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Formation Headquarters

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ANZAC Corps

December 1917



AWM4-1/33/20PART3

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 36.

From 6 a.m. 19th Dec. to 6 a.m. 20th Dec. 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.1. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.2. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a). Field artillery fired concentrations on J 13 c and on area ^{found} 1 d 15.70 and a gas concentration on H.Q. at A 19 b 50.93 and A 26 a 40.78. Harassing fire was continued.

(b). Heavy artillery carried out two destructive shoots with aeroplane observation scoring two direct hits on a battery causing an unusually large explosion at A 15 d 07.75. Eight concentration shoots were carried out. The following batteries were neutralized:-

WATERHAMCK GROUP	5.
ADIZSELE GROUP	1.
POTTERLEBURG GROUP	9.
TERHAND GROUP	5.
MEVIN ROAD GROUP	3.

Thirty batteries were engaged for heavy shelling of our front line in northern sector; it also engaged 28 batteries to assist Corps on our right whose batteries were subjected to a heavy bombardment from about 9 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.

It also co-operated in harassing fire on railway systems and roads particularly in J 18, A 1, A 13, K 15 d, E 17 a, E 21 a and d and carried out long range fire on billet areas in K 17, K 24 and L 13.

(c). Our M.Gs. carried out indirect fire on enemy's communications and co-operated in harassing fire.

(d). Our P.Ls. engaged J 11 d 5.3. 3" Stokes mortars fired on E.A. and on several occasions drove them off.

3. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

(a). Artillery. In the Northern Sector hostile artillery was very quiet.

In Southern Sector enemy artillery was very active shelling front and support lines intermittently all day and support lines in J 11 with 15-cm. heavily from 2 to 3 p.m. In J 5 and 6 the enemy appeared to shell both his own and our front lines from 3 to 4 p.m.

Other areas shelled were:-

D 12 c, D 16 d, D 23 c and b, D 29, D 28 a, D 26 a and c, D 25 b, J 5 c, J 3 c and J 2 with special attention on points D 12 a 5.0, D 17 c 0.4, J 3 d 4.5 and J 5 a 8.1.

Area near POLYGONEBE (J 10 and 16) heavily. No damage.

BLACKWATCH CORNER (J 15) with 15-cm. and 21-cm.

J 13 (H.E. and gas).

(b). Hostile M.Gs. fired on our tracks and front line posts in D 12 c and D 18 a during the night. 60 T.M. bombs fell on our lines in J 11.

4. PATROLS.

Our patrols followed course of POLYGONEBELEK to junction with REUTLEBEK (J 17 a) and returned via night post J 10 d 65.05. Other patrols reconnoitred J 16 a and the east edge of CAMERON COVERT.

A patrol reconnoitred railway in D 16 for 150 yds. and then turned S.E. to road junction at D 18 b 45.70; from here it patrolled near ASSYRIA and spent some time here.

Patrols reconnoitred from D 17 d 00.10 through DAIRY WOOD to RHINE returning to D 17 d 00.65.

DAISY WOOD, BUSY WOOD and RHINE COPSE were also patrolled.

A party left our lines at D 23 d 05.80, proceeded to D 30 a 6.6 skirting the western edge of ANVIL WOOD.

No Man's Land.

PART I.

4. PATROLS (continued).

No Man's Land in D 29 b and d was patrolled.
No enemy were encountered by any of the above.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES

(a). Enemy M.Gs. were active from near POLDERHOEK CHAU, and in JUNIPER WOOD (J 27 a).
(b). A trench mortar appeared to fire from a point 50 yds. S. of POLDERHOEK CHAU.

6. MOVEMENT.

The following movement was seen:-
Three small parties during the morning at B 16 a 63.80.
Two small parties at E 20 d 30.40.
Two men walked away from a tree in CHINA WOOD (D 24 c).
Constant movement at J 18 a 90.52 and as usual at J 18 a 9.9.
Constant movement near light railway and tracks in J 23 b.
Movement at strong point J 6 c 75.58.
Twelve men in JOINERS AVENUE (J 6 c).
Much movement during morning in JOURNAL WOOD (J 12 b).
The movement at POLDERHOEK still continues but is slighter.

7. TOPOGRAPHICAL.

The actual bed of the POLYGONALEK is invisible. It is merely a succession of shell holes filled with water. At the stream junction J.17 a 20.20 there is more water and the shell holes are larger.
No Man's Land in J 16 a is very broken and the going is bad.

8. AIRCRAFT.

Active on both sides. E.A. were seen in flights of up to 10 planes flying fairly low over our lines. One bomb was dropped near ZONNEBEKE Casemate (D 28 a).

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

A signal lamp in POLDERHOEK CHAU. was working to the S.E.
At 2.15 a.m. four double red flares were fired from RYUTEL Cemetery (J 11 d 80.35) without apparent result.

20th Dec 1917.

E. Callaghan
Capt.
for Brig. General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES

AIR RECONNAISSANCE.

Thick mist prevailed all day with some clear intervals in the North. Enemy activity was normal. Three artillery machines were reported working. as a result of combats, three E.A. were brought down and crashed (one falling in flames) and 3 more were driven down out of control. There were 22 indecisive combats. One of our squadrons carried out a reconnaissance of the PASSCHENDAELE front but no enemy activity was observed. 1,000 rounds of S.A.A. were fired at hutments, roads and trenches. No photography was possible owing to the thick ground mist. Bombs were dropped on various targets by machines of all Corps Squadrons.

Balloons. Beyond a certain amount of night work very little observation has been possible. That is believed to have been a smoke screen was seen S. of PASSCHENDAELE (D 18) at 3 p.m. yesterday. A large explosion was observed at P 21 a 8.7 (E. of HOUTHEM) at 7.7 a.m. yesterday

II ANZAC WEEKLY SUMMARY OF GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.
For week ending 21st Dec. 1917.

No. 5.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

1. ORDER OF BATTLE.(a). Northern Sector. (MOORSLEDE).

The 11th Res. Div. are still in the line, the Order of Battle being from N. to S., 22nd I.R., 156th I.R. and 10th R.I.R.

This division is due for relief on the night 21/22nd Dec. Prisoners' statements corroborate this and steps have been taken to deal with the situation.

It is expected that the relieving division will be the 12th Res. Div., probably with the same Order of Battle as when previously in the line, i.e. from N. to S. 51 R.I.R., 38 R.I.R. and 23 R.I.R.

(b). Centre Sector. (N.E. of POLYGON WOOD).

The 25th Division relieved the 36th Res. Div. on the night 16/17th Dec. The Order of Battle from N. to S. is 115 I.R., 117 I.R. and 116 I.R. This division should be relieved, on the 12 day basis, on the night 28/29th Dec.

(c). Southern Sector. (JECCLAERE).

The 17th Res. Div. appears to be still in this sector. The Order of Battle N. to S. 76th R.I.R., 163 I.R. and 162 I.R. This division came into the line on the nights 30th Nov./1st Dec. and 1/2nd December. The last identification by contact was on 17th Dec.

2. PRISONERS.(a). Unwounded.

<u>Date.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Cor.</u>	<u>Regiment.</u>	<u>Division.</u>
17-12-17	2	8	117 I.R.	25th Div.

(b). Wounded.

17-12-17	1	9	10 R.I.R.	11th Res. Div.
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Total of prisoners captured by this Corps since 15th Nov. 53 O.Rs.

3. ORGANIZATION IN THE LINE.

The prisoners of 117 I.R. state that their regiment as well as the 116 and 115 regts. are organized on the "6 company forward and 6 company in reserve" basis.

It would appear, then, that this system is in universal use on this front, wherever there are no organized trenches and dugouts.

4. ENEMY INTENTIONS.

All prisoners captured on this front say that they have no knowledge of impending operations. On the other hand, other facts, such as the use of smoke screens (reported on three occasions), slightly increased trench railway and aerial activity and increased individual movement, should be noted.

E. E. Calhoun
 Capt.

for Brig.-General G.S.
 II ANZAC CORPS.

21st Dec. 1917.

PART II follows.....

II ANZAC WEEKLY SUMMARY (continued).PART II
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.MOVEMENT OF TROOPS FROM RUSSIA TO THE WEST.

According to reports and letters from Germany at the end of November, men who were then on leave from the front were being given 10 days extension on account of an intense railway movement which was about to take place from Russia to the Western Front.

Prisoners' statements indicate the possibility of the following divisions being transferred from Russia to the Western Front:-

- 241st Div..... (Saxon Div. of new formation).
- 201st Div..... (Poor quality)
- 31st Div..... (Also reported to be in Italy).
- 203rd Div..... (Poor quality, reported in CAMBRAI area).

Although none of these divisions are such as would be selected for service on the Western Front, the transfer of a certain number of constituted units, as well as drafts, from the RUSSIAN Front is probable.

System of Drafting Men from Russia to the Western Front.

As soon as the outbreak of the Russian Revolutionary spirit began to affect the military strength of the Russian Armies, the opportunity was seized by Germany to divert reinforcements from Russia to the Western Front.

In May of this year, a beginning was made by withdrawing ^{two} of the training battalions from Warsaw and sending them to France. These men were replaced in the training centre at Warsaw by recruits of the 1918 Class from the Home Depots.

In this way, the field recruit depots and also the Landsturm battalions were combed throughout the summer to make good the casualties caused by the heavy fighting on the Western Front.

On October, a bolder procedure was adopted, and men between the ages of 20 and 35 were withdrawn in large numbers from the front line units on the Russian Front, not merely from the field recruit depots.

Evidence of the following withdrawals has been received:-

- (a). Early in October, every Infantry Coy. of von WOYRSCH'S Army Group (BARANOVITCHI area) sent 20 seasoned young men to the Western Front. 15,000 of these left BARANOVITCHI on the 20th October.
- (b). 200 Officers from the Russian Front arrived at GHENT by the beginning of October.
- (c). On the 16th October, a draft of 900 men left the 18th Landwehr Div. for the western front.
- (d). On the 20th October, 1,500 men left the 3rd and 4th Ldw. Divs. for the Western Front.
- (e). On the 21st October, each Coy. of the 86th Div. (KOVEL area) provided drafts of men under 24 years for the Western Front.
- (f). On the 23rd October the 77th Res. Div. and other VIII Corps units sent a draft of 1,800 men from MITAU to FLANDERS.
- (g). At the end of October, 12 officers and 1,000 men from the 85th Ldw. Div. and other units left VILNA for GHENT.
- (h). At the end of October, the 16th Ldw. Div. provided 100 men.
- (i). At the end of October, von HUTIER'S Army (RIGA area) provided a draft of 1,200 men for FLANDERS.
- (j). In November the 224th Div. provided 50 young men per Coy. for FLANDERS.
- (k). The 6th Res. Div. (GALICIA) was sending all its fit men to France in November. These were being replaced by Alsations and recruits of the 1919 Class.
- (l). On the 8th Nov., the 108th Div. and other units sent a draft of 500 to BEVERLOO.
- (m). Large drafts of men, aged 20-25, arrived at BEVERLOO in October from Russia for a month's training before being posted to units on Western Front.

It is a fair.....

II ANZAC WEEKLY SUMMARY (continued).MOVEMENT OF TROOPS FROM RUSSIA TO THE WEST. (Continued).

It is a fair deduction from the above that each division on the Russian Front, which is not ear-marked for transfer to the Western Front, has provided a draft of 700-1,000 men. Assuming that 75 divisions are being left for the present on the Eastern Front, it is safe to say that during October and November 75,000 men have been transferred as drafts from Russia to units or field recruit depots in the west. This would provide 500 men as reinforcements for every division on the western front.

The effect of this step will doubtless ^{be} to save still further the 1919 Class from service in active sectors, and to enable battalions to be maintained at the strength laid down by the War Ministry Order of the 12th March 1917, (viz. 750 men).

Possible Transfers.

The following divisions are indicated by prisoners' statements as possibly under orders for transfer to the Western Front:-
84th Div., 81st Res. Div., 223rd Div. and 53rd Res. Div.

- (a). A document shows that the 412th Inf. Regt., 202nd Div., had arrived on the Western Front from Russia on the 12th Dec.
- (b). According to deserter's statement, the 31st Div. had left Russia for France by the 4th Dec.
- (c). The transfer of the 14th Bav. Div. from Galicia to France is considered probable.
- (d). The arrival of the 202nd Div. and 31st Div. raises the number of divisions on the western front to 154.

MOVEMENTS OF GERMAN DIVISIONS.German Units for Turkey.

(a). A document shows that the aircraft Park of von FALKENHAYN'S Army (Armee-Fluggpark F.) was at HAIDAR PASHA on the 3rd Nov. with the German Field Post Office No. 663.

(b). A deserter states that:-

- i. Men under 30 years of age were withdrawn from the Russian Front at the beginning of August to form the Infantry Bns. of the 700 series at NEUHAMBURG for service in Turkey.
- ii. These battalions were each provided with:-
Machine Gun Coy.
Trench Mortar Section (4 Minenwerfer).
Trench Gun Detachment (50 men and 4 8-cm. guns).
Telephone Detachment.
- iii. The companies of these battalions were 150 strong, and the transport consisted solely of motor lorries.
- iv. The 703rd Inf. Battn. was at CONSTANTINOPLE on 11th Nov.

MOVEMENT OF DIVISIONS TO AND FROM RUSSIA.

After its withdrawal from the FLANDERS Front on 26th Oct., the 10th Bav. Div. was transferred to RUSSIA. The movement of the division eastwards through HANNOVER was indicated by a letter written on the 3rd November.

The 10th Bav. Div. remained in rest at BREST-LITOVSK for nearly three weeks, without going into the line and entrained again on the 22nd November. The division returned to the Western Front via BREST-LITOVSK, WARSAW, POSEN and ERFURT, and detrained at HERRESHOFEN (Lorraine), on 27th November.

The 18th Div. in a similar manner moved from west to east and then back.

It seems probable that the events in Russia forestalled a German operation in the Eastern Theatre.

The 15th Div., from reserve in FLANDERS, has relieved the 16th Div. E. of PASSECHENDAELE. The 15th Div. was not transferred to the CAMBRAI area as had been supposed.

PROBABLE.....

II ANZAC WEEKLY SUMMARY (continued).PROBABLE TRANSFER OF THE 11TH BAV. DIV. TO OEVRE.

Prisoners of the 203rd Div., captured south of CAMBRAI, state that they were relieved at St. MIHIEL, about the 26th Nov., by a tired Bav. Div. from FLANDERS.

The 11th Bav. Div. was withdrawn from the FLANDERS Front on the 11th Nov., and has not been heard of since. A train movement occurred from FLANDERS southwards via NAMUR, between the 15th and 19th Nov. The 11th Bav. Div. has probably been transferred to the St. MIHIEL sector.

GERMAN FIELD WIRELESS STATIONS.

The following extracts have been taken from a set of "Instructions for Command Posts equipped with Wireless", issued by the 18th Div. on the 14th July 1917:-

- (a). The Wireless Stations of a division are expected to maintain communication between Brigades and Regiments, between Regiments and Battalions, and between Battalions and important Observation Posts or Company Command Posts. They also serve to ask for barrage fire, and they should, if possible, be utilized for artillery purposes, i.e. transmission of observation officers' reports, reports being forwarded through the artillery liaison officer.
- (b). The station at brigade H.Q. is to listen in continuously during quiet times; other stations are only manned for the first ten minutes after each hour. During active operations, however, and on the receipt of the order "increased readiness for action", all stations must remain in constant readiness without awaiting further instructions.
- (c). As a general rule, wireless stations should only transmit tactical messages, and these only when other means of communication fail, or their use appears inadvisable. It is essential, however, that the operators should have practice and that H.Q. should familiarize themselves with this means of communication. A certain number of messages must, therefore, be sent by wireless, even when other means of communication are available. The most suitable messages for this purpose are the morning and evening reports, provided they are not too long.
- (d). A wireless station requires a well built, roomy dugout, in close proximity to the command post to which the station is attached. Commanders need not fear the betrayal of the exact position of their command posts to the enemy by the presence of a Wireless Station, as the means of locating such stations are far too inaccurate.

E TENSION OF LEAVE.

A prisoner belonging to the 413th Regiment (204th Div.) captured on the 15/16th December states that he was recently on leave. His leave expired on the 2nd December and when he reported to TUTTGART Station his leave was extended for a further 10 days. All troops were given a similar extension. This indicates considerable movement on railways, but the prisoner cannot give any information on this subject.

TRANSFER OF AUSTRIAN ARTILLERY TO THE WESTERN FRONT.

Various reports indicate that Austrian Heavy Artillery has reinforced the Western Front. Austrian Artillery Officers are reported to have been seen at NAMUR Station on the 13th inst., and Austrian Heavy Batteries are reported to have arrived in FLANDERS and also in the LAON area.

Austrian Heavy Howitzers took part in the 1914 campaign in BELGIUM and in the first Battle of YPRES, but there is no evidence of their employment since then on the Western Front.

LOSSES.....

II ANZAC WEEKLY SUMMARY (continued)LOSSES IN GERMAN GUNS.

With a view to encouraging counter-battery work the German General Staff have been at some pains to reassure their troops on the question of the wastage of guns due to wear and tear.

They have produced figures showing the following percentages of total losses in 1,450 guns on one Army Front, during active operations:-

Losses due to wear and tear from firing:-

Field Artillery.....47%.

Heavy Artillery.....41%.

