

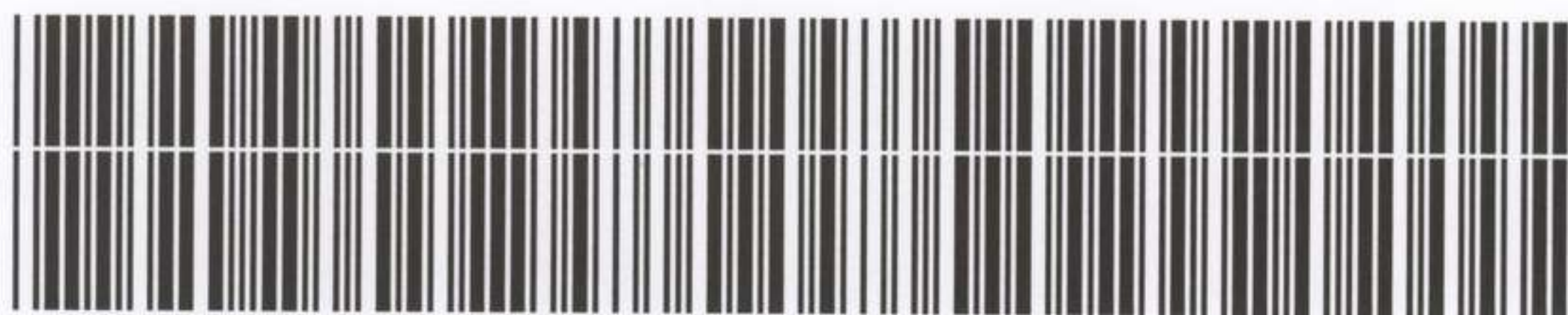
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/42/42 Part 2

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 1st
Australian Division

July 1918



AWM4-1/42/42PART2

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

2-7-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 79.

From 6.a.m. 1-7-18 to 6.a.m. 2-7-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Infantry.

a. Patrols. Enemy working party was heard at about E.6.D.6.2. Wiring is in progress E.12.B.1.5. Working party at post E.12.A.9.4. was observed carrying sleepers from the railway.

b. M.Gs. & P.Ms were normally active.

c. Rifle Grenadiers engaged enemy positions at F.1.A.5.5. Stretcher Bearers were observed moving about for some time afterwards.

d. Lewis Guns. Enemy working parties in E.12.A.B.&C. were dispersed.

2. Artillery. All Brigades carried out their usual programme of harassing fire during the period. Batteries were also busy during the day checking registrations, and registering new targets.

An enemy gun concealed in a house at F.8.B.2.1. was spotted by the 12th. (Army) Bde F.O.O. This target was immediately engaged by the 112th. How Battery firing, and five direct hits were observed on the building; The 47th Battery firing THERMIT shell, was then directed on to the target, and after a few rounds, the house burst into flames and ammunition exploded. The 47th Battery also engaged Infantry movement at X.26.C.0.0.

An enemy post at E.12.B.5.5. was fired on by the B/64th Battery, and five direct hits were observed. At 5-45 p.m. with Infantry observation a suspected O.P. in house at X.27.C.80.15. was fired on by the 102nd. How Battery with "BX", four direct hits were obtained. At 2.p.m. all Batteries of the 1st. F.A. Bde put down a hurricane bombardment, lasting two minutes from E.12.B.85.30. to E.12.B.85.90.

Trench Mortars. Our 6" Newtons carried out good shooting on to houses, hostile T.M. positions and known centres of movement. A building and dugouts at E.12.B.45.02. and E.12.B.50.25. respectively were fired on with good results. Trench Mortars positions at F.1.C.5.4. F.1.C.5.9. and F.1.A.5.3. were successfully shelled. Targets in MERRIS were also dealt with. At noon a registration series was fired from a new position.

3. Aircraft. Our planes were active.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. During the night the enemy appeared extremely nervous and fired numerous flares all along the front. Double red, double green, single green, and golden cluster flares were fired without any appreciable action following. Much work on the defences is carried out during night.

b. Artillery. Enemy artillery was very quiet during the period. MONT DE MERRIS and STRAZELLE were treated to bursts of fire at intervals. Between 4 and 4.30 a.m. a light creeping barrage was placed along the whole Divisional front.

Location of guns. Observed from W.28.B.2.5. 15 cm. how. on 1470 grid. 10. cm. how. on 1470 grid. 77 mm. gun on 1600 grid firing on E.12.A. From W.29.B.79.25. 2.A.A. guns at 1450 45 mins and 1450 15 mins (approx location L.17.D.) From W.23.A.7.5. 77 mm at 1380 firing on Left Bn.

c. Machine Guns. Tracks and approaches to the front lines of the Left Brigade were subjected to heavy indirect fire. Increased fire in No Mans Land during the night on the right Bde front was noticeable.

d. T.Mortars. T.M. fire on the left Brigade, particularly on the left Battalion front lines continues to be troublesome. E.6.B.&D. were engaged from the direction of MERRIS.

e. Aircraft. Enemy takes every opportunity of patrolling our lines when our planes are absent, which happen to be most frequently from 9.30 p.m. to 10 p.m. and from 3.30 a.m. to 5 a.m. Otherwise E.A. were not very active.

(2)

2. Movement. Visibility was bad owing to ground mist. Individual movement observed was below normal, and was in usual localities. BRACKEN FM (F.19.C.) was again the centre of individual movement. Wheeled traffic was heard during the night along the road X.27.B.
3. Defences. Posts. X.26.A.95.30. (previously reported)
M.Guns. X.26.A.9.4. (previously reported) F.1.A.6.7. - E.12.A.8.5. - E.12.B.99.69. (suspected) Three guns reported at about F.1.A.5.5. are still very active.
T.Ms. X.26.B.30.35. - F.1.A.9.4. (possibly in trench at F.1.A.81.45.) - X.27. - MERRIS. - Work. Work at Cross Roads in F.1.A. - Wiring at E.12.B.1.5. - E.12.C.3.4. - F.1.A.6.7. Digging at E.12.A.9.4. Snipers. E.11.C.6.3. (Suspected) F.1.C.1.9. (suspected) Headquarters. Suspected at house F.1.C.3.8.
4. Miscellaneous. A Signal lamp flashes from old baths at OUTTER-STERNE. At 5.55.p.m. red cross flags were seen in the direction of F.14.D. and L.4.Central. Smoke seen issuing from Chimney of house at F.26.C.79.99. At 6.25.p.m. a bomb dump was set alight in F.8. on a bearing 124° 55' from W.29.E.75.25. (Grid)

General Summary of Enemy Attitude

Enemy activity opposite the Left Battalion remains marked and above normal. Enemy patrol activity has apparently subsided again. Enemy artillery was much less active than usual, very little, if any response being made to Infantry light Signals, during the night. A captured document, a translation of which will probably be available shortly, throws some light on this strange behaviour. In this document the German Command in the sector opposite us deplores the excessive nervousness of the Infantry evidenced by the frequent calls for barrage and annihilating fire and moreover states that barrage and annihilating fire is not to be supplied unless a genuine Infantry advance actually develops or shows signs of developing. The document also shows that the German Command is considerably perturbed at the ease and impunity with which the English have been able to nibble at the defences. The document goes on to say that subordinate Commanders will be made personally responsible that this deplorable state of affairs does not continue. During the past week the enemy Infantry has given us many indications that these remarks of the German Higher Command have reached front line units opposite us.

But, nevertheless, the German Subordinate Commanders may not be altogether responsible for the success attending our Minor Enterprises. All evidence from Aerial photographs, prisoners statements, ground observers and captured documents goes to prove that the enemy supports are a considerable distance away from the front line. So that the position as it stands for the enemy is -
(1) Either to save his supporting regiments by keeping them well back out of our intense artillery fire zone and thus sacrifice elements of his front line to our minor enterprises, or
(2) Support his front line units more thoroughly by bringing up troops into the area of our annihilating fire.

It will be interesting to observe which alternative he adopts.

[Signature] Capt

Lieut. Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

(3)

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

Corps Summary. Prisoner, a N.C.O. who is the son of a boot manufacturer in LEIPZIG, states that the leather shortage has caused many boot factories to close down. Paper has been tried as a substitute but found to be practically useless for boots.

During the advance on the LYS, in which prisoner took part the German troops were much astonished at the quality and quantity of the British material captured. This produced amongst the better educated a feeling that they were at war with a country whose sources of supply were unlimited, and this had a detrimental effect on the moral of the prisoners regiment.

The German Medical Service has been strained considerably during the German offensive and on many occasions temporarily broke down. The arrangements made by the British R.A.M.C. for the evacuation of wounded during the recent local attack surprised all the Germans who saw them.

=====

APPENDIX

IV

31

SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

3/7/18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 80.

From 6 a.m. 2/7/18 to 6 a.m. 3/7/18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry.

(a) Minor Enterprise. A raiding party consisting of 4 Officers and 40 other ranks from 8th Battalion at 11-30 p.m. raided enemy positions in the vicinity of F.1.a.5.4. under cover of an artillery and T.M. barrage.

Before withdrawing 39 dead German bodies were counted by the officers of the raid. Seven prisoners were brought to within 100 yards of our line, but unfortunately owing to some difficulty in bringing them in further, it was necessary to kill them.

Two Machine guns were brought back to our lines.

The posts entered by the raiders were practically destroyed. Our casualties were 8 other ranks wounded.

(b) Patrols:- At 11-30 p.m. under cover of the operation by the 8th Battalion, Lieut. McKENZIE of the 7th Battalion with 11 other ranks rushed enemy position at X.26.a.9.5. Although this position has been the centre of activity for some nights past numerous small L.P.'s and M.G. positions were found unoccupied, although they showed signs of recent occupation. The patrol moved along the hedge to X.26.a.8.4, but no enemy could be found.

At 1 a.m. Lieut. McKENZIE again visited the positions, but again found them unoccupied. Confirmed M.G. position at X.26.a.7.4. was found empty.

Position at X.25.d.8.3. was found by a daylight patrol to be unoccupied.

At 1 a.m., the trench at F.1.a.5.5. which had been raided was examined.

The enemy had again manned the position strongly and was working on it.

Slight movement was heard in the direction of E.6.b.8.1.

A patrol was engaged vigorously with M.Guns, rifle, flares and bombs from enemy post at E.12.a.5.5. About 20 of the enemy were observed at E.12.a.3.3 (in rear of post) moving towards E.12.b.0.4.

(c) T.Mortars, Lewis Guns, Rifle Grenades, Snipers etc.

(i) Snipers and Rifle Grenadiers:- Rifle Grenades were effectively used during the raid in silencing enemy M.G's. Our snipers had few opportunities only one hit being claimed by the Left Brigade.

(ii) L.T.Ms. Active hostile were silenced for the night at E.17.b.28.90. and E.17.b.1.8. 100 rounds were put over by captured Minenwerfer on to centres of enemy activity.

2. ARTILLERY:- In addition to the normal harassing fire, our batteries carried out some very successful shoots.

The 112th How. Battery engaged hostile movement on the road at F.8.b.8.2. The party was dispersed and casualties inflicted.

The same battery also fired on houses at F.8.b.88.30. and F.9.a.1.5. the latter being completely demolished.

The 2nd Battery succeeded in burning down, during the course of the day, houses at the following locations:- E.12.b.4.0., F.7.a.83.30., F.7.b.05.95. and F.1.b.60.05. The 3rd Battery also fired on a house at E.6.d.99.90. This building was considerably damaged by eight direct hits.

At 11-30 p.m. two batteries of the 12th Army Bdo. put down a light barrage in F.1.a.b and c. in support of minor infantry operation in F.1.a.

M.Trench Mortars:- Dugouts near the Railway at E.12.b.45.02. and E.12.b.50.30. were fired upon by our 6" Newtons, and several direct hits were registered. Harassing fire was kept up on hedges and tracks.

P.T.O.

3. Aircraft:- Our planes remained active during the period. One of our Scouts (probably an S.E.5) was brought down by E.A. at Q.31.d.5.5.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

1. Hostile activity.

(a) Infantry. Remains very nervous. Opposite the Right Brigade he appears to be more alert during the day. His posts have been strengthened with sand-bags. Day observers have been seen in the trenches.

It is considered probable that a more alert unit has come into line opposite the Right Bn.

As soon as our barrage opened flares extending from MATERN to VIEUX BRQUIN were sent up.

