.	- 100.	100	HQRS. BOUND. V.7.a.35.10.	

"Z" and "A" Days.

APPENDIX.

4  
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TABLE 'A' Continued.

DAY.	T I M E		BRIGADE.	BATTERY.	CALIBRE	SHELL	FUZE	Maximum No: of rds. to be expended.	TARGET.	REMARKS.
	From.	To.								
"Z" and "A" D A Y S.	ZERO.	ZERO plus 30 minutes.	12Bde. RGA.	319 Siego.	6" How.	H.E.	Delay.	120	(POLL HOUSE (0.18.a.75.55 (BOMB FARM (0.18.c.70.97. ( to (CENTRE FARM. (0.18.o.40.15.	RAID carried out by 5th AUST: DIVISION.
	"	"	41 Bde. RGA.	6 Siego (1. Section)	6" How.	H.E.	106.	60.	(ESPERANCE CABT. (0.33.b.35.50 (ANGLE FARM (0.33.a.80.65.	
	"	"	41 Bde. RGA.	6 Siego. (1. Section)	6" How.	H.E.	Delay.	60	GUARD FARM. 0.29.d.45.15.	All Batteries finishing tasks at ZERO plus 30 stand by for Counter-Battery Work.
	"	"	41 Bde. RGA.	6 Siego, (1. Section)	6" How.	H.E.	Delay.	60	KINGSCLERE. U.6.b.25.30.	
	"	"	12 Bde. RGA.	5. R.M.A.	15" How	H.E.	Delay	3.	KINGSCLERE. U.6.b.25.30.	

APPENDIX.

333

*Aust. Divn.*

SECRET.

ADDENDUM TO AUST. CORPS H.A. ORDER NO. 127



--- \* ---

TABLE A -

For "6th Siege" read "1st Siege".

*Chardet*

3.3.18.

Major, H.A.

Brigade Major, Aust. Corps H.A.

To all recipients of H.A. Order 127.

COUNTER BATTERY - AUSTRALIAN CORPS H.A.

COUNTER BATTERY ORDER NO 29/6.

In connection with the operation referred to in Heavy Artillery Order No 127, Counter battery action on each occasion will be as follows:-

1. All Batteries not engaged on Bombardment tasks under the above order, will keep their "Programme Targets" under fire from Zero hour to Zero plus 60 minutes.
2. The following additional targets are allotted for the operation:-  
 1st S.B. VX 14, PZ 165 (1 gun on each)  
 10 S.B. VW 41, VY 54, V 8 b 95. (1 gun on each)  
 2(AUSR)S.B. VZ 1, VZ 33.
3. At Zero plus 60 all batteries will cease fire unless otherwise ordered.
4. 29 S.B., 80 S.B.(if in action), 82 S.B. will stand by for orders from Zero onwards.
5. Rates of fire will be:-

	Zero to plus 10.	Plus 10 to plus 40.	Plus 40 to plus 60.
9.2" How.) 8" How.)	1 rd per gn per 2 min.	2 rds pr gn per 3 min.	1 rd per gun per 2 min.
6" How ) 60-pdr )	2 rds pr gn per 3 min.	1 rd per gn per min.	1 rd per gun per 2 min.
6" Mk VII ) Gun )	1 rd pr gn per 3 min	1 rd pr gn per 2 min	1 rd per gun per 3 min.
12" How.	1 round per gun per 5 minutes.		

6. Zero hour will be notified by Brigade Major.
7. PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE BY FIRE.

*Handwritten signature*

*Handwritten signature*

Lieut.Col.R.A.  
C.B.S.O. AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTY.

1.3.18

Issued 9.p.m.

- Copies to:-
- |                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| No 1. G.O.C., R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS. | No 9. 41 Brigade.  |
| 2. B.M., H.A.                        | 10. 36 Brigado.    |
| 3. 3rd AUST&Div. 'G'                 | 11. 18 Brigado.    |
| 4. 3rd AUST.DIV.ARTY.                | 12. 3rd Squadron.  |
| 5. 5th AUST.Div. "G"                 | 13. 6th Balloon.   |
| 6. 5th AUST.DIV.ARTY.                | 14. Staff Captain. |
| 7. 53 Brigade.                       | 15. File.          |
| 8. 12 Brigade.                       | 16- 20. Spare.     |

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4

FIB.

HEADQUARTERS  
5th AUSTRALIAN  
DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.  
3/5/3690  
Date.....

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

Headquarters,  
1st March, 1918.

Heavy Artillery,  
Australian Corps.

Can you please arrange to give us the following support  
for a minor operation in accordance with 5th Aust. D.A. Order NO. 167:-

<u>Time.</u>	<u>Nature of piece.</u>	<u>Task.</u>	<u>Rnds PGM.</u>	<u>Ammunition.</u>
Z to Z+30	1 - 6" How	Bombard POLL HOUSE O.18.a.75.55	1	30
" "	3 - 6" "	Bombard BOMB Fm O.18.c.70.97. to	1	90
" "	1 - 6" "	CENTRE Fm O.18.c.40.15. Bombard ESPERANCE CABT	-	-
" "	1 - 6" "	O.36.b.35.50 Bombard ANGLE Fm	1	30
" "	1 - 6" "	O.36.a.80.65 Bombard GUARD Fm	1	30
" "	1 - 15" "	O.29.d.45.15 Bombard KINGSCLERE	1	30
" "	- -	U.6.b.25.30	-	-

*H. H. H.*

Major,  
for Brig-General,  
C.R.A., 5th Australian Division.

CRA. H  
BM H  
BMT. H



APPENDIX 4

SECRET

Copy No. 8

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY ORDER No. 168.  
-----Headquarters,  
2nd. March, 1918.

1. Reference 5th. Australian Divisional Artillery Order No. 167 dated 26th. Feby. 1918.

1. The date of the raid will be the night of 3rd./4th. March, 1918,

2. The Artillery Programmes arranged by C.O.'s MESSINES and HOLLEBIEKE Groups and the HEAVY ARTILLERY, AUSTRALIAN CORPS will be repeated on the night of 4th/5th. March, 1918.

3. ZERO HOURS will be notified later.

4. ACKNOWLEDGE. /

*W. Allen*Major.,  
Brigade Major.,

5th. Australian Divisional Artillery.

Issued at 12.30 p.m. to

All recipients of 5th. Aust. Div. Artillery Order No. 167.

MESSINES GROUP ARTILLERY OPERATION ORDER No. 83.

SECRET.

Copy -----

Headquarters,  
2nd March 1918.Reference Maps 1-10,000 KORTEWILDE and  
BAS WARNETON.

1. In continuation of M.G.A.O.O. No. 79 of the 27th Feby. 1918, wire will be cut at the points ordered in para. 2 to complete the lanes to be used. These lanes must be completed tomorrow the 3rd inst if they have been repaired.  
In addition wire is to be cut at the following points:-  
51st Battery CINEMA Road 0.35.d.75.87. and 0.35.d.75.90.  
also at U.6.a.4.3.  
113th Battery may be used for this purpose if required.
2. Lieuts. A.G.MANN and M.C.CLARKE will carry out this cutting and will satisfy themselves that the lanes to be used are completely cut. They will return to Battalion H.Qrs. after completion of the wire cutting operation and reports will be made to this Office indicating that lanes have been cut successfully or otherwise at the points where the raid will take place. The following code words will be used -  
"Bottles 1 or 2" meaning "So many lanes being successfully cut."
3. On return to Battalion H.Qrs. Liaison Officers will meet O.C.raids with whom they will perform their Liaison duties. They will carry lamps and will send "DD" messages to O.P's as may be required. These messages will be signed "CLARKE" and "MANN" respectively.
4. All O.P's will be manned during the raid. Good lamp signallers will be employed to receive messages from Liaison Officers. These messages will immediately be sent to Group H.Qrs.
5. Expenditure of ammunition is not to be considered for wire cutting. during the operation it will be fired in the proportion of 25% "A" and 75% "AX" for 18 pdr. and "BX" for 4.5 Hows. 70 106 fuzes will be used during the raid.  
During phase 1 "AX" only will be used by 18pdr.batteries.
6. The Task for 51st and 49th Batteries in Phase 2 of 57th Battalion raid is altered to read as follows:-  
51st Bty. U.6.c.05.10 to U.5.d.95.35. Fire to be West of Pill-boxes on line from U.6.c.1.1. to U.5.d.97.30.  
49th 1 Sect.U.5.d. 95.35.U.5.d.85.45.  
113th 1 How.on T.M.Emplacements at U.12.b.4.9. and U.12.b.68.92. alternatively.  
3 Hows. sweep UNBENT TRENCH as for Phase 1.
7. Raiding party will be in position in front of our wire prior to ZERO. In order to indicate the limits at which raiding party is to proceed along the trench 2 rounds will be fired by both the 50th and 51st Batteries on the following points at 5 minutes before ZERO.  
50th Bty. U.5.d.75.15.  
51st Bty. U.5.d.76.26.
8. Referring to para.12 of M.G.A.O.O. No. 79. Fire will not stop at Z plus 30 but will continue until Z plus 50. Rates of fire for the additional period will be:-  
Z plus 30 to Z plus 40. 1 rd.per gun or How.per 1 1/2 mins  
Z " 40 to Z " 50. 1 " " " " " " 2 "
9. Referring to Left (58th Btn) raid. Additional points of entry having been decided upon, Phase 2 of task shown will be altered to read as under  
Phase 2  
49th Bty. less 1 sect. 0.35.d.95.60 to 0.36.c.20.85.  
55th Bty. 0.36.c.20.85 to 0.36.a.1.1.  
54th Bty 4 guns 0.36.a.1.1. to 0.35.b.55.20.  
1 " 0.35.b.4.3.  
113th Bty.1 How. 0.36.c.85.75.  
1 How. DATUM Ho. 0.36.a.3.2.  
114th Bty.1 " 0.35.b.2.6.  
1 " Sweep OTIRA TRENCH from 0.36. a. 35.65. to 0.36.a.5.8.
10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

CRA 3/207

CRA

3M

BMT gfd.

13/18

233  
CR3/206

SECRET

HOLLANDIA GROUP ARTILLERY  
OPERATION ORDER NUMBER 10

BY LIEUT COLONEL G. I. STEVENSON, O.M.S.

ORGANISING HOLLANDIA GROUP ARTILLERY

HEADQUARTERS  
2/5/19

Reference HOLLANDIA GROUP ARTILLERY ORDER No. 10 dated 1/5/19:

1. The date of the raid will be night of the 3rd/4th March.
2. ZERO HOUR will be 11.45 p.m.
3. The Artillery programme set out in Operation Order No. 10 will be repeated entirely on the night 4th/5th MARCH.
4. ZERO HOUR for this operation will be notified later.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*G. I. Stevenson* CAPTAIN F.A.  
ADJUTANT HOLLANDIA GROUP ARTY

- Copies to:-
- 7th Bty
  - 8th "
  - 9th "
  - 10th "
  - 11th "
  - 12th "
  - 13th "
  - 14th Bty
  - 14th Inf Bde
  - COASTAL GROUP ARTY
  - REGIMENT GROUP 4TH AUS DIV ARTY
  - R.G. 4TH AUS DIV ARTY
  - " " " "
  - D.F.M.O. 5th DIV
  - FILE
  - WAR DEPT

*CPA  
BM  
BMT*

## 14th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 128



Reference: -

Sheet 23.S.W. 2. 1/10000.