Losses due to hostile fire:-

Field Artillery.....53%.

Heavy Artillery.....59%.

ZINC DRIVING BANDS FOR GERMAN HOWITZER SHELL.

According to a captured order, dated 27-7-17, the Germans have made an experimental issue of 15-cm. How. shell fitted with driving bands of a zinc alloy (shown by analysis to contain 91.6% of zinc).

The order lays down that, after firing 1,000 rounds of these experimental shell, 5 to 10 rounds with copper driving bands should be fired in order to remove the zinc from the rifling.

GERMAN INTENTIONS IN THE CAMBRAI AREA.

Prisoners captured on the night of the 17/18th Dec. W. of la VACQUERIE, knew nothing of an impending hostile attack, and stated that definite orders have been issued to consolidate the present positions.

GERMAN AUTOMATIC CARBINE.

German Aviation troops are issued with an automatic carbine called Flieger-Selbstlader Karabiner 15 fur 7 mm. Munition, which closely resembles the MONDRAGON MEXICAN automatic carbine, but is apparently manufactured in Germany.

The chief characteristics of this weapon are:-

- (1). It is actuated by gas pressure and not by recoil.
- (2). It is provided with a magazine, containing 10 cartridges, and an auxiliary magazine (Ansteckmagazin) in the form of a drum, can also be employed. This latter magazine holds 30 cartridges which can only be fired as single shots.

The issue of this weapon is apparently ^{being} extended to the other arms.

II ANZAC "I"

21st December 1917.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 57.

From 8 a.m. 20th Dec. to 8 a.m. 21st Dec. 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.1. IDENTIFICATIONS.

Prisoners of the 91st R.I.R., 2nd Guard Res. Div. were captured by the Corps on our left last night N.W. of PASCHENLALLE.

2. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a). Field artillery carried out harassing fire according to programme and fired concentrations on cross roads K 7 d 15.95 and on area round J 18 b 5.6.

(b). Heavy artillery carried out 9 concentration shoots and neutralized the following batteries:-

WATERLANHOEK GROUP	4.	DADIZELLE GROUP	1.
POTTERIJLBERG GROUP	10	TERHAND GROUP	8.

(c). Our M.Gs. co-operated in harassing fire and carried out indirect fire on enemy communications.

(d). Our light T.Ms. fired 30 rounds on to POLLERMOEK CHAU.

3. FOSTILE OPERATIONS.

(a). Enemy artillery abnormally quiet. Our northern division reports a large number of 7.7-em. blind shells.

The following areas and points were shelled:-

D 11 d 75.10.	J 3 d.
L 16 c 6.3.	J 4 a, b and d.
L 16 d.	J 5 c.
D 22 a.	J 5 b 8.1.
L 23 c.	J 9 and 10.
D 27.	Extreme right of sector from front line back to BLACK WATCH CORNER (J 15 a).
ZONNEBEKE (D 28).	CHATEAU WOOD (J 13 a).
J 29.	J 18 a (few gas shells).
J 1 and 2.	
CARTER POINT (J 3 a).	

(b). Enemy M.Gs. were very active in southern sector throughout day and night sweeping with short bursts; in northern sector they were not so active but fired occasional bursts on L 29 c and D 23 c.

(c). T.Ms. Six granatenwerfer were fired into CAMERON COVERT CREEK and a medium T.M. fired 8 rounds into POLYGONLEEK at J 17 a 0.6. A few T.M. bombs also fell in J 11 b.

4. PATROLS.

The following areas were patrolled:-

(a). By night.

From J 10 d down POLYGONLEEK to REUTLELEEK and up it to CAMERON COVERT CREEK (J 16 b).

From J 6 a 2.2 to L 29 d.

From our lines towards DE HIEPELAERE CABT. as far as D 24 c 9.7, thence to c 9.9. This patrol heard noises at D 24 b 2.0 and on advancing in that direction came under M.G. fire.

Neighbourhood of CALTIC WOOD (D 29 d and 30 c).

D 18 a 7.3 to LICOY WOOD (D 18 a).

Listening Patrols in D 17 d.

No enemy were seen.

(b). By day.

At 11 a.m., patrol of 1 officer and 1 O.R. left our lines at L 23 central and proceeded to BUSY WOOD (D 24 a) in which they searched every shelter and trench. The patrol went into the open at D 24 b 1.4 and could see no enemy wire or trenches. They then searched TABLE WOOD (D 24 c) and finally got on to the road at L 24 c 8.7 and returned to our lines at 2 p.m.

No trace was found of enemy listening posts, tracks or wire.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES...

PART I.5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

- (a). M.Gs. Enemy M.Gs. were active from JUNIPER WOOD (J 17 a) and POLDERHOEK CHAU. (J 16 d). Three M.Gs. were reported firing from J 6 a 6.2 and the Cemetery in J 6 a. M.G. also located at D 24 d 20.50.
- (b). T.Ms. A T.M. was reported firing from JUNIPER WOOD (J 17 a). Exact location unknown.
- (c). Dugouts. Pill Box at J 17 a 15.80 was reconnoitred and found unoccupied and blocked by earth.

6. MOVEMENT.

Owing to the fog, observation was very difficult. The following movement was noticed:-

A working party 200 yards from our post J 11 d 95.05. This was dispersed with rifle fire.

Two men seen at J 17 a 70.65.

Sounds of hammering and digging heard in enemy lines in JOURNAL WOOD.

7. TOPOGRAPHICAL

The ice in shell holes is now mostly thick enough to bear a man.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. Flares were fired from J 6 c 7.8.

E. Callthrop
Capt.

for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

21st Dec. 1917.

PART II.INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.AIR RECONNAISSANCE.

Thick mist prevailed again yesterday. There was no enemy aircraft activity.

During the course of a roving mission on the 19th inst., one of our machines saw an E.A. attacking one of our two-seaters 3,000 feet below him. Our machine dived on the E.A. vertically and fired a burst at close range. After a round about fight, in which both machines lost height rapidly, the E.A. was driven down and was last seen at a height of 1,000 feet disappearing into the mist. Our A.A. saw the fight, and confirmed the E.A. as being out of control. It is believed to have crashed just inside the enemy's lines.

Balloons. - An E.A. attacked one of our balloons during an instruction flight on the 19th inst. Many holes were made in the balloon which was also perforated by an A.A. shell. Both observers made successful parachute descents.

RECENT ACTIVITY OF THE ENEMY OPPOSITE THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE ARMY FRONT.

A noticeable increase in hostile activity has taken place during the last 10 days on the Southern portion of the Army front. Two raids were carried out between SHREWSBURY Forest and the COMINES Canal (both unsuccessful), while four raids were carried out between COMINES Canal and W. of HOUTHEM (one successful, three unsuccessful).

An increase of artillery in the COMINES area has also taken place. One prisoner captured as the result of one of the enemy's unsuccessful raids in the HOUTHEM area stated that he had heard that an operation had been planned in the area held by his Div. (8th Div.) but was to be carried out by a STURM Division, which was in the back areas and which was going to relieve his division.

Too much reliance must not be placed in the above statements, but the attention of all should be called to the enemy's increased activity in this area, as a minor operation or raid on a large scale may be attempted. Endeavours should be made to obtain prisoners in the ZANDVOORDE, HOUTHEM and WARNETON sectors, so as to compare their statements with those of the prisoner mentioned above.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 21st Dec. to 6 a.m. 22nd Dec. 1917.

No. 102.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.1. IDENTIFICATIONS.

Two O.Rs. of 3rd Field Coy., 21st Pioneer Bn. taken at J 11 b 20.05. Normal.

2. OUR OPERATIONS

(a). Field artillery co-operated in the Corps programme in connection with the suspected enemy relief, the southern firing a concentration on road J 6 b 50.08-4.0-4.3. Northern division co-operated in comb-out barrage at 6.30 a.m. Harassing fire was continued throughout the 24 hrs.

(b). Heavy artillery fired 7 concentration shots and neutralized the following batteries:-

AMSTERDAMHOEK GROUP	3.	TERHAND GROUP	3.
POTTERIJEBURG GROUP	2.	VENIN ROAD GROUP	1.
LADIZEELE GROUP	2.		

(c). M.Gs. of northern division co-operated in comb-out barrage firing on S.C.S. lines. The usual harassing fire was continued.

3. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

(a). Hostile artillery was quiet, very little retaliation being drawn by our bombardment.

The following areas and places were shelled:-

D 11 d 80.05 (some gas).	J 4 d.
D 23 c and d.	J 5 central to the BUTTE.
D 29.	J 10
ANZAC (J 3 a) & J 3 b 10.50).	J 9 c.
J 3 c (specially c 20.60).	J 13 c (some gas).
	K Track (I 4) (heavily).

(b). M.Gs. Enemy M.Gs. active by day and night on tracks of southern division especially on J 11 a 15.20.

4. PATROLS.(a). British.

- i. A patrol reconnoitred DAIRY WOOD (D 23 b).
- ii. A patrol of 1 officer and 10 O.Rs. left our lines at D 18 a 7.4 at 7.30 p.m. and proceeded to ASSYRIA (D 18 b) where some old German dugouts were found. No enemy were seen.
- iii. Patrols reconnoitred RIVER COPSE (D 12 d) and the track from D 17 d 06.40 to D 17 d 95.00.
- iv. A patrol of 1 officer and 11 O.Rs. left our lines at D 29 d 20.75 at 8 p.m. and went to D 30 c 2.6 where it halted. Flares leaving a trail of red sparks were fired from D 30 central. Two were fired from N. to S., the second being fired from about the point of descent of the first. The patrol moved forward to D 30 c 50.75 where new shell holes were found.
- v. Seven patrols reconnoitred D 23 d and D 29 b and d during the night. No enemy were seen.
- vi. Patrols were out throughout the night in the CAMERON COVERT - REUTELBEEK area (J 16 a and b). Slight M.G. fire from JUNIPER WOOD (J 17 a), POLDERHOEK CHAU. and ridge in J 17 d. No enemy movement heard.
- vii. Patrol working in J 12 a and J 6 c heard, while at J 12 a 35.30 digging and hammering in JOURNAL WOOD from 6.30 till 10 p.m.
- viii. Officers patrol worked through J 6 a 2.2 to J 6 c 5.3 where enemy wire was met and patrol was fired on.

(b). Enemy. Enemy patrols were unusually active in the neighbourhood of REUTEL and hindered our usual visiting patrols between J 11 c 05.35 and J 10 d 80.05.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.....

PART I.5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

- (a). Posts. ASSYRIA (D 18) is not occupied by the enemy. Enemy was heard at J 6 c 5.7.
- (b). M.Gs. Enemy M.Gs. active from JUNIPER WOOD (J 17 a), Pill Box J 17 c 17.25, J 18 b 02.60, POLDERHOEK CHAU. and ridge in J 16 d. One gun fired from about 150 yds. north of the Chateau and one from south of the Chateau.
- (c). T.Ms. At 10.15 p.m. about 8 bombs were fired from the Chateau.
- (d). Wire. Was met by patrol at J 6 c 5.8.
- (e). Dugouts. The concrete dugouts on eastern edge of DAIRY WOOD are flooded.

Some old German dugouts were found at ASSYRIA.

Pill Boxes J 18 b 02.60 and D 24 b 8.4 appeared to be a centre of movement.

6. AIRCRAFT.

E.A. inactive owing to mist.

7. MOVEMENT.

- At 7 a.m. four Germans seen on ridge towards Z'ERG COTTES. (D 24 b 8.4) where they entered a Pill Box.
- Snipers fired from J 18 a 95.95 over JUDGE COTTAGE (J 12 a). Enemy moving round Pill Box J 17 c 17.25.
- Continuous movement in JOURNAL WOOD. Two men seen in trench at J 6 a 60.15. (This confirms existence of post previously reported) Between 8 and 10 p.m. on our firing Hales Grenades into enemy trench at J 11 d 5.4, seven men jumped out and ran away.
- J 6 c 65.75, man seen.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

- (a). Fires. From 7.45 to 8 p.m., a fire was seen in the direction of POTTERIJEBURG (D 10).
- At 7.30 p.m., a fire was burning in BECLLAERE followed by an explosion.
- (b). Flares. Flares leaving a trail of red sparks were fired from about D 30 central.
- Flares were fired from about J 17 d 3.6.
- At 7 p.m., enemy fired golden rain flares from POLDERHOEK CHAU. The signal was repeated down the POLDERHOEK Ridge to enemy back areas.
- At 7.10 p.m., a double green flare was put up from the Chateau. No more golden rain flares were then fired till 8 p.m. when they were again sent up from the Chateau. These signals ceased after a double red flare had been fired at 8.10 p.m. No further signals were observed.

H. Callaway

Capt.
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

22nd Dec. 1917.

PART II. (continued)

- 10B. 194.D.30a. DE MISPELAERE CABARET. Some work appears to have been done on post just East of cross roads D.24.d. 20.75. but the extent is difficult to see.
- 10B. 195.D17.18. East of NIJWEMOLEN. Shows No Man's Land South of the railway and some of our advanced posts in D17.d.
- 10B. 196.D.30.J.6. CELTIC WOOD. No fresh work visible; the tracks to the corner of the field J.3.b.32.65 still show very clear.
- 10B. 197.J.6. JUSTICE WOOD. No fresh work visible.
- 10B. 198.D.24.d. 30b. No fresh work.

INTERROGATION OF TWO PRISONERS OF 3RD FIELD COY., 21ST PIONEER BATTN., 25TH DIV., CAPTURED ON 21ST DECEMBER AT J 11 b 20.05.

Personal. One prisoner is an intelligent Corpl. who has been in the army since the commencement of the war and is unwilling to give much information. The other is a private of a low standard of intelligence.

Method of Capture. Three days ago, the Corpl. and his Coy. Commander had reconnoitred the whole of the enemy front line in this sector for the purpose of ascertaining what work was needed. He states that in the afternoon of the 21st he was sent up with a group of 8 pioneers from his company with a view to reporting on the possibility of camouflaging enemy's wire. They were guided to the front line by a man from the divisional infantry and took with them their rifles, gas helmets and ordinary entrenching tools. They arrived in front line about 6 p.m. and the Corpl. reported to the infantry N.C.C. who warned him to be careful if he went forward into No Man's Land. He left 7 men of the party behind and went out with only one man, lost himself in the fog and ran into one of our posts to whom he surrendered.

Billets. The Company is billeted at COLLEGHEMCAPELLIE. Civilians are still there.

Company Strength etc. The company is commanded by Lieut. ROHRMANN and is 280 strong.

Work. Prisoners had recently been engaged in building a concrete dugout half an hour's march south of ROTTERS but had to knock off work owing to the frost. Afterwards they were employed repairing ROTTERS-MERIN Road near COLLEGHEMCAPELLIE which had been much damaged by our shell fire.

II ANZAC "I"
22nd Dec. 1917.

II ANZAC AERIAL ANNEXE No 11. 22/12/17.

PART I. ROULERS' S RE OR'S
MOVEMENTS.

(a) RAILWAYS. MENIN - ROULERS' Line.

Northbound. 8.35, 10.10, 10.30, 12.10, 2.35, 3.10, 3.55.
Southbound. 8.40, 10.5, 10.15, 10.40, 11 (2 engines), 11.30, 11.50, 12.50, 12.58, 2.50, 3.53, 2.58.
Trains were seen stationary at MENIN at 8.35, 11.50, 3.55, 5.20, 3.52; at LEDEGHEM at 9.10 (3 trains) 12.10, 3.55; also much shunting in ROULERS between 9 & 10.

MOVEMENT ON OTHER LINES.

ROULERS - LICHTERVELDE 10-12 trains; direction both North and South.
ROULERS - COURTRAI. One train in either direction.
MENIN - WERWICQ. One train in either direction
MENIN - COURTRAI. Three trains toward COUR. AI, 4 towards MENIN. In addition much railway activity was noticed East of the MENIN - ROULERS line with general trend Westwards.

LIGHT RAILWAYS.

Shunting operations were seen just West of MOORSLEDE about 10 a.m.
12.25 one train GHELUWE to DADIZELLE.
3.20 " GHELUWE to MENIN.
3.21 " going West towards MENIN.

(b) ROAD.

9.30 a.m. Column of motor transport estimated at 15 passed road junction L1.c.8.1. West of LEDEGHEM going North.
ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. Below normal up to 11 a.m. then normal, increasing after noon, when 6 attacks were made on our photographic machine from the direction of PASSCHENDALLE one B.A. with multi-coloured fuselage was attacked by our machine and appeared to fall out of control in E.7.a. After 3 p.m. the activity again lessened. Nine balloons were observed along the line of the ROULERS-MENIN road during the morning and 6 during the afternoon.

ENEMY ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Few flashes seen throughout the day, but a big gun was located at L13.c.3.9. approximately.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A large smoke cloud was seen at 12 noon North of area apparently near STADEN. At 3.55 a signal light was seen near ISEGHEM, it was repeated three times.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

Photographs were taken to-day of enemy/and support positions on site the northern half of the Corps front.

- 10B. 191.D.17a. DEFY CROSSING. Shows our support lines North of BROODSEINDE - PASSCHENDALLE road.
- 10B. 192.D.30. DARE WOOD. No fresh work visible.
- 10B. 193.D.24. BUSY WOOD. Photo is indistinct but shows no fresh work. There is a very wet patch of country East of BUSY WOOD at D24.b.2.3, which appears frozen over.