(b) Artillery:- Was quiet during the day, but increased activity was evident during the night.

Squares X.19.b and d, X.20.a, W.30.c. and d and E.6.b. were shelled during the night.

Retaliation to our barrage in F.1.a, consisted of a rather weak barrage along the Divisional front lasting for 20 minutes. This barrage left the actual front posts practically untouched. EWE FARM was harassed by 75 and 10 cm shells during the day.

Location of Guns:- Gun flashed observed from W.23.a.7.5.

9.51 p.m. 10 cm. how. at 138 degrees, firing on Right Div.

11.19 p.m. calibre unknown - 151 deg. 30 mins. firing on Right Div.

11.20 p.m. large calibre H.V.gun - 108 deg. firing on Right Div. From W.24.b.2.3.

3.55 p.m. Calibre unknown at 148 deg.

4.20 p.m. 15 cm. at 138 deg. (Sound bearing)

7.52 p.m. Calibre unknown at 155 deg.

9.55 p.m. 10 cm. How. at 137 deg. (Sound bearing)

From E.6.d.35.95.

9.30 p.m. Calibre unknown. 74 deg. firing on Left Div. front. Bearings Grid unless otherwise stated.

16.20. G.B. 137 deg. 30' firing in E.4.d.

G.B. 145 deg. 20' A.A.Battery firing on our planes.

(c) Machine Guns:- Were less active on the Left Brigade than during the previous two days.

(d) T.Mortars:- Heavy T.M. fire was experienced in E.6.b, and W.30.d. X.25.c.2.6. and X.20.d.4.3. received light shelling.

(e) Sniper was active in front of our Left Bn. He was silenced by rifle grenades.

(f) Aircraft:- Enemy aircraft was more active than usual and crossed our lines on several occasions. At night his bombing planes were over and dropped bombs on our support lines and on STRAZEELE STATION.

2. MOVEMENT.

Individual movement observed was above normal. At 9-30 p.m. considerable movement was observed in E.12.b, around BRACKEN FM (F.19.c) and BECKETT CORNER, along road F.26.c. and E.25.d. - trench at E.24.b and d.

A flash from observers field glasses seen at F.1.c.8.5.

A G.S. waggon was seen moving W. along road in L.7.d.

At 4-30 a.m. smoke of a train was seen travelling W. behind LA GORGUE.

At 4-50 a.m. smoke of train seen travelling E. towards LAVENTIE.

-3-

3. DEFENCES.

Posts:- F.1.b.2.8 - X.25.d.8.3, (unoccupied by day) - Posts at E.12.a.55.30. and E.12.c.1.3. have been strengthened.

Enemy was heard digging trenches or linking up shell holes in front of our posts at approximately E.12.c.5.1.

M.G.s:- near GERBERDOEN EM - F.1.b.2.7 - X.25.d.8.3 (apparently at night only).

T.H.s. G.Q. at X.27.a.central - M.W. at GERBERDOEN fired onto X.25.c.2.3. at 11-45 p.m. - F.1.a.85.30 - F.1.a.6.3.

Wire:- Hedge between E.12.b.05.30. and E.12.b.05.90. is being wired. Double apron wire located running from E.12.c.7.3. to E.12.a.2.4.

Work:- Working party located near Hop fields in E.12.n.

4. MISCELLANEOUS.

At 11 p.m. a red lantern fixed light was observed at 70° (true bearing) from E.3.d.75.30.

11 p.m. - 2 white lights observed in building at 95° (true) from E.3.d.85.80.

Between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. several fires were observed behind the enemy's lines.

At 11-53 p.m. double green flares relayed back brought down enemy barrage.

A Signal lamp could be seen working from a window in NEUF BERQUIN Church and a light in the Church threw into relief the shape of the windows.

5. IDENTIFICATIONS:-

From dead killed in F.1.a. - 5th Bavarian Infantry Regiment.

General Summary of enemy attitude.

The outstanding feature of the enemy's attitude during the past two days has been the increased work put into the defences, together with uncommon alertness and nervousness. Several working parties have been located strengthening posts, digging trenches and erecting wire defences. As stated yesterday and illustrated again in to-day's "Information from Other Sources", doubtless the reason for this renewed activity of working parties is due to the scathing remarks of the higher command and in particular Major-General Prince FRANZ of BAVARIA.

The feverish activity of working parties is most noticeable on the right brigade front, where the 9th Bav.I.R. is fighting and working. Here also, our patrols have encountered strenuous resistance from enemy posts, the enemy, as soon as the patrol is observed, discharging all weapons, including flares at them.

This attitude is much the same all along the divisional front, though the number of enemy dead and missing in the 8th Battalion raid will not increase the enemy's confidence in his defences.

A suggestive feature of enemy tactics was furnished during the night by the enemy's action opposite the 7th Battalion. After the barrage for the raiding party had fallen, a patrol from the 7th Battalion went forward and found enemy front line posts and M.G. positions deserted. It is possible that the enemy, when barrage fire develops, evacuates his front line positions. If further investigation should establish this as a practice it might be possible to exploit it.

It will be of value also to know where the enemy goes when he evacuates front line posts.

Movement opposite the Right Battalion suggests a local relief.

It is suggested that the three most interesting points in the evidence of prisoners captured W. of MERRIS on the 28th June (Information from other Sources) be communicated to all ranks.

These points are:-

P.T.O.

- (1) The immense moral effect our minor enterprises have had on the enemy
- (2) The enemy by improving his defences and by increased alertness is seeking to frustrate our hostile intentions
- (3) the value of daylight aggressiveness and particularly the value of aggressive sniping.

Langhorne
Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES 19-7-18.

XV Corps. H.A. Summary.

1. An exceptional week, a great increase in the number of field artillery positions, almost exactly balanced by a decrease, amounting almost to the disappearance of active heavy artillery positions.

2. On the whole, although the evidence is very incomplete some reason to think that the enemy has reinforced the left centre of his front by a field Artillery regiment.

3. An unusual concentration of active positions, (apparently defensive) in a comparatively small area between DOULIEU and BLEU.

PALESTINE. During recent operation we captured 350 Germans.

ALBANIA. The French are only 15 miles from ELBASAN.

RUSSIA. British and American troops have occupied the whole of the MURMAN Coast and are advancing S. The Czechs - Slovaks have captured VAZIN on the VOLGA, 430 miles E of MOSCOW.

FRENCH FRONT. Unofficial report from Second Army. On SOISSONS CHATEAU THIERRY front French captures now amount to 17,000 prisoners and 200 Guns.

APPENDIX

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.EFFECTS OF OUR AEROPLANE ACTIVITY.

(Extract from Intelligence Summary of Army on our right)

According to an acting officer in the 52nd Div. captured on the 28th N.E. of NEUF BRQUIN, on the days preceding 18th June, when they were expecting to carry out an attack, the roads at night time were full of transport, and during those nights our aeroplanes were very active, and by means of flares detected this road movement and inflicted heavy losses in men and material by means of H.G. fire and bombs. A great deal of disorder was caused.

ENEMY MORAL.

Prisoners of the 9th Bavarian I.R., 4th Bavarian Division, captured West of MERRIS on the 28th June, state:-

"On about the 23rd instant, Major-General Prince Franz of Bavaria, inspected men of the 1st Bn., who were then resting in FLEURBAIX. He talked to the men very seriously on the extraordinary state of things in the front line, and said the constant reports he received from Regimental Commanders, of English raids and the nightly losses of prisoners, was becoming a disgrace to the Division. The men should endeavour to strengthen their positions and make these frequent raids more difficult for the enemy. More use must be made of their rifles, and they were to open fire immediately they saw a patrol advancing.

After he had gone, the men said it was all very well to speak about strengthening their defences, but it was impossible to do this because they were continually being shot at by the English who had the observation.

A Company Commander of the 9th Bavarian I.R. before proceeding on leave a few days ago said, when he returned he hoped the defences would have improved, and he would not have to report such frequent losses of prisoners".

Photo.	Now Work.	Remarks.	Prev. Photo.
4B1930	WIRE	has been erected along the W. bank of the ditch from F.12.d.1150 to F.25.d.1382 (about 200 yards), and probably a little more along the ditch about F.25.a.7800.	4B1708, 1816.
	ACTIVITY.	is noticeable at what appears to be prepared shell holes at F.25.b.3.6.	
	DUMP.	of what is probably wire has decreased at F.19.d.4230.	
4B1943	WIRE	reported yesterday in F.19.d. and F.25.b and d, has now probably been extended to the road at F.25.d.1459	4B1930
4B1948	WIRE	(about 80 yards) has been erected at F.13.d.6080.	4B1851
4B1954	TRACK	now connects up existing trench lengths at X.21.c.1042 and X.21.c.3798.	4B1873.
	WORK.	in rear of this track at X.21.c 3060.	

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

4/7/18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 81.

From 6 a.m. 3/7/18 to 6 a.m. 4/7/18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Infantry.

(a) Patrols:- Enemy post at X.1.a.9.5. was manned by 5 of the enemy. Enemy post at X.25.d.8.3. is now definitely known to be occupied and to contain a M.G. at night.

Hedge through E.6.d.74.80. is not occupied. Suspected enemy post at E.6.d.75.65. was bombed without apparent results.

A brush with an enemy patrol occurred at E.12.c.15.25. with no visible results.

Daylight Patrol:- 1 Officer and 1 other rank of 7th Battalion went out at 2 p.m. and moved through crop towards X.26.central.

At X.26.a.3.1. an enemy post was seen 50 yards distant. This post contained approximately 12 men. Unfortunately the officer was located and wounded by M.G. fire. On seeing what had happened a L.G. was pushed out from one of our posts and at night under its protection the officer was able with assistance to regain our lines.

(b) Machine Guns, Stokes Mortars:- Normal.

(c) Rifle Grenades:- Hostile post at E.12.c.5.9. was bombed and the garrison dispersed.

(d) Lewis Guns:- Fired on target provided by rifle grenadiers above. Six casualties were caused amongst the fleeing enemy. Hostile M.Gs also were engaged on occasion.

(e) Snipers:- Two hits are claimed.

2. ARTILLERY.

Our guns and M.T. Mortars were very active during the period, subjecting all lucrative targets to harassing fire and to bursts of destructive fire. Approaches to MERRIS were kept under fire. Occupied hedges, posts, dugouts, roads and buildings in the enemy's lines were shelled by M.T. Mortars. Good shooting is reported.

3. AIRCRAFT.

Were normally active, in spite of unfavourable weather.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile Activity.

(a) Infantry:- The enemy made no attempt to capture the wounded officer lying about 30 yards distant from an enemy post. Opposite the left Brigade and the left Battalion of the right Brigade no enemy patrols operated.

Opposite the Right Battalion front, two fighting patrols were encountered.

Otherwise he remains nervous and very alert.

(b) Machine Guns:- Opposite the Left Brigade activity was normal during the early hours of the night, but became subnormal later.

One M.G. firing from F.1.a.6.6. was silenced.

On the right Battalion front M.G. fire in NO MAN'S LAND was nil, due doubtless to the operation of enemy patrols.

(c) Trench Mortars:- At 1 a.m. X.25.c. and F.1.a. was shelled lightly from direction of X.26.c.

At 3-30 a.m. L.M.W. bombs both shrapnel and H.E. fell in X.20.c. from X.26.b.7.3.

At 12-30 a.m. about 20 G.W. bombs fell in X.20.d.

(d) Aircraft:- An E.A. was apparently observing the shoot on X.19.c. at about 9 p.m.

Between 8-45 a.m. and 9-55 a.m. 3 low flying E.A. approached the MONT DE MER IS but did not attempt to cross our lines.

P.T.O.

At 3 p.m. low flying plane over the Right Brigade was driven off by A.A. fire.

Otherwise E.A. were less active than usual.

(c) Artillery:- On the Left Brigade Enemy artillery showed an increase on the previous 24 hours. Much of the shelling was of a destructive nature.

Valley in X.25.c. and W.30.d. was shelled intermittently. Support line in X.19. was heavily shelled.

G.B. shoots took place in W.22 and W.15.

MONT DE MERRIS and STRAZELLE station were subjected to the usual intermittent shelling.

Between 10-45 p.m. and 1-15 a.m. five light barrages were put down on E.6.a. and B and D. and W.29.a. and D.

Location of guns:- Guns located from W.29.b.79.25.

6 a.m. 10 cm How. at 146 deg. 30 mins. in F.26.b.95.60.