Headquarters,  
2nd March 1918.

1. On Z day the 5th Division will carry out minor operations in co-operation with 3rd Australian Division.
  - (i) The 15th Infantry Brigade on our right are carrying out two raids.
  - (ii) The 14th Infantry Brigade will operate as under: -
    - (a) The 55th Battalion will carry out a minor operation against WHIZ FARM at 0.17.d.7.8.
    - (b) The 53rd Battalion will carry out a "Chinese Attack" towards THE TWINS at 0.11.d.9.2.
2. The object of the operations are to: -
  - (i) To capture and kill as many enemy as possible.
  - (ii) To damage and destroy material.
  - (iii) To obtain identification.
  - (iv) To draw the attention of the enemy from the operations to the south.
3. The 55th Battalion raid will be carried out by a party of 1 Officer and 21 others (including 1 German speaker and 1 searcher). No identification mark will be carried except raid numbers.
4. (a) In connection with this operation the HOLLEBEKE Group Artillery will open at ZERO on WHIZ FARM, BANG, HIGH, and FLY BUILDINGS, and a barrage (in accordance with table issued to unit concerned) east of WHIZ FARM, which will remain down until ZERO plus 2 minutes.  
At ZERO plus 2 bombardment will lift from WHIZ and be distributed on the other targets.
  - (b) Raiders will be in position about 0.17.d.3.7. by ZERO and will move towards WHIZ under cover of the bombardment.  
At ZERO plus 2 they will enter objective and carry out their work, withdrawing under the orders of O.C. Raid.
  - (c) Bombardment of above targets will continue until HOLLEBEKE Group is notified by 55th Battalion of raiders return.
  - (d) Gas shells will be included in bombardment on FLY BUILDINGS if wind is favourable. Units will be notified by wire if this is to be done.
5. The "Chinese Attack" will be carried out as follows: -
  - (i) As soon as darkness permits on Z night, 15 dummy figures on 5 frames will be placed in position about 0.11.d.30.35. and actuating arrangement connected to L.P. in advance of S.P.1.0.11.
  - (ii) At ZERO, two batteries of 4th Division Artillery will bombard THE TWINS and THE GIANT until ZERO plus 2 minutes. At ZERO plus 2 bombardment on TWINS is lifted and distributed on THE GIANT and BANG FARM.
  - (iii) At ZERO plus 2 the O.C. "Chinese Attack" will order the figures to be raised and lowered which movement will continue if possible until cease fire.
  - (iv) Cease fire will be notified to batteries concerned by HOLLEBEKE Group.

*Approved  
Theater  
9/11/18*

*J.P.A.*

2.

6. Unit Commanders concerned will arrange details not included in the above.
7. Watches will be synchronised with F.N.28. at 5.p.m. and 8.p.m. on Z day.
8. Z day has been notified. ZERO hour will be notified under separate cover.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE. *VKM  
620m 18  
23*

*L. G. King*  
Major,  
BRIGADE MAJOR,  
14th. AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

Issued at 4.30 p.m. through Signals to:-

	Copy No.
War Diary.	1/3.
53rd Battalion.	4.
54th Battalion.	5.
55th Battalion.	6.
56th Battalion.	7.
14th M.G. Coy.	8.
25th M.G. Coy.	18.
14th L.T.H.B.	9.
15th Field Ambulance.	10.
14th Field Coy. A.E.	11.
HOLLEBEKE Group Artillery.	12.
5th Australian Division.	13.
15th Aust. Infantry Bde.	14.
3rd. Aust. Infantry Bde.	15.
Staff Captain.	16.
File.	17.

14th  
 AUSTRALIAN  
 INFANTRY BRIGADE.  
 No. 414/681  
 Date 2.3.18

6th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION  
 2.3.18  
 6.20 PM

SECRET.

Reference 14th Infantry Brigade Order No. 126 of 2nd. March, Z day will be 3rd March.

ZERO hour will be 11.45.p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGE. (Units by wire). ✓ PM 6.20 PM 2.3.18

*R. H. Cass*  
 Major,  
 BRIGADE MAJOR,  
 14th. AUST. INF. BRIGADE.

To recipients of Order No. 126.

*File  
11/11*

FIB

*file*

SECRET.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

HEADQUARTERS 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.
SG/44
No.....
Date.....

Headquarters,  
2nd March, 1918.

C.O. COSTAVERNE Group.

With reference to 5th Australian Divisional Artillery Order  
No. 168 dated to-day. 2/3/18

ZERO HOUR will be 11.45P m. on 3<sup>rd</sup> th March, 1918.

ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

*H. Holman*

Major,  
Brigade Major,  
5th Australian Divisional Artillery.

*all groups file in 1001  
Australian  
corps HQ*

*file 1001*







MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

(In pads of 100.)  
No. of Message.....

Prefix.....	Code..... m	Words.	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Reed. at ..... m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions:					..... Service.
		Sent			
		At ..... m.			
		To.....			From.....
		By.....		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By.....

TO { Messines Group

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* Ra 238	3 <sup>rd</sup>	0083	

Hotel.

From	5 <sup>th</sup>	Hotel	Despatch
Place			
Time			

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. *[Signature]*  
 Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

\* This line should be erased if not required.  
 (3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)

233

FIB

SECRET.

*May  
File 2/3/18*

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

HEADQUARTERS
5th AUSTRALIAN
DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.
G3/5/3710
No.....
Date.....

Headquarters,  
3rd March, 1918.

C.O. MESSINES Group.

The C.R.A., approves your programme forwarded in connection with 5th Australian Divisional Artillery Order No. 167 dated 26/2/18.

*J. Bullerton - Andrew Capt*  
Major,  
for Brigade Major,  
5th Australian Divisional Artillery.

*CRA H  
BM  
BMT - G*

*attach to  
has file*

133

*Memorandum*

**FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.**

**SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS CONDUCTED ON THE TELEPHONE.**

Date... 3rd March.....1918.

DAILY DIARY NUMBER.	FROM	TO.	TIME.	PURPORT.
1	F.N. 27	5th D.A.	11.55pm	No retaliation on Left, little on Right. Double Red along whole front directly Barrage opened.
2	F.N. 27	5th D.A.	12.26 am	Few more shells on Right. Heavy. Hollebeke not stopped.
3	F.N. 27	5th D.A.	12.28 am	Told R.A.H.A. Had stopped firing and were available for C.B. Any information of hostile shelling of value now.
4	E.X.103	5th D.A.	12.31 am	Party not yet back. Asked to slacken, told not yet.
5	F.Q. 89	5th D.A.	12.32 am	Two prisoners.
6	5th D.A.	G.S.O 1	12.33 am	Informed of 12.31 am and 12.32 am.
7	5th D.A.	A.Corps	12.38 am	Informed of above. 3rd Division's communications cut. Going well when last heard of.
8	F.Q. 89	5th D.A.	12.45 am	Retaliation fairly heavy 10' after Zero, principally Left portion Messines Sector. Chiefly big Minenwerfers O.P. report.
9	E.X.103	5th D.A.	12.49 am	Hollebeke asked to stop. One prisoner, all their people not back.
10	F.N. 27	5th D.A.	12.50 am	Informed of 12.50 am.
11	5th D.A.	G.S.O.1	12.51 am	Ceased fire 12.47 am. One prisoner.
12	E.X. 103	5th D.A.	12.53 am	Failed to get Liaison Officer on Left. Got him on Right. Ceased
13.	F.Q. 89	5th D.A.	12.55 am	fire. No news.
14	F.N. 27	5th D.A.	12.59 am	Officer, senior N.C.O. and 1 other rank wounded.
15	F.N. 27	5th D.A.	12.59 am	Two prisoners. Party not all in yet.
16	3rd D.A.	5th D.A.	1.4 am	Twenty-five unwounded and one wounded prisoners. One Officer and wounded and 2 other ranks killed.
17	5th D.A.	G.S.O 1	1.5 am	Informed of above. Hollebeke have 4 prisoners.
18	F.Q. 89	5th D.A.	1.21 am	On Right no prisoners and no casualties. Place unoccupied. Left 2 prisoners. No casualties.
19	F.Q. 89	5th D.A.	1.21 am	Identification normal. Retaliation very light on Left. Report from Left Liaison Officer.
20	3rd D.A.	5th D.A.	1.24 am	Former statement over-estimated. 12 prisoners. Casualties 2 killed 12 wounded.
21	F.Q. 89	5th D.A.	1.25 am	C.O. Left Battalion phoned through and thanked Brigade and people on Left for Artillery work.

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Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	SENDER'S No.	TEXT OF MESSAGE OR TELEPHONE CONVERSATION	How recd. or sent.
1	11.20	BM 14			"Chinese" fences in position & working well	Phone
	11.45				Guns opened.	"
2	-47	5 Div	Corps.		" " to time.	"
3	53	OP.			Reporting double red flares by Germans	"
4	12.10	15 <sup>th</sup>			Raid All out - No prisoners	"
5	-12		Corps		Giving 4	"
6	21	15 <sup>th</sup>			1 Prisoner Left Raid	"
7	22		Corps		Giving 6.	"
8	23	15 <sup>th</sup>	<del>2<sup>nd</sup> G.</del>		1 more pris. all out - back in trenches	"
9	24		3 <sup>rd</sup> G.			"
10	24		Corps		Giving 8.	"
11		15 <sup>th</sup>	"		13 <sup>th</sup> Bn <sup>2</sup> (6) 10 <sup>th</sup> Russian Regt.	"
12	25		"		Repts 11.	"
13	29		"			"

APPENDIX.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	SENDER'S No.	TEXT OF MESSAGE OR TELEPHONE CONVERSATION	How recd. or sent.
13	1234	DA	G1		14 party not back yet arly asked to go on firing.	
14	37	15	<del>Corps</del>		Cancel previous ident. - now 10 <sup>th</sup> Co. 226 RIR.	
15	37	.	Corps		<del>10<sup>th</sup> Co. 226 RIR.</del> Group 14.	
16	38	14			Not heavily bomb <sup>d</sup> - No news -	
17	43	14			Unconf. 11 Ret. 1 W <sup>d</sup> . 1 Pris 1 MG.	
18	44		Corps		Group 17.	
19	50	DA			Hear 1 Prisoner 14 <sup>th</sup> Raid. but not all back yet.	
20	53	14 <sup>th</sup>	-		Our bomb <sup>er</sup> pract <sup>ly</sup> clear - prob. means all in.	
21	55	14 <sup>th</sup>			53 <sup>rd</sup> Capt 2 Pris - No ident <sup>n</sup> - Offr slightly wounded - Senior NCO. also -	
22	56	<del>Corps</del>	Corps		Group 21.	
23	59	3 <sup>rd</sup> G	<del>Corps</del>		Our Carroy Exc. - were well in 2 K 10 w.	
23 A	1.0 pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> G		G103	Normal ident - 15 Pris 1 MG. -	were
"	"	"		G102		"