PART II.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY, No

No. 39.

From 6 a.m. 22nd Dec. to 6 a.m. 23rd Dec. 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PART I.

INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.1. IDENTIFICATION.

The Corps on our right report that a Pioneer of the 18th Res. Div. was killed in an attempted enemy raid near the YPRES-MENIN Road (Normal)

2. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a). Field artillery fired concentrations at road K 7 a 30.75-35.75 and also (between 10.15 and 11 a.m.) on abnormal movement reported in J 12. Harassing fire was carried out on targets in K 7 d, E 8 c, E 13 d, E 19 b, E 25 c and D 30 d.

(b). Heavy Artillery carried out 6 destructive shoots with aeroplane observation. A fire was caused at K 23 e 92.40. Six concentrations were fired and the following batteries neutralized:-

WATERDAMICEK GROUP	5.	TERHAND GROUP	10.
POTTERIJEBURG GROUP	12.	MENIN ROAD GROUP	4.
DALIZELE GROUP	8.		

20 batteries were engaged from 10.15 to 11.30 p.m. to assist Corps on our left who were heavily shelled.

Six batteries were neutralized for shelling about junction with Corps on our right.

Two batteries seen active by R.F.C. were ranged on by a 60 pdr. battery; during the shelling, the enemy put up a smoke screen which concealed the battery for a few minutes but it was finally silenced.

(c). Machine Guns fired on enemy roads and tracks during the hours of darkness and against E.A.

3. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

(a). There was more activity ^{than} during the previous two days which may possibly be attributed to improved visibility.

The whole of the forward area of the southern division was shelled intermittently all day.

There was the usual shelling of battery areas and communications.

D 26 was heavily shelled during the morning.

Three of our heavy batteries were shelled but no damage is reported.

Rear areas received considerable attention.

The following areas and points were shelled:-

D 14.	J 1.	J 10 (JETTY WARREN).
D 20 (heavily).	J 2 e.	J 13 a and c (some gas shelling)
D 23.	J 3 e.	J 14 a.
D 26.	J 5. (central and	OTAKI SUPPORT).
D 27 (- Valley in D 28.	J 7.	I 12 b.
D 29 c.	J 8 a, b and c.	J 11 a (PACIFIC AVENUE).

(b). Machine Guns were active on extreme right of sector and bursts were fired during the night on tracks in D 20.

(c). 32 light T.M. bombs were fired at front line of southern division during the day.

4. PATROLS.

(a). A patrol of 1 N.C.O. and three men left J 5 b 8.0 and advanced towards the cemetery in J 6 a. Except for a M.G. firing from the latter place, nothing was seen or heard of the enemy.

A later patrol in the same sector heard hammering in JOURNAL ROAD and were fired by an M.G. from J 12 a 3.2.

(b). Patrol.

PART I.4. PATROLS. (continued).

- (b). Patrol of 5 worked out to J 17 a 6.8 but could not advance further owing to heavy M.G. fire. Nothing unusual seen.
- (c). Usual visiting patrols from J 16 b 75.95 to J 10 d 95.20. Nothing seen or heard.
- (d). A line of listening posts was established 350 yds. in front of our line in D 23 and D 29 from 3.30 to 6.30 a.m. No enemy were seen.
- (e). Patrol visited DECOY WOOD and ASSYRIA (D 18). No enemy were seen.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

- (i). M.G. reported firing from J 12 a 3.2.
- (ii). Dugouts. Movement was seen round dugouts at E 19 a 65.10, E 19 b 30.75, J 17 c 17.95 and J 16 d 25.35.

6. MOVEMENT.

- (a). Individual. Voices were heard by our patrols in J 16 d. Snipers fired from POLDERHOEK CHAU. There was abnormal movement in J 12 between 10.15 and 11 a.m. Small parties seen at K 4 b 5.7, E 25 d 3.8, E 25 b 7.5, E 16 a 70.75 and E 15 a 53.25. 50 men were digging at K 3 a 50.35.
- (b). Trains. Considerable movement throughout the afternoon between MENIN, DADIZEELE and GHELUWE. Movements between DADIZEELE and WATERDAMHOEK were also seen about midday.
- (c). Transport. Continual motor and horse transport on WATERDAMHOEK-STROOIBOOMHOEK Road between 1.30 and 3.20 p.m.

7. AIRCRAFT.

E.A. very active all day in flights up to 8. Several planes flew very low over our lines despite heavy A.A. and M.G. fire. Eleven enemy observation balloons were up.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

Signals. At 7.5 a.m., golden rain flares were sent up at various points between POLDERHOEK CHAU. and J 17 c 8.7. No apparent action followed.

The following houses appear to be used.- E 15 a 53.25 K 1 d 1.6.

Batteries are reported active at K 4 a 2.3 - K 3 b 80.65 - K 11 a 00.95 K 11 d 83.90 - K 17 b 65.60.

E.E. Callaway
Capt.

for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

23rd December 1917.

PART II.INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.AIR RECONNAISSANCE. 22-12-17.

The weather was fine, with less ground mist. Visibility was fair to indifferent. Hostile activity was normal. Our machines had a very successful day. Four E.A. were destroyed of which three were brought down in flames and one was crashed. Four more were driven down out of control. None of our machines are missing. Two reconnaissances, to observe movement, were carried out on the PASSCHENDALLE and GHELUVELT - HOLLEBEKE fronts, but no movement or new work could be seen. A total of 1198 rounds of S.A.A. were fired at hutments and trenches. Conditions were better for photography, and a total of 132 plates were exposed, resulting in a few good photographs of the back areas and front system. No bombs were dropped.

PART III follows:-...

PART III.
CONTRE-ESPIONNAGE.

The following papers have been lost or stolen and are therefore cancelled:-

- (1). Permis de Sejour No. 1570 - LECLER Octavio, born at WESTOUTRE 8-3-1847, valid for WESTOUTRE.
- (2). Permis de Sejour - RICOUR Desire, born at BAILLEUL 25-8-1868, valid for WESTOUTRE.
- (3). Permis de Sejour - BONDUE Marguerite, born at VLAMERTINGHE 21-7-01, valid for VLAMERTINGHE.
- (4). Permis de Sejour - COULIER Reine, born at WESTOUTRE 15-4-1858, valid for WESTOUTRE.

FURTHER EXAMINATION OF CORPORAL OF THIRD FIELD COY., 21ST PIONEER BATTN., 25TH DIVISION CAPTURED ON 21ST DECEMBER.

Reliefs. The 25th Div. expects to be relieved on the 3rd January and will then go into rest near the Dutch frontier.

Enemy's Intentions in this Sector. There is a rumour among the troops that before being relieved the 25th Div. is to attack the high ground held by us in this sector. Prisoner has not, however, noticed any sign of preparation for an offensive beyond the fact that there seem plenty of troops in rear and also much artillery.

General Offensive. Discussion of a general offensive in the west has died down, being replaced by much talk of peace in consequence of the present negotiations with Russia.

Units Seen. Prisoner could name no particular units as all troops when resting behind the line have their shoulder straps covered over.

Trench Mortars. Prisoner thought that the state of the ground would only permit of light T.Ms. being used in the forward area.

Gas Projectors. Prisoner has seen none and knows of none being installed.

Billets. The billets of prisoner's company at COLLECHENCAELLE are in huts. They have no bomb-proof shelters for use in case of air raids.

Morale. Prisoner's own morale was excellent and he stated that the morale of the whole division is good.

NOTICES.

1. A specimen of the German Automatic Carbine used in aeroplanes, as described in II ANZAC Weekly Summary No.5, dated 21st Dec., is required by G.H.Q. Special search is to be made in captured aeroplanes or their wreckage for these weapons.
2. The Weekly Map of "Areas Heavily Shelled by Hostile Artillery" will in future not be issued.

II ANZAC "I",
23-12-17.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 40.

From 6 a.m. 23rd Dec. to 6 a.m. 24th Dec. 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.1. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.2. OUR OPERATIONS.

(9) Field Artillery fired a concentration shoot at 4 p.m. on J 18 b 45.75 and obtained a few direct hits on pill box J 18 a 9.8. Together with S.A. they also carried out harassing fire on targets in E 7 d, E 13 d, E 15 b and E 20 c.

(b). Heavy Artillery fired 9 concentrations and neutralized the following batteries:-

WATERLOO BREEK GROUP	1.	TERHAND GROUP	2.
POTTERHURST " "	3.	MININ ROAD " "	4.
LADIZELLE " "	1.		

In addition 14 batteries were engaged this morning to stop heavy shelling reported on front line and C.Ts. of right Division. These batteries were kept under fire for 15 minutes.

(c). I.Gs. dispersed small parties on spur east of FOLDERHOEK CHAU. and harassing fire on communications was carried out along the whole front.

3. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

(a). Artillery. Hostile artillery was quieter than usual throughout the day. There was some shelling of back areas from 6 to 8 p.m.

Some 7.7 cm. shells appeared to be fired from closer range than usual in southern sector. The following areas were shelled:-

L 17 d	L 24 a.
BROODSEIFE RIDGE (L 23)	D 29 a and c.
J 2 c	J 16.
J 3 a (GARTER POINT).	I 30.
J 10 c and d (a few salvoes).	
J 11 b (C.T. front & support line)	
J 13 b (battery positions).	

(b). M.Gs. from FOLDERHOEK CHAU. swept our tracks and dugouts frequently. Bursts were also fired on BROODSEIFE RIDGE (L 23 & 29) from JUSTICE WOOD and JAUNT COPSE (J 6).

(c). T.Ms. A light T.M. fired 10 rounds which fell about 50 yds. short of our post at L 12 c 56.42.

4. PATROLS.

(a). Our own.

i. A patrol traversed our front about 60 yds. from our trench from J 11 d 5.6 to JUDGE COPSE J 11 d. Sniping and M.G. fire came from opposite JUDGE COPSE and Cemetery J 11 d.

ii. A patrol reconnoitred suspected enemy post at about J 12 a 45.45. They moved out from our line about J 12 a 1.8 by an old sap to within 20 yds. of it. 8 enemy were seen who fired on our patrol which moved S. took cover in a shell hole and fired back. The enemy disappeared into a trench. Observing from a disused trench a little further W. our patrol saw four or five enemy move towards cross roads at J 12 a 2.1. The existence of the enemy post is confirmed at J 12 a 45.45 and a good deal of wire is seen W. and S. of it.

iii. Patrol traversed sector J 11 a 1.3 to J 11 b 80.15 and report hammering and wiring near JOURNAL WOOD.

iv. A patrol of 1 officer and 8 O.F. left our lines at L 17 c 7.5 and went to L 18 c 7.5 where they halted for half an hour. No enemy were seen.

v. DAIRY WOOD (L 23 b) was reconnoitred and no enemy were seen.

vi. A patrol...

PART I.4. PATROLS. (continued).

(a). A patrol of 1 officer and 10 O.Ps. left our lines at L 23 d 2.8 and proceeded to L 23 d 9.6, thence S. for 400 yds. thence N.E. to TABLE WOOD and BUSY WOOD at L 24 a 6.3. No enemy were seen.

(b). Enemy. Enemy patrol of about 5 dressed in white was seen by our patrol near JULGE COPSE J 11 d about 60 yds. from our front line. Our patrol threw bombs and enemy disappeared.

A hostile patrol of about 30 with a L.G. were encountered by one of our patrols on the road about L 29 b 82.27. Our patrol withdrew and a stronger patrol with an L.G. was sent out but the hostile patrol had withdrawn.

ENEMY LEITENANCES.

Posts. There is an occupied enemy post at J 12 a 45.45.

T.Ms. A light T.M. reported about L 12 d 9.2.

Dugouts. Large pill box at J 17 c 1.7; continual movement and smoke seen at entrance.

J 11 d 82.29 is correct position of large concrete pill box visible in BENTON Cemetery.

J 18 a 58.60. Pile of heavy timber lying at E. end of cutting (old revolver range) suggests dugouts.

J 18 a 69.97 (approx.) A man was seen throwing earth from trench close to pill box. A dog entered from North.

POLETHORCK CHAU. Movement seen round pill boxes. Two men disappeared in trench 20 yds. N.E. of Chateau.

J 6 d 4.2. Two men seen outside a dugout. Patrols found several unoccupied pill boxes at L 23 d 3.6 in good condition.

Wire. Enemy wire encloses BENTON Cemetery on W. and N. sides. It appears to be patchy (being thick in places and thin in others) and is mostly barbed concertina wire.

There is a good deal of wire W. and S. of the post at J 12 a 45.45.

Wiring heard near JOURNAL WOOD (J 12 b).

6. MOVEMENT.

At 2.15 p.m. at about J ~~12~~¹¹ a 9.7 two men seen with glasses and periscope looking towards our lines. They appeared anxious to hide their movements.

At 2.15 p.m. 9 men with full packs moved from HOLLIBOSCH (J 12 b 5.5) to road in J 6 d.

At 3.30 p.m. parties, some with packs, some without, moved about in K 1 b.

7. AIRCRAFT. Enemy aircraft was active.

One B.A. was brought down in our lines at 3.20 p.m.

An enemy balloon came down in flames at 3.15 p.m.

During the night back areas were bombed by B.A.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

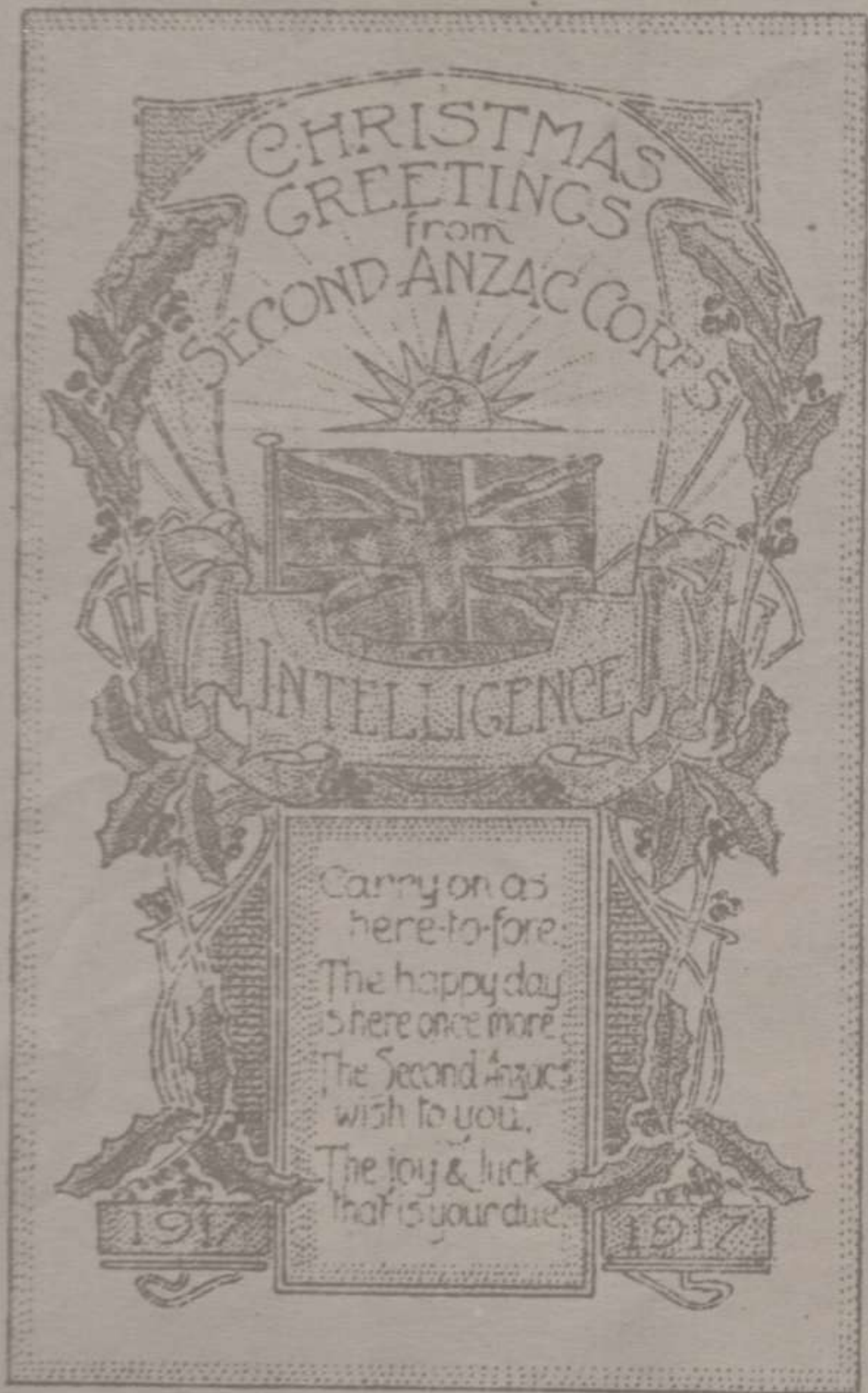
Tracks. A beaten track is visible from POLETHORCK CHAU. N.E. for 20 yds. where it enters a post.

E.C. [Signature]

for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC COFS.

24th Dec. 1917.

3



II AREA: INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 4

From 8 a.m. 24th Dec. to 8 a.m. 25th Dec. 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PART I.

INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.REMARKS.