8-5 a.m. 15 cm How. at 143 deg. 30 mins in F.27.d.3.3.

8-10 a.m. 10 cm How. at 145 deg. in L.3.b.85.40.

8-15 a.m. 10 cm How. at 145 deg. 30 mins. in L.4.c.12.80.

8-30 a.m. 10 cm How. at 143 deg. 50 mins. in L.4.d. 5.0.

8-30 a.m. 10 cm How. at 144 deg. 30 mins. in L.4.c.40.95.

Above guns fired on Right Divisional Area.

8-45 a.m. 15 cm. How. at 135 deg. 12 mins. in F.22.c.45.30. fired on E.5.

11-15 a.m. 10 cm. How. at 146 deg. 12 mins. in F.27. c.66.62 Fired on Right Div.

Gun flashes observed from W.28.b.2.3.

9-10 a.m. Calibre unknown - battery fired on 145 deg.

9-40 p.m. 10 cm. How. at 137 deg.

From W.29.b.00.25.

11 p.m. Gun firing from left of SAILLY on our front.

From W.29.b.79.25.

8-40 p.m. - three 21 cm. Hows. at 113 deg. 15 mins. on Left Bde. front.

From W.23.a.7.5.

9 p.m. 143 $\frac{1}{2}$ deg. grid firing on Left sector.

9-10 p.m. 122 deg. grid four guns firing on left section.

From W.29.b.6.4.

At 8-15 p.m. 114 deg. grid.

8-30 p.m. 116 deg. Grid.

9-15 p.m. 108 deg. Grid.

9-40 p.m. 106 deg. Grid.

From W.28.b.10.15.

7-25 a.m. G.B. 137 deg. 35' firing on Right Div. front.

5-10 p.m. G.B. 144 deg. 54' firing on Right Div. front.

5-50 p.m. G.B. 165 deg. 24' firing towards MERVILLE.

9-12 p.m. G.B. 144 deg. 04' firing W.

2. MOVEMENT.

Individual movement was much above normal during the day.

5 different parties of men with packs and full equipment were seen by independent observers moving E and W between VIEUX BERQUIN and BLEU and cemetery VIEUX BERQUIN during the day.

At 1 p.m. a large party of 30 - 40 men carrying equipment and packs moved from REGAL LODGE (L.9.b.4.6) to YATTON FM (L.3.d) thence towards DOULIEU.

BRACKEN FM was again the centre of much individual movement.

At 5-50 a.m. man seen carrying M.G. moving from E.24.c. towards BLEU.

Remaining individual movement though above normal in quantity, was normal in location and character.

-5-

Trains:- Train observed at 6-10 a.m. running North east on a grid bearing of 129 dogroos from W.29.b.6.4.

At 7-35 a.m. train travelling east on a grid bearing of 128 dogroos from W.23.a.7.5. This disappeared behind STEENWERCK.

Trains observed from W.29.b.79.25. 6 a.m. going N.E. at 140 dog. 6-55 a.m. going S.E. at 125 dog. 7 a.m. going N.E. at 180 dog.

5. DEFENCES.

Posts:- X.26.a.8.0. (compare 4H1871) - E.11.b.9.2. Following approximate positions of posts are unoccupied by day - X.25.d.8.3. X.25.d.8.6. - X.25.d.9.6. - X.25.d.9.8 - X.23.c.1.7 - X.26.c.2.9. These positions showed signs of recent occupation.

M.Guns:- Vicinity of X.26.b.4.5 - X.26.c.1.4 - F.1.a.6.5 - T.Ms. X.26.b.7.4 (Flash observed on 100 dog. Grid bearing from X.26.a.7.7).

Work:- No work in progress during the night opposite the left of the left Brigade. Working party at F.1.a.6.5.

Wire:- Thin wire in vicinity of F.1.a.5.5. Double apron wire located from E.11.d.9.2. to E.12.c.7.7.

4. MISCELLANEOUS.

Red cross flag flying 125 dog. Grid from W.29.b.6.4. and also from a house at F.8.a.2.4. at which position movement was observed during the day.

Smoke seen rising from COTE FM (F.28.a) and from SELSEY (L.11.c) and from building in F.22.c.6.4. During enemy barrage 10-45 - 11-15 p.m. several enemy shells fell short and golden clusters were fired by the enemy.

At 6-40 p.m. lamp signalling was seen from window of Church at LA GORGUE.

General Summary of Enemy attitude.

The enemy's attitude of nervousness and alertness has not relaxed. As stated yesterday indications seem to suggest that a more enterprising unit has come into line opposite the right Battalion. The events of last night more or less verify this. Two enterprising fighting patrols operated opposite the Right Battalion, but no enemy patrols operated anywhere on the rest of the Divisional front.

Individual movement during the day was decidedly above normal in the area opposite the right Division and suggests a relief of elements of the 44th Res.Div.

If this should be so, it may account for the patrol activity opposite the Right Battalion.

In any case, identification of units opposite the Right Battalion should prove very useful.

It is interesting to note and it may prove a useful guide, that while the enemy patrols were out, enemy M.Gs opposite the Right Battalion were silent.

Langh Capt
for Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.From CORPS SUMMARY.

Extracts from examination of N.C.O. of 102 I.R. 32nd Div. captured 28th June, 1918.

RELIEF OF THE SIXTH GERMAN ARMY.

Before being discharged from hospital on 24th June, a Bavarian Doctor said "You can return to your regt. as you will not be staying at the front long, as your Division, together with the other Divisions of the Sixth German Army, are being relieved"

Prisoner had a friend who is a medical officer on the 19th Saxon Corps Staff. He told prisoner that the entire Sixth German Army is being relieved by another Army, who are now in the GHENT area. Prisoner does not know who commands the new Army.

Extract from captured German order issued by 208 R.I.R., 44th Res.Div., dated 27.6.18 timed at 19 p.m.

"Consequent upon the bombardment in the Right Sector yesterday the following points are emphasized.

(a) Reports of every enemy undertaking and also of the smallest patrolling encounters must be sent to Headquarters.

(b) In the case of bombardments similar to that of the night 26/27th it will be sufficient to include them in the morning report.

(c) Yesterday during the enemy bombardment in this sector red light signals - request for barrage - were sent up. Coy. Comdrs. will be personally responsible that a barrage is only called for when it is certain that an attack is taking place.

"A" to "D" Coys. will state in the morning report in what sector and by whom the barrage was called for last night"

NOTE. The above was apparently issued after the successful minor operation of the Right Div. which resulted in the capture of ANKLE FARM.

FROM ARMY SUMMARY.

(a) Army Boundary There are indications that the Sixth German Army has extended North and taken in the 81st Reserve Division. A captured Intelligence Summary of the LV Corps, dated 26/6/18, mentions under the distribution of the Summary "Loss 44th Reserve Division". It is thought that the 44th Res.Div. has been taken over by the III Bavarian Corps and that the III Bavarian Corps has become the Northern Corps of the Sixth German Army, with the 81st Reserve Division, 4th Bavarian Division and 44th Res.Div. under its command.

(b) EFFECTS OF OUR GAS. Prisoners of 330th I.R., 63rd Div, captured south of ZILLEBEKE LAKE on the night of the 1st/2nd instant, had heard indirectly that the troops on the left of their present sector had suffered 500 casualties in our recent gas attack.

The fact that such a rumour, though indefinite and lacking corroboration, has been current, tends to indicate that our operation met with some measure of success.

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

5/7/18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 82.From 8 a.m. on 4/7/18 to 6 a.m. 5/7/18.A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Infantry.

(a) Patrols:- A patrol reached E.6.d.5.3. and located enemy working at E.12.b.80.85.

Patrols went out during the enemy bombardment at 9 p.m. and endeavoured to locate enemy infantry. Information gained by patrols is summarised under "Enemy Defences".

(b) Machine Guns:- Were active on promising targets.

(c) Stokes Mortars:- Much shooting was indulged in. Infantry report many direct hits and considerable damage done. A patrol reports that the shelling of house at E.12.b.80.85. dislodged a number of the enemy and also a M.W.

(d) Rifle Grenadiers:- Were to the fore during the period. Enemy posts in X.25.d. were engaged. Post at F.1.a.5.5. was engaged and casualties inflicted. Grenadiers had excellent opportunities during the enemy attack on our posts in E.6. and utilized them. No MAN'S LAND and approaches were bombed vigorously for some time after the attack.

(e) Lewis Guns:- Took full advantage of opportunities afforded them during the period and especially during the enemy attack.

(f) Snipers of the Left Brigade claim 6 hits.

2. Artillery.

Our guns maintained their usual activity throughout the day and OUTTERSTEINE and MERRIS came in for attention.

In reply to the enemy barrage placed right across our front from 9 p.m. to 9-40 p.m. our artillery fired on their S.O.S. lines. Counter Batteries were very active during the enemy raid.

At 4 a.m. a concentrated shoot by all calibres was carried out on BLEU and the vicinity.

M.T. Mortars expended 250 rounds on known occupied positions. One mortar in X.19.d. which fired at 3 p.m. received immediate retaliation.

3. Aircraft:-

Our planes were as active as usual, several flights into enemy country during daylight being observed. Bombs were dropped in enemy's lines both by day and night.

Infantry contrives report that parachute flares dropped by aircraft were useful aids for observation at night.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile Activity:-

(a) Infantry:- His infantry was quiet all day until evening when after heavily barraging our line all along the Divisional front, enemy infantry attacked the MONT DE MERRIS position from the direction of CLERY COPSE in F.7.c. but in only two places did he succeed in reaching our wire. In front of No. 1 post a party of 30 reached within 30 yards of our position and were driven back by Lewis Gun and rifle fire after suffering casualties. A second party of about 100 reached No. 2 post's wire and were met by Lewis Gun and German Light Machine Guns, rifle grenades (33) and rifle fire. This party retired suffering very severe casualties. Our stokes barrage firing 300 rounds possibly broke up the attack on the left of the position before it could be developed. In no case did the enemy succeed in penetrating our wire and his stretcher bearers were busy all night in NO MAN'S LAND.

P.T.O.

On the rest of the front no infantry action is reported but the enemy remains very nervous.

A petrol tin was accidentally knocked over in one of our posts on the left. The enemy immediately opened considerable M.G. and rifle fire.

No enemy patrols were met though our patrols made special efforts to meet any.

Some infantry activity was noticed at F.1.a.5.5. during the day. During the evening 4 German officers were seen to be observing and studying maps at F.1.a.5.5.

(b) Artillery:- During the day activity was normal. Right Battalion front areas received attention from two 15 cm. hows. during the morning. STRAZEELE was shelled during the morning with high air bursts of H.E.

From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. support system in X.19. was persistently shelled (probably registration).

At about 9 p.m. the enemy dropped a very heavy barrage along the whole divisional front. The barrage was of all calibre shells up to 31 cm. and was about 600 yards in depth.

During the barrage STRAZEELE was shelled. Enemy C.B. work was noticeable by its absence, though area shoots in the gun zone were observed.

Gas was used in the barrage.

Location of guns:- Observed from W.29.b.79.25.

6-30 a.m. 10 cm. how. at G.B. 146 deg. 12 mins. in F.27.c.7.7. firing on Right Brigade.

7 a.m. 10 cm. How. G.B. 145 deg. 30 mins. in L.4.c.1.9. firing on STRAZEELE STATION.

7-15 a.m. 15 cm. How. 140 deg. 40 mins. in F.27.d.3.8. firing on Right Brigade.

8 a.m. 10 cm. How. at G.B. 144 deg. 30 mins. in L.4.a.5.0. firing on W.29.

8-20 a.m. 10 cm. How. at G.B. 143 deg. 50 mins. in L.4.c.40.85. firing on Right Division.

10-50 a.m. 10 cm. How. at G.B. 150 deg. in F.26.b.5.0. firing on Right Div.

12-10 p.m. 10 cm. How. at 145 deg. in L.3.b.95.40. firing on Right Division.

3-20 p.m. 10 cm. How. at 144 deg. 30 mins in L.4.c.40.95. firing on Right Division.

4-32 p.m. 15 cm. How. 140 deg. 50 mins. in L.4.b.16.46. firing on Right Division.

7-50 p.m. 7.7 cm. gun 152 deg. 30 mins. in F.26.d.33.20. firing on Right Division.

Gun Flashes observed from W.29.b.79.25. (Grid bearings)

7-42 a.m. at 144 deg. 10 cm. how. firing on Right Division.