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Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	SENDER'S No.	TEXT OF MESSAGE OR TELEPHONE CONVERSATION	How recd. or sent..
24	1 pm		1 <sup>st</sup> D.		Giving news of 3 <sup>rd</sup> D. - of our own raids	
25	1.3	14			Supp Co say 4 prisoners. -	
26	4		Corps		Giving 25.	
27	6.	DA			Say 3 <sup>rd</sup> DA say 25 prisoners.	
<del>28</del>	1. 6	3 <sup>rd</sup> D	-	G105		Wire
28a	1.23		Corps flank div	I930		Wire
29	1.47	OP			Ferry on R <sup>h</sup> on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div front.	
30	50	14			Definitely 2 pris. - Ident Normal.	
31	51		Corps		Giving 30	
32	2.45	14			7th Co 162 979 Plie MAX KORDT, 1 Escort + 1 pris blown up. but 5 of party <del>not yet rep'd</del> at Co. 14 <sup>th</sup> Div think they are OK - other 2 pris a night.	
33	47		Corps		Giving 32. -	

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Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	SENDER'S No.	TEXT OF MESSAGE OR TELEPHONE CONVERSATION	How recd. or sent.
34	2.58	14 <sup>a</sup>	-		Figures (Chinese) worked all right - drew a lot of MG + arty fire - <del>can't get</del> none of party working figures or company in line wounded - Cannot get figures back owing MG fire - G.I. instr. to BM - Make no attempt to get figures back which would risk any men's lives.	Phone
35	3.15		Corps flank Divs	I 931		Wire
36	3.19	3 <sup>rd</sup> DIV		9107		Wire
37	3.45	14			Our party 1 casualty <sup>(OR. (wounded))</sup> , 1 not yet accounted for.	Phone



Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	SENDER'S No.	TEXT OF MESSAGE OR TELEPHONE CONVERSATION	How recd. or sent.
38	4.50	(H. G. Jones) Corps I.O.	5 AD		Order of battle normal 7 <sup>th</sup> Coy 162. Order of boys 5, 6, 7, 8 N to S. Order of rpts 76, 162, 163. Rumour of dis <sup>l</sup> relief perhaps by a 4 <sup>th</sup> div. Nothing definite. Troops seen in rear 86 RIR <sup>2</sup> & rpts of 17 <sup>th</sup> Res div. No knowledge of any offensive in this area or elsewhere. Relieved from 1/2 <sup>nd</sup> March, 6 days turn of duty in line. 2 skeleton sections of holding line in reserve	Phone
39	4.53	65 AD	Corps I		Living 38	Phone
39A	5.0	F 28	5 AD		Confirming 38	Wire
40	6.23	(Capt. Robinson) Div I.O.	5 AD		Large numbers of 10 <sup>th</sup> Coy 226 <sup>th</sup> R.I.R. captured in O.35.d. state were wounded Order of battle 226 R.I.R., 225 R.I.R., 228 R.I.R. from N to S area 226 <sup>th</sup> has 6 Coy forward with 4 in line & 2 in close support, and 6 in rear in Wewig. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Bn came into line night 28 Feb/1 man & will be relieved by 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn after 3 or 6 days duty area Our raid entirely a surprise area DATUM House in 10 <sup>th</sup> Coy H.O. area No knowledge at all of enemy intentions, gas, or stoppage of leave area (Note by 10 - prisoners only came in at 4.45 am)	Phone Wire
41	6.39	5 AD	Corps I	16.32	Living 40	Phone
42	6.39	5 AD	Corps I	16.32	Confirming 41	Wire
43	6.42	Div I.O.	5 AD	16.33 8	Confirming 40	Wire
44	7.15	Corps 2nd	5 AD	16.33	Confirming 38	Wire

APPENDIX 4

SECRET.

## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Headquarters,  
AUSTRALIAN CORPS.Headquarters,  
4th March 1918.MINOR OFFENSIVES - NIGHT 3rd/4th MARCH 1918.  
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1. I beg to forward hereunder a more detailed report of the raids carried out by this Division during last night.

2. PLAN.

- (a) The programme was planned in conjunction with an operation to be carried out by the 3rd Australian Division. Three points were selected on which to carry out raids, and a fourth point was selected on which it was decided to carry out a dummy raid. Systematic wire cutting for this operation was commenced on 27th February. Wire cutting was carried out at various places along the Divisional front. This wire cutting was carried out by 6" Trench Mortars, 4.5" Howitzers using 106 fuze, and by 18-prs; the programmes were made as variable as possible with a view to deceiving the enemy as to our intentions and to distract attention from the actual points to be raided.
- (b) The artillery action during the actual raid was as follows:-  
 Raid (i) - Point of entry, U.5.d.70.23.  
 The 18-prs. commenced with a 2-minute bombardment of the hostile front line, after which they formed a box barrage; outside the box barrage 4.5" Hows. bombarded the support trench throughout the operation, and also engaged all known hostile trench mortars in the vicinity.  
 Raid (ii) - Point of Entry, O.35.d.8.8.  
 The 18-prs commenced with a 2-minute bombardment of the hostile front line, after which they formed a box barrage; 4.5" Hows. provided protection fire outside the box barrage of the 18-prs. throughout the operation by engaging all known hostile trench mortars in the vicinity, and likely points of approach.  
 In Raids (i) and (ii) the Heavy Artillery assisted by engaging points outside the belt of fire provided by the 4.5" Hows., from which interference was expected.  
 Raid (iii) - Point of entry, O.17.d.65.75.  
 The 18-prs bombarded the front line for 2 minutes and then jumped back approximately 200 yards - this jump in conjunction with a bombardment of 4.5" Hows. isolated the objective, WHIZ FARM. The Heavy Artillery assisted by engaging targets outside this isolating screen of fire, and by barraging the approaches of the enemy.  
 The 4th Australian Divisional Artillery at the same time assisted by carrying out a "Chinese" attack with 18-prs and 4.5" Hows. about O.11.d.95.25.  
 Counter-Batteries assisted by engaging hostile batteries.  
 All units express their satisfaction as to the assistance rendered by the artillery as will be seen from the attached reports.
- (c) The details as to the strength and organization of the raiding parties are given below.
- 15th Brigade - O.C. Raid, Capt. E. CORNEY 57th Battalion.
- (i) Southern Raid: O.C. Lieut. J.A. FALCONER 57th Battalion.  
 This party consisted of one officer and 40 other ranks.
- (ii) Northern Raid: O.C. Lieut. T.A. SLAUGHTER 58th Battalion.  
 This party consisted of one officer and 35 other ranks.
- 14th Brigade
- (iii) WHIZ FARM Raid: C.C. Lieut. S. COLLESS 55th Battalion.

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The strength of this party was one officer and 20 other ranks. (iv) "Chinese" attack against the TWINS.

O.C. Lieut. J.B. HASTINGS 53rd Battalion.

This party consisted of one officer and 23 other ranks. Fifteen figures were used and were placed in NO MAN'S LAND with the assistance of a detachment of the 14th Field Co. Australian Engineers. They were raised and lowered without a hitch and drew a tremendous amount of machine gun and artillery fire, and altogether they were a complete success. No casualties were sustained by the detachment operating them.

(d) Suitable arrangements were made for the approach march and withdrawal, for special communications - wire, wireless, and power buzzer, for evacuation of wounded, for custody and interrogation of prisoners, and for rapid transmission of information.

With regard to the last it will be noted that the first message giving information of prisoners was despatched to Corps Headquarters at 12.21 a.m., and the correct identification was given at 12.37 a.m. - i.e. 52 minutes after ZERO.

3. EXECUTION.

The whole of the programme as planned was carried out. Detailed reports of the various raids are attached. From these it will be gleaned that four of the enemy were captured and 22 were killed for an absolute certainty. In addition, our artillery, mortar, and machine gun action must have accounted for many more. One Heavy 08/15 machine gun was captured by the 55th Battalion raiding party.

4. OUR CASUALTIES.

Our total casualties were distributed as follows :-

Killed	1
Died of wounds	Nil
Wounded	3
Slightly wounded	1
Total	<u>5</u>

5. I cannot speak too highly of the excellent work done by all the Staffs and Services concerned, nor of the accuracy and rapidity in the transmission of information during the raid. I wish particularly to commend the careful direction of all details by the G.O's.C. 15th and 14th Infantry Brigades who were largely responsible for framing the plan, and of the fine leadership and painstaking training of the men by the officers commanding the raiding parties. The offensive spirit, determination, and gallantry of the troops who took part in the actual assault, left nothing to be desired. The success of the operations was largely due to the excellent work of artillery and the infantry are loud in their praises of their perfect arrangements and accurate fire.

6. EQUIPMENT.

All ranks of both raiding parties are unanimous in saying that the new pattern of special armour issued was most effective for wearing during raids. Other points in its favour are comfort, lightness and, (as was proved last night) warmth. It is not considered that equipment for the raid could have been improved in any way.

*G. J. Hobbs.*

Major-General,  
Commanding 5th Australian Division.

55th BATTALION A.I.F.

REPORT ON MINOR OPERATION CARRIED OUT BY THE 55th BATTALION  
A.I.F. ON NIGHT OF 3rd/4th MARCH 1918.

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Ref. Map 28 S.W. 2,  
1/10,000.

1. In accordance with orders received from the G.O.C. 14th Aust. Infantry Brigade, a small raid was made on WHIZ FARM (O.17.d. 65.75) at 11.45 p.m. on 3rd March 1918 by 55th Battalion A.I.F. The object and nature of operation was first decided on 26th Ultimo, when the Divisional Commander and G.O.C. Brigade conferred with the Commanding Officer. The personnel of the raiding party consisted of one officer (Lieut. S. COLLESS D.C.M.) and 23 other ranks, including one German linguist and one searcher.

The object of the operation was :-

- (i) To capture and kill as many of the enemy as possible.
- (ii) To damage and destroy material.
- (iii) To obtain identifications.
- (iv) To draw the attention of the enemy from the operations being carried out by the division on our right.

2. ARRANGEMENTS AND DISPOSITIONS.

(a) WHIZ FARM, the objective, is a series of a strong points extending over a frontage of about 100 yards. These positions consist of pill boxes which are difficult to locate from our lines as they are raised only a little above the ground level. Enemy wiring parties had been heard in the vicinity during the past week, and it was thought that the enemy was strengthening his defences. However, a patrol of 2 N.C.O.'s. and 8 men on the night 2nd/3rd instant reconnoitred the ground to within 60 yards of WHIZ FARM, and reported that there were no obstacles protecting that point. In the few nights prior to the operation, all those taking part were given an opportunity of seeing the objective from the chosen assembly point in NO MAN'S LAND. The O.C. Raid in company with the Battalion Intelligence Officer, took up a position in NO MAN'S LAND (at GREEN FARM) on the early morning of the 2nd instant and obtained a good view of the objective by daylight.