A man of the 1st Coy., 51 R.I.R., 12th Res. Div., was captured by the Corps on our left at D 12 b 8.8 on the morning of the 25th. He states that the 12th Res. Div. relieved the 11th Res. Div. on the night of the 20/21st.

On the 25th we captured a man of the 4th Field Coy., 9th Pioneer Bn. 17th Res. Div. at J 17 a 3.8. (Normal).

On the night of the 25/26th, a man of the 51st R.I.R., 12th Res. Div. was killed at D 18 a 9.8. (Normal)

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Artillery. Right division. Concentration was fired on areas about A 13 a 50.50 and A 7 d 15.95 and in retaliation for hostile shelling of our trenches in J 12 b 20.80 and J 18 b 15.25.

Left Division. Harassing fire on dugouts in E 7 d A 3 a, E 13 d, E 14 c, E 26 a, b and c, also a concentration on D 12 d 9.8 where a hostile T.M. had been observed.

Heavy Artillery. Six concentrations fired on batteries.
Neutralizations - AT RATHCEL GROUP 1.
 POTTERIEBURG " 4.
 TERHAND " 5.

In addition 14 batteries were engaged for heavy shelling of our right division front. A general concentration was fired on L 26 d 30.85. Long range fire was carried out on ROULERS-LEDGHE railway, cross roads in F 19 d and billets in E 23 c.

2. M.Gs. and T.Ms. M.Gs. carried out usual harassing and indirect fire. T.Ms. fired 100 rounds at JOIKERS AVENUE (J 6 c 65.75).

3. Patrols.

(a). 1 Officer and 10 O.Rs. left our lines at D 17 d 0.6 and proceeded to D 18 c 9.5. They were out for 4 hours. No enemy were seen.

(b). 1 Officer and 15 O.Rs. left our lines from D 29 b 3.2 and proceeded E. along road past FLINTH FARM (D 29 b 6.3) to D 30 a 5.4, thence to ANVIL WOOD (D 30 a). They were out for 4 hours. No enemy seen.

(c). 1 Officer and 3 O.Rs. left our lines D 23 d 0.5 and proceeded along road to D 24 c 4.8. No enemy seen.

(d). Between 7.30 and 10 p.m. 4 O.Rs. traversed route J 11 c 10.45 - J 10 d 60.05, thence down valley to J 17 a 10.60 returning to front line at J 17 a 40.90. No enemy seen. Patrol went out again at 11.30 p.m. Two enemy seen at J 17 a 5.6 who disappeared immediately. Patrol went out a third time on route J 17 a 40.90 to J 17 a 30.80 and met three enemy one of whom was captured.

(e). Patrol left our line J 11 b 85.10 and proceeded to J 6 c 2.1 and heard enemy bombing his own wire. No enemy seen.

(f). Patrol found some old disused trenches about J 5 b 60.90. Sounds were heard from J 6 c 65.75 but patrol was prevented from working south by M.G. fire.

(g). 1 Officer and 3 O.Rs. worked out to mound J 6 c 65.75 to see the effect of our T.M. fire. Several hits had been made but no casualties in neighbourhood. Patrol then went to J 6 c 8.8 where they report a few shelters, one of which was possibly a day sniper's post.

B. ENEMY OPERATIONS.1. Artillery.

Northern Division. Hostile artillery was quiet during the day becoming a little more active during night. Areas shelled - D 27 a & D 26 b, also CLTIC WOOD D 30 c.

Southern Division....

PART I.

B. ENEMY OPERATIONS (continued).

(1) Artillery (continued).

Southern Division. Hostile artillery considerably more active than usual. Posts in J 1 c and b were shelled with 4.2s. From 2 to 5pm and 12 midnight to 4 a.m. the whole support line was heavily bombarded, and throughout the period activity was considerably above normal in rear areas. The 77 mm. guns were closer than they were a week ago and a high percentage of duds was noticed. During the morning of 24th enemy appeared to be registering neighbourhood of JUDGE GOTT. (J 12 a). Back Areas. Shelling was below normal. Areas shelled were D 18 a, D 19 a, D 10, 7.1 and 2.

(2) Enemy M.Gs. & A.Gs. fired bursts during the night chiefly from the direction of JAUNT COPSE (J 6 b) JUSTICE WOOD (J 6 a) REIFERS (E 25 b) in our northern sector. On the southern sector there was the usual harassing fire. An enemy T.M. again fired on our post at D 12 c 5.42.

(3) Patrols.

- (a). Two enemy seen at J 17 a 5.6 who disappeared on approach of our patrol.
- (b). Three enemy seen near J 17 a 3.8 one of whom was captured.
- (c). Two men approached one of our posts in D 18 a. On being challenged they replied in English but with a German accent. They were fired on and ran away.

C. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY.

(1) Enemy Defences.

- (a). Wire. The wire running along the road from JUDGE CROSS ROADS (J 12 a) to the N.W. corner of JOURNAL WOOD (J 12 b) is one line of single apron wire in good condition.
- (b). Dugouts. D 24 c 10.47. Two strong pill boxes in good condition were found by our patrols here.
- D 24 c 0.6. A tunnelled dugout found by patrol here.
- J 18 a 9.9 and 8.7. Movement round pill boxes here.

(2) Enemy Movement.

- J 6 c 65.75 and J 12 c 3.4. Movement seen here.
- J 12 b. Twenty enemy seen carrying coils of wire.

(3) Miscellaneous.

Signals. Golden rain flares were again used by the enemy, object unknown.

D. GENERAL.

Aircraft. Little aerial activity owing to mist. A bomb was dropped in D 20 a. No observation balloons seen.

E. J. Callthrop
 Capt.

for Brig.-General G.S.
 II ANZAC CORPS.

26th December 1917.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF PRISONER BELONGING TO 1st Coy., 51st R.I.R.,
12th Res. Div., captured in E 12 b 8.6. on 25-12-17.

History. Prisoner is an active P.O.O. who came out at the beginning of the war with the 10th R.I.R., 11th Res. Div. He was transferred to the 51st R.I.R. on the 20th July 1916, after having been wounded at VERDUN.

Method of Capture. Prisoner is an intelligent Coy. runner and was told off to take the alcohol ration to his Coy. in front line from Coy. H.Q. He handed it to a Platoon Commander and was returning to Coy. H.Q. when he lost direction and wandered into our lines.

Reliefs. The 12th Res. Div. relieved the 11th Res. Div. on the night of the 20/21st. The 11th Res. Div. has gone back to its normal rest area between ISEGHEN and OOSTROOSBELE. Prisoner does not think that the 11th or 12th Res. Divs. will move from this area for some time to come. Coys. in the line relieve each other every two days. The six front line Coys. are to be relieved by the six reserve Coys. either on the night of the 26/27th or 27/28th and will go back to reserve to billets in F 23 c S. of OUCKEME.

Order of Battle. N. to S. 68 I.R., 51 R.I.R., 38 R.I.R., 23 R.I.R.

Dispositions. The regiment has six Coys. in line and six Coys. in reserve. The dispositions of the six Coys. in line are as follows - The 1st and 3rd Coys. are in the front line, the 1st Coy. being between E 7 a 20.50 and E 7 c 22.22. The 3rd Coy. is immediately S. of railway adjoining the 1st Coy. The 4th and 2nd Coys. are in close support in area E 7 a 50.50, E 7 b 60.20, E 7 c 70.60. The 5th and 7th Coys. are in close reserve in position at L 3 central. The relay posts are drawn from the close support Coys. and close reserve Coys. and extend from front line Coy. H.Q. as far back as regimental H.Q. Trench strength of Coys. is between 45 and 60. The III Battn. and 5th and 8th Coys. are in billets south of OUCKEME, F 23 c Sheet 20 S.E.

Headquarters. The H.Q. of the 1st, 4th and 2nd Coys. are together in a shelter just in front of a broken pill box at E 7 c 98.88. Battalion H.Q. in the line is in a shelter immediately east of close reserve Coys. at E 8 b 80.10. Regimental H.Q. is in the chateau at E 6 b 05.64. This is also a dressing station.

Route for Reliefs. Through BLYTHEM along the road in F 1 d and c. - E 3 d 4 c - E 11 b, a and c and then across country some 600 yds. N. of MOORSLEDE to road in E 8 c and then to PASSCHENDAELE station.

Names.

1st Coy.	Lt. ECZERT.	I Battn.	Capt. KRIBELL.
2nd Coy.	Lt. HERTEL.	II "	" TIRTZ.
3rd Coy.	Lt. ARBERT.	III "	" SCHIER.
4th Coy.	Lt. MOSER.	Regtl. Commander	Major BUCHOLZ.
5th Coy.	Lt. SCHNEIDER.	Div. Commander	Lt.-Gen. Excellenz von DURMATH.

Casualties. On 16th and 17th Nov. the 1st Coy. suffered heavy casualties through our shelling in the back areas (on road E 6 c) about 40 men being killed and wounded.

Since the regiment has been in the line this period they have not had heavy casualties. Prisoner states that casualties are chiefly caused by our artillery.

Machine Guns. All Coys. have up to the present only received two light M.G. per Coy.

Morale. Morale appears to be moderate in the 12th Res. Div. Compared with 11th Res. Div. it is certainly of a higher standard.

Intentions. Opposite this immediate front prisoner states that no enemy offensive action will take place and considers it himself out of the question.

II ANZAC "I".
25-12-17.

PRELIMINARY.....

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF PRISONER TAKEN BY 4th Field Coy., 3th Pioneer Bn., 17th Res. Div. taken at J 17 a 3.8 on 25-12-1917

Order of Battle. 78th R.I.R., 283rd I.R., 162nd I.R., of 17th Res. Div. Other divisions to a flank were not known. The south flank of the 78 R.I.R. is confirmed at near the derelict tank at J 17 a 6.6. Prisoner does not know the north boundary nor the disposition of front line Coys. He cannot say what infantry companies are in front line at present nor when they came into line, but he knows that the front line position is at above mentioned tank and pill box J 17 a 70.65 and line of occupied shell holes near them.

Personal. Prisoner is inclined to be nervous and was afraid he would be ill-treated. He is ready to talk freely and appears quite reliable in his statements.

Intention to blow up Pill Box. Prisoner came up on 24/25th Dec. from the support position about J 16 c with a party of 7 sappers under a sapper Sgt. to front line pill box J 17 a 70.65 bringing with them fuzes and detonators.

The intention was to blow up a concrete pill box dugout in our lines which was abandoned. The 8 sappers were joined by a party of about 12 infantry which also came up from the rear. (and consisted he thought of men of 4th and 12th Coys., 78 R.I.R.). Total strength apparently 20 men under the Sgt. sapper. They obtained from shell holes near the pill box J 17 a 70.65, 10 charges each of about 40 lbs. of explosive and proceeded at 2 a.m. (English time) through the German wire towards the pill box to be blown up. Prisoner said they had sufficient explosive for two charges one in each of the two compartments, if the dugout proved to have two, with a 5 minute fuze, and that the entrance was on the British side; the dugout was said to be a strong one and to require a heavy charge. The party had passed the German wire moving with three parties in single file when M.G. fire came on to them from the right. The party scattered and dropped the charges. Prisoner took cover in a shell hole and waited. Seeing none of his mates he tried to find his way back and called to our patrol of 3 men who he thought were his own party. He then had a bomb thrown at him which pierced his clothing and another which failed to go off. Four shots were also fired and he surrendered to our post. He had a detonator in his pocket.

Prisoner says he was told that the previous night a carrying party bringing up the demolition charges to the front line missed their way and by mistake struck the British trench near the pill box which they found deserted. The carrying party could not do the job then as they had no fuzes or detonators so brought the charges back to the German lines. They lost their sergeant, however, who they thought was wounded but he turned up 4 hours later. The Cpl. in the meantime went out again to look for the Sgt. and during this trip they were bombed from our front line and the Cpl. badly wounded. Prisoner heard that as a result of the reconnaissance of previous night they were told the English trench at the pill box was not occupied but they took a strong party in case of opposition which they appear to have thought probable.

Reductions. The pill box which the enemy intended to demolish is evidently the pill box at J 17 a 15.80 at the west end of our forward trench. The enemy evidently wishes to destroy this and is to be expected to make a further determined attempt probably within the next two days because the 17th Res. Div. will probably be relieved on the 27th December.

II ANZAC "I"
26-12-17.

NUMBER 3. A BATTALION OF PRISONERS OF WAR 4th Field Coy. 9th Pioneer Bn. 17th Rec. Div. captured at J 17 d 4.5 on 25th Dec. 1917.

PRISONER.

Prisoner is 24 years old and a shipyard mechanic by trade. During the early part of the war he was employed on submarine construction and on building the large steamer "BISMARCK" (said to be larger than the "WI. BLAND") and on running tugboats on the Linnab trading to Kourou.

DISPOSITIONS. The division still holds the sector on the system of 1 bn. of each regiment being in the front line area, another bn. being in the support area, and a third in the reserve area.

SUPPORT AREA.

For 76 I.R. shell holes in A 15 c and J 13 d.

For 162 I.R. " " J 18 c and J 24 a.

For 163 I.R. " " J 24 a and J 23 a.

RESERVE AREA. The reserve coys. of the division are billeted in huts and hedges in the LEDICHIN-MOORSELL area; some coys. however, are as far back as COULTRAI. DADIZEL is not used for billets. The prisoner's Coy. was billeted in the large huts N. of road at A 15 b 5.9 before it came into the line.

RELIEFS. The support battn. of 163 I.R. was relieved by the 4th Field Coy., 9th Pioneer Bn. on 19/20th Dec. and went into front line. The Pioneer Coy. thus took the place of the support battn. and was to remain as such till 27th Dec. for 8 days when it expected relief by a new div. For this purpose, each Pioneer platoon represented a Coy. of infantry and the Platoon Commander became an infantry Coy. Commander.

Reliefs of the infantry battalions are carried out on a 4-day period. 163 I.R. had an inter-battalion relief on 19/20th Dec. when the Pioneers went into support and another inter-battalion relief is to take place on 23/24th Dec.

It is believed that the 17th Rec. Div. will be relieved on 27/28th and will go into rest.

STRENGTH OF THE DIVISION. Prisoner says that the divn. has now been in line nearly six weeks, has suffered considerable casualties and is very weak. In the 163 I.R. which has suffered most, many companies are down to as low as 12 men and had little fighting spirit left. The average Coy. strength is not more than 50 in that regiment. The 76 I.R. had suffered so heavily and were much shaken near ANJAS. The prisoner's Pioneer Coy. came up about 100 strong to take the place of the 163 I.R. support battalion.

ROUTES TO FRANCHES. (for 163 I.R.).

Through DADIZEL by main road to TERHAND. This road is passable for transport, chiefly artillery, as far as TERHAND. West of TERHAND, the roads are impassable. Ambulances and cookers do not come much west of DADIZEL on account of our shelling which is heavy on this road.

Through and west of TERHAND, several routes were used but the principal one appears to be to turn south off the road at A 15 c 65.40 and by tracks through A 20 a and b and north of the small clump of trees (known as SCHABEN ALD) about K 20 a 0.0 westwards to about J 24 central and on to the bn. H.Q. somewhere about J 24 a 4.9. Forward to POLDERHOEK CHAU, there is a duckboard track most of the way from the road at about J 17 d 7.0 to the south corner of the hedges at POLDERHOEK about J 17 e 8.2 and up towards the pill box J 16 d 2.1.

HEADQUARTERS.

Early in Dec. Battn. H.Q. of 163 I.R. was in POLDERHOEK CHAU, but was moved to the support bn. H.Q. (B.T.K.) in a pill box which prisoner places somewhere about J 24 a 4.9. has been

Support Battn. H.Q. (B.T.K.) moved to a pill box near A 15 d 1.1 close by here. A large monument has been erected outside a cemetery S. of the road running S.E. from TERHAND.

TRAINS.

Trains are not in use in TERHAND or, to prisoner's knowledge, anywhere west of DADIZEL.

FURTHER EXAMINATION OF PRISONER (continued).BATTERIES.

Prisoner had earned a fair amount of bonus money by collecting empty cartridge cases from evacuated batteries. He mentioned a battery at a 17 control where a direct hit had been obtained and which had been abandoned.

TROOPS SEEN.

The 73 S.G. Marksmen section has been in this sector ever since the division has held it.

In the LEDEGHEM-MOORSLELE area, prisoner had recently seen infantry men with '26' on their shoulder straps. (This indicates the continued presence of the 17th Div.).

He had also seen Pioneers with '33' and '4' on their shoulder straps.

OFFICERS. Major-General von MUTIUS still commands the 17th Cav. Div.

The Brigade Commander is Major-General SOCMARCOZYK commonly known among the men as "General Six Marks 50".

DISTRIBUTION OF WORK IN PIONEER BATTN.

Before relieving the support battalion of the 16th I.R., each platoon of the Coy. had a four-day spell in the forward area, another in the DADIZELLE-TERHARD area and a third spell of four days at rest in LEDEGHEM. In the forward area they worked chiefly at the construction of duckboard tracks and in the DADIZELLE-TERHARD area on the repair of roads which are much damaged by our shell fire.

IDENTIFICATION.

The prisoner, who, about a year ago, was in 23rd Bav. Mountain Pioneer Coy., states that he has quite recently received a letter from a friend in this Coy. stating that he was in Italy. The friend's postal address was '776'. From this, it would appear that the Bav. Cav. Div. is on the Italian front.

II ANZAC "I"

26th Dec. 1917.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 42.