6-25 p.m. at 153 deg. 10 mins. A.A. gun.

7-50 p.m. at 145 deg. 40 mins.

Observed from W.29.b.2.3. (Grid bearings)

6-15 a.m. at 149 deg. 30 mins - 7 a.m. at 147 deg.

7-5 a.m. at 154 deg. - 9 a.m. at 136 deg.

7-30 a.m. - at 161 deg. Calibres all unknown.

Observed from W.23.c.7.5 (Grid bearings).

10-30 a.m. 139 deg. fired on NIEPPE FOREST.

10-55 a.m. 114 deg. (15 cm) firing on X.19. and X.20.

From W.30.c.3.8. - 143 deg. (5.5 cm) 12 seconds from flash to sound of report.

do	142 deg. (15 cm)	15	do	do
do	144 deg.	13	do	do
do	129 deg.	15	do	do
do	129 deg.	12	do	do

At 7-30 a.m. Two 10 cm. fired from F.19.c.3.8.

-3-

(c) Machine Guns:- Were active in NO MANS LAND against patrols and also on roads and tracks in rear.

(d) T.Ms. At 3-30 a.m. L.M.W.'s were fired from about X.26.b.7.2. on to X.20.d.5.4.

G.W. bombs from X.27.a.6.6. fell in X.20.c.

A M.W. which is reported to have fired gas came from vicinity of F.1.a.9.4.

(e) Aircraft:- Enemy aircraft were active. At 8-25 a.m. one appeared over their lines evidently spotting for artillery shoots 1-30 p.m. four attempted to cross our lines but were driven back. 4-48 p.m./5 p.m. - two patrolled opposite our sector at a high altitude. 9 p.m. during barrage one flew low and one at average height over line firing machine guns at our trenches. They were driven off by rifle and Lewis gun fire.

Two or three E.A. flying very high were over rear areas at about 5-30 p.m.

2. MOVEMENT:-

Individual movement was normal. Men mending telephone lines were seen at F.14.c.05.40 - through E.30.b. and F.25.a. disappearing in rear BRACKEN FM - between BRACKEN FM and house at F.25.d.45.65.

At 5 a.m. two men came out of hedge at E.24.b. and 8 a.m. appeared to go through wire at E.24.b.2.7. and then to F.13.a.1.6 (LYNDE FM). They reappeared in 5 minutes with 5 men carrying packs and rifles - those went towards VIEUX BERQUIN and then along track to E.24.b.0.8. They then returned to LABIS FM at F.13.c. and brought 3 more men. Later they brought in a further 3 men and went to E.24.b.0.8.

3. DEFENCES:-

Posts:- X.26.b.3.5 - E.6.d.79.45 (approx) hedges and farm at E.12.b.80.85. are occupied by the enemy - ruins at X.26.b.3.5. are occupied - house at E.6.d.95.90. is probably unoccupied.

M.Guns:- E.12.b.1.9. - X.26.b.3.5 - F.1.a.3.4 (in wood)

T.Ms:- F.1.a.9.4 - X.27.a.6.6 (G.W) - X.26.b.7.2

(L.M.W.)

Work:- Suspected wiring party at F.1.a.9.6. - dispersed by L.G. fire - E.12.b.80.85.

Wire:- F.1.a.9.6 - road at F.1.a.8.4 lightly wired. - between trees running from E.12.b.05.90 to E.12.b.0.4.

Camouflage:- Now camouflage at RUE PROVOST (L.9,b) to L.13.b. and along road from L.9.a.08. to L.3.c.8.4.

4. MISCELLANEOUS:-

Lamp observed signalling from OUTERSTEEDE. Our planes during the night dropped parachute flares over MONT DE MERRIS. Red cross flag at F.3.a.2.4. is again reported. Red Cross flag flying from PRINCE FM L.13.d. Several fires probably caused by our artillery were seen behind enemy lines during the night.

5. IDENTIFICATIONS.

papers and documents of dead men killed in last night's attack in E.6.d. show 8th Coy. 9th Bav. I.R.

General Summary of Enemy Attitude.

The increased alertness, patrol activity and enterprise of the enemy opposite the right Battalion, which was thought to be possibly the result of a relief by a more enterprising unit, culminated last night in an infantry attack upon the MONT DE MERRIS. Only about 150 of the enemy infantry were observed and they did not succeed in reaching their apparent objectives (our posts in E.6.d) It is thought that the enemy attempted to develop an attack

P.T.O.

in F.l.a. and C, and it is indeed quite possible that our Stokes Mortar barrage and artillery barrage, (which dropped 30 seconds and 2 minutes respectively) prevented the development of the attack.

Certainly the behaviour of the enemy in F.l.c. and F.l.a. has been suspicious during the last two days and yesterday 4 enemy officers were seen observing and consulting maps in F.l.a. This may however merely foreshadow a relief or a consultation over now work.

On the other hand, no infantry were seen assembling or advancing in F.l, though it was still quite light and it may be possible that the enemy merely launched a raid. Having failed twice previously, he possibly meant that the enterprise would not fail through lack of artillery support. It failed nevertheless, and it is quite probable that the enemy will develop a more ambitious minor enterprise in the near future. It must not be forgotten that the enemy is obviously still at a loss as to our intentions and he may consider it imperative to obtain knowledge of our intentions at any cost.

It is worthy of note that what is thought to be persistent registration was carried out by the enemy artillery during the morning in the vicinity of NORD HELF and also at E.11. These places received much of the heavy barrage that fell at 9 p.m. and it is quite possible that guns of flanking section or now guns entirely, had registered during the morning for this particular action.

Langhorne Capt
 For
 Lieut-Colonel.
 General Staff.
 1st Australian Division.

* after the enemy barrage.

()

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.GERMAN NATIONAL MARKINGS. (Extract from G.H.Q. Summary)

The following is a translation of a document captured by the French:-

"C.G.S. of the Field Army.
Section Ic.No.88.430.op.

G.H.Q.
10th. June. 1918.

Markings on German machines.

Experience at the front has shown that it is necessary to render German machines more easily recognisable. After careful study it has been found that crosses with straight arms, the intersection of which forms a right angle, are easily distinguishable:-

Old Marking.

(painted)
(black)

New Marking.

All units are to be informed.

(signed) LUDENDORFF.

Note:- The new type of marking has gradually been coming into use during the last two months.

DISCIPLINE IN THE GERMAN ARMY. (Extract from G.H.Q. Summary.)

The following extract from an order of the 3rd.Res.Div., dated 18th May 1918, at which time the division was in line S.W. of MONTDIDIER, shows the want of discipline prevailing in the back areas of the Eighteenth German Army:-

"Recently, supply trains on normal and narrow gauge lines have again been attacked by armed soldiers and pillaged. Threatened by arms, those in charge of the trains, being unarmed and in small numbers, have been unable to offer resistance to these excesses.

"This conduct on the part of German soldiers constitutes a defiance of discipline, and must be repressed with the utmost rigour.

"Consequently, by orders from Army H.Q., those in charge of supply trains will carry arms (if necessary, light machine guns) and will be provided with ammunition. These men will be in the position of a police guard, with the rights and duties of the latter.

"They will not hesitate to use their arms in case of an attempt at pillage.

"Pillagers will be arrested and returned to their units, where they will be brought before a court martial.

"If those in charge of the train fail in their duties, they will themselves be handed over to the military tribunals.

(signed) RUSCHE."

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

6-7-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 83.

From 6.a.m. 5-7-18. to 6.a.m. 6-7-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.I. Infantry.

a. Patrols. A patrol of 7th Battalion left with the object of capturing enemy post at X.26.B.25.55. Post was found to be unoccupied though signs of recent occupation were apparent. The road and buildings at X.26.A.4.5. were examined and the enemy was not encountered. Another patrol of the 7th Battalion approached to within 40 yards of enemy post at X.26.C.5.5. One of the enemy was observed to hurriedly leave a L.P. and return to main enemy post at X.26.C.5.5. the garrison of which then sent up flares and fired at the patrol. The L.P. was found to contain food and bombs and from this position 12 grenades were fired into the enemy main post with success before the patrol withdrew. A man was seen to leave a post at X.26.B.7.8. and go back towards the rear. Movement could be heard in crop about F.1.A. Central. Other information is summarized under "Enemy Defences"

b. Machine Guns were normally active.

c. Lewis Guns on several occasions succeeded in silencing enemy M.Guns.

d. T.Mortars. M.Gun at F.1.A.8.6. was silenced, a direct hit on the position being observed. Activity during the night was limited owing to the activities of our patrols.

e. Rifle Grenadiers. Were very active and claim one M.G. silenced on the left Brigade front. Enemy opportunity was taken during the period to use these weapons.

f. Snipers. Left Brigade claim two and right Brigade one hit.

2. Artillery and M.T.Mortars. Showed considerable activity but no departure from the normal firing programme was made.

3. Aircraft. Active. Low flying planes drew considerable A.A. and M.G. fire from the enemy. Daylight bombing of enemy rear areas was noticed.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Very quiet but nervous. No enemy patrols were observed.

b. Machine Guns. Were much quieter than usual on the left Brigade front.

c. T.Mortars. Increased activity is evident on the left Brigade front. A medium M.W. fired from 12.30.a.m. to 12.40.a.m. on to road running E. and W. through E.6.a.

d. Artillery. Activity was below normal probably due to bad visibility. Harassing fire was carried out on E.11.B., W.29. X.20.C., W.30.B.C.&D., F.1.A. and X.25.D. Vicinity of PARADISE INN (E.11.) was treated to a destructive shoot. Light scattered shelling of forward posts on the MONT DE MERRIS took place between 1.a.m. and 2.30.a.m. while at midnight a four minute light barrage of 7.7. cm shells and gas was placed on W.30.B.&C. and E.6.B. A few 15 cm shells fell in STRAZELLE and to the S. of BORRE. A good number of dud shells were observed in the shelling on X.20.C. Locations of Batteries and Gun Flashes sent direct to C.Bs.

e. Aircraft. E.A. were not active. One low flying E.A. crossed the right Brigade line at 3.30.a.m. but was driven back by A.A. gun and M.G. fire. At 4.30.a.m. an E.A. patrolled the front of the left Brigade.

2. Movement. Visibility poor, and movement observed was below normal. BRACKEN FM. and F.21.C.45.00. were again the centres of individual movement.

(2)

3. Defences. Posts. X.26.C.5.5. - X.26.C.7.7. - X.26.B.7.8. - F.1.A.6.6. - hedge from F.1.B.5.2. to F.1.B.5.5. Post at X.26.B.25.35. and F.1.A.35. are unoccupied. Machine Gun. X.26.C.3.5. - F.1.A.6.6. - F.1.A.4.4. - F.1.A.2.4. (in wood probably F.1.A.3.4. as mentioned in yesterday's Summary.) T.M. X.27.A.6.7. (probably X.27.A.6.8. as mentioned in yesterday's Summary) - F.1.B.7.2. - F.1.B.9.2. - F.1.B.8.3. (it is probable that these are approx. locations of the one mortar) - F.1.A.5.5. No more new work has been observed. A quantity of loose wire has been thrown out in front of positions at about F.1.A.8.6.

Screen. A new screen has been erected along tram lines in F.14.C. Communications. Movement of transport in MERRIS heard at night.

4. Miscellaneous. Columns of smoke were seen at hedge at F.19.C.8.4. during the morning.

A.A. Machine Gunners report what appears to be a new style of E.A. Details are as follows:-

- (a) Biplane - short lower plane.
- (b) cut back wings.
- (c) short fuselage.
- (d) pronounced fish-tail.
- (e) smaller than the average E.A.
- (f) very fast machine.

GENERAL SUMMARY OF ENEMY ATTITUDE.

The enemy has given us during the 24 hours no evidence that his attitude has undergone any appreciable change. T.M. activity on the left Brigade front again shows an increase. Many locations of enemy T.M.s have been given by the Left Brigade, and it is probable that these approximate locations refer to only one or two mortars. It is important however to know if the enemy has increased the number of mortars in the front areas.

Laughlin C. H.
Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

ANNEXE to INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO.83.

Patrols and
Ground Obs-
servers report.

Aerial photos
confirm.

6-7-18.
Remarks.

Enemy post at
F.1.A.9.5. was
manned by 5 of
the enemy.