(b) The Raiders were selected from a list of volunteers and were organized as a unit on 27th Ultimo, and commenced training and preparations at once. The party was organized in four sections under a N.C.O., each with a definite objective.

(c) The party was to leave S.P.2.O.17 at 11.10 p.m., and be assembled in front of the line of old trenches (O.17.d.15.90 to O.17.d.3.6.) a few minutes before Zero. At Zero the party was to move forward under protection of the artillery barrage and at Zero plus 2 minutes to rush the objective, the barrage having lifted to other targets. The withdrawal was to be made at the discretion of the O.C. Raid.

(d) The HOLLERBELE Group Artillery was to open at Zero on WHIZ FARM, LANG FARM, HIGH FARM and FLY BUILDINGS, and a barrage East of WHIZ FARM, and at Zero plus 2 minutes the bombardment would lift from WHIZ FARM and be distributed on the other targets. It was also arranged that the H.T.'s and Stokes should co-operate with fire on FLY BUILDINGS, and that the 25th M.G.Co. should fire intermittently on various targets East of WHIZ FARM. The bombardment would cease on notification from the Battalion that the Raiders had returned.

REPORT ON OPERATIONS.

(a) The sky was heavily overcast, and movement over the shell hole pitted NO MAN'S LAND was rendered exceedingly difficult by the darkness. Points of direction were hard to pick up. The assembly, however, was completed to time, and without incident. A covering party of one N.C.O. and 8 men - all of the battalion patrol section - were in position about 0.17.d.25.50, and were organized mainly to give protection from the right flank. They withdrew to cover at Zero. At Zero (11.45 p.m.) the artillery barrage opened, and the party moved forward. The raiders came under machine gun fire from WHIZ FARM and BANG FARM as they reached the hedge running N. and S. through 0.17.d.5.7. At this stage too the enemy commenced sending up white flares. There was a halt for a few seconds about 30 yards from the objective, and the final rush was made immediately the barrage lifted. The wire encountered was thin and patchy and formed no serious obstacle. Three pill boxes were at once surrounded. From the southern-most a machine gun fired bursts until the raiders were within a few yards of it. The crew of four offered resistance and two were killed. The remaining two, together with the gun, were despatched under escort across NO MAN'S LAND. The M.G. had been fired from the top of the dugout. A party of the enemy, probably numbering from 12 to 15, were seen retiring via the sap leading along the hedge to BOMB FARM as the raiders reached the objective. They were called upon to surrender, but there was no response. They were pursued and bombed, and five or six were seen to fall. Two Bosche were encountered in rear of the centre pill box/as they were in the act of firing they were both shot by the O.C. Raid - both were killed. All three dugouts were searched but were unoccupied and contained no papers. The one entrance to the southernmost pill box was blown in by a shell. At this stage Lieut. COLLESS decided to withdraw, as the object of the raid had been achieved. As the withdrawal commenced, a flare exposed to view a machine gun firing from a shell hole at about 0.17.d.60.87. Three bombs were thrown from a distance of 15 yards - the firing ceased and the two men were believed killed. The withdrawal was continued as rapidly as possible towards our lines. On the way - at about 0.17.d.50.83 - a party of the enemy about 6 strong were observed approaching rapidly from the direction of BANG FARM, apparently with the intention of counter-attacking. Lieut. COLLESS collected the 7 men nearest him and engaged the enemy to cover the withdrawal of the raiders. 6 Bosche fell - one of whom had closed with and struck Lieut. COLLESS - 2 escaped. The main party reached S.P. 3.0.17 at 12.14 a.m. Owing to the heavy artillery and M.G. barrage now being concentrated by the enemy on this Battalion front, Lieut. COLLESS and his party made a wide detour northwards, entering our lines in the 53rd (Left) Battalion sector at about 12.45 a.m. The raiders, each of whom was given an identification number, were checked as they returned. At 6 a.m. this morning one man was not accounted for. He is now definitely reported killed. The prisoners and escort came under shell fire in NO MAN'S LAND; one of the prisoners was killed and his escort slightly wounded. The second prisoner and the M.G. arrived later at Battalion Headquarters, the prisoner being sent on to Brigade Headquarters at 2.35 a.m.

(b) Artillery Action. The artillery barrage was well timed and accurate throughout. The O.C. Raid reports that the "lift" from WHIZ FARM was admirably effected. The HOLLEBERG Group was asked to cease fire at 12.42 a.m.

- 3 -

(c) Enemy Action. Almost immediately our bombardment commenced the enemy fired a lot of white flares and at Zero plus 8 fired a signal - a rocket, white bursting into 2 rods. Two minutes later a barrage, mainly 4.2's and 5.9's, was put down in NO MAN'S LAND and on our wire, chiefly in the vicinity of S.P. 2.0.17. A number of pineapples were also fired. His M.G.'s fired continuously into NO MAN'S LAND and on our posts throughout the operation, the fire coming mainly from the direction of BANG FARM and about 0.17.d.55.40. The enemy appeared <sup>determined</sup> to resist.

(d) COMMUNICATIONS. Telephones were installed at S.P. 2.0.17 and 3.0.17., connected to front line Company Headquarters. These lines held good throughout the operation. At 12.8 a.m. both lines from En. Headquarters to Front Co. H.Q. were cut simultaneously between Support and Front Co. H.Q. Communication consequently had to be by runner from the Front Company to Support - and information regarding the raid was slow coming through.

4. INFORMATION OBTAINED.

The enemy front line opposite us is held by the 162nd I.R., 7th Co., 17th Res. Div.

5. RESULT OF RAID.

The result of the enterprise was to capture one prisoner and one machine gun (maxim 08/15). At least 18 of the enemy are known to be killed or wounded by the raiders apart from the casualties inflicted by the bombardment. I attribute the success of the operation to :-

1. Good leadership and perfect organization.
2. A thorough reconnaissance of the objective and assembly position by day and night, and the fact that all men taking part "knew" NO MAN'S LAND.
3. The keenness and offensive spirit of the men selected for the job.
4. Excellent artillery co-operation.

(Sgd) A.C. SELWYN HOLLAND,

Major,  
T/Commanding 55th BATTALION A.I.F.

4.3.18.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

REPORTS ON RAIDS CARRIED OUT BY THE 57th and 58th BATTALIONS A.I.F.  
ON NIGHT OF 3rd/4th MARCH 1918.

57th BATTALION.

Report of O.C. Assault:

"On leaving POLLARD SUPPORT parties moved in the order set out and got on to the tapes without much difficulty. The "lie" position was extremely wet and marshy. O.C. Raid was informed by telephone as soon as party was in "lie" position and checked. No shelling or machine gun fire interfered with this stage which was effected without casualties. At 11.40 p.m. the two 18-pr flanking shots were picked up and checked with the bearing of the tape men. At ZERO time the barrage came down on enemy line, both 18-prs and Trench Mortars were excellent. At ZERO plus 2 minutes barrage lifted and the party advanced over very much torn up ground. The wire was found to be excellently cut and no difficulty was experienced by any of the party in entering the enemy's trench. No enemy was found in trench and although a thorough search was made of the salient, the trench cutting across it, and shell holes for some distance in rear, no identification could be obtained. The trenches were in a bad state and had been badly knocked about by our shell fire. On south side of APEX, also on northern side, a few trench shelters were found. These were empty and were destroyed with bombs. At 12 midnight, as I had received reports from all parties, I gave the signal to withdraw. This was effected without a casualty from enemy's lines by 12.3 a.m. Party made back along the tapes to NEW CROSS SAP, passing through a fairly heavy barrage of 77 mm and 5.9's. Here it was found that the enemy had a heavy barrage in rear of our support line, so the party was spread out and held until things had quietened down. Parties sustained three casualties whilst waiting here - two of them very slight. The work of the artillery and trench mortars and machine gun companies was extremely satisfactory. All arrangements as set out in orders and practice worked smoothly, and there were no hitches of any sort. The members of the party, though disappointed at not getting anything, are in excellent spirits."

58th BATTALION.

In conjunction with other operations carried out simultaneously by the 57th Battalion and 3rd Australian Division, a party of 2 officers and 35 other ranks of this battalion carried out a raid on the enemy positions from O.35.d.90.71 N.W. to CINEMA ROAD and beyond as far as O.35.b.79.00. The raiders were divided into 3 parties and a Headquarters party.

No. 1 Right Party was to operate S. of CINEMA ROAD

No. 2 Left party was to operate N. of CINEMA ROAD

No. 3 Centre party was to deal with what appeared to be a crater on CINEMA ROAD, and to prevent the approach of troops along the road.

Wire was cut for several days prior to the operation by 18-pr batteries. The approach and the assembly in the "lie position" were made according to the Time Table set out in Battalion Order No. 4.

The barrage dropped exactly at the ZERO hour - 11.45 p.m. - and was excellently placed.

At the end of two minutes the barrage lifted from the enemy trench and the box barrage was formed. Both artillery and trench mortars were well directed and no trouble from machine gun or rifle fire was experienced. The ground in RO MAN'S LAND was fairly good north of the road but as patrols had proved the existence of a swampy area in the vicinity of the wire south of the road, the right party advanced via CINEMA ROAD and the ditch along side.

The wire proved to have been effectively cut and the trench was rushed without trouble. The Left Party under Lieut. H.D. HARVEY found the northern section of the trench deserted. It had the appearance of not being in use.

The Centre Party discovered that the crater on CINEMA ROAD was full of water and that no strong point existed there.

Lieut. SLAUGHTER led his party down the southern section and encountered two enemy in a shelter in the parapet at 0.35.d.8.7. He fired and wounded one and they surrendered screaming with terror. Lieut. SLAUGHTER handed them over to his party and those detailed for the purpose explored the trench for a distance of 80 yards south of CINEMA ROAD.

Two dead Germans were seen on North side of the crater in the road U.35.d.75.85 and two more in the trench just south of this.

These appeared to have been killed quite recently.

The trench was in very bad repair. The parapet was revetted in places with brushwood. Shelters of corrugated iron - not cupola - were found in the parapet. There were no duckboards and the trench was very wet, except in a few spots evidently held as posts. It was apparently not garrisoned strongly.

About 200 or 300 yards to the rear the raiding party saw many flares apparently being put up from a definitely held line.

Having searched for papers and other stores of value and finding none, Lieut. SLAUGHTER gave the signal for return. The road formed a good guide and the whole party returned without a casualty.

A mishap to the ladder line as it was being run out prevented communication by 'phone with the raiding party in NO MAN'S LAND.