From 6 a.m. 25th Dec. to 6 a.m. 26th Dec. 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PART I.

INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.IDENTIFICATIONS

- (a). The Corps on our left captured a prisoner of 11th I.R., 190th Div., of PASSCHENDALLE. The 199 Div. relieved 2nd Res. Guard Div. on night 24/25th. (Normal relief).
- (b). Man of 7th Coy., 51 R.I.R., 12th Res. Div. was killed at D 18 a 9.8 on night 25/26th. (Normal).

OUR OPERATIONS.A. Artillery.

Right Division. Concentrations were fired on cross roads J 12 d 15.55 and on road K 1 c 95.05 - A 1 d 20.18.

Left Division. Harassing fire was carried out on targets in A 7 d, E 8 c, E 13 d, L 14 c, E 22 b, E 23 b and E 26 b and c.

H.A. One observed shoot carried out. Direct hit on gun. One big explosion and a fire which burned for over an hour.

Eight concentrations on batteries were carried out and also following neutralizations:-

WATERDAMHOEK GROUP	2.	TERHAND GROUP	11.
POTTERIJLBURG "	6.	MENIN ROAD "	3.
DADIZELLE "	1.	GHELUWE "	1.

Billet areas in L 23, cross roads F 19 d and DADIZELLE Chateau bombed.

2. Machine Guns. Usual harassing fire.

3. Patrols. Owing to the bright night, patrolling was very difficult.

(a). One N.C.O. and 4 O.Rs. worked out to J 11 d 30.45 and established themselves as a listening post. Much movement was observed about J 11 d 45.45, so an L.G. was directed on to the spot.

(b). Patrol moved from J 6 c 2.3 to J 6 c 40.25 and was fired on by rifle from J 6 c 8.3, thence moved to J 6 c 70.05. No enemy were seen.

(c). Patrol of 1 Officer and 2 O.Rs. worked from J 5 b to OBLTIC COD and KEIBERG ROAD at about D 30 c 35.35 - thence to D 30 c 25.25 where an M.G. opened fire from about D 30 c 4.2. Patrol returned to OBLTIC COD under repeated fire. One man seen apparently carrying a light M.G.

(d). Two patrols of 1 Officer and 10 O.Rs. left our lines and reached D 24 a C.5 and D 16 c 20.75. No enemy were seen.

(e). Patrols searched No Man's Land in D 18 b. No enemy were seen.

(f). A fighting patrol of 1 officer and 16 O.Rs. moved to D 24 c 4.6 where they waited for two hours. No enemy were seen. They brought back 62 coils of wire from a dump at D 23 d 8.6.

(g). A patrol of 1 officer and 6 O.Rs. took route D 20 d 7.3 - D 30 c 6.6 - D 30 c 6.4. - D 29 d 8.4 - D 29 d 3.9. No signs were seen of the enemy.

B. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

1. raids etc. At 1.15 a.m. under cover of a snow storm an enemy party six strong attempted to rush our post at D 16 a 90.86. They reached within 25 yards of the post but were driven off leaving a dead man in our hands.

2. Artillery.

Right Division. Slight activity. Our forward trenches and BUTTE area (J 10 a) received some intermittent shelling. Other areas shelled J 15 b 85.05, J 8 a and J 13 a and b.

Left Division. Intermittent shelling of front line and tracks throughout the day.

D 16 d and b received 200 gas shells. Other areas shelled - D 17 a, D 16 c and d, J 4 b, J 6 a and D 29 a.

Back Areas. Activity on back areas greater than during previous 24 hours but still slightly below normal.

Areas shelled - J 1 and 2, 7, 8, 11, 13 & 14.

3. M.Gs.

PART I.

B. SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS (continued)

3. Machine Guns. Enemy M.Gs. on the whole were less active than usual but one gun fired from PODLEHOLA CHAU and one from BLULLAERI.
4. Patrols. No enemy patrols seen.

C. OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

1. Enemy Defences.

(a). Barbed Wire and Posts. J 12 c 5.7 - earth screen being thrown ^{cut} here. J 3 a 75.50 - J 3 a 75.80. New work, apparently a trench, visible.

J 11 d 45.45. Considerable movement here - probably a post.

(b). Wire. J 6 c 6.6. Wire poor and very thin in places.

(c). Machine Guns.

J 30 c 40.20 }
J 6 c 60.75. } M.Gs. reported firing from these points.
J 17 d 8.9. }
J 15 d 65.95 }
J 16 c 8.8. }

(d). Trench Mortars. JUDGE CROSS ROADS (J 12 a) - Pineapple bombs fired from here during the night.

(e). Incidents.

J 16 d 20.12. Smoke rising from pill box.
J 17 c 10.70. Sentry seen at pill box.
J 18 a 9.9. Usual movement round pill box.
D 18 d 30.65. Four men working on pill box

2. Enemy Movement.

(a). Individual Movement. Considerable movement round PODLEHOLA CHAU and J 25 a and b. Much individual movement J 6 a 40.25 - twelve men seen and casualties inflicted by L.G.

J 17 b 4.4. Two parties, each 20 strong, seen moving E.F.

J 12 c 95.95. Frazier seen here.

J 13 c 3.8. Two parties of 10 seen and fired on.

J 25 b 35.35. Much movement during the day, 8 men pushing a truck.

(b). Transport. J 20 b. Four motor lorries on road. - One Coy. of infantry disembarked and marched towards PODLEHOLA CHAU, and disappeared in trench in J 17 d.

L 27 a two G.S. wagons seen and much movement.

L 23 c 8.9.) Transport seen.
L 25 c 8.9.)

L 30 c G.S. motor car with headlights - possibly stopped here.

3. Miscellaneous.

LERESS FARM (E 25 b 35.00) handpushed truck seen to stop here.

E. C. [Signature]

Capt.
for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

26th Dec. 1917.

II ANZAC AERIAL ASSESSMENT No 12, 23/12/17.

PART I.

OBSERVER'S REPORTS.
Enemy movement.

- (a) ROADS. The BECELAERE area was kept under observation during the afternoon, but no movement was noticed.
- (b) TRAINS. In spite of good visibility, during the afternoon, train movement was very slight, perhaps owing to the difficulty of seeing the smoke on the snow. The following only were seen:-
 - ROULERS - MENIN two trains at 3 p.m. and one stationary at LEDLGHEN at 2.55 pm.
 - COURTRAI - TOURCOING one train at 2.30 p.m.
 - COURTRAI - MENIN " at 3.3p.m.
 - MENIN - WERVICQ " at 2.10p.m.
 No light railway movement seen.

ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY.

- (a) AEROPLANES. Fairly active during the afternoon, especially over the Southern part of area, one of our machines was attacked over BELLEWARDE LAKE without success.
- (b) BALLOONS. Three were seen along the line of ROULERS -MENIN road at F13, L1, L13, approximately.

ENEMY ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Several flashes were seen in the group of batteries East and North East of TERHAND between 2.45 and 3.30 p.m. probably shelling our batteries in the HOOGT area.

PART II. AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

A very good set of photographs of the Corps front was taken to-day but the fall of snow has been too recent for tracks to show, and only the deeper trenches are easy to distinguish.

- 10B. 199. J15.13. North East of POLDERHOEK. Shows our support area and trenches West of Chateau.
- 10B. 200. J123.K.7.a.c. MOLENHOEK. Buildings K7c.48.73. cast a clear shadow, and there is probably a pill-box there.
- 10B. 201. J12.13. BECELAERE. KIRK FARM K13a. appears occupied and the pill-box at K13a.47.48 seems intact. There has been no recent work on the trenches North of farm. There are signs of a post at J12d.94.12.
- 10B.202. J13b. East of POLDERHOEK. Shows our posts in CAMERON COVERT and valley of REUSELBEEK.
- 10B. 203. J13b. North East of POLDERHOEK. Much the same area as above.
- 10B.204. J22a. South West of POLDERHOEK. Shows our trenches and enemy positions West of POLDERHOEK CHATEAU.
- 10B.205. J13.22. POLDERHOEK CHATEAU. Splendid photograph showing enemy defences round Chateau, and entrance to dug-outs at J16d.37.43: note also trench near pill-box J16d.19.12.

A R T II.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS (continued)

- 10B. 206. J11d.17ab. REUTEL. Shows our front line from JUNIPER COTTAGE to North of the Cemetery at J11d.55.60; note how clearly occupied portions of the trench show. The enemy front system can be clearly traced from the large pill-box J11d.32.16 to the road at J11d.27.28. and ~~from there~~ South West corner of Cemetery J11d.43.33. with posts at J11d.42.38, 54.40, 57.47, 62.50 and a shallow trench from the road at J11d.58.28 to the post at J11d.18.04. JUNIPER SUPPORT shows no signs of recent work.
- at J11d.57. 5.47.
There also appears
Post 10B. 207. D18.c.15. East of ASSIRIA. The building at LDGE FARM E13.c.12.97. casts a good shadow, there is also probably a pill-box E13a.71.89 perhaps posts in EASLI TRENCH, but these do not show clearly. There is a large group of shell holes D18.d.25.50.
- 10B. 208. J17.18. West of BACELAERE. There are a great many occupied shell holes running from about J12.c.8.1. to J18a.64.90 and from there to pill-box J18.a.9.8 with a short trench just in rear of the pill box. North of this there are probable posts at J12.c.50.45 and along North of road to cross roads J12c.75.50 and further South other posts along hedge from J18a.8.5. to J18b.90.58. There are also several possible posts near road junction J18b.15.23 and near ruins J18a.95.10.
- 10B. 209. D24. TABLE WOOD. There is possibly a post in trench D24d.05.60 and pill boxes D24d.05.02 and D39b.04.98 still show clearly and have probable occupied shell holes close by.
- 10B. 210. D30. DAME WOOD. Continuation southward of 10B.209 There may be a post at D30b.25.40 about fifty yards North West of original post, and also along trench from here to D39b.05.30. There is a group of shell holes in field at D30a.4.6.
- 10B. 211. D30.J.6. JUSTICE WOOD. DAME HOUSE and DAMP FARM still cast considerable shadows and the latter certainly appears occupied. There are probably several dug-outs at D30d.07.70.
- 10B. 212. J.6. East of JUSTICE WOOD. The South East corner of wood J6b.7.9. still seems occupied. There is also a post at D30b.00.02. with possible wire just to the North. Note the number of shallow trenches in JUSTICE WOOD..

Notes on the remainder of the photographs taken to-day will be published in tomorrow's Summary.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 43.

From 6 a.m. 25th Dec. to 6 a.m. 27th Dec. 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Artillery.

Both Division Fronts. The usual harassing fire was carried out, also fire was opened on S.O.S. lines in response to our S.O.S. signals.

Heavy Artillery. The following concentrations were carried out:-

WATERDAMHOEK GROUP	5.	TERHAND GROUP	13.
POTTERIJEBURG "	5.	MENIN ROAD GROUP	11.
DADIZEBLE "	7.		

Four zone calls were received and answered. Harassing fire was carried out on traffic points and occupied areas west of WATERDAMHOEK, MOORSIEDE and TERHAND were bombarded.

H.A. also responded to S.O.S. signal.

2. Machine Guns. Our machine guns were active with harassing fire and also opened on S.O.S. lines.

Trench Mortars. Active against E.A. A few bombs fired against suspected T.M. emplacement at J 12 a 5.4.

Heavy fire was also opened on JUDGE CROSS ROADS area in retaliation for enemy fire on our front line.

3. Patrols.

(a). Patrol left D 23 b 00. 95 and went to D 24 b 15.90 where an enemy post had been suspected. No enemy seen.

(b). Patrol left our lines at D 17 d 0.6 and went east for 900 yds. No enemy seen.

(c). Four listening patrols were out at D 18 b 3.6 and TIBER COPSE (D 12 d) during night and usual defensive patrols - D 23 and D 29. No enemy were seen.

(d). Patrol worked to within 30 yds. of enemy post J 11 d 50.45. No wire in front of post. 8 men were seen and also a working party was heard.

(e). Patrol examined our wire from J 11 b 85.15 northwards. It has been almost entirely demolished by enemy artillery and presents no obstacle.

B. ENEMY OPERATIONS.

1. Raids. At 3.45 p.m., a bombardment of 10.5-cm. shells and light and medium T.Ms. was opened on our front line near JUDGE COTTAGES, J 11 b 25.05. At 4.35 p.m., enemy fire lifted 150 yds. and considerable movement was observed about J 12 a 15.12. Soon afterwards, about 20 of the enemy attempted to raid our post at J 11 b 95.05. They reached to within 20 yds. of our post but were beaten back by grenades and L.G. fire. Situation was normal at 5.5 p.m.

2. Enemy Artillery.

Right Division report enemy artillery very active all day and bombarded our front line in connection with raid mentioned above.

Areas shelled:-

Road J 13 b 5.0 to I 17 b 2.8 (15-cm. from TERHAND and DADIZEBLE), I 18 a and b I 2 (10.5-cm. gas shells throughout the night).

Left Division report quiet during the morning. Support and reserve positions N. of ZONNEBEKE heavily shelled with gas during the night. D 17 and D 11 were also heavily shelled with gas from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Artillery Report. Enemy artillery shows increased activity mainly in right division sector.

Areas shelled I 12 and 18, J 14, 13, 2 and 1, D 25 and back areas S. of MENIN ROAD.

3. Machine Guns. Quiet by day but active throughout the night.

Trench Mortars. Very active in J 11 b particularly during the raid At 11 p.m. 30 L.T.M. bombs were fired on our wiring party in J 11 c.

4. Patrols.

PART I.

B. ENEMY OPERATIONS (continued).

4. Patrols. At 6.30 p.m., a hostile patrol was reported at D 29 d 7.8. A fighting patrol was immediately sent out but failed to get in touch.

C. OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

1. Enemy Defences.

(a). Posts and trenches. J 11 d 50.45 - 2 men seen in post here by patrol. E 19 c 60.40 - 2 men disappeared into a trench here.

(b). Wire. BIRMA COPSE (D 24 c) - old low trip wire found on northern edge.

(c). Machine Guns. J 4 b (JUSTICE WOOD) - enemy M.G. fired.

(d). T.Ms. J 12 a 5.4 - position suspected near here.

(e). Dugouts.

J 18 a 95.95)

J 18 a 70.70) Usual movement seen.

J 11 d 35.10)

J 17 a 60.60 - three men seen round derelict tank used as dugout.

J 17 c 10.70 - 50 men rushed out of pill box followed by cloud of white smoke.

J 18 d 25.25.- 6 men left pill box.

2. Enemy Movement.

(a). Individual. JOINERS WOOD (J 6 d) - 9 men seen.

E 19 a 65.53.)

E 19 a 65.90.)

E 13 c 10.95.) Individual movement during the day.

E 25 d 35.65.)

E 19 c 8.7.)

D 30 a 35.50)

E 29 a 90.38 - 200 men in parties of 20 were seen going S.E. at 3.45 p.m.

(b). Train. Light railways were active throughout the day.

3. Miscellaneous.

(a). Signals. During bombardment 4-5 p.m. red, white, green and golden rain flares were sent up. The same were used during heavy shelling at 7.45 p.m. At 3 p.m. three green flares were fired from enemy aeroplane over the area bombarded. A single red flare at 6.15 pm. caused tracks N. of ZONNEBEK to be shelled. Double green followed by green and red produced slackening of artillery fire.

A helio was seen working near the MENIN ROAD in J 28 b.

(b). Buildings Occupied. E 19 c 8.7.) appear occupied.
D 30 a 95.53)

(c). Enemy battery positions. (Reported by Lovat Scouts).

K 21 a 9.8 - enemy battery active 10.15 a.m. to 1.10 p.m. firing on our battery near CLAPHAM JUNCTION.

K 22 b 55.32 - battery active 12.30 p.m. to 2 p.m. firing on track running N.E. from CLAPHAM JUNCTION.

D. AIRCRAFT.

Six enemy balloons were up. Enemy activity above normal. A red plane flew over our lines at a very low altitude signalling by lamp.

H. Callaghan
Capt.

for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

27th Dec. 1917.

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

AIR RECONNAISSANCE. Visibility was impossible up to 2 p.m. owing to low clouds and snowstorms. Conditions were somewhat better in the afternoon. Enemy activity was normal. There were 5 combats during which one E.A. was destroyed and fell in flames. None of our machines are missing. 743 rounds were fired at hutments and on roads from the air. 285 plates were exposed including 22 obliques.

EXTRACT.....

EXTRACT FROM SUMMARY OF CORPS ON OUR LEFT.

REPORT ON INTERROGATION OF COMPANY ORDERLY, 1st Coy., 51 R.I.R. (12th Res. Div.) captured in D 18 d on 25-12-17.

ORDER OF BATTLE. Prisoner gives order of battle as follows -N. to S.-

16th Division.	68th Inf. Regt.
	(51st R.I.R.
12th Res. Div.	(38th R.I.R.
	(23rd R.I.R.

DETAILED DISPOSITIONS. The regiment is organized on the 2-echelon principle as follows: two companies in the front line with no outposts at all; two companies in first support position; two companies in second support position. The remaining six companies at rest.

Front Line. The regimental sector is from KCHO COPSE (approximately (S. 7 a) to a point east of ASSYRIA (D 18 b). Each coy. has a good deal of unoccupied ground on its flanks and coy. sectors are very thinly held indeed. One of the front line coys. holds a line of shell holes north of the railway and one a similar line south of the railway. The front line troops hold shell holes or shelters on the railway embankment itself. Shell holes are fortified and provided with a certain amount of overhead cover; each is garrisoned by three or four men; there are no separate shell holes for defence and residence.