2 tracks run off the road at about
F.1.A.85.50. and 85.55. converging
at section of trench at F.1.A.80.55.
there also appears to be a post on
East side of road at F.1.A.95.50. The
road itself shows signs of constant use.

4.B.1989.
(previous
photo 4.B.
1872)

Enemy post at
X.25.D.8.3. is
now definitely
known to be
occupied and to
contain a M.G.
at night.

The location of this post should be
X.25.D.9.5. and not 8.3. as previously
reported (1st.Div.Summary of 1-7-18)
Annexo)

4.B.1990.
(previous
photo 4.B.
4.B.1892)

Garrison of enemy
post at E.12.C.5.9.
dispersed with
rifle grenades.

Photo shows numerous tracks in
vicinity of the post.

4.B.1987.

M.Gs E.26.E.4.5.

Considerable activity round this spot.
4.B.1991.
(previous photo
1871)

" X.26.C.1.4.

Probably in small length of trench
at X.26.C.15.30.

4.B.1990
(previous photo
4.B.1892.)
4.B.1989.

" F.1.A.6.5.

Probably in shell hole in front
of trench about F.1.A.62.65.

T.M. X.26.B.7.4.

Signs of activity round this spot.
4.B.1991.
(previous photo
4.B.1871)

NEW YORK.
TRENCHES.

Trench running from road at about
F.2.A.20.95. to F.1.B.30.83. shown in
photos 4.B.1892 of 29-3-18. has now
been extended to F.1.B.51.80. and the
trench running parallel to and a few
yards N.W. of it has also been extended
some 50 yards.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.Corps Summary.31st. DIVISION.

From information obtained from this Division the idea seems prevalent that an attack may still take place on the YPRES salient. The 14th Division in spite of being tired and full of sickness is being told to continue to hold the line as all available troops are being concentrated for a big attack and the Division therefore cannot be relieved.

EXTRACTS FROM DAILY REPORTS SENT IN FROM GERMAN INFANTRY O.P. ITCHEN FME.
3.6.18. At 3.p.m. a direct hit destroyed a portion of the house. No hostile work on trenches to be noticed. Entrenching work was observed after 3.p.m. in the direction of ROUSSEL FARM. Enemy movement in front line could be easily seen owing to the constant flashing of steel helmets.

13-6-18. 7.15. to 8.15.p.m. our O.P. was shelled with heavy V.L. so that further observation was impossible. The stereoscopic telescope was saved.

14-6-18. From 5 o'clock onwards our O.P. was shelled by heavies and was set on fire.

21-6-18. For the moment we have no safe observation post permitting us to observe throughout the day. The only house that is still standing is situated on the cross roads (map square 8820) (K.16.A.3.7 300 N.E.) and lies under constant artillery and machine gun fire. The only possibility left is the farmhouse where the 15th position was formerly. In order to strengthen this and to make it to some extent anti-air-proof, we require men.

I therefore beg to request the Herr Loutnant to be so kind as to arrange that the men detailed for this purpose appear at 4.0.a.m. in the next few days, as the quietest time is usually from 4. to 7.a.m. In case this proposal is not acceptable, a tree could be equipped for observation purposes further to the rear.

The above extracts illustrate the use which the enemy is bound to make of buildings in order to obtain sufficient command for observation of our lines. Our policy of destruction of all buildings in the enemy forward area has therefore been justified.

CAPTURED ORDERS.

The following captured orders regarding information given by German and French prisoners show the importance attached by the German Higher Command to the continual instruction of the troops in this matter:-

(a) INFORMATION GIVEN BY GERMAN PRISONERS.

C.G.S. of the Field Army.

Ia.No.8626.op.

G.H.Q. 10th. June. 1918.

A captured document, emanating from the 2nd French Army Corps, dated 26th May, proves that information was given to the enemy regarding our impending attack by two German soldiers of the 7th Jager Regiment (197th Division) taken prisoners on the night of the 25th/26th May, North of the OMBLIE des DAMES. They appear to have revealed all they knew concerning the preparations being made in their own and neighbouring sectors. In this way, invaluable details came to the enemys knowledge concerning the time of our attack, the form it was to take, the artillery preparation and the units to be engaged, etc.

Another document, dated the 26th May, which fell into our hands, shows that the enemy in expectation of our attack, warned his troops against gas, and placed his available reserves in that sector (18th French Division) on the heights between the AISNE and the VESLE. The resistance of this division cost the lives of a large number of German soldiers.

But for the treachery of these two prisoners, the surprise of the 27th May would have been completely successful, and our gains would have been even more satisfactory than they actually were.

(Information from Other Sources Continued)

In the same way it has been established that our attack of the 9th June was revealed to the enemy by the statements of prisoners, and that it was due to this information alone that preparations were made to meet the attack.

It is remarkable to see the precision and detail of the information obtained by the enemy from German prisoners.

Orders must be issued providing for continual and insistent instruction being given to the troops in the field, and to those in back areas, regarding their conduct in case of capture, and they must be made to understand the shameful character and the fatal consequence of behaviour such as that described in the above instances.

The text of this order will be reproduced in the newspapers published by Armies, together with articles on the same subject.

The majority of men who have had the misfortune to be made prisoners do not realise (unlike deserters) to what extent statements, even on insignificant matters, not only endanger the lives of their comrades, but compromise the success of our attacks and raids. The disgraceful conduct of a few men have far reaching effects on the victorious conclusion of the war, and can do serious harm to the Fatherland as a whole.

The soldier who refuses to speak does honour to himself, keeps a clear conscience in his own eyes and in the eyes of his superiors and of his countrymen, and ends by winning the respect of his enemy.

(sgd) LUDENORFF.

(b) PAUCITY OF INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM FRENCH PRISONERS.

C.G.S. of the Field Army.
1a.No. 8836. Secret.

C.H.Q.
20th. June. 1918.

Recently, there has been an increase in the number of French prisoners who give extraordinary little information. They state, as a rule, that they have recently arrived as drafts or have recently returned from leave.

It appears that they have been trained, and not unsuccessfully, to give the replies stated above when captured, and thus avoid being asked further questions, whilst at the same time this conduct does not lay them open to reprisals.

I request that troops be instructed to give similar answers.

(sgd) LUDENORFF.

PHOTO.	NEW WORK.	REMARKS.	PREV PHOTO.
4.B.1957.	ACTIVITY.	continued round occupied shell holes about E.18.D.7.6.	
4.B.1958.	TRENCH.	at F.9.E.02.38. has been continued slightly W. of the METELEN BECQUE.	4.B.1813.
4.B.1986.	DEFENCES.	shows clearly the enemys posts and wire W. of VIEUX BERQUIN. a little work has been done to these.	4.B.1863. 1870.1874.
4.B.1991.	ACTIVITY.	around enemy posts at X.21.C.08.50.	4.B.1873. and 1954.

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

7-7-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 84.

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

A. OUR OPERATIONS.(1. Infantry.

a. Patrols. Wire at X.20.D.4.1. was found intact. Fresh tracks were observed at X.20.D.45.10. and X.26.A.8.8. A bomb was thrown into enemy post at F.1.A.85.73. One of the enemy was seen to leave the post and M.G. fire then opened on the patrol. A patrol from the right Battalion was fired on by a M.Gun from farm at E.12.C.45.85. the N.C.O. in charge being killed. Immediately a large party was observed to leave the building, apparently with the intention of capturing the patrol who fired on them and then withdrew.

b. M.Guns and T.Ms. Were normally active. At 10.30.p.m. a concentrated shoot was carried out against M.Ws at F.1.B.7.8. and F.1.B.8.8.

c. Rifle Grenades, were used against enemy positions wherever possible and in some instances were instrumental in silencing M.Guns.

2. Aircraft. Usual activity prevailed.

3. Artillery. Prearranged harassing and destructive programmes were carried out. One Section took up a forward position and carried out effective shoots on farms in X.21.C. and F.9.B. direct hits being obtained. A concentration by several batteries was carried out, at 4.p.m. on a selected area in the vicinity of METEREN. Heavy artillery had some good shooting on Cross Roads at F.1.B.7.2. An enemy dump on a T.Boaring of 1350 from W.28.B.2.3. and at 1290 grid from W.29.E.6.4. was blown up at 8.23.a.m.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Remains very alert, but does not appear to be as nervous as heretofore. No enemy patrols were encountered.

b. Machine Guns. Were troublesome on the left Brigade front. Road in X.19.D. the vicinity of NORD HELF, road running N. and S. in X.25.A. received indirect fire from the direction of MERRIS.

c. T.Mortars. No Mortar activity is reported.

d. Artillery. During the last 3 or 4 days the enemy has paid particular attention to Squares X.19. and X.20. These areas received many 15 cm, 10 cm and 7.7. cm shells during the period under review. As a result of hostile fire, house at X.19.D.85.80. was set on fire. A destructive shoot was carried out on X.25.D. by 15. cm Howa. Roads and railway in E.4. were subjected to harassing fire throughout the morning. W.30.C. and W.20. also received attention. Following on our concentration at 4.p.m. a marked increase of fire was displayed on the front of our left Battalion, a smoke and H.E. barrage being placed in X.14.E. and D., X.19. and 20. and the vicinity of the front and support lines also receiving bursts of fire. Location of enemy guns direct to C.B.,

e. Aircraft. Inactive. Only 4 planes crossed our lines during the day, all of which were engaged by A.A. fire and forced to return. One flew repeatedly over the MONT DE MERRIS under heavy A.A. fire and seemed to be taking photographs.

2. Movement. Visibility was poor, and individual movement observed appeared to be normal. Large clouds of dust were seen on the VIEUX BERQUIN - OUTERSTEEDE Road at 8.10.a.m.

3. Defences. Posts. E.12.B.3.9. - along hedge at F.1.A.2.6. - hedge from E.6.B.9.4. to E.6.B.9.1. occupied - farm at E.12.C.45.85. strongly held - enemy post at E.11.D.2.2. was found unoccupied. - F.1.A.6.6. (Observers seen here) - F.1.A.85.73.

Machine Guns. E.12.A.5.4. - E.17.B.0.8. - X.25.D.9.4. - X.26.C.15.60. - F.1.B.2.8. T.M. Light T.M. at F.1.A.5.5. M.W. at F.1.A.9.4.

Work. Wiring in the vicinity of F.1.A.7.8. in progress.

Wire. loose wire in front of posts F.1.A.85.73. - wire at X.20.D.4.1. a good belt of wire runs 50 yards in front of farm at E.12.C.45.85.

4. Miscellaneous. Several fires behind enemy lines observed during the period.

General Summary of Enemy Attitude.

During the period the enemy has been quieter than usual, except for the concentration of artillery fire on X.19. and X.20. during the afternoon and evening. This is probably a form of Counter-preparation.

During the raid by the 8th Battalion on the 2nd inst, patrols on the flanks found that several enemy front posts had been evacuated and it was thought that this was possibly the enemy practice when barrage fire developed.

Further investigation, however, has shown us that the enemy has adopted a definite policy of occupying alternative positions in his outpost line, irrespective of artillery fire or other indications of attack. A front post is occupied for a short period and then evacuated for a night or two and then re-occupied. This explains the numerous enemy positions found by our patrols fully stocked with food and S.A.A., but unoccupied. This is undoubtedly the position opposite the left Brigade and the left Battalion of the right Brigade, though there is as yet no evidence that it is the practice of the enemy opposite the right Battalion.

Boaghtin Capt
for
Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.Army Summary.

Information given by prisoners of the 5th Bombing Squadron who came down near FAUCQUEMBERGUES on the night of 1st/2nd July.

(a) Casualties.

The 5th Bombing Squadron appears to have suffered a number of casualties recently. The prisoner admitted the loss of 4 machines through anti-aircraft fire, but stated that the majority of the casualties are caused by crashes on landing. Of three flight Commanders, one has been taken prisoner and two killed in landing on the aerodrome recently.

(b) Drafts. The above prisoners stated that it was believed that a serious shortage of officers existed, and that a German Flying Corps order, published recently, stated that fewer officers are to be used in reconnaissance machines, and that they are to be replaced as far as possible by N.C.Os.

(c) Duties of Units. The 5th Bombing Flight attacked STAPLES two nights in succession. They got their main direction from the LILLE light, and after crossing the line rely largely on the compass.

Whenever possible, reconnaissance flights are detailed to photograph areas bombed in order to judge results.