The line between the point of exit at No. 9 Post and Company H.Q. was soon cut. Communications from front company headquarters held

throughout but had it not been for elaborate system of duplicating lines it is certain that information would have taken much longer to get back. As it was, word was sent to Brigade Headquarters that

2 prisoners had been secured at 12.10 a.m. Identification first sent were incorrectly given owing to the fact that two men had to

"run the gauntlet" through the barrage with a verbal message which became mutilated in transmission. This was quickly remedied when the first prisoner was got back to company headquarters.

Both prisoners were wounded and badly shaken so that it was not possible to get them to Brigade Headquarters as soon as expected.

Identification was, however, verified and telephoned, as soon as obtained and the papers found on the prisoners were forwarded by

runner at once.

Enemy retaliation on our area was weak and scattered and seemed purposeless.



57th Battalion A.I.F.  
4th March 1918.

Headquarters,  
15th Infantry Brigade.

Report of O.C. Raid re Raid carried out by  
57th Battalion A.I.F. on night 3/4th March 1918.

At 7;p.m. on night 3/4th March 1918 The Raiding Party left South Midland Dugouts proceeding to Pollard Supports reaching there at 8.45 p.m. Hot stew, previously brought up, was then issued to all members of the party. The first party left Pollard Support at 9.30 p.m. reaching Right Company Headquarters at 9.45 p.m. Here Scouts under the Battalion I.O. met each party as arranged and guided the whole in parties of approximately eight men to the "lie" position, along tapes previously laid in the early evening by the Battalion I.O. and Scouts. Everything as arranged worked perfectly and without hitch of any kind to this stage. O.C. Assault telephoned at 11.30 "Smith" ("lie" position attained and all correct). No enemy Machine Gun or Artillery had up till then opened fire, the party being apparently unobserved. Five minutes before Zero the flank shots as arranged with artillery were observed. The barrage fell punctually at 11.45 P.M; and at 7 minutes to 12 P.M. the O.C. Assault telephoned "Jones". (Am in enemy trench.) Enemy barrage was slow in falling, being first appreciable at about 4 minutes after Zero, when he placed a barrage of 77 m.m. 5.9s behind the front posts and also in rear of support line. At 4 minutes past 12 a.m. O.C. Assault phoned through "Brown" (all party out of enemy line).. At 12;12 a.m. signallers advanced cutting off phone at Post 3A. The Raiders reached Support Line from front line posts in small parties and as enemy at the time was shelling New Cross Sap freely the men were distributed along Company Support Line and end of New Cross Sap until fire slackened when they were despatched up New Cross Sap in small parties. The telephonic communications lasted throughout and were quite satisfactory. Enemy barrage slackened considerably at 12.40 a.m. and finally ceased at 12.50 a.m. Enemy minenwerfers on raiding front were efficiently coped with, only few falling in vicinity. Casualties. 3 of which two were very light.

All Ranks of the party expressed general satisfaction and appreciation of our barrage, Artillery, Trench Mortars and Machine Gun and all spoke enthusiastically of it. The thanks of all concerned are due to our Artillery, Trench Mortar Battery and Machine Guns, the work of which left nothing to be desired and undoubtedly the very light casualties sustained by the Raiders is to a very large extent due to the excellence of our protective barrage.

(Sgd) E. Corney Capt.  
O.C. Raid.

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APPENDIX. 4

*File*

Headquarters,  
Australian Corps.



Herewith report by I.O. 53rd Battalion on Chinese  
Attack carried out in front of THE TWINS O.l.l.d. in conjunction  
with minor operations on the night 3rd/4th March 1918.

*J. J. Hobbs*

Major-General,  
Commanding 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

7th March 1918.

APPENDIX 4

HEADQUARTERS,  
 AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
 No. 0.130/220  
 Date.....

Australian Corps,  
8th March, 1918.

- Fourth Army 'G'  
 1st Australian Division  
 2nd Australian Division  
 3rd Australian Division  
 4th Australian Division  
 5th Australian Division (for information)

*G 22*

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION A.I.F.  
*923/576*  
*9.3.18.*  
*9am*

CHINESE ATTACKS.

Regarding the employment of Chinese attacks the attached account may be of interest.

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

*(Spd)*

*[Handwritten signature]*  
 Brigadier-General,  
 General Staff,  
 Australian Corps.

REPORT ON CHINESE ATTACK CARRIED OUT IN FRONT OF THE TWINS O.II.d ON THE NIGHT MARCH 3rd/4th.  
-----

Our barrage fell to time and all arrangements were complete as regards the figures. Immediately the enemy threw a great number of white flares from both the GIANT and THE TWINS which disclosed an enemy patrol of about six men just out in front of THE TWINS. It is not known if any casualties were inflicted on this party. When the flares went up our men raised the figures whereon the enemy fired several flares bursting into two reds, and opened fire on the figures with machine gun fire from almost all the pill-boxes on our Sector, and the canal banks in rear. He also got well on to the figures with his artillery and a great number of Minenwerfers. The raising and lowering continued until the barrage stopped, and towards the last one figure jammed in an upright position which caused the enemy to throw flares of all colours - reds, yellows, greens, and white all went up together from THE TWINS. This brought a renewal of the fire both machine gun and artillery. During the enemy counter-bombardment he threw a great number of T.M's. of all calibre.

The figures were all eventually lowered and left in position as it was considered inadvisable to remove them owing to M.G. fire at the time.

The figure party all returned safely and as far as can be ascertained, no casualties were incurred by the front line Company.

Enemy bombardment practically ceased at 12.50 a.m.

Sgd. A.G. PETTIFER Lieut.  
I.O. 53rd Battalion A.I.F.

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FIB

*fill*

SECRET.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

HEADQUARTERS 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.	
No.	SG/45
Date	

Headquarters,  
4th March, 1918.

- C.O. MESSINES Group,
- C.O. COSTAVERNE Group
- C.O. HOLLEBEKE Group,
- H.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

With reference to 5th Australian Divisional Artillery  
Order. 168 dated 2/3/1918.

ZERO HOUR will be 12.50 A.M. on 5<sup>th</sup> March, 1918.

ACKNOWLEDGE by wire.

*H. H. M. M. C.*

Major,  
Brigade Major,  
5th Australian Divisional Artillery.

owing to M.G. fire at the time.  
The figure party all returned safely and  
as far as can be ascertained, no casualties  
were incurred by the front line company.  
The bombardment practically ceased at  
12.50 am and there is no artillery fire of any  
description at present.

The 18<sup>th</sup> fired shrapnel on WHIZ FARM  
from 2 to 2.15 am.

A.H. Peter Lt  
10. 53 Bn. A.I.F.

situation, report 2.2.18  
2.20 am. 4. 3. 18.

Raid: Our barrage fell to time and all ar-  
rangements were complete as regards the figures.  
Immediately the enemy threw a great number  
of white flares from both the GIANT and TWINS,  
which disclosed an enemy patrol of about  
six men just out in front of the TWINS. It is  
not known if any casualties were inflicted on  
this party. When the flares went up our men  
raised the figures whereon the enemy fired  
several flares bursting into two reds, and  
opened fire on the figures with machine  
gun fire from almost all the pill boxes  
in our sector, and the canal bankers rear.  
He also got well on to the figures with his  
artillery and a great number of munition-  
-weavers. The raising and lowering continued  
until the barrage stopped, and towards  
the last one figure jammed in an upright  
position which caused the enemy to throw  
flares of all colors - red, yellow, green & white  
all went up together from the TWINS. This  
brought a renewal of the fire both M.G. & ART.  
During the enemy counter bombardment  
he threw a great number of T.M.E. of all  
calibre.

The figures were all eventually got to lowered  
and left in position as it was considered  
inadvisable to remove them at present



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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Copy No. ....

18

S E C R E T.

Divisional Headquarters,  
4th March, 1918.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER NO. 80.

Reference Maps: Sheet 28 S.W. & S.E. (part of) Scale 1/20,000 &  
" 36 N.W. Scale 1/20,000.  
-----000-----

In continuation of Third Australian Division Order No. 78  
dated 1st March, 1918.

1. "A" Day will be 4th March, 1918.  
"B" Day will be 5th March, 1918.
2. ZERO hour will be 12.50 a.m. night A/B.
3. S.O.S. will be inoperative on the Left Brigade front from ZERO minus 30 minutes to ZERO plus 60 minutes on night A/B.
4. Conditions being favourable, the 11th Aust. Inf. Bde. will carry out a Gas Projector Attack on FRILLINGHIEW and enemy works in C.5, at ZERO minus 10 minutes.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE BY WIRE.

*ack 12.50 am*

Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff.

T.C.

DISTRIBUTION.

- Copy No. 1 A.D.C. for G.O.C.
- 2. "G" Staff.
- 3. "A.Q." Staff.
- 4. C.R.A.
- 5. C.R.E.
- 6. 3rd Aust. Div. Signal Coy.
- 7. 9th Austs Inf. Bde.
- 8. 10th -do-
- 9. 11th -do-
- 10. 3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn.
- 11. A.D.M.S.
- 12. D.M.G.O.
- 13. 23rd A.M.G. Coy.
- 14. A.P.M.
- 15. "L" Special Coy., R.E.
- 16-17. Australian Corps.
- 18-19. 5th Aust. Division.
- 20. 38th (Welsh) Division.
- 21. Military Board, C.M.F.
- 22-24. War Diary.
- 25. File.
- 26-28.



*800*



233

P.S.O. 1

5<sup>th</sup> Aust Div

Will you please show the  
loc the attached report on the  
"jumping Jimmies" as I know  
they will interest him - They  
appear to have served their  
purpose well

4-3-18

Cpt Hobbs

CC type report

Boys  
14/1/18

233

*Woodree*

APPENDIX 4

183

A.H.



THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET.

Divisional Headquarters,  
4th. March, 1918.

Headquarters,  
Australian Corps.

S.G.6/48.

MINOR OFFENSIVE - NIGHT, MARCH 3rd./4th., 1918.

1. - Further to telegraphed reports, I beg to submit more detailed information as to the progress of above operation. -

2. - PLAN.  
 The general organization of the enterprise differed in no material respect from that of a similar enterprise carried out on the night, February 10th/11th, 1918, - See my report thereon No.S.G.6/46 of February 11th. - The principal difference was that the Assaulting Infantry was last night increased to a total of three hundred (300) of all ranks. - All other Arms and Services were co-ordinated on lines almost exactly following the arrangements previously in force, and which had proved satisfactory. -

3. - EXECUTION.  
 ZERO Hour was fixed for 11.45 p.m. -  
 The Assembly in NO MAN'S LAND was accomplished without incident by 11.15 p.m. despite a display of lights by the enemy. - Our Artillery barrage and counter-battery programme opened promptly at ZERO. -  
 Our Right and Left Assaulting parties proceeded to carry out their allotted tasks; - an outstanding feature of the Operation being the very satisfactory co-ordination of the twenty different storming parties and the execution of the whole programme minutely to time table. -  
 The wire cutting by our Artillery was found to have been most satisfactorily carried out, and the Divisional Artillery barrage was declared by our Infantry to have been most accurate throughout. -  
 The front line trench was entered immediately on the barrage lifting, and the various parties stormed to their allotted flanks. - Very little opposition was met in the enemy's front line. - The first two prisoners were made immediately on the North side of the main communication trench, and eight enemy were killed in a large dugout at "K" (See plan attached to Orders). - An enemy officer, who showed fight near this point, was killed. - A Machine Gun and crew located near "D" was driven to cover and there disposed of. - Meanwhile, trenches at "L", "Q" and "K" were taken, and dug-out at "Q", which was large and of concrete - used either as a Headquarters or a Store, was completely demolished by explosives. - Practically very few enemy were met with in his front line trench by either Assaulting Team. -

In the main communication trench, a number of large dugouts were found in which a number of the enemy, who refused

(1).