First Support. (Erste Bereitschaft). This is about 200-300 yds. behind the front line and also consists of a shell hole line, with the exception that two platoons occupy repaired pill boxes on the railway embankment near PASSCHENDAELE Station.

The Coy. Commanders of the two front line Coys. occupy one of the two pill boxes at "Betonhof" E 7 d O.8. These two pill boxes lie about 20 yds. north of the railway cutting; one is unoccupied, the other has been repaired for joint company H.Q.

Second Support. (Zweite Bereitschaft). The two Coys. in second support occupy mined dugouts in the MOORSLEDE line, 800-1000 metres north of the MOORSLEDE village.

RESERVES. The six companies in reserve are in farms at KOMMEREHOF, south of OUCKENE. They are distributed for the most part in half companies. Probably two out of the three M.G. Coys. of the regt. are also in this vicinity.

HEADQUARTERS. Battalion H.Q. of the front echelon are in the second support in mined dugouts in E 9 b. K.T.K. has been transferred here from ST.ACCARIUSHOEK on account of heavy shelling.

Regimental H.Q. These are at MASTEELHOCK in close proximity to the main dressing station in E 6 b. The Chateau in E 6 b is part of the main dressing station itself.

Brigade and Divisional H.Q. The 22nd Res. Inf. Ede. H.Q. are in a house in ISEGHEM. ISEGHEM Chateau is at present used as joint divisional H.Q. for the 11th and 12th Res. Divisions.

Group H.Q. are at INGELMUNSTER. (Prisoner thinks that the YPRES Group is now under the administration of the VI Res. Corps Staff).

RELIEFS. Reliefs which have taken place in the sector of the 51 R.I.R. may be summed up as follows:-

Dates.....

EXTRACT FROM SUMMARY OF CORPS ON OUR LEFT (continued).RELIEFS. (continued).

Dates.	20th to 22nd Dec.	22nd to 24th Dec.	24th to 26th or 27th Dec.
Front line	6th & 7th Coys.	2nd & 4th Coys.	1st & 3rd Coys.
First Support.	2nd & 4th Coys.	1st & 3rd Coys.	2nd & 4th Coys.
Second Support.	1st & 3rd Coys.	6th & 7th Coys.	6th & 7th Coys.

It is the rule that two of the 6 companies occupy the second support for a period of 4 days. The relief of the first echelon by the second was ordered for the 26th but there was some talk of postponement till the 27th on account of Christmas.

The Heavy Machine Gun Company relieve independently.

COMPANY STRENGTHS ETC. Prisoner's company (1st Coy.) is divided as follows -

First Platoon	3 Groups only (27 O.Rs.).
Second Platoon	2 Groups only (18 O.Rs.).
Third Platoon	3 Light M.G. teams (15 O.Rs.).

One of the three machine gun teams has recently been knocked out and not replaced. This makes the total company trench strength less than 60. Prisoner states that none of the Coys. have higher strength than 70 including light machine gunners.

No drafts have been received with the exception of a few returned wounded who rejoined a few days ago from hospital in GHENT.

LOSSES.

Prisoner accounts for the small size of the companies by losses incurred regularly during reliefs from our artillery fire. He states that the average casualties during recent regimental reliefs has been 30 per battn., a big percentage apparently in E 7 b.

Numerous casualties were also inflicted during recent moonlit nights by bombs dropped from our aeroplanes in ISEGHEM; one bomb fell near the Church and killed an N.C.O. and several men.

MACHINE GUN ALLOTMENT. Each company in the regiment has a light machine gun platoon of 3 teams. Prisoner does not know the exact heavy machine gun allotment but states that these guns are distributed between the first and second support lines.

TRENCH MORTARS. There are no trench mortars in position in the sector.

DEFENCES. A good deal of work is being done in the MOORSLEDE line north of MOORSLEDE village. This line, which has a certain amount of wire defences, is being provided with mined dugouts though the trenches have not yet been begun. The work on dugouts is being done by the regimental Pioneer Company strengthened by a few support troops.

REST BILLETS. The rest billets of the 12th Res. Div. were in ISEGHEM and ABEELE from about 14th to 20th inst. The 51 R.I.R. was in ISEGHEM itself. During this rest period each battalion was exercised one hour each day in the open area between ISEGHEM and WINKELHOEK. No attack practice or bayonet work was carried out.

PIONEER PARK. There is a large Pioneer Park in the beech wood facing ISEGHEM Chateau gates; probably under Corps administration.

ROUTES.....

E TRACT FROM SUMMARY OF COMMS ON OUR LEFT (continued).

ROUTES The first echelon, 51 R.I.R., was railed from ISEGHEN to BEYTHEM probably detraining in X 2 d near DWARF CROSSING; it then marched through KOKKUTHOEK, to the old Artillery Protective Line, east of MOORSLEDE, L 10 c, then across country at its respective line. The front and first support positions were reached by road through E 8 d - PASSCHENDALE Station.

OFFICERS NAMES.

22nd Res. Inf. Brigade.....	ZIEDRICH, Col.
Brigade Adjutant.....	DAMM, Oberlt.
51st R.I.R.	BUCHHOLZ, Major.
I Battn.....	KRIEBEL, Capt.
II Battn.....	TILTZ, Capt.
III Battn.....	SCHIED, Capt.
	(At present commanding Regiment).
1st Company.....	ECKERT, II Lt.
2nd Company.....	HERTL, Lt.
3rd Company.....	KARBERT, Lt.
4th Company.....	GOMLUCHE, Oberlt.
6th Company.....	SCHMIDER, Lt.

A Lt. MOSER replaces any company commander in the I Battn. who is on leave and is at present in charge of the 4th company.

INTENTIONS. The above prisoner is quite assured that the 12th Res. Division is, with its present strength of companies, incapable of offensive work. He sees no likelihood of a German attack in the PASSCHENDALE-MOORSLEDE sector.

FURTHER INFORMATION FROM PRISONER OF 4th Coy., 9th Pioneer Battn. captured on 25-12-17.

Wire. Prisoner found wire at J 17 a 7.7 in front of German line fairly thin and easily trodden down when he passed over it into No Man's Land. A considerable amount of concertina wire has recently been brought up to pill box J 16 d 2.1.

Dugouts. There is a concrete dugout at old farmhouse A 15 d 50.55 which is used by gunners. The monument A 15 d 1.1 also possibly contains a dugout. Pill box J 16 d 2.1 is of ordinary type with entrance flush with the ground and could hold 20-30 men. An M.G. was set up and fired over the top. Prisoner had not been in POLDERHOEK CHAU. but thinks the accommodation there is less than in pill box J 16 d 2.1.

Houses etc. The house at J 17 d 85.15 contains no dugout and is not occupied. There is no dugout at ARKMOLEN Windmill (K 16 b 25.25).

Guns. There were two 10.cm. guns a few weeks ago at farm K 20 b 0.1

TERHAND. Several houses especially at ^{street} corners have concrete pill boxes built into them and are mostly used by artillery.

Intentions. The prisoner is certain that the 17th Res. Div. is too weak to make any attack and has heard nothing of a German offensive.

II ANZAC "I".
27th Dec. 1917.

II ANZAC AERIAL ANNEXE.....

II ANZAO AERIAL ANNOTATE No. 13. 27/12/17.P A R T I.

Nil.

P A R T II.NOTES ON AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN 26/12/17.

- 10B. 213. D24.c.d. DAMEWOOD. Good photograph of pill-boxes about D24.d.1.0. Confirms occupied shell holes previously seen at D24.d.9.0 at South West corner of EFFECT COPSE.
- 10B. 214. D24.E19. West of DROGKEBROCDHOEK. Pill-box E19.a.1.2. There may be some fresh work on trench from E19.d.30.45. to E19.d.5.2. There is a long building at the corner of field E19.d.80.44 and EDGE HOUSE and vicinity still seems occupied. Note long straight ditch or trench from the road E19.a.0.0. to E19.c.15.72. which has signs of recent work.
- 10B. 215. E19cd.25ab. West of KEIBERG. Note occupied shell holes on Eastern side of HEULEBECK at E25.a.95.10.
- 10B. 216. D24. ZWERG COTTAGE. Difficult to detect signs of occupation of ruins of cottage; note trench at D24.b.5.0. and probable post near cross roads D24.d.22.75.
- 10B. 217. D29b. CHINA WOOD. Shows our front posts in short bits of trench just West of FLINTE COPSE. Pill-box D29.b.82.37 shows clearly.
- 10B. 218. J6b.d. JOINERS WOOD. Note clearness of buildings in field K1.a.05.25. especially pill-boxes K1.a.64.21. and 12.23. also damaged one at 07.17. Note also other groups of buildings K1.a.25.92. and three long buildings, apparently damaged along hedge E25.c.42.07. There are probably camouflaged buildings amongst the trees K1.c.00.85. and by the side of the wood K1.c.10.75. Note also buildings K1.c.2.2 and possible occupied shell holes just West of them.
- 10B. 219. D23. BROODSEINDE. Shows our front line East of cross roads.
- 10B. 220. J12bd.K7ac.MOLENBOEK. Pill-box K7.a.57.12 shows clearly and post just North of it. The ruins of MOLENEOEK are probably occupied and there seems to be a post just West of cross roads K7.d.20.68.
- 10B. 221. D23cd.29ab. South East of BROODSEINDE. Shows our front line South of the BROODSEINDE - MOORSLEDE road.
- 10B. 222. D30. CHINA WOOD. Area has been covered by other photographs.
- 10B. 223. D27c.23a. North of BROODSEINDE. Our support lines West of BROODSEINDE - PASSCHENDAELE road.

II ANZAC WEEKLY SUMMARY OF GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.
For week ending 28th Dec. 1917.

No. 6.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

1. ORDER OF BATTLE.(a). Northern Sector (MOORSLEDE).

The 12th Res. Div. relieved the 11th Res. Div. on the night 20/21st according to prisoners' statement. The Order of Battle from N. to S. is 51 R.I.R., 38 R.I.R. and 23 R.I.R. They hold the line on the two-echelon (each of 6 Coys.) system and internal reliefs are expected to take place every six days. The division may be relieved on the 1/2nd Jan.

(b). Centre Sector. (N.E. of POLYGOM WOOD).

The 25th Division is still in this sector. Order of Battle, N. to S. 115 I.R., 117 I.R., and 116 I.R. A prisoner stated that they didn't expect to be relieved until 3rd January.

(c). Southern Sector. (BECKLAERE).

The 17th Res. Div. appears to be still in the line. Order of Battle N. to S. 76 R.I.R., 163 I.R. and 162 I.R. The last identification was a prisoner captured on night 24/25th Dec. This prisoner stated that possibly the division would be relieved on night 27/28th Dec.

2. PRISONERS - Unwounded.

<u>Date.</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Coy.</u>	<u>Regiment.</u>	<u>Division.</u>
21-12-17	2	3rd Field Coy.	21st Pioneer Bn.	25th Div.
24-12-17	1	4th do.	9th do.	17th Res. Div.

Wounded - Nil.

Total of prisoners captured since 15th Nov. 1917 56 O.Rs.

3. ORGANIZATION IN THE LINE.

The 12th Res. Div. and the 25th Div. according to prisoners, have both adopted the two-echelon system, i.e. 6 Coys. per echelon.

The 17th Res. Div., however, is not at present organized like this. They still have one battalion in front line, one in support and one in reserve. This is probably due to the very heavy losses which this division has sustained. A Pioneer prisoner stated that owing to heavy losses the Pioneers had been employed as infantry in the support position.

4. ENEMY INTENTIONS.

The prisoner of the 25th Div. stated that there was a trench rumour to the effect that before their division was relieved (which would be about 3rd January) it might have to attack the high ground in front of it, i.e. between the KEISBERG - MOLENAARHILSTHOEK road and BECKLAERE. He had no definite information on the subject and prisoners captured of the 17th Res. Div. and the 12th Res. Div. had heard nothing of an impending attack.

It should be noticed, however, that hostile artillery have been considerably more active than usual on our right division front, and that a raid took place on the night 26/27th against one of our posts in J 11 accompanied by heavy fire from light and medium trench mortars. Also an increase in gas shelling has been reported lately.

The above facts are, however, not sufficient evidence from which to assure that a hostile attack is impending. They could be explained by the fact that the enemy is always expecting an attack by us in this sector; and that they may have mistaken our patrol activity and the work done on our front system for preparations for a British offensive.

E.E. Callaghan
Capt.

for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

28th Dec. 1917.

PART II follows:-....

PART II.SHORTAGE OF COAL IN GERMANY (continued).

Industry consumes most of the coal, but it is not sufficient to limit the number of industrial concerns or to concentrate them. The consumption of coal on the railways must also be reduced.

As the goods traffic in general serves, directly or indirectly, to carry on the war and to supply the country with food, it is necessary to make a speedy reduction in the passenger traffic, which is still very considerable. Of the total number of passengers, 75% are at present men on leave. The principal cause of overloading the railways is the sending of individuals from the front to Germany on special duty for short periods.

Consequently, the only alternative is to restrict both the number of soldiers and civilians on leave at home, and the number of men on leave from the Armies. This restriction, which will not affect the principal battle fronts on the Western Theatre, will take place from the 1st Nov. when the winter time table will come into force and will provide not more than half the trains running at present.

I must, therefore, request you to carry out the following regulations from the 20th October:-

(i). Units at the front must not send more than 5% of their effectives on leave at one time.

(ii). Troops and units on the L. of C. or under the military governments, who have for a long time had the advantage of sending more men on leave (10% or more) must be content, during the coming months, with a leave roster based on 3% of their effectives only.

(iii). In calculating the percentages fixed in paras. (i) and (ii) men sent home on special duty should be included.

(iv). All leave and periods for which men are sent home on special duty, which should be as long as possible, will be for at least 15 days, so as to relieve the railways as much as possible.

I fully realise that this reduction in the leave granted will be a severe trial and will react unfavourably upon autumn agricultural work, but the price is not too great to pay for the successful issue of the war.

I must request you to explain the situation clearly to all concerned, particularly to the troops, so as to avoid wrong interpretations being placed on this order.

We can then legitimately expect that the confidence and moral of the troops will not suffer from this necessary reduction of leave.

(Sgd) LUDENDORFF.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS. (From Prisoners Examination).

An officer who has been on active service on the Russian front since 1915 was transferred to this front a few days ago, after having been on leave. Before the war he was a school teacher at ELBERFELD. He gave the following information:-

Rations. On the Russian front rations are less than on the Western Front. One third of a loaf of bread per day only being issued to each man in Russia. On this front half a loaf is issued.

Officer's Clothing. This officer was wearing issue clothing and boots. He stated that in April of this year he bought a pair of breeches in Germany for which he had to pay Mks. 100 and the quality of the cloth was very poor. Most officers wear issue clothing when in the line.

His peak cap which he had had for three years cost Mks. 6. He had intended buying a new one when on leave but could not get one for less than Mks. 17 and the peak was of cardboard instead of leather.

He tried to get a pair of boots resoled before rejoining his company but was informed that they could only be repaired by substituting wood for leather, although they were for military use. He sent them to the military boot repairers and was able to obtain leather soles.

Neutral Supplies.....

PART II.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS (continued).

Neutral Supplies. Several cases have been reported in the newspapers of people receiving supplies of butter from Denmark and Switzerland and selling them at very high prices.

Paper Shortage. Orders have been issued to Orderly Rooms to the effect that all paper must be used very sparingly as it is becoming very scarce.

Most newspapers have been reduced in size and increased in price. The "ILLUSTRIERTE ZEITUNG" has been increased from 10 pages to 15 pages.

Health of Troops. The health of the troops was good and he had heard of no epidemic. They suffered very much from the cold in the PASSCHENDAELE Sector as they were forbidden to have any fires as the smallest light drew our fire and they had had many cases of trench feet.

He was of the opinion that the mortality among wounded men is greater now than formerly, but gave no explanation of the reason for this.

AEROPLANE REGISTRATION.

Aviators, recently captured by the French, state that cloth ground strips are being employed to a lesser extent for communication between batteries and aeroplanes. To replace them, aeroplanes are in some cases provided with wireless receiving apparatus; alternatively a system is arranged beforehand by which the battery fires rounds at stated intervals (e.g., the battery fires every three or five minutes, after the aeroplane has once called up to commence registration).

ANTI-TANK DEFENCE.

Since the SAMBRAI offensive, the Germans are said to have introduced a new means of defence against tanks. This consists of a small rectangular metal box, about 16" long, filled with explosive. This charge is exploded by a hand grenade placed in contact with the box, in such a way that the friction lighter projects, and either acts automatically as the tank passes, or can be fired at will by an observer.

It is stated that the issue of these charges has already begun. Until an adequate supply has been received, it is recommended that charges consisting of several hand grenades tied together should be used instead.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC IN GERMANY.

A deserter who recently surrendered states that, in order to lighten the traffic, it has been decided that no leave which involves men travelling by railway from COLOGNE will be granted until April 1918.

PROMOTION OF GENERAL von LICHHORN TO THE RANK OF FIELD-MARSHAL.