(d) Results of our Bombing. The same prisoner state that the MARQUAIN aerodrome (6th Bombing Squadron) has been frequently attacked by British aeroplanes, and that a number of casualties have been caused.

Corps Summary.

German Precautions against Air Observation. (183rd Division. 13-5-18)

(a) The Division will move into its concentration area on the night Zero - 2, Zero - 1.

The infantry, two field batteries and 4 horse-drawn Minenwerfer with limbers, will move at night fall. All units will be assembled in their areas by dawn. This assembly must be effected so as to avoid any observation by aeroplanes and captive balloons.

Strictest discipline is to be maintained. All Officers and men are to remain under cover. Reconnaissances will immediately be made for the detailing of bivouacs and the preparation of the necessary material for camouflage against air observation.

A Camp Commandant will be detailed for each camp, and will be responsible for order, and that bivouacs are completely screened against air observation.

(b) Secret. 17-5-18.

1. By day. North of the line MAPLE-MONTCORNET, troops are not to march in larger bodies than a company or battery.

South of this line, as far as MARCHAIS-SISSONNE-LA SELVE there is to be no troop traffic in fine weather, and in dull weather only by companies and batteries. The distance between units to be at least 300 metres.

2. By night. No columns are to exceed a company or battery; distance between units at least 300 metres. On the approach of hostile aeroplanes, all movement is to cease, even at night. No bivouac fires, lanterns or electric lamps are to be used; all windows are to be screened.

Extract from Captured Log Book found in Sector of 102.I.R. (32nd.Div.) 19-6-18. "Attention is drawn to the fact that every man must carry a newspaper in his steel helmet so that in the event of any fighting taking place, signals can be made to contact aeroplanes.

"It is important that in spite of the height of the crops light machine guns have a good field of fire. It is suggested that their position should be raised. Reports as to the success of this are required."

SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

8-7-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 85.

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

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry.

a. Minor Enterprises. At 5.40.p.m. Lieut. E.J. ARCHER, 6th Battalion, and two other ranks were engaged in a reconnaissance in Square X.25.D. when they discovered an enemy post at X.25.D.85.50. After reinforcing their number by six they approached the enemy post. When 50 yards from their objective they were fired on by a M.G. and engaged with bombs. In the brisk fight which followed the enemy garrison was reduced to three. As these three continued to resist, one was despatched and the remaining two were brought back to our lines. A search of the post showed it to be 4' 6" deep and 60 yards long and containing 9 small dugouts. Nine enemy dead were counted. A Machine Gun was destroyed. Later at 7.30.p.m. Lieut. H.J. SOUTHEY, 6th Battalion with two other ranks and supported by a L.C. left our lines to ascertain whether the enemy had re-occupied the post previously rushed. Party moved under cover of a watercourse and entered the post without opposition, finding four enemy in occupation. One of these was killed and the remainder captured.

b. Patrols. An enemy Light M.G. was brought in by a patrol of the right Brigade, but though a search was made, no trace of the crew could be found. Movement observed on road junction from F.2.B. 5.4. to F.2.B.5.2. A suspected M.G. position at F.1.B.20.85. could not be located. An enemy party covering a wiring party from F.1.A.4.5. to F.1.A.3.5. engaged one of our patrols with stick bombs. The patrol retaliated with Mills bombs with unknown results. Other information gained summarized under "Enemy Information."

c. Machine Guns. Stokes Mortars, Lewis Guns were active. Lewis Guns of the left Brigade silenced several enemy Machine Guns. A working party at X.25.D.8.5. was dispersed by left Brigade Stokes Mortars. Casualties were inflicted.

d. Rifle Grenades. Were used by the right Brigade against enemy working parties at E.11.D.8.1. and E.11.D.20.15. and it is thought that casualties were inflicted. A small post at E.12.A.5.1. was also engaged, causing the two occupants to vacate the post and run to another position. Many enemy M.G.s were engaged with good effect.

e. Snipers of left Brigade claim one hit.

2. Artillery. Very successful destructive and harassing shoots were carried out by all Brigades during the period.

At 11.a.m., all Batteries of the 1st.F.A.Bde put down a hurricane bombardment on strongly garrisoned posts in F.1.C. The performance was repeated again at 3.a.m. At 4.p.m. and 5.30.p.m., the 1st and 3rd Batteries engaged Trench Mortars positions at E.12.B.05.45. and E.12.D.35.85. and M.G. positions in house at F.7.B.05.80.

Six direct hits were registered on the former targets, and 3 on the latter. Batteries of the 64th(Army) Bde R.F.A. successfully dispersed enemy movement at F.19.C.3.1. and obtained hits on house and hedges in E.12.C.

Detached sections of the 2nd.F.A.Brigade took up forward position and participated in a special shoot at 4.15.p.m. on TERRAPIN HOUSE. Other buildings at X.26.B.45.10 and X.26.C.51.82 were engaged with good effect. Concentrations were carried out by the 2nd. Brigade on centres of activity at 11.p.m., 1.a.m. and 3.15.a.m. Trench Mortars. Continuous fire was kept up by our M.T.Ms on lucrative targets. Houses and hostile Mine workshops at F.1.A.85.30. and BARN GIBBEDOWN were shelled and three direct hits were registered on the latter. Posts and M.G. positions in F.1.B. were also given attention.

3. Aircraft. Our planes were again active, particularly during the afternoon, and frequently crossed over enemy lines. Our low flying planes were subjected to heavy A.A. fire. A very brisk encounter took place at 7.30.p.m. but was too far south for results to be observed.

(2)

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Enemy remains inactive, no patrols being encountered. Enemy appears to be nervous still, numerous flares being fired during the hours of darkness.

b. Machine Guns. In the centre of the Divisional front. Enemy guns were busy on No Mans Land and the parapets of posts. Normal indirect fire on roads and approaches prevailed.

c. T.Mortars. M.Ws firing on X.25.D. were active during the afternoon and evening. Otherwise enemy T.Ms were inactive.

d. Aerial. E.A. were mainly inactive. At 6.a.m. (7th inst) one plane flew over our support line and from 8.p.m. to 9.p.m. another plane patrolled our front lines. At 4.a.m. one E.A. flew low over our forward positions of left Brigade.

e. Artillery. Destructive shoots were carried out on STRAZELLE and vicinity (10 and 15 cm hows) between 5.a.m. and 6.a.m. on W.30.C. - E.5.A. - MONT DE MERRIS - front line & posts in E.6.B. Harassing fire was evident on squares X.19. X.20. E.6.A. & B. and W.30.D. and on roads and approaches. Activity generally shows a slight decrease, except on the MONT DE MERRIS. Location of guns direct to C.Bs.

2. Movement. Visibility was poor but individual movement observed seemed to be normal, except for the following:- Movement observed on road junction F.2.B.5.4. to F.2.B.5.2. at 4.p.m. At 1.10.p.m. men were seen carrying material from BRACKEN FM along road to farm house at F.19.C.80.35.

3. Defences. Posts. X.25.D.85.50. (twice raided) F.1.A.3.5. (approx.) - E.12.B.25.90. - E.6.B.8.2. (sentry only) - enemy occupies hedge running from X.26.B.35.75 to X.26.B.65.80. (patrols.) M.Guns. X.25.D.8.3. - X.26.C.15.60. - F.1.A.2.8. - X.26.B.45.80. E.12.B.5.9. - vicinity of house at E.6.D.9.9. T.Mortars. F.1.A.85.30. - F.1.B.8.3. Work. Along hedge X.26.B.35.75. to X.26.B.65.80. - in X.26.D. Wire. F.1.A.3.5. to F.1.A.4.5. in progress at E.12.C.1.2. and E.12.C.3.5.

4. Miscellaneous. Red Cross flag visible at 1400 grid from W.29.B.60.45. (approx. F.27.D.8.7.) and 1400 grid from W.29.B.75.25. (approx. L.12.C.05.50.) and 1560 grid from do. At 8.p.m. a heliograph was seen working on a grid bearing of 1100 from W.29.B.60.45. At 10.10.p.m. single red and single white flares were fired by the enemy in the vicinity of WIEUX BERQUIN. No apparent action followed.

5. Identifications. 11th K. and 12th K. 5th Bav.I.R. - 5 prisoners (1 wounded) captured in X.25.D. 11th K. 9th Bav.I.R. - 2 prisoners captured in E.12.B.

General Summary of Enemy Attitude.

No change in apparent in the attitude of the enemy. It is interesting to observe that the M.G fire on No Mans Land and the parapets of posts opposite the 6th Battalion showed a marked increase during the night, doubtless due to the moral effect caused by the daylight raiding of enemy post at X.25.D.85.50.

Prisoners of the 5th Bav. I.R. captured last night state that a Battalion relief occurred on the night 5th/6th July. The only evidence of a relief we were able to observe on that night was an almost complete absence of enemy M.G. fire on the 5th Bav. I.R. front and the movement of transport in MERRIS, which latter may be of nightly occurrence. (However)

The suspicion that the enemy had orders to withdraw from the front line posts on the imminence of an attack by us, and which was awaiting further investigation, has now been confirmed by statements of the prisoners captured yesterday. The enemy also has alternative posts for occupation.

These latest raids by us will doubtless mean on the enemys part;- an increase in vigilance which had been on the wane during the last 3 days, more work on defences, and a more thorough use of his

App 1/57

(3)

Tactics of elusiveness.
Attention is drawn to "Information From Other Sources" -
" Information from Photographs by Corps.

R. Langh's Capt
for Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

Later. At about 9.a.m. this morning, the (8th inst) 4th.
Battalion captured two other ranks in daylight raid at about
E.12.B. Prisoners belong to 11th Coy 9th Bav. I.R.
At about 7.a.m. this morning, Capt. L. CAMPBELL, 6th Battalion,
Lieut. MITCHELL American Army (attached for instruction.) and a
small party of men left our lines and captured a hostile M.G. at
about F.1.A.5.C. without suffering any casualties. The three men
of the gun's crew were killed.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

8-7-18.

From Corps Summary.Information from Photographs.

Examination of the most recent photographs have produced the following facts:-

1. In the forward area the enemy has no settled lines of defence and is compelled to move from one shell hole to another according to our artillery fire. The possibility of "drilling" him into suitable areas should not be lost sight of. Shell hole positions behind hedges are most in evidence. Nearly all houses are now completely destroyed.
2. In the middle area at roughly 4,000 yards from our line the farms are in good order and freely used, and there is much evidence of much wheeled traffic on the roads and tracks. The farms and orchards are occupied by troops of the Support Bns. who are held in readiness to move closer up on the slightest indication of offensive operations on our part. Much annoyance has been expressed in enemy higher circles at the frequent loss of ground by the divisions opposite this Corps and there is no doubt that these supporting troops have very definite orders to move up on the slightest suspicion of an attack. The opportunity of drawing them into the forward area and dealing with them there by artillery fire suggests itself.
3. In the enemy back areas from 6,000 to 10,000 yards from our line the farms and battery positions shows normal activity, the former being mainly occupied by troops of the resting Bns. of Regts. in the line. Further back, however, an altogether abnormal increase in dumps, sidings and general activity is apparent and it is impossible to pay too much attention with our long range guns and bombing planes to these features especially at RUE DE LA LYS, SAILLY, BAC ST MAUR, FORT ROMPU, ERQUINGHEM and ARMENTIERES.
4. There are no signs of defensive works in the whole enemy area with the exception of a few posts and pieces of wire of a temporary nature in the front system and the old British defences in the LYS Valley and beyond it.
5. To sum up :-
 - (a) The enemy holds his forward area very thinly thus reducing to a minimum the efficacy of our harassing fire.
 - (b) Two-thirds of the enemy's forces on our immediate front live in comparative safety at and beyond a distance of about 4,000 yards from our forward system.
 - (c) The extraordinary activity in the LYS Valley, in spite of its distance, presents the most vulnerable target on our front.

NEW GERMAN GAS GRENADE. (Extract from G.H.Q. Summary.)

A gas grenade was found by the French near REIMS about the middle of May. It is similar in appearance to the ordinary "stick" grenade and is called "Gasstielgrenate, B.Z."

On each side of the hook, by which the grenade can be attached to the belt, is painted a blue "G".

The effect of the grenade is similar to that of "blue cross" gas shell, viz., partly high explosive and partly gas.

CAPTURED ORDER.

The following translation of a German Army Order indicates some of the methods employed by the enemy to ensure secrecy:-

Second Army H.Q.,
Lad No. 427/April.