P.T.O.

(2).

4/3/18.

to surrender, were disposed of by bombs and demolition charges. In this same trench, one officer and six other ranks were captured, and several enemy dead were counted. - The group of dugouts at "R" were destroyed, while another dugout to the North of "R" was entered and mopped up. - There was no evidence to confirm the suspicion that these several dugouts were connected by tunnels; except at "I" and "R", the enemy offered no serious resistance. - His general disposition was to run before our Assaulting troops, and several casualties are known to have been inflicted on him while he ran in this manner. -

The Front Line trench is deep, dry and fire stepped, but appears to be normally held lightly. - It contains no shelters and is unrevetted. - Communication trenches are of similar construction and contained brick and concrete dugouts for the accommodation of the trench garrison. - The second line is obviously the main fire trench and contained several deep tunnelled dugouts, all of which were thoroughly bombed. -

Our captures comprised one officer and <sup>eleven</sup> other ranks, all of whom were brought in. - Four of these were evacuated to Casualty Clearing Station. - We also brought in a 1908 Heavy Machine Gun, two Light Machine Guns and a quantity of smaller booty, including several bags of papers, maps and documents. - It is definitely known that two enemy officers were killed, - one by revolver and one with a bayonet, - and, irrespective of very probable Artillery casualties beyond the limits of our Infantry action, the number of enemy killed by bomb, bayonet and bullet certainly exceeds fifty. -

The Identification was 228. R.I.R. - Normal. -

The outstanding feature of the Operation was the absence of any serious resistance by the enemy. - Unlike the previous occasion, he did not stand to fight; nor did he attempt any counter-attack. - It is also apparent that his works were not nearly as strongly held as on the previous occasion. - This accounts for the lesser number of casualties inflicted and captures effected. -

Our withdrawal commenced at 12.20 a.m. and was carried out under cover of Raid Fighting Patrols held in reserve for that purpose. - The normal dispositions of the line were resumed by 1.30 a.m. - There was no damage to our works, and our normal defensive garrisons suffered no casualties whatever. -

The enemy artillery re-action was almost negligible, but, during the continuance of the Raid, he brought a light minenwerfer bombardment upon our left Battalion close to the DOUVE. -

#### 4. - OUR CASUALTIES.

Our total casualties incidental to the Raid were as follows:

		<u>Officer.</u>	<u>Other Ranks.</u>
Killed.	... ..	-	2.
Wounded.	... ..	<u>1</u>	<u>18.</u>
			<u>Total. 21.</u>

Of the wounds, the majority were very slight, - the worst case being a broken arm. -

There is some doubt as to the fate of one officer and his runner who, up to the time of this report, had not been satisfactorily accounted for. - All the remainder of the Raiding

P.T.O.

(3).

4/3/18.

Teams are reported as fully accounted for. -

The total casualties are therefore very small, having regard to the large size of the Raiding force. -

5. - I consider that the Operation reflects the greatest credit upon the 9th. Australian Infantry Brigade; the spirit of the troops and the enthusiasm and dash with which they carried through the Operation being exemplary. - Much credit is due in particular to Lieut.-Colonel J. A. MILNE, D.S.O., for his painstaking preparation of the force and for his strong and capable leadership. -

Other Services and Departments co-operated most efficiently; the rapidity and accuracy of the communications being most satisfactory. -

*J. H. H. H. H.*

Major-General.  
Commanding Third Australian Division.

APPENDIX 4

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET.Headquarters,  
AUSTRALIAN CORPS.Headquarters,  
4th March 1918.MINOR OFFENSIVES - NIGHT 3rd/4th MARCH 1918.  
-----

1. I beg to forward hereunder a more detailed report of the raids carried out by this Division during last night.

2. PLAN.

- (a) The programme was planned in conjunction with an operation to be carried out by the 3rd Australian Division. Three points were selected on which to carry out raids, and a fourth point was selected on which it was decided to carry out a dummy raid. Systematic wire cutting for this operation was commenced on 27th February. Wire cutting was carried out at various places along the Divisional front. This wire cutting was carried out by 6" Trench Mortars, 4.5" Howitzers using 106 fuze, and by 18-prs; the programmes were made as variable as possible with a view to deceiving the enemy as to our intentions and to distract attention from the actual points to be raided.
- (b) The artillery action during the actual raid was as follows:-
- Raid (i) - Point of entry, U.5.d.70.23.  
The 18-prs. commenced with a 2-minute bombardment of the hostile front line, after which they formed a box barrage; outside the box barrage 4.5" Hows. bombarded the support trench throughout the operation, and also engaged all known hostile trench mortars in the vicinity.
- Raid (ii) - Point of Entry, O.35.d.8.8.  
The 18-prs commenced with a 2-minute bombardment of the hostile front line, after which they formed a box barrage; 4.5" Hows. provided protection fire outside the box barrage of the 18-prs. throughout the operation by engaging all known hostile trench mortars in the vicinity, and likely points of approach. In Raids (i) and (ii) the Heavy Artillery assisted by engaging points outside the belt of fire provided by the 4.5" Hows., from which interference was expected.
- Raid (iii) - Point of entry, O.17.d65.75.  
The 18-prs bombarded the front line for 2 minutes and then jumped back approximately 200 yards - this jump in conjunction with a bombardment of 4.5" Hows. isolated the objective, WHIZ FARM. The Heavy Artillery assisted by engaging targets outside this isolating screen of fire, and by barraging the approaches of the enemy.
- The 4th Australian Divisional Artillery at the same time assisted by carrying out a "Chinese" attack with 18-prs and 4.5" Hows. about O.11.d.95.25.  
Counter-Batteries assisted by engaging hostile batteries. All units express their satisfaction as to the assistance rendered by the artillery as will be seen from the attached reports.
- (c) The details as to the strength and organization of the raiding parties are given below.
- 15th Brigade - O.C. Raid, Capt. E. CORNEY 57th Battalion.
- (i) Southern Raid: O.C. Lieut. J.A. FALCONER 57th Battalion.  
This party consisted of one officer and 40 other ranks.
- (ii) Northern Raid: O.C. Lieut. T.A. SLAUGHTER 58th Battalion.  
This party consisted of one officer and 35 other ranks.
- 14th Brigade
- (iii) WHIZ FARM Raid: O.C. Lieut. S. COLLESS 55th Battalion.

The strength of this party was one officer and 20 other ranks.  
(iv) "Chinese" attack against the TWINS.

O.C. Lieut. J.B. HASTINGS 53rd Battalion.

This party consisted of one officer and 23 other ranks. Fifteen figures were used and were placed in NO MAN'S LAND with the assistance of a detachment of the 14th Field Co. Australian Engineers. They were raised and lowered without a hitch and drew a tremendous amount of machine gun and artillery fire, and altogether they were a complete success. No casualties were sustained by the detachment operating them.

(d) Suitable arrangements were made for the approach march and withdrawal, for special communications - wire, wireless, and power buzzer, for evacuation of wounded, for custody and interrogation of prisoners, and for rapid transmission of information.

With regard to the last it will be noted that the first message giving information of prisoners was despatched to Corps Headquarters at 12.21 a.m., and the correct identification was given at 12.37 a.m. - i.e. 52 minutes after ZERO.

### 3. EXECUTION.

The whole of the programme as planned was carried out. Detailed reports of the various raids are attached. From these it will be gleaned that four of the enemy were captured and 22 were killed for an absolute certainty. In addition, our artillery, mortar, and machine gun action must have accounted for many more. One Heavy 08/15 machine gun was captured by the 55th Battalion raiding party.

### 4. OUR CASUALTIES.

Our total casualties were distributed as follows :-

Killed	1
Died of wounds	1
Wounded	3
Slightly wounded	1
Total	<u>5</u>

5. I cannot speak too highly of the excellent work done by all the Staffs and Services concerned, nor of the accuracy and rapidity in the transmission of information during the raid. I wish particularly to commend the careful direction of all details by the G.O's-C. 15th and 14th Infantry Brigades who were largely responsible for framing the plan, and of the fine leadership and painstaking training of the men by the officers commanding the raiding parties. The offensive spirit, determination, and gallantry of the troops who took part in the actual assault, left nothing to be desired. The success of the operations was largely due to the excellent work of artillery and the infantry are loud in their praises of their perfect arrangements and accurate fire.

### 6. EQUIPMENT.

All ranks of both raiding parties are unanimous in saying that the new pattern of special armour issued was most effective for wearing during raids. Other points in its favour are comfort, lightness, and, (as was proved last night) warmth. It is not considered that equipment for the raid could have been improved in any way.

G. S. Hobbs.

Major-General,  
Commanding 5th Australian Division.

For Official Use Only.

## 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 3rd March -to- 6 a.m. , 4th March 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

## 1. OPERATIONS

Artillery. Our right and Left groups assisted by centre Group 6" Trench Mortars and Heavy artillery carried out a very successful attack on enemy's front line and strong posts in support of raids by Right and Left battalions on three different points of the enemy's line between 11.45 p.m. and 12.35 a.m. Points raided being enemy's trench in U.5.d.70.28., trench on right of CINEBA Road 0.35.d.80.80 and WHIZ FARM 0.17.d. In support of this action a "Chinese" attack was carried out by two batteries of right Group "C" Divisional Artillery on the GIANT 0.12.c. and THE TWINS 0.11.d. These targets being heavily bombarded from 11.45 p.m. until 12.35 a.m. when our action ceased.

At Zero hour 11.45 p.m. a heavy barrage was put down on enemy front line at the points about to be raided and hostile T.M. emplacements in the vicinity were subjected to neutralizing fire throughout the period. The operation proved most successful, fire being discontinued at 12.35 a.m. In addition, three bursts of 3 minutes each were put over by Groups on points raided between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m.

Between 12 noon and 2 p.m. 20 rounds were fired on an hostile heavy Trench Mortar reported firing from a post at approximately 0.30.d.90.85. Wire cutting shoots were successfully carried out throughout the day on enemy's wire at U.5.d.68.24 to 70.28, and U.5.d.68.18; also at 0.35.d.72.92, 0.35.d.68.84, and U.6.a.33.46, results being very good.

Active hostile trench mortars at ANGLE FARM and DATU. HOUSE 0.36.a. during the morning were effectively engaged and silenced.