In recognition of his services in commanding the Northern Group of Armies on the Russian front, GENERAL-LOBERST von LICHHORN has been promoted to the rank of FIELD-MARSHAL. He was born in 1848 at BRESLAU. In 1866, he obtained his first Commission in the 2nd Foot Guards Regt., and took part in the campaigns against Austria and France in 1866 and 1870. On leaving the Staff College in 1876, he obtained a General Staff appointment. In 1904, he was given command of the VIII Corps at FRANKFURT, and in 1913 was promoted to the rank of Generaloberst. In January 1915, he was appointed to command the Tenth Army, which took part in the Battle of the Masurian Lakes, and captured KOVNO and VILNA in the subsequent campaign.

In addition to the three Royal Field Marshals, Prince LEOPOLD of BAVARIA, Crown Prince RUPPRECHT of BAVARIA and Duke ALBRECHT of WURTEMBERG, there are now five German Field Marshals, namely: - THE MARSHAL von HAESLER, HINDENBURG, BULOW, BACHENSEN and LICHHORN. The German Crown Prince, though commanding a Group of Armies, only holds the rank of Lt.-General.

II ANZAC "I".

28-12-17.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 44.

From 6 a.m. 27th Dec. to 6 a.m. 28th Dec. 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PART I.

INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Artillery.Field. Usual registration and harassing fire.Heavy. Following neutralizations were carried out:-

WATERDAMHOEK GROUP	1.
POTTERIJEBURG "	5.
DADIZEELE "	9.
TERHAND "	18.
MENIN ROAD "	3.

30 batteries in addition were kept under fire from 9.15 p.m. to 10.45 p.m. to stop enemy shelling of right division area.

2. Machine Guns carried out normal harassing fire.3. Patrols.

(a). Patrol of 1 officer and 4 O.Rs. left our line at J 6 c 2.2 to reconnoitre suspected M.G. post at J 6 c 65.75. At about J 6 c 7.8, patrol saw 8 enemy looking over parapet of a post which has a good deal of wire in front of it. Our patrol was sighted and 1 man killed and 1 is missing. Two enemy tried to cut patrol off but failed.

(b). A listening post was put out at J 12 a 15.45. No enemy seen.

(c). One officer and 14 O.Rs. took route D 23 d 3.6 - d 65.25 - D 24 c 3.5 - c 8.8 - a 8.0 - a 4.5 - a 2.2 - D 23 d 5.5. No enemy seen.

(d). One officer and 12 O.Rs. took route D 29 b 02.84 - D 30 c 1.8 - c 2.4 - D 29 d 5.5. No enemy seen.

(e). Patrol visited ASSYRIA (D 18 b). Two enemy seen in a trench at D 18 b 5.2 and digging heard in D 18 b.

(f). Listening posts were put out to eastern edge of DECCY WOOD (D 18 a) and at D 24 a 4.5. No enemy seen.

B. ENEMY OPERATIONS.1. Artillery.Right Division Report. Enemy artillery active. Following areas heavily shelled:-

J 5 central from WATERDAMHOEK.

J 13 b from TERHAND.

I 18 a)

J 13) from TERHAND - shelled with gas.

J 7 d)

Note:- Enfilade guns from south which have not previously been active fired on J 5.Left Division Report. Active throughout the day on crest of ridge J 5 and D 29 and forward tracks. Areas shelled - J 2, D 26 (gas shells) and D 27.Artillery Report. Usual area shooting particularly on right division sector.2. Machine Guns. Quiet during the day but usual activity at night.3. Patrols. None seen.C. OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.1. Enemy Defences.(a). Posts. J 16 d 45.40 - post with loopholed plate.

D 18 b 50.20 - two men seen in post.

(b). M.Gs. J 16 d 10.30 -

K 1 d 18.82 (KEG FM.) M.G. firing from here.

(c). Dugouts. J 18 a 90.83. Movement round pill box.

D 23 d

APPENDIX

PART I.C. OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY (continued).1. Enemy defences (cont'd).(a). Machine (cont'd).

D 23 d 55.35 } Pill boxes in good condition visited by
D 23 d 68.25 } patrol.

D 23 d 45.65 } Pill boxes in bad condition visited by
D 23 d 45.50 } patrol.

2. Movement.(a). Individual.

D 30 d 10.65)
JOURNAL WOOD, J 12 b.)
JOINERS WOOD, J 6 d.) Movement seen.
J 18 c 16.55.)

(b). Transport.

F 27 - transport and troops on road.
J 18 c 7.7 - men unloading timber.

3. Miscellaneous.

(a). Signals - two white flares sent up when enemy shells fell in his own lines and shelling ceased.

(b). Work - D 16 b 3.5 - D 18 b 9.9, enemy heard digging.
D 30 b 65.90 - 6 men seen digging.

(c). Occupied houses:-

K 1 a 9.5.)
E 19 c 9.7.) Movement seen in and around buildings.
E 25 b 7.8.)
D 30 d 35.70.)

D. GENERAL.

Aircraft. British and German planes very active throughout the day. During the morning, four red planes with black streamers on lower planes flew over our lines, and at 4 p.m., a plane flew over our line at 400 feet. It had red fuselage, blue planes and tail and black streamers on lower plane.

E. C. Collins

Capt.

for Brig.-General G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

26th Dec. 1917.

II ANZAC AERIAL ANNEXE No 14.

28/12/17.

P A R T I.ENEMY MOVEMENT.OBSERVER'S REPORTS.

- (a) ROADS. No movement observed.
- (b) TRAINS. The following trains seen on the MENIN-ROULERS line:-
 8.30 a.m. trains stationary at LEDGHA and one moving South, two moving North.
 9.9 a.m. One train moving North.
 2.20 p.m. " "

ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY.

- (a) AEROPLANES. Hostile aircraft activity was above normal during the morning, but normal during the afternoon. Photographic machines, were attacked by formation of 8 E.A. during the morning.
- (b) BALLOONS. Three enemy balloons were seen aloft along the MENIN-ROULERS road. One balloon was seen on the ground at K13b approximately.

ENEMY ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Appeared to be about normal during the hours of flying. From 3 p.m. onwards REUTEL J11 was being heavily shelled by batteries in FERHAND group.

MISCELLANEOUS. Large fire observed near KORTEWILDE about 9a.m. A red flare was observed at 3.10p.m. from D30c.9.9. and, at 3.30 p.m. from J6a.51.

P A R T II. AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

The following photographs were taken in our area on 27/12/17 by the Squadron on our left.

- 10B. 224. D23d.24c.29b.30a. South East of BROODSEINDE. Area has been shelled and posts hard to see, but apparently no change since 26th.
- 10B. 225. D29bd.30ac. CHINA WOOD. Shows fresh work in British trenches at D29d39.
- 10B. 226. J11.17a. REUTEL. Our front and support lines just North of village from J11d.0.4 to J11d.3.7 has been considerably shelled, also second line in J11b. Enemy posts near CEMETERY J11d. show even clearer than on photos of 26th.
- 10B. 227. J5d.11b. JUDGE COTTAGE. Our front line and communication trenches from cross roads J11b.9.3. to near JUDGE COPSE J11d.75.85 have been very heavily shelled.
- 10B. 228. J6c.12a. JOINER'S REST. Shows our retaliatory shelling opposite JOINER'S REST. Only part of trench at J6c.76.70 appears held.
- 10B. 229. D29d.30c.J56.5a. CELTIC WOOD. Shows our front line in J5b; impossible to see posts.
- 10B. 230. J6c.11b.12a. IN DE STER CABARET. Good photograph of our salient in J6c. and of enemy posts opposite. A belt of wire shows from JOINER'S AVENUE J6c6.7 to J6c.72.50 and there seems to be a post at J6c.6.8.
- 10B. 231. J6cd.12ab. JOINER'S WOOD. Several of the shell holes at J6d.05.80. have been joined to form a post.
- 10B. 232. D30c.J6ate. JUSTICE WOOD. There seems to be a narrow trench and a post South of the Cemetery at J6a.92.04. Other posts are hard to see owing to shelling.

PART II. PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN 28/12/17

- 10B. 233. J.S. JOHN'S WOOD. Post at J1 to J232 shows clearly, also post at J6b.8. North of SCHLIMT, there seems to be a track from corner of wood J6d.53.70, towards post at J4b.75.20.

The following photographs were taken 28/12/17 in the Corps area

- 10B.234. K2d3e8rd9ac. East of OOSTHOEK. Shows the TERHAND line: three belts of wire are everywhere visible in front of the trench: from J8d.83.40 to the road at J9e.50.85. Trench does not show, from there to J8b.82.68 the trench is shallow, with probable post and dugout at J8b.9.1. Then comes a gap as far as road J2d.8.3. The buildings at J2d.75.40 are probably included in the Defences and the trench from J2d.54.50 is deeper. The belt of wire from J9a.4.1. Northwards above, but is thinner than the other belts. The following buildings are occupied, J6d.0.0., J6c.4.0. (3 huts), J2d.75.40. There is a track along the road towards POTTERSBURG, also one from J8 central just north of existing track; there is also a track running North and South about 100 yards west of the HEULEBEEK.
- 10B. 235. K6ed.14ab. South East of OOSTHOEK. The wire in front of the TERHAND line is not so clear as further North, and the only trench visible is the shallow one from J14b.90.30 to J14d.43.22. The MOLENHOEK-TERHAND road is used by infantry, and one of old railway line Eastwards through K14a. & b also, but not frequently. Two dugouts at J8d.70.53 (near occupied building). Pill-box J8c.51.18. Buildings J16b.51.72 occupied.
- 10B. 236. K19,20,20a. South of ZUIDHOEK. The road from MOLENHOEK East towards K03 is used, especially South of the BUITENBEEK road from K20b.4.0. Eastwards not used. Two belts of wire from K19b.25.20 Southwards to BUITENBEEK. Occupied buildings at J10b.9.0 and probably farm and huts K20b.1.1 Pill-box K19b.53.10 and square buildings at K19b.72.09. 93 & 4
- west
- 10B. 237. K20.21a. South of TERHAND. Tracks very hard to distinguish. The wire in front of the Terhand line in K21a consists of two or three belts: trench shows from K21a.30.64 to 72.50 but is shallow, as is also trench leading South West. Pill-boxes J40.95, K20b.55.84; many buildings at farm K21a.03.25. 30a
- 10B. 238. J50rd.825. North West of KOLENBERG.
- 10B. 239. K14cd.20ab. ZUID OOSTHOEK. No signs of new work on Terhand Lines
- 10B. 240. K6bed.14b. South East of OOSTHOEK. Clear track running North West from road at K6d.7.7.
- 10B. 241. J24.50. North East of NIEUW-KRUISBECK. Broad belt of wire from J50b.75.90 towards the ALMIA road.
- 10B. 242. K19cd.25ab. South East of ZUIDHOEK. Shows the BUITENBEEK valley.
- 10B. 243. D30bd.525. DAME WOOD. The banks of the HEULEBEEK north of the road at E25d.0.87 to E25a.1.0. seem to have been wired, this especially noticeable near to the road. There appears to be a post in shell holes along the hedge at D30b.8.5.
- 10B. 244. D24cd.30abcd. CHINA WOOD.
- 10B. 245. D26abcd.29ac. West of BROODSEINDE.
- 10B. 246. D2d.23c.28b.29a. BROODSEINDE.
- 10B. 247. D23abcd. East of BROODSEINDE. Shows our front line posts.
- 10B. 248. K19.25. South East of ZUIDHOEK.
- 10B. 249. J23.29. ALBIN ROAD South East of GRANTVELT.
- 10B. 250. J16d.17cd.23ab. South East of POOLERHOEK. Track shows clearly from road at J17c.14.27 to 17d.00.85, and from there to road at J17d.8.1. The pill-box at J17c.14.26 still seems intact and there is probably a post there.

Notes on the remainder of the photographs taken to-day will be published in tomorrow's Summary.

II ANZAC AERIAL ANNEXE No 18. 28 December 1917.P A R T I.

Nil.

P A R T II.CONTINUATION of NOTES ON AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN 28/12/17.

CORRECTION. Part II. 28/12/17. Squares "J" in 10B.234 and and 10B.235 should read "K".

- 10B. 251. E26cd.K2a. South East of KEIBERG. The wire in front of the TERHAND line on this area shows clearly (three belts) but there is no trench visible in rear. The buildings at K2b.32.53 are occupied and the track leading Westwards towards K2a.20.45 shows clear. The HULEBLEK appears to be wired from E25d.50.35 to 20.35.
- 10B. 252. J29bd.30ac. NIEUWE KRUISECKE.
- 10B. 253. E25cd.K1ab. South of KEIBERG. There appears to be a straight trench or drain at E25c.9.6. The building in the CEMETERY K1a.42.22 looks like a pill-box.
- 10B. 254. E25d.K1bd. South of KEIBERG. Note track from road junction K1a.7.1 to corner of field K1b.75.30 and continuing Eastwards. Probable post in KEEL FARM K1b.90.75.
- 10B. 255. D29.30ac. South West of BROOSEINDE. Our front and support posts about D29c.35.50.
- 10B. 256. D29d.30c.J5b.6a. JUSTICE WOOD. Our salient in J6c. has been heavily shelled. Probable enemy post at J6a.33.60 with indications of occupation of other shell holes in area.
- 10B. 257. K7bd.6ac. East of BECELAERE. Clear tracks from MOLENHOEK and bend in road K7d.63.65 towards OOSTHOEK; there are indications of occupation of ground just North of the bend. Pill-box K8a.10.25 and buildings of some sort at K8a.50.32.
- 10B. 258. K1cd.7ab. North East of BECELAERE. Large pill-box K1d.05.70 (KEG FARM) shows very distinctly and has a shallow trench in rear. There are signs of a post at K1c. . . . 80.75 near the road junction. Buildings K1c.21.22 still cast a good shadow.
- 10B. 259. D17.bd.16ac. East of NIEUWEMOLEN. Our posts difficult to distinguish owing to shelling.
- 10B. 260. E19. West of DROOGENBROODHOEK. Probable line of wire from E 19d.3.29. to E19d.3.5. Tracks show along the BROODSEINDE - MOORSLEDE road. Three belts of wire North of the road and one, and in two places two belts to the South. Photo confirms posts at E19b.1.6. and E19b.15.60. Probable pill-box E19b.40.94.

PART I I. AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS (Continued).

- 10B.261. K7d.6c.13b.14a. East of REOELAERE. Note track from KIRK FARM passing South of KILT HOUSE (K7d.4.1) and going towards the REOELAERE-TERHAND road. KILT HOUSE still appears intact and probably occupied.
- 10B.262. D29d.30c.J5b.8a. OELTIO WOOD. Shows new work on our front line trench in J5b.
- 10B.263. E19d.29c.25b.26a. KIEBERG. The wire in front of the TERHAND line in E20c and E26a does not show very clear. Note post at E20c. 08.28. and probable dug-outs, also probable post E19d.84.40. There appears to be a dug-out at E19d.95.18 near EDIT COTTAGE.
- 10B.264. E7d.15. EASEL WOOD. Tracks clear running Eastwards from pill-box E7c.9.1. Post at E7d.90.35 probably still occupied.
- 10B.265. D6cd.18. ASSYRIA. Note pill-box D18h.98.02 also trench running North East. Pill-box at F18d.78.90.
- 10B.266. E14cd.20ab. East of DROGGENROODHOEK. Note building E14b.20.05. also absence of tracks except on the main MOORSLEDE road. Probable pill-box E14a.54.10.
- 10B.267. D18.24. BIRMA COPSE.
- 10B.268. J8d.12a.K1c.7a. HOLLE BOSCH. Note number of shell holes K1c. 74.78. posts at K1c.24.22 & J12b.88.74 probably still occupied.
- 10B.269. E27cd.K3. North West of POTTERIJEBRUG. Note pill-box K2f.74.47. and track leading East across the HEULEBEEK to the road at K3h.24.92. Buildings K3d.7. are occupied at K4a.45.35. Dugout at K3b.05.58.
- 10B.270. D17. DEFY CROSSING. Our own lines.
- 10B.271. K8td.9ac. East of OOSTHOEK. There is a clear track along road from K8c towards POTTERIJEBRUG & buildings K9a.65.12 & K15a.70 are occupied: note track running South from latter. Buildings K9c.75.35 also probably still occupied.
- 10B.272. E25.26. KEIBERG. Pill-box E26d.46.82 & buildings in vicinity are occupied: note also large building E26d.59.86 & many tracks near. The huts along hedge E26d.40.65 may still be used.
- 10B.273. E25d.26c.K1b.2a. South of KEIBERG.
- 10B.274. D30td.E25. South West of KEIBERG.
- 10B.275. D24cd.30. DAME WOOD. No change since photos of 26th.
- 10B.276. E26. South East of KEIBERG. Good photograph of wire in front of TERHAND line: Buildings at K2h 3.5 occupied, clear track running Eastwards and occupied pill-box K2b.74.48.
- 10B.277. E26d.K2td.3ac. North West of POTTERIJEBRUG. Note huts at K3d.2.6. and occupied buildings K3d.7.7; good photograph of occupied buildings K3c.4.0.
- 10B.278. D17cd.25. NIEKWOLEN. Our own front line and support trenches
- 10B.279. E20. DROGGENROODHOEK. Wire in front of TERHAND line weaker in this area than elsewhere.
- 10B.280. K2.8b. East of OOSTHOEK.
- 10B.281. D24.30ab. CHINA WOOD.

NOTE. The arrows on Photos No 248 and No 261 are inverted.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 45.