Army H.Q.
17-4-18.

Preservation of Secrecy.

1. A captured British Order shows that in spite of the orders repeatedly issued, valuable information as to the order of battle, strength and composition of our Army has been given to the British by the papers found on officers and men who have been captured. A passage in the order states :-

P.T.O.

(2)

" An immense amount of exceedingly valuable information has been obtained since the beginning of the operations from private letters, diaries, addresses on envelopes, and battalion and brigade orders, which have been found on the persons of German prisoners and dead."

This shows how valuable to the enemy addresses and notes are, even if they appear to be unimportant. The troops must have this impressed upon them by frequent instruction, especially before the beginning of operations. It is forbidden to copy or manifold orders beyond the numbers laid down by the proper authorities, or to insert our own positions, strong points, etc., on maps which are intended to be used in the front line.

All secret instructions, orders and maps must be plainly recognisable as such by the heading "Not to be taken into the front lines" at the top of the document.

2. Documents, orders and maps found on the enemy are to be taken from prisoners at once and forwarded to the authorities concerned. Unauthorized rummaging amongst the papers captured is forbidden. Unnecessary delays in transmission often render the captured documents valueless.
3. Attention is again called to the orders issued in regard to the behaviour of officers and men who are captured.

Distribution.

Down to companies and batteries. (sgd) von TSCHISCHWITZ.

From Australian Corps Summary.

Translation of a captured German order;
48th. K.S. Res. Infantry Brigade. Brigade H.Q., 17/6/18.
To hand over when relief takes place.
Brigade Order.

1. The Australians use the same system now as the English did last year at ARRAS. Big patrols advance in echelon formation with fire preparation, enfilading the adjacent territory, break through into the front line, sending back the prisoners, demolish dug-outs, and take away material.
2. The high crops at present favour the enemy by concealing his approach, and such undertakings continue by day and night. It needs thorough thought, in order that the fighting strength of the company in the front line is not weakened, that the rationing of the men, the putting up of barbed wire entanglements, the transport of material, as well as any other work, are not carried out at the same time. The light machine gun troops, the fighting strength of the troops, should not be allowed in the present situation to be put to such service.
3. In case the enemy attack, listening posts should be installed in our own barbed wire entanglements, not more than 60 m. from the post that sends them out, and should enemy patrols succeed in penetrating into our barbed wire entanglements, an alarm shot should be given and repeated to the supports.
4. Posts, which if in the possession of the enemy would give him observation over our lines, must be held by day and night. The enemy should not be allowed to obtain a footing in those positions, and quick defensive measures ought to be taken.
5. Posts which are in shell holes or in the entanglement should get accustomed to our machine guns firing over them, as this fire is practised for their protection.
6. It is most important, and should be supervised by officers, that outposts with their light machine guns put up at irregular intervals a harassing fire on to No Man's Land in order to prevent the enemy from approaching. The heavy machine guns should also be on the alert. Every night further orders and observations regarding such fire should be received from the M.G.Coy.Commander.

(3)

7. I again wish to emphasize that every opportunity should be used to inflict losses on the enemy. The activity of all troops should be maintained, snipers, light machine guns, bombers, the sending out of patrols for watching purposes etc.

(sgd) Count von WIETHEMAN.

ITALIAN FRONT.

On the Lower PIAVE Italians are maintaining their pressure. Over 400 prisoners were captured in a successful operation yesterday.

The Right Bank of the Now PIAVE was reached from GRISOLERA to the River Mouth.

A violent hostile attack in the direction of CHIESANUOVA was arrested after heavy fighting.

Enemy attacks on PRTE DI SALTON and the CORNONE failed.

P.T.O.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF 4 GERMAN PRISONERS
(1 CORPL. 1 L/CPL. AND TWO PRIVATES) OF 11TH
AND 12TH COYS. 5TH BAVARIAN. I.R. CAPTURED IN
X.25.D.8.5. 7TH.JULY.1918.

Method of Capture. Daylight raid on post at X.25.D.8.5.
Order of Battle. N to S. 5 Bav. I.R., 5 Bav. R.I.R., 9th. Bav. I.R.
(Normally). Beyond this prisoners know nothing.
Enemy Intentions. Prisoners knew nothing regarding intentions, but
stated that they had noticed no signs of an impending attack.
Method of holding The 11th and 12th Coys are mixed, forming one Coy
Line. Coy owing to reduced numbers caused by losses and
sickness. They are on the left of their Battalion
Sector, whilst 10 and 9 are on the Right. One prisoner
stated that 9 and 10 had also amalgamated to form 1 Coy.
The prisoners were part of a forward post, the main body
of the Coy being about 150 metres in rear. The orders
were to withdraw to their main line of resistance in
case of attack or on the approach of a strong patrol.
Company Strength. 11th and 12th together 80 men trench strength.
Prisoners stated that they had heavy losses in our attack on night
23/24th June, and in addition there were a good many absent owing
to Flanders "Grippe" or Spanish "Grippe" as some of them called it.
Regimental Boundary. The boundary between 5 Bav I.R. and 5 Bav R.I.R. is
at about X.25.D.80.55.
Reliefs. III Bn relieved II Bn on the night 5th/6th July. They expected
to be 5 days in the line. One prisoner stated that his Coy
Commander had told him that the Division would be relieved on
night 10th/11th, but he thought this was merely to keep up their
spirits, as he had seen no signs of relief.
Crit. Prisoners were warned as usual, when going into the line,
to be on the alert for gas, but were not aware of any intention
on our part to employ it. They had suffered very little from gas
and found their masks sufficient protection.
Army Boundary. Prisoners state that they belong to the Sixth Army at
present and believed they were transferred from Fourth Army about
a fortnight ago.
Patrolling. No patrolling was being done and prisoners know of no orders
regarding patrols. They were merely told to be always on the alert
at night.
L.M.Gs. Prisoners confirm the position of a light M.G. at X.25.D.9.5,
in shell holocluster. There were 4 or 5 light M.GS in the combined
Coy.
Moral. Good on the whole. There is a certain amount of "grousing"
but nothing serious
Rest Billots. Close to Croix du Bac.
Artillery. Prisoners could give no information about Artillery.
They did not know why the guns were so quiet as a rule
but thought it was to avoid betraying their positions.
General. Of the 4 prisoners the Corpl (who is only 21 and has just passed
through a Course for "Offizier Aspirant" has only been twice in
the line here - the same applies to other two, the fourth having
come into the line for the first time on 5th/6th.
The L/Cpl is 39 years old and was recently transferred from the
"Train", so has had practically no line experience. He states
however that there has been a comb out of the older soldiers
serving with the "Train" and that from his Column 13 of his own
age were taken and transferred to the Infantry. It was thought
he says, that they would be better able to stand the hardships
than the youngsters of 18 by whom they were replaced; those
however had also been drafted to the Infantry now.
Casualties. Prisoners knew those to be heavy on night of 23/24th June
when we attacked them, but could not give numbers. They say it
was intended to make a counter attack but before it could be
carried out all four Coy Commanders in their Battalion were wounded.
Names of Officers. 11th & 12th Coy Commander Lt. Hering.
III Bn Co. Capt. Kriess. Regts C.O. Lt-Col. Fels.
Brigade Commander. Col. Rober.

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

9-7-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 86.

From 6.a.m. 8-7-18. to 6.a.m. 9-7-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.I. Infantry.

a. Minor Enterprise and Patrols. Further details of the daylight patrols reported yesterday are now available. At 9.a.m. Lieut. COURT and 4 other ranks of the 4th Battalion left E.8.D.10.38. with the object of capturing a post which had been located the previous night. The party crept towards house at E.12.B.2.9. and discovered what appeared to be an unoccupied post, showing signs of recent occupation. On closer examination the post was found to be occupied, and the occupants, a Sergeant and a private were taken prisoners. The post was built to accommodate about 12 men, the remainder being probably withdrawn during the hours of daylight. (reported at foot of yesterdays Summary.)

At 7.a.m. Capt. L.G. CAMPBELL, 6th Battalion, with Lieut. MITCHELL. U.S.A. and 4 other ranks of the 6th Battalion, went out to raid hostile post at F.1.A.3.5. Before the post could be surrounded they were observed by the enemy, so they decided to rush the position. The enemy hurriedly retreated and our party fired on them, causing 3 casualties, of whom 3 were killed. The post was entered and a Light M.G. brought back to our lines. A hostile post in vicinity of the Copse in F.1.A. then opened on the party as it returned to our lines. Soon afterwards the enemy entered the deserted post having first bombarded it with stick bombs. (reported at foot of yesterdays Summary.)

A patrol penetrated No Mans Land in X.26.C. as far as X.26.C. 2.6. without encountering or seeing any enemy posts.

The hedge at X.26.A.8.4. was searched without signs of the enemy being found.

Enemy trench about F.1.A.4.6. was entered during daylight and a patrol had moved about 50 yards along it in an Easterly direction when they came to a bomb stop. On attempting to climb over this stop, a M.G. fired from about 30 yards in rear. About 20 of the enemy were then observed moving into the crop about F.1.A.5.4. probably with the intention of capturing our patrol. This was observed however by one of our posts and an Officer and one other rank crept into the crop and successfully covered the withdrawal of the patrol.

Another patrol discovered a cleverly camouflaged trench.

b. Machine Guns. T.Mortars. Lewis Guns. In addition to the normal harassing fire the following good shoot is reported. Machine gun at X.26.C.50.85. which had been continually harassing our posts was engaged by a Stokes Mortar and silenced, several direct hits being obtained. Loud means could be heard from this position afterwards.

c. Rifle Grenades. Were freely used along the Divisional front. On two occasions the enemy retaliated with Pineapple bombs.

d. Snipers, of the 1st Battalion claim two casualties. Enemy snipers at 3 different spots were engaged by our snipers, with the result that afterwards hostile sniping showed a considerable decrease.

2. Artillery. Our normal harassing fire was carried out by all Brigades during the day, but owing to information received, it was increased by 100% between the hours of 10 and 11.30.p.m. and 12.30. to dawn. Destructive shoots were carried out by the 12th.Aust.Army.Bde. on hostile battery in F.14.A. GERBEDOEN FARM. and targets in F.2.B. and F.8.B. Forward sections of the 2nd Brigade engaged trenches, houses and tracks with good effect. Sharp concentrations were put down on a suspected enemy H.Q. at F.4.A.8.3. at 10.45.p.m. 1.a.m. and 3.30.a.m. The 101st.Hov.Battery was employed on special tasks, and posts in E.12.B. were shelled successfully by the 3rd.Battery. Batteries of the 64th.Army.Bde.R.F.A., engaged targets at X.22.C.2.4. FHE LABIS. and F.8.C.15.85. the building at the latter location was set on fire and a dump was exploded.

APPENDIX

(2)

3. Aircraft. Our machines were active particularly between dawn and 1.p.m. and from 6.p.m. onwards. Flights of from five to ten planes penetrated well into the enemys country. All machines were heavily engaged by A.A. Artillery and M.G. Fire.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. The enemy remains very alert, particularly in F.I. The enemy very quickly re-occupied post at F.I.A.3.5. which had been rushed. He attempted to be offensive towards our daylight patrol along trench F.I.A.4.6.

b. Machine Guns. Were very quiet during the night on the right Brigade front, but were normally active on the left Brigade.

c. T.Mortars. Intermittently throughout the day M.W. bombs fell in W.30.D., X.25.C. and F.I.A. During the morning these were put over at about 15 minutes intervals. Three bombs only fell on the right Brigade front.

d. Aircraft. E.A. were more active than usual and all machines were flying at high altitudes. At 8.5.a.m. one E.A. was engaged by two of our planes and forced very low, but owing to the mist, result could not be definitely observed. At 9.5.p.m. an E.A. flying low dropped four large bombs into CAESTRE.

e. Artillery. There were few outstanding features to mark the enemys activity. A decrease in activity is registered on the left Brigade area, and a slight increase in activity on the right Brigade area. At 1.a.m. a light barrage was put down on the left Brigade front. X.19. and W.30. were again harassed. Destructive fire was placed on X.25.D.8.9. H.E. shrapnel was fired at about 6.p.m. over W.22.D. The rear areas of the right Brigade received more attention than usual. A light area shoot was carried out on E.2.D., E.3. E.4. and E.10.A. & B. during the day. Harassing fire was directed against STRAZELLE STATION, railway junction in V.30.D. and on the FORRE - PRADELLES Road. The majority of the shells directed against the MONT DE MERRIS positions, fell between the front posts and the support line. 8 gas shells fell in E.4.A. Location of guns sent direct to C.Bs.