Several enemy working parties observed near 0.18.b.46.25, BOMB FARM 0.18.c. and P.19.a. between 7 a.m. and 11.15 a.m. were fired on and successfully dispersed.

Registrations and calibrations were continued during the day. M.T.'s. Our M.T.'s. carried out successful wire shoots on enemy wire at 0.35.d.70.84 to 0.35.d.70.22 between 6 a.m. and 7.30 a.m., many direct hits being obtained and wire observed to be well cut.

At 2 p.m. some 50 rounds were put over on THE GIANT 0.12.c. and THE TWINS 0.11.d. and 50 rounds on wire in front of WABLER. 0.23.c and d.

L.T.'s. co-operated with artillery in covering the German trench system and neutralizing his machine-guns during the raids. Fire was kept up on FLY BUILDINGS and THE GIANT 0.23.b., 0.12.c. for 20 minutes, 320 rounds being expended.

M.G.'s. 75,000 rounds were expended in covering our operations, sweeping enemy front line, tracks, and routes.

Raids. At 11.45 p.m. two raids were carried out on Right Brigade front with following objectives:-

(a) Enemy's salient at U.5.d.7.2. (b) Enemy trench on both sides of CINEBA Road 0.35.d.

(a) Objective was reached successfully without opposition and found that enemy had evacuated the raided portion of trench. After an unsuccessful search for identifications, raiding party withdrew to our line. (with three slight casualties).

(b) Objective was reached successfully, two wounded prisoners were taken, and raiding party returned to our lines without casualties.

Left Brigade;

At 11.45 p.m. a raid was carried out on enemy S.P. in vicinity of HIZ PARK 0.17.d. Objective was successfully reached, a fight ensued resulting in 18 of the enemy being killed and two taken prisoners. Our party returned with slight casualties.

"Chinese" attack was successfully carried out in front of THE TWINS 0.11.d. Figures drew considerable artillery and M.G. fire throughout the operation. Full reports of raids are attached to this Summary.

Patrols covered the whole front during the night and liaison was maintained between posts and units. At 11.30 p.m. a party left our front posts in 0.29.a. and established themselves in old trench at 0.29.a.27.40 with a supply of Hales grenades. At 11.45 p.m. they opened fire on enemy post at 0.29.b.1.3 with good effect. Three rounds per minutes were fired for 45 minutes.

2. IDENTIFIED INCIDENTS

Two prisoners of the 10th Coy., 226 R.I.A., captured in raid at 0.35.d.7.7 (normal)

Prisoner 7th Coy., 162 I.A., captured in raid in vicinity of HIZ PARK 0.17.d. Examination of these prisoners forms annexes to this Summary.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Quiet during the day.

On sector of right raid (U.5.d) enemy's barrage was put down in NO MAN'S LAND and a further barrage behind the immediate support line 4 minutes after Zero hour.

On centre raid sector (0.35.d.) enemy barrage fell 10 minutes after Zero, and was mainly directed at ROAD HIRONFELLS 0.35.c. and on C.T. (FANNY'S 0.34.and 35.).

On Left raid sector 0.17.d. enemy replied on front line system with fairly heavy barrage. The "Chinese" attack in front of THE TWINS 0.11.d. drew a considerable amount of artillery fire. The following areas were lightly shelled during period under review :- GREEN WOOD 0.17.a., 0.21.b., and ORCHARD WOOD 0.14.c. and c.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Still defensive, except opposite U.5. where

minenwerfer fire is active and persistent.

Minenwerfers were active. During the day 130 shells fell on front line system in U.5.d.

M.G.'s. Enemy M.G.'s. were active during raids on front line and tracks.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES. U.5.d.7.2. small salient. Fire in front is well

cut and presents no obstacle, trench is in bad repair, set and damaged by our shell fire. North of CINEA Road trench has appearance of not being used. South of CINEA Road trench is in bad repair, it is revetted in places with brushwood. No duckboards exist, and trenches very wet except in a few places, which are apparently used as posts. Enemy trench at 0.35.d.7.7. is in bad condition. Appears to be weakly held. A trench exists in front of HIZ PARK with weak wire in front.

Minenwerfers reported firing from ANGLE PARK 0.36.a., U.6.c.4.4., U.12.b.4.8., 0.30.a.85.95.

7. HOSTILE AIRIAL ACTIVITY.

Nil.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Movement again reported at HIZ PARK 0.23.d., LANE PARK 0.24.c., 0.24.c.3.3., HILL PARK 0.30.d., TRIO PARK 0.18.d., and BOMB FARM 0.18.c.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

Such lamp signalling was seen in ERVICA and COMBES. Enemy fired white flares breaking into double red which was answered by artillery barrage. Visibility poor.

*Exwick Capt*

Lieut-Colonel, G.S.,  
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



## ANNEXE TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 4/3/18.

WOUNDED  
 REPORT ON PRISONER OF THE 10th COY. 226th R.I.R.  
 CAPTURED IN OUR RAID ON ENEMY'S TRENCH AT 28.  
 O.35.d.80.85 AT 11.45 p.m. 3/3/18.

1. PERSONAL DETAILS. One prisoner is of 1914 class and has served since December 1914, having been once wounded and once dismissed for ill health. He is a mason by trade and of only moderate intelligence. His statements however were consistent in detail and may be accepted. The other prisoner is a woodman 30 years of age of very poor intelligence, belonging to the untrained Landsturm and physically not very fit. He holds the Iron Cross. Both prisoners were wounded.
2. ORDER OF BATTLE. (From N. to S.)
  - 226 R.I.R.
  - 225 R.I.R.
  - 228 R.I.R. (normal)
3. DETAILS OF OUR RAID. The raid was a complete surprise until the barrage fell. Just before that time one prisoner, who had been with his platoon in the immediate support line in front of DATUM HOUSE (O.36.a.) was detailed to replace a sick man who had been on outpost duty. He accordingly went forward along CINEMA Road, passed through the wire at O.35.d.7.3 which was very much damaged and fell in with the other prisoner. The latter had been in the front line on the north side of the road, and had been ordered for some unknown reason to report to the Company Commander in DATUM HOUSE. Both were lost, and when our barrage fell, took refuge in a corrugated iron cover in the front trench, just south of the road. Here they were taken prisoners by our raiders, and accordingly do not know the effect of our artillery fire on the front line garrison.
4. REGIMENTAL DISPOSITIONS. The six-company system is in vogue (although the regiment is not in the FOURTH Army). Four companies hold the front line and the support trench (UNABLE TRENCH in O.36.a. and c.). two companies form a "first support" (erste bereitschaft); the remaining six are in rest, but of them two companies also act as a "rear support" (hintere bereitschaft).  
 Order of the companies of the III Bn. at present in the front line from N. to S. is
  - 9,
  - 10,
  - 11,
  - 12.
 The 10th Co. sector extends about an equal distance on both sides of the CINEMA Road in O.35.d. This location would give for the Regimental front the line from the WAMBEE at O.29.d.4.0 to U.6.a.4.5. (as is shown on the captured German map recently issued).  
 The 10th Co. is stated to have about 6 groups (50 men) in the front line, and 2 groups in the immediate support line. The Co. has 4 L. G's. of which one is with the last mentioned two groups. The II Bn. at present supplies the support companies, front and rear; the I Bn. is resting. It, and the two "rear" Coys. of the II Bn. are in WERVIC, SUL.  
 The position of the "first support" line could not be given with certainty. It was stated to be about 20 minutes march behind the front line, and entirely south of the CINEMA Road. This probably indicates the portion of the SCHUTZ 2 STALLUNG (see captured map) in P.31.

## 5. HEADQUARTERS. AND LOCATIONS.

DATUM HOUSE (O.36.27.20) is the H.Q. of the 10th Coy. It is called the IGEL (?) and contains the Company Commander and 8 men (orderlies etc.). It is roughly 6' x 10', the short side is to the road and contains the entrance. There are no windows. The concrete has been damaged and the house originally existing has been shot away. Shell holes between the pill-box and the road have joined <sup>to form</sup> a pool of water. Front BATTALION Headquarters. In a pill-box in the house ruins at ESPERANCE CABARET (O.36.b.3.5) close on to the road. It was stated that the III Battalion Commander was here, and also one heavy M.G. and crew. This location is strongly supported by the evidence of the tracks leading from the ruins to all parts of the Battalion front. (Compare air photo 3BA 301, 26-2-18; also map sheet NORTEWILDE 1/10,000, 16-1-18 shows a buried cable leading to the same point.)

The same photo and general considerations suggest that ANGLE FARM (O.36.a.) may be the Company Headquarters for the 9th Coy.)

Regimental Headquarters for the 226 R.I.R. In WERVICQ SUD, stated to be "near the Church" (Q.52.a.15.35 ?).

Host Billets for the 266 R.I.R. in WERVICQ SUD, in shattered houses, and "away from the River near the Tramway" between COMINES and BOUSEBECQUE (Q.32.a.) .

Host Billets for 228 R.I.R. in BOUSEBECQUE. The Vermin-killing disinfectant is also here, and had been visited by one prisoner.

## 6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

The front trench athwart the CINEMA Road is stated to be a good deal fallen in owing to the action of weather and our T.M. fire. The wire is about 15 yards (?) across, but there is not much of it on the Street itself. The crater on the road in the trench line is full of water, hence a post is pushed out about 10 yards along the road.

The ground in front of the trench just South of the Road is also very wet. The wire on the main trench line near DATUM HOUSE has been much shot away.

There are no pill boxes in the 10th Coy. sector except DATUM HOUSE, the men have only corrugated iron trench shelters.

MINENWERFER. Prisoner knew that there M.W.'s. in and around KIWI FARM (O.36.c.) and thought they were mediums and heavies, but he had no accurate knowledge of their locations. About 20 yards E. of DATUM HOUSE there are two light or medium M.W.'s. When the III Bn. was in support (from 23rd to 28th Feb.) one prisoner was posted in the SCHUTZEN HOF (COORONG FARM O.36.d ?) with a private of the M.W. company. Their duty was to watch for the German S.O.S. and pass back the signal. In the same place, described as a construction of corrugated iron amid farm ruins, there was a M.W. crew of 5 men with two light M.W.'s. They were, however, forbidden to shoot except on direct order, when their fire was to be directed on to our front line.

NOTE: The identification of SCHUTZEN HOF with COORONG FARM agrees with a captured map, but is probably not correct in this instance. Prisoner may mean the area O.36.d.15.50 just E. of KIWI FARM.

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APPENDIX 4

57th Battalion A.I.F.  
4th March 1918.

Headquarters,  
15th Infantry Brigade.

Report of O.C. Assault re Raid carried out by  
57th Battalion A.I.F. on the night 3/4th March 1918.