From 6 a.m. 28th Dec. to 6 a.m. 29th Dec. 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PART I.

INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.IDENTIFICATIONS.

The Corps on our left captured a prisoner of 68 I.R., 16th Division in its normal sector.

A. CUR OPERATIONS.1. Artillery.

Field. Usual harassing fire was carried out. The following targets were fired on:-

Road K 7 c 27.72 to 65.75.

Pill Box J 18 b 0.6.

Areas - E 7 d, E 13 d, E 19 b and c, E 25 a, D 24 a.

Heavy. - Two destructive shoots were carried out with aeroplane observation. Six concentrations were fired and replied made to 11 zone calls. Following neutralizations were carried out:-

WATERDAMHOEK GROUP 5. TERHAND GROUP 11.

POTTERIJEBURG " 6. MENIN ROAD GROUP 3.

DADIZEELE GROUP 10.

2. Machine Guns. Normal harassing fire.3. Patrols.

(a). Patrols reconnoitred ground J 17 a 18.80 to a 10.82 and in J 11 d. No signs of enemy.

(b). Patrol left our lines at J 6 c 20.15 and proceeded to J 6 c 55.05. Ground as far as J 6 c 65.05 was free from wire. Patrol then moved to J 12 a 35.75 and saw three enemy but contact was not made.

(c). Patrols left our lines at J 5 b 60.95 and proceeded to CELTIC WOOD D 29 d 7.4 - D 30 c 05.00 - J 5 b 70.45. Six enemy were seen at approx. D 30 c 20.25 on KEIBERG ROAD and about 30 more were seen shortly after at the same place moving towards KEIBERG.

(d). One N.C.O. and 3 men whilst on offensive patrol encountered a hostile patrol of about 20 at D 29 d 7.7. One of our men is killed and one is missing. A fighting patrol of 1 officer and 10 O.Rs. were sent out immediately on return of the above patrol and remained out until dawn. No trace of the missing man nor of the enemy was found.

(e). One officer and 15 O.Rs. left our lines at 3 a.m. in D 23 c and proceeded E. to ZWERG COTT. D 24 b. Enemy does not hold ZWERG COTT. Remains of an enemy dump were found at D 24 a 4.8. Patrol returned along southern edge of BUSY WOOD. No enemy seen.

(f). One of our patrols went to D 18 b 1.8 and saw 5 enemy walking on the forward slope of the ridge at E 7 c 8.2.

B. ENEMY OPERATIONS.1. Artillery.

Right Division Report. - At 1.45 p.m. concentration of 15-cms. on the N. portion of sector lasting till 4.30 p.m. badly damaged trenches and wire. Fire came from DADIZEELE. Following areas were shelled:-

JBRK HOUSE (J 15 b). J 13 b (gas).

BLACK WATCH CORNER (J 15 a). J 5, J 6 and J 11 intermittently with

Dugouts at J 10 c 85.70. various calibres.

J 8 a (heavily). I 18 b (100 rounds 15-cm.).

Left Division Report. Between 2 and 4 p.m., J 5 a and D 29 b and d were heavily shelled. Other areas shelled during the day were:-

TOKIO RIDGE (D 27).

GARTER POINT (J 3 a).

I 6 d (heavily between 6 and 9 p.m.).

2. M.Gs. Activity much below normal.

T.Ms. About 50 L.T.M. bombs fired on J 10 d 9.0 and 50 medium T.M. bombs fired on J 5 a.

3. Patrols.....

PART I.B. ENEMY OPERATIONS. (continued).3. Patrols.

(a). Patrol of 20 men encountered at D 29 d 7.7. The patrol had evidently been in the N.W. corner of CELTIC WOOD waiting to ambush our patrol which they encircled. Our patrol had to fight their way out. The enemy patrol was dressed in white and carried revolvers but not rifles.

C. OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.1. Defences.

(a) Posts and Trenches. - J 6 d 0.9 - Two men seen working in a trench.

E 20 c 6.3. - 20 men seen working on trench.

(b) Machine Guns. - D 29 d 9.3. - M.G. firing from about here.

(c) Dugouts. - J 17 b 15.95. }
 J 17 a 70.65. } Movement seen around pillboxes.
 J 18 b 02.60. }
 J 23 d 2.8. }
 E 13 a 15.50. }
 E 25 a 35.40. } Movement round dug-outs.

2. MOVEMENT.

(a) About 2.30 p.m., after train was seen in vicinity of TERHAND, small parties of men with equipment accompanied by G.S. waggons appeared over ridge at K 20 d coming West. Waggons were unloaded about K 19 central. A party carried away what appeared to be two M.Gs. and equipment and disappeared near house K 19 b 60.15. Fifteen minutes later three more waggons and two light carts unloaded at about the same place. Continuous movement of parties 20-30 strong was observed on the same route. In all about 300 men were seen. Movement was still continuing when light failed.

(Note) - This may possibly indicate the relief of the 17th Res. Div.)

(b) Train.

Constant light train traffic between WATERDAMHOEK and VELDMOLEN (F 13).

Engines with 2 to 6 trucks ran about every half hour from GHELUWE to DADIZEELE.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.

(a). Signals. Double red flares sent up several times during heavy bombardment of our lines.

(b). Active Batteries. (Levat Scouts' Report).

JACOBS FARM (K 4 a) - Single gun firing from farm.

K 4 c 4.3 - } Batteries observed firing between 11 a.m. and
 K 21 a 9.8.-) 12 noon.

H. Calhoun

Capt.

For Brig.-General, G.S.
 II ANZAC CORPS.

29th December, 1917.

PART II.INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.AIR RECONNAISSANCE 28-12-17.

Yesterday the weather was fine with a strong easterly wind. Visibility was good. E.A. activity was normal, 105 scouts and 4 artillery machines being seen. 21 combats took place in which 4 E.A. crashed and two were driven down out of control. Two of our machines are missing. A total of 668 photos. were taken in the Army and 24 20-lb. bombs were dropped on RUMBEKE Aerodrome. The R.F.C. also co-operated successfully with the artillery, carrying out 19 shoots of which 11 were counter-battery shoots. 44 flashes were located.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 46.

From 6 a.m. 29th Dec. to 6 a.m. 30th Dec. 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.

PART I.

INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Artillery.

Field. Usual harassing fire was carried out on targets in J 12 d, E 8 c, E 7 c, E 13 d, E 19 b, E 25 a, E 25 b, D 30 b.

Heavy. 12 concentrations on batteries.

Neutralizations -

WATERDAMHOEK GROUP	6.	TERHAND GROUP	12.
POTTERIJEBURG "	10.	MENIN ROAD "	2.
DADIZEELE "	2.		

2. Machine Guns. Normal harassing fire.

Trench Mortars - 50 rounds were fired at JOURNAL WOOD, mound at J 12 a 95.80 and Pill Box J 11 d 35.10.

3. Snipers. 4 hits claimed.

4. Patrols.

(a). Patrols reconnoitred our front in J 11 d & J 17 a. No enemy seen.

(b). Patrol working in J 12 a from 1 to 3.45 a.m. saw two working parties each about 50 strong in JOURNAL WOOD (J 12 b) and JOINERS WOOD (J 6 c and d).

(c). Patrol visited ASSYRIA (D 18) and found it unoccupied. No enemy seen.

(d). DAISY WOOD & DAIRY WOOD (both D 23 b) were reconnoitred. No enemy seen.

(e). Patrol left our lines at D 17 d 0.6 and moved east for 400 yds. then turned N. to D 17 d 83.95. No enemy seen.

B. ENEMY OPERATIONS.1. Artillery.

Night Division Report. Active on our forward areas.

Howitzers, 10.5 and 15-cm., fired heavy concentration on Northern half of sector (J 5 & J 11). During the day whole front was shelled intermittently.

Areas shelled - BLACK WATCH CORNER, J 15 a (H.E. & gas).

J 4 d (heavy area shoot).

J 2 c (gas).

Left Division Report. Hostile artillery were quieter than usual. Intermittent fire throughout the day on D 29 and D 28 d from direction of MOORSLEDE. J 4 b and J 5 were heavily shelled. Tracks were shelled during the night.

Back Areas. Activity in back areas about normal. Usual shelling on battery areas and communications. J 8 c was shelled with gas.

2. Machine Guns. Normal activity.

Trench Mortars - Light T.Ms. fired on J 11 c and D 18 a.

3. Patrols. An enemy patrol of 6 men was seen at D 29 d 72.02 by our patrol. They were challenged and fired on but no identification was secured.

4. Snipers. Active from Pill Boxes at J 17 c 10.70 & J 17 a 70.65.

C. OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.1. Defences.

(a). Posts & Trenches. J 18 a 15.25 - a 40.10 - c 6.6. Trench or breast work. Constant movement seen.

(b). Wire. J 6 c 75.75. New concertina wire erected to replace wire damaged by our T.M. fire in front of post here.

J 6 c 55.75. Barb concertina wire 18" high across JOINERS AVENUE.

J 6 c 65.65. Two belts of high wire undamaged in front of post.

J 6 c 75.40. Low wire 12" high 4 yds. wide. Easily crossable.

c. Machine Guns.

PART I.C. OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY (continued).1. Defences (continued).(c). Machine Guns.

J 18 b 1.87)
 J 6 d 2.3) M.Gs. fired on our patrols from here.

(d). Dugouts and Pill Boxes.

J 18 a 90.83)
 J 17 c 10.70) Movement round Pill Boxes.
 J 12 b (JOURNAL WOOD). Movement round mounds in wood.

(e). Occupied Houses.

J 24 b 50.90)
 J 18 c 55.20) Movement in and around ruins.
 K 19 b 95.05)

2. Movement.

J 6 d 6.1. Movement seen.

J 6 c 85.85

J 12 a 7.7

JOURNAL WOOD, J 12 b

JOINERS WOOD, J 6.

} Working parties seen.

J 23 b. A total of 250 men in small parties seen on tracks during daylight.

K 20 c. Tracks and roads used during daylight by small parties.

3. Miscellaneous.

Signals. At 3.27 a.m. enemy sent up three double white flares on which bombardment of front line commenced.

Double red flares were sent up during the bombardment (possibly to increase range).

D. GENERAL.

1. Aircraft. Our planes were very active. E.A. were active from 8 to 10 a.m. but below normal during the rest of the day. Two enemy balloons seen.

2. Enemy Countersign. A document shows that the countersign word for patrols in 17th Res. Div. sector from 11 a.m. 30th Dec. to 11 a.m. 6th January will be DEINZE (pronounced DINE-TSY).

E. C. C. C.

Capt.

for Brig.-General G.S.
 II ANZAC CORPS.

30th Dec. 1917.

PART II.INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.AIR RECONNAISSANCE.

The weather yesterday was fine, but visibility poor. Little war flying was possible after 1.00 p.m. E.A. activity was normal, and little flying took place in the afternoon. One artillery machine was reported working.

In aerial combats one enemy aircraft was destroyed and six were driven down out of control. One of our machines is missing.

The counter-battery shoots were carried out in co-operation with the artillery and 12 flashes were located.

Clouds interfered considerably with photographic reconnaissances, in the course of which 146 plates were exposed.

48 20-lb bombs were dropped in STADEN at 11.20 a.m., from 8,000 feet. The results were unobserved.

II ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 47.

From 3.30 p.m. 30th Dec. to 6 a.m. 31st Dec. 1917.

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT TRENCHES.PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.IDENTIFICATIONS.

Documentary evidence shows that the 12th Re. Div. has been relieved by the 11th Re. Div. (From 4th Army Summary).

A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Artillery.Field. Usual harassing fire was continued and concentration shoots were fired on area about J 13 d 8.9 south of BECELABRE at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. At 5.30 p.m. a "comb-out" barrage was carried out and an S.O.S. call responded to at 6.15 a.m. (31st) by the northern divn.Heavy. Nine concentrations on batteries - Neutralisations -

WATERLOO GROUP	4.	TERHAND GROUP	2.
DAUZIEBIE GROUP	2.	MENIN ROAD GROUP	1.

2. Machine Gun. Co-operated with artillery in harassing fire and responded to S.O.S. call at 6.15 a.m. (31st).

Light T.M. fired 110 rounds on derelict tank at J 17 a 6.6 and responded to S.O.S. call.

3. Patrols

(a) Patrol traversed our front in J 17 a without seeing the enemy.

(b) Patrol operating from J 12 a 25.43 towards JUDGE CROSS ROADS thence to JUDGE COTT. was hindered by M.G. fire.

(c) Patrol in J 11 d heard enemy talking at J 11 d 40.25 (near REUTEL CEMETERY).

(d) No enemy were seen by patrol in J 10 d.

(e) Patrol met no enemy in J 5 d and J 5 e.

(f) Patrol went to N.E. corner of CELTIC WOOD, D 30 e, thence to road D 29 d 85.00. Ten enemy dressed in white seen at D 29 d 85.00.

(g) Patrol in D 29 e saw no enemy.

(h) Patrol went from D 23 e 95.83 - D 24 d 2.7 - BUSY WOOD - DAISY WOOD. No enemy seen.

(i) Patrol went from D 17 d 10.50 - D 17 d 65.25 - D 18 d 65.35 along northern edge of DAINTY COPSE. Voices heard at D 18 d 65.35.

(j) Listening patrol was established at D 18 e 20.95. Four parties of 6 enemy, wearing white, which approached our post at 2.15 a.m. were repulsed.

(k) D 18 b 0.2. - A listening post at this point was fired on by a hostile patrol about 30 strong at 3.45 a.m.

Two enemy were seen at ASSYRIA but they disappeared when fired on.

B. ENEMY OPERATIONS.1. Artillery.Right Division Report. - Enemy artillery very quiet. Some shells fell at intervals in J 11 e and J 13 e.Left Division Report. - Enemy retaliated on front and battery areas. Concentrations of 20 shells in salvos directed on J 4 b - REMUS WOOD - D 22 - D 29. Railway and posts in D 16 and D 17 shelled with 7.7 cm. during the day. Tracks and posts in D 11 and D 12 shelled with 10.5cm.Back Areas. Activity against the back areas was abnormally quiet. Areas shelled were: HANNEBEEK VALLEY (J 2), BELLEWADE RIDGE (J 7) and RAILWAY WOOD area (I 11).2. Machine Guns. Normal activity.

Three L.T.M. are reported in JOURNAL WOOD, 50 L.T.M bombs fell in J 17 a and J 11 e.

3. Patrols. Abnormally active.

(a) About 10 enemy dressed in white approached road at D 29 d 85.00 at 11.50 a.m. from S.E. Party eventually returned towards JUSTICE WOOD (J 6 a).

(b) At 3.10 a.m....

PART I.

B. ENEMY OPERATIONS (continued).

3. Patrols (continued).

(b). At 2.10 a.m., 4 parties of about 6 men were seen about 150 yards from our post at D 18 c 20.93. They approached to within 30 yards and then were dispersed by rifle fire and withdrew after throwing bombs and firing revolvers. No further trace of them could be discovered.

(c). Hostile patrol about 30 strong fired on our post at D 18 b C.2 at 3.45 a.m.. They were dispersed by Lewis Gun fire.

(d). Two men were seen at ASSYRIA (D.18 central) about 4 a.m. They disappeared when fired on.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

1. Enemy Defences.

(a). Posts and Trenches. - J 18 b 0.0 to J 18 a 25.00. Heads of men constantly seen apparently in a trench (E 20 c 80.53). Two men seen digging in trench J 6 a 70.75. Men heard talking in this post.

(b). Wire. J 6 c 70.75. - Most of the wire in front of this post appears to have been cut.

(c). Location of M.G.'s. - J 6 a 30.58 and J 6 c 70.75 - A gun appears to come up to post at the latter point by night and to fire into our trenches to the S.

(d). Dugouts and Pillboxes. - Usual movement seen round Pill-Boxes on ESCHELAERE HILL (D 24 c 9.00). Pillbox damaged and unoccupied.

(e). Occupied Building. - D 18 a 90.55.

2. Enemy Movement.

J 18 a 80.70. - Between 3 & 4 p.m., 65 men in full kit in small groups moved west. Relief suspected.

J 17 c 60.50 - Between 3.15 and 4 p.m., 20 men in full kit moved towards the Chateau, J 17 a 6.6. Movement heard in the derelict tank, J 17 a 0.5. Sounds of picks in use heard, J 6 a. Continuous movement all day in the Cemetery and JOINERS WOOD & JOURNAL WOOD. D 18 d 80.45. - Patrol reports 15-20 men passed along the hedge about 9 p.m.

- E 20 c 9.
- E 20 c 05.60
- E 19 d 60.90.
- E 10 a 85.70.
- E 9 central.

Small parties seen.

3. Miscellaneous.

(a). Signals. E 9 a 80.20. - Red lamp signalling.

At 6.50 a.m. two green lamps sent up E. of PASSCHENDAELE were followed by the shelling of ZONNEBEKE Road.

(b). Works. J 23 b 30.15 - 05.15. New work visible.

J 12 a. Enemy appeared to be working from about JUDGE CROSS Roads to a point about 200 yards east of JUDGE COTTES. (about J 12 a 4.1).

J 6 a 30.32. - New earth visible.

D 18 d 80.45. - Party of 20 working at this point.

D. GENERAL.

No aircraft activity.

N. C. Hurdleston

Lieut.
for Brig.-General, G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

31st December, 1917