On leaving Pollard Support parties moved in the order set out and got on to the tapes without much difficulty. The "lie" position was extremely wet and marshy. O.C. Raid was informed by telephone as soon as party was in "lie" position and checked. No shelling or machine gun fire interfered with this stage which was effected without casualties. At 11.40 P.M. the two 18 pounder flanking shots were picked up and checked with the bearing of the tape men. At Zero time the barrage came down on enemy line, both 18 pounders and trench mortars were excellent. At Zero plus 2 minutes, barrage lifted and the party advanced over very much torn up ground. The wire was found to be excellently cut and no difficulty was experienced by any of the parties in entering the enemy's trench. No enemy was found in trench and although a thorough search was made of the salient, the trench cutting across it and shell holes for some distance in rear, no identification could be obtained. The trenches were in a bad state and had been badly knocked about by our shell fire. On South side of Apex, also on the Northern side a few trench shelters were found, these were empty and were destroyed with bombs. At 12 midnight as I had received reports from all parties I gave the signal to withdraw. This was effected without a casualty from enemy's line by 12.3 A.M. Party made back along the tapes to New Cross Sap passing through a fairly heavy barrage of 77 m.m. and 5.9s. Here it was found that enemy had a heavy barrage in rear of our Support Line, so the party was spread out and held until things had quietened down. Parties sustained Three (3) casualties whilst waiting here, two of them very slight. The work of the Artillery and Trench Mortars and Machine Gun Company was extremely satisfactory. All arrangements as set out in orders and practice worked smoothly and there were no hitches of any sort. The members of the party, though disappointed at not getting anything, are in excellent spirits.

(Sgd) J.A. Falconer Lieut.  
O.C. Assault.

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APPENDIX. 4

Headquarters,  
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.  
4th March 1918



Headquarters,  
5th Aust. Division.

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Reference Raids of 3rd/4th inst. Attached please find reports from the Officers Commanding 57th and 58th Battalions, O.C. 15th A.L.T.M.B. and further information gained from interviews with members of the raiding parties.  
May the reports be returned please together with attached copies of orders.

Brig. General.  
Commanding 15th Australian Inf. Brigade

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APPENDIX

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Q 281

57th Battalion A.I.F.  
4th March 1918.

Headquarters,  
15th Infantry Brigade.

Herewith reports of O.C. Raid and O.C. Assault in  
connection with Raid carried out by 57th Battalion on night  
3/4th March 1918.

*John B. Hamlyn*  
C.O. 57th Battalion A.I.F.

until zero + 15. Owing to the wet state of the ground & the great angle of deflection several mortars did not complete the allotted task, but on the whole the emplacements stood well.

Forty rounds of specially prepared smoke bombs were fired on the flanks of the said areas but ~~owing to~~ in the general bombardment it was impossible to observe the effect of these shells.

A total of 719 rounds was fired.

Men of the sawlog party questioned spoke very favourably of the accuracy of our preliminary bombardment.

No casualties were sustained by our detachments.

E. H. Keys Capt  
C. C. 1st Lt. R. S. M. B.

15th Bde Major  
15th Aust. Inf Bde

Report on raids carried out by  
57th + 58th Bns on night of 2/4  
March 1918.

Seven mortars were allotted to each battalion sector. These were placed in position & registered during the nights of 1/2nd & 2nd/3rd mid. Owing to very windy weather & lack of communication between front posts & gun positions considerable difficulty was experienced in this work but eventually satisfactory registrations were secured.

From zero to zero + 2 the areas to be raided were bombarded at the rate of fifteen rounds per mortar per minute. At zero + 2 mortars were switched out on flanks of said areas to form a block in enemy trenches fire at the rate of three rounds per mortar per minute was maintained on these points

APPENDIX. 4

Following information was gained as result of interrogation of members of raiding parties:

#### RIGHT RAID

(a) Trenches Enemy trenches blown right in by our artillery and Trench Mortars. In most places as a result of the filling in, the trenches are not more than two feet deep. There is no revetting.

On the SOUTH side of Salient there were two trench shelters with roofs of corrugated iron. These looked as though they had been recently occupied but contained no papers. They were blown up by bombs before leaving.

There were no duckboards.

There were no definite signs of any Machine Gun emplacements though one man reported that on NORTH side of salient and 20 yards from apex there was a rough emplacement. This was not corroborated.

The triangular piece of ground between the three sides of the salient was searched without result.

(b) Wire is reported to have consisted of two rows of plain concertina wire with much loose barbed wire in it. The artillery had very effectively dealt with it and it presented no obstacle.

(c) Enemy barrage came down in No Man's Land 4 minutes after Zero. It was not heavy and was behind our party. The barrage drew in towards enemy wire and just as our party left the enemy was shelling his own trench.

The raiding party retired to our lines without casualty.

It was while going out through enemy main barrage which was put down behind our support line in U.4.A and C that only casualties occurred. They were three in number but it was only necessary to evacuate one.

There was no Minenwerfer fire during our barrage.

(d) Enemy Machine Gun Fire Very little reported.

(e) GROUND No Man's Land was very wet and much cut about.

(f) No enemy were seen.

#### LEFT RAID

(a) Enemy Two prisoners were taken in a shelter at 0.35.D.8.7. They were in a terrified condition and it was difficult to get them to move.

Two dead Germans were seen on North side of the crater in the road U.35.D.75.85. and two more in the trench just SOUTH of this. These appeared to have been killed quite recently.

(b) Enemy trench To the NORTH of the CINEMA ROAD the trench is about 4 feet deep. It does not appear to have been much used and the greater part of it is full of water.

To the SOUTH of the ROAD the trench also shows little sign of use. There are three rough galvanised iron shelters.

On the ROAD the crater at U.35.D.75.85 which was suspected of being a strong point was found to be full of water.

About 200 or 300 yards to the rear the raiding party saw many flares apparently being put up from a definitely held line.

No duckboards were seen in the trench.

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(c) Wire reported to have been two rows of concertina with certain amount of loose barbed wire.

Our artillery and trench mortars had successfully dealt with the wire.

(d) Enemy barrage was not put down till about ten minutes after zero. It was very light and was placed in the vicinity of our support line. The enemy did not shell No Man's Land or his own trench at all in this sector.

(e) Machine Gun Fire., enemy None during our barrage.

(f) Ground Very bad on the SOUTH of road. The men to the NORTH were able to cross without much difficulty.

EQUIPMENT All ranks of both raiding parties are unanimous in saying that the new pattern of special armour issued is most effective for wearing during raids. Other points in its favour are comfort, lightness, and, (as was proved last night) warmth. It is not considered that equipment for the raid could have been improved in any way.



Headquarters,  
Australian Corps.

SECRET.

Herewith list shewing comparisons of casualties sustained in raids on  
Divisional Sector from 1st March to 5th March inclusive:-

Time	Date	Raid	Our numbers		Enemy numbers		Our casualties			Enemy casualties			Remarks.
			Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	K.	W	M other	K	W	P	
9.45 pm	1 March	Enemy raid on S.P. 4.O.11. O.11.b.8.4.	-	18	4	70	-	-	-	-	-	16	6 wounded K and W unknown
11.45 p.m.	3 March	Our raid on WHIZ FM. O.17.d.65.75	1	20	-	-	1	1	-	18	-	26	6 1 subsequent- ly killed.
11.45 pm	3 March	Our raid on CINEMA Road O.35.d.8.8.	2	35	-	-	-	-	-	46	-	2	6 By our artillery fire
11.45 pm	3 March	Our raid on Salient (U.5.d.70.23)	1	40	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	No enemy found. 2 of our casual- ties being slight.
1.40 am	5 March	Enemy raid on our post U.5.b.8.2.	-	9	20	2	5	-	1	-	-	-	Our casualties from enemy artillery.

K. killed W. wounded M. missing P. prisoners.

7th March 1918.

*J. J. Hobbs*  
Major-General.  
Commanding 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



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APPENDIX

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Ref Warneton 1/1000.

57<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
3/27 March 1918.

113/7

Report on Minor Operation

In conjunction with other operations carried out simultaneously by the 57<sup>th</sup> Battalion and 3<sup>rd</sup> Division a party of 2 officers and 35 other ranks of this battalion carried out a raid on the enemy position from O.35.790-71 N.W. to CINEMA ROAD and beyond as far as O. 35 79-00.

The raiders were divided into 3 parties and a H.Q. party.

No. 1, Right Party, was to operate S of CINEMA ROAD,

NO 2, LEFT Party, was to operate N. of CINEMA ROAD.

No. 3, CENTRE party, was to deal with what appeared to be a crater on Cinema road and to prevent the approach of troops along the road.

Wire was cut for several days prior to the operation by 18<sup>th</sup> Div. batteries

The approach and <sup>the</sup> assembly in the "lie position" were made according to the time table set out in Battalion Order No 4. The Barrage dropped exactly at the zero hour, 11:45 pm. and was excellently placed.

At the end of 2 minutes the barrage lifted from the ~~front line~~ enemy trench and the box barrage was formed. Both artillery and trench mortars were well directed and no trouble from machine guns or rifle fire was experienced.

The ground in No Man's Land was fairly good north of the road but as patrols had proved the existence of a swampy area in the vicinity of the wire S of the road the Right party advanced via Cinema Road and the ditch alongside.

The wire proved to have been effectively cut and the trench was pushed without trouble.

The left party under Lieut. H. D. Harvey found the northern section of the trench deserted. It had the appearance of not being in use.

The Centre party discovered that

the crater on (CINEMA ROAD) was full of water and that no strong point existed there.

at X Lt. Slaughter led his party down the southern section and encountered two enemy in a shelter in the parapet. He fired and wounded one and they surrendered screaming with terror. Lt. Slaughter handed them over to his party and those detailed for the purpose explored the trench for a distance of 80 yards S. of CINEMA ROAD. ~~No ~~and~~ not wounded were~~

X encountered. The trench was in very bad repair. The parapet was re-belled in places with brushwood. Shelters of corrugated iron - not cupola - were found in the parapet. There were no duckboards and the trench was very wet except in a few spots evidently held as posts. It was apparently not garrisoned strongly. Ha

⊗ Having searched for papers and other stores of value and finding none Lt. Slaughter gave the signal for return. The road formed a good

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guide and the whole party returned without a casualty.

A mishap to the ladder line as it was being run out prevented communication by phone with the raiding party in no man's land. The line between the point of exit at No. 9 post and Coy. H.Q. was soon cut. Communications from front Coy. H.Q. held throughout, but had it not been for elaborate system of duplicating lines it is certain that information would have taken much longer to get back. As it was, word was sent to Bde. H.Q. that two prisoners had been secured, at 12.10 am. Identification first sent was incorrectly given owing to the fact that two men had to "run the gauntlet" through the barrage with a verbal message which became mutilated in transmission. This was quickly remedied when the first prisoner was got back to Coy. H.Q.

Both prisoners were wounded and badly shaken so that it was not possible to

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get them to Bde. H.Q. as soon as expected. Identification was however verified and telephoned as soon as obtained and the papers found on the prisoners were forwarded by runner at once.

Enemy retaliation on our area was weak and scattered and seemed purposeless. Some damage was done to saps and four casualties were reported.

Two other casualties were caused by the bad laying of one of our own machine guns.

Karabachy Lt. Col.

5.30 am. 4/3/18.