2. Movement. Individual movement observed was normal. Between 3 and 3.30.p.m. individual movement was seen between X.26.C. 7.5. and X.26.C.7.9. Both Battalions of the left Brigade report hearing transport on the road between LE WATON and SCARPE Cottage during the night. Observation during the day was bad.

3. Defences. Posts. F.I.B.5.7. - F.I.A.6.6. to F.I.A.8.6. (occupied trench) - F.I.A.5.4. - X.25.D.7.5. (well held with 3 Observers on duty at a time) - E.12.B.2.8. (at corner of the hedge; L.P. only manned night and day. The post will hold about 12 men and is not protected by wire) - Enemy were soon to be occupying shell hole positions at E.6.B.8.5.10. - Post at F.I.B.1.2. can be clearly seen - Camouflaged enemy dugouts exist at X.26.B.3.4. and also along road through X.26.C.

M.Gs. F.I.A.60.55. - X.26.D.50.85. - X.26.C.5.8. - X.26.B.5.8. - X.25.D.25. - X.26.B.6.7. - F.I.A.55.52. (suspected) - E.6.B.8.2. - E.6.D.95.90. - F.I.A.1.2. - F.I.A.25.25.

T.Mortars. F.I.A.3.3. - F.I.B.2.3. - F.I.B.7.7. - X.26.Central. - F.I.A.15.50. E.24.A.5.5. (suspected.)

Work. again heard along hedge X.26.B.3.7. to X.26.B.8.9. and also in rear in X.26.B. Crop is being cut at X.25.D.8.5.

Wire. Light wire at F.I.A.25.50.

Rifle Grenades. Volleys of 6 rifle grenades were fired on to one of our posts in X.25.D. during the afternoon. They are suspected to come from X.25.D.7.5.

4. Miscellaneous. From 6 to 7.p.m. smoke rose from X.26.B.5.4.

A cluster of yellow flares brought down a light enemy barrage on the left Brigade. 2 green flares were fired opposite the left Brigade without any apparent action following. 3 double and 2 single green flares were sent up from approximately E.6.B.8.3. on two occasions, without any apparent action following. At 5.30.a.m. 2 large white

(3)

smoke spouts observed to suddenly rise to a great height from enemy lines in rear of OUTERSTEENE.

General Summary of Enemy Attitude.

Attitude remains much the same, except that enemy appears more alert in F.I.A. which is doubtless due to the moral effect of our recent raids. The enemy at this point also showed some aggressiveness in re-occupying raided posts and in attempting to attack one of our daylight patrols. This is unusual, and seems to indicate that subordinate commanders of this Battalion at least, have received orders to immediately and automatically organise counter-attacks when posts are raided.

Trench Mortars remain active opposite the left Brigade. During the past fortnight no less than 38 different positions have been given as T.M. positions opposite the left Brigade. This is abnormal and if correct would mean that all the Light M.W. of the 4th Bav.Div were in line opposite the left Brigade. It is more likely that locations given are inaccurate.

The locations given can be grouped into 5 main groups as follows:-

- (1) 3 locations within 100 yards of house at F.I.C.53.80.
- (2) 11 locations within 250 yards of F.I.A.95.40.
- (3) 10 locations within 300 yards of F.I.B.80.40.
- (4) 3 locations within 300 yards of X.26.B.40.20.
- (5) 5 locations within 200 yards of X.27.A.CENTRAL.

There are several other locations which cannot be grouped with the above groups. M.W. positions which would seem to be verified are -

- (1) F.I.C.55.73. (2) F.I.A.90.20. (3) F.I.A.90.38.
- (4) F.I.A.85.60. (5) F.I.B.90.50.

The conclusions to be drawn are that there are five areas each of which provide several good positions for M.W. and that the enemy Mortars use alternative positions. The only other conclusion to be drawn is that the enemy has numerous T.Mortars in position. It is more probable however that only the usual number of L.M.W. (12) are in position opposite the Division.

The positions of the M.Ws can probably be more accurately pin pointed by a further study of aerial photographs and by cross bearings taken by ground observers.

Daughlin
for
Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF 2 PRISONERS OF
11TH COY. 9TH. BAV. I.R. CAPTURED AT E.12.B.8.2.
ON 8/7/18.

Method of Capture. Daylight raid.
Order of Battle. Beyond the fact that 5th Bav R.I.R. were on their right, prisoners could give no information regarding Order of battle.
Enemy Intentions. Prisoners know nothing of enemy intentions. They had not noticed any unusual movement in rear.
General. Prisoners had both been on leave (this is confirmed by their papers) and only returned two nights ago. For this reason they were unable to give any information regarding their dispositions. They state however the order from N. to S. in their Battalion Sector is 10. 11. 12 Coys. They did not know where 9th Coy was.
Draft. The 9th Bav. I.R. received a draft of 150 men on 27th May 1918, to replace casualties suffered at KEMMEL.

EXTRACTS FROM DOCUMENTS FOUND ON PRISONERS
CAPTURED NIGHT 7/8TH. JULY. IN. X.25.D.
(5. BAV. I.R.)

Light Signals. (no date.)

Yellow double star or
yellow pearls.
floating
Green double star.

Red double star.

White with pearls.

= Barrage.

= Destructive fire.

= Lengthen range.

= Shorten range

(Only to be sent up if the
advanced areas are evacuated.)

Report of the advanced Infantry Squad. (Cpl. 8 men.)

1. Enemy Artillery. (a) During the night continuous harassing fire.
(b) By day, short bursts of fire on the advanced line and back areas. From 4.45. to 5.00clock, gas bombardment of rear areas.
2. Our artillery.
(a) During night - quiet.
(b) by day from 12 to 5.p.m. short bombardment of enemy advanced lines and rear areas.
3. Enemy T.M. (a) At night. about 20 rounds on the left wing of the Coy.
(b) by day - quiet.
4. Our T.M. Nil.

P49

14

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.Army Summary.DISCIPLINE IN THE GERMAN ARMY.

The following is an extract from an order, dated the 7th June, 1918, signed by General der Kavallerie von der MARWITZ, commanding the Second German Army :-

" Discipline, which is the keystone of our army, is seriously shaken.

I cannot permit that commanders should take upon themselves to shield, by an excess of indulgence, officers, non-commissioned officers and men guilty of breaches of discipline and military regulations, and should inflict upon them disciplinary penalties of too mild a nature, or even not punish them at all. "

On the 12th June, von der MARWITZ issued a further order, from which the following is extracted :-

" Cases of soldiers openly refusing to obey orders are increasing to an alarming extent. "

The above should be read in connection with the order showing the want of discipline in the back areas of the Eighteenth German Army (von HUTIER), extracts from which were published in Divisional Summary No. 82 of the 4th July. 1918.

Australian Corps Summary.

During the afternoon of the 5th instant a box of "bully" beef and biscuits was dropped from a hostile low flying plane on to one of our forward posts. The existence of this method of bringing up rations to forward troops in isolated positions is confirmed by prisoners.

ITALIAN FRONT.

The Italians have now established themselves on the West Bank of the Main PIAVE. A successful raid by French troops on the ASIAGO Plateau captured 68 prisoners and 2 M.Gs.

Since June 15th the Italians have captured 553 Officers, 23911 Other Ranks prisoners, 63 guns, 65 T.Ms. 1234 M.Gs. 37.105. rifles, 49 flame projectors, 5.000.000 rounds S.A.A. and large quantities of shells, bridging and telephone material - besides retaking the guns and material temporarily left in Austrian hands during the first phase of the Battle.

GENERAL. The 'Potato' ration in Berlin has been reduced from 3 pounds to 1 pound. Count MIRBACH, the German Ambassador at MOSCOW, has been assassinated.

1 ✓
SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 87.

APPENDIX

10-7-18.

From 8.a.m. 9-7-18. to 8.a.m. 10-7-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

I. Infantry.

a. Minor Operation.

At 11.30.p.m. a successful attack was carried out by the right Company of the 6th Battalion and the left Company of the 4th Battalion, under cover of Artillery, Medium and Light Trench Mortars. The line was advanced to a depth

of about 300 yards and many of the enemy were killed. 6 Machine Guns and 14 unwounded and 5 wounded prisoners were captured. Infantry report the artillery and Mortar co-operation as excellent.

Stout opposition was met with at F.1.A.9.5., E.6.B.9.4., and F.1.A.15.50. The enemy were encountered in a number of small posts and many lively bombing encounters took place before these posts were finally mopped up. A party moved towards Cross roads at F.1.A.8.3. pursued many of the enemy beyond the cross roads but returned later and dug in in accordance with instructions. Posts have been established on the line E.6.D.7.5. - F.1.C.1.9. - F.1.A.15.25. - F.1.A.50.36. - F.1.A.81.40. - F.1.A.95.56. - F.1.B.05.65. - K.25.D.19.28. Consolidation of new posts was

immediately commenced and wire has been placed in front of positions. b. Patrols. A patrol worked along the Western side of the METELEN BEUQUE as far as X.20.D.7.0. and thence to X.26.B.4.9. without detecting any enemy movement.

A daylight patrol penetrated No Mans Land to a depth of 150 yards (about X.26.A.5.3.), but were forced to return owing to the activity of Machine Guns.

At 5.30.a.m. an attempt was made to surround and capture a enemy M.G. at F.1.A.9.6. but the operation was prevented by the alertness of the enemy. A patrol of 1 Officer and 4 Other Ranks operating from the

right Battalion was challenged by a sentry at approximately E.12.B.1.8. The sentry throw a stick bomb at the patrol, whereupon 4 others of the enemy appeared and a fight ensued in which it is certain 3 of the enemy were killed. Two slight casualties were sustained by us.

The enemy fired a White flare followed by a double red, which latter was repeated shortly afterwards from a rear position but was not followed by any enemy action.

c. M.G.s. T.M.s. Lewis Guns. Lewis Guns engaged hostile party moving towards X.25.C.7.1. and succeeded in driving the enemy back. A M.G. at about X.25.D.8.3. was effectively silenced by Stokes Mortars both during and after our attack. Otherwise all weapons were normally active. They co-operated also with the Infantry in local attack.

d. Rifle Grenades and Snipers. Rifle grenades were used freely along the Divisional front, good shooting being obtained. Snipers had several opportunities but results are unknown.

2. Artillery. Harassing fire was maintained by all Brigades throughout the 24 hours. At 11.30.p.m. the 1st and 12th Brigades effectively co-operated in support of the Infantry operation.

M.T.M.s. Farm GERBEDOEN was bombarded during the operation. In addition destructive and harassing shoots were carried out during the day.

3. Aircraft. Our planes maintained their usual activity. At 2.30.p.m. 6 of our machines engaged an E.A. and forced it to land in the vicinity of STEENWERCK. At 5.30.p.m. one of our R.E. 8's engaged an enemy scout machine at a low altitude over MERRIS and drove the E.A. off over his own lines.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. A marked increase in the resistance of the enemy is noticeable. During our operation, Infantry put up a stout resistance in almost every instance. One machine gunner, although entirely surrounded, held out and continued to fire his gun for over an hour. The enemy fired a White flare followed by a double red, which latter was repeated shortly afterwards from a rear position but was not followed by any enemy action.

APPENDIX

(2)

Resistance was met by our patrols in several places. An enemy patrol was observed in E.11.D. At 2.30 a.m. a hostile patrol estimated twelve to fifteen strong approached along the hedge at X.26.B.25.90. Our L.P. opened fire and the enemy threw 2 egg bombs and then withdrew. A small party with a L.G. gave chase, but did not succeed in catching up with the fleeing enemy. Another hostile party at 8 a.m. apparently tried to locate post at X.25.C.7.1. Lewis Guns effectively engaged the party.

b. Machine Guns. Were more active than usual opposite the left Brigade during the day. Otherwise they were inactive until our operation commenced.

c. Mortars. Were normally active on the left Brigade front and slightly active on the right Brigade.

d. Artillery. Harassing fire was devoted to Squares W.29.B. and W.30.B. Destructive shoots were carried out on Farm buildings in W.27.C. and W.28.D. and E.3.B. during the afternoon, and on W.28.D. and E.4.B. from 3 to 5.30 p.m. and on trenches in W.30.D. From 12 noon to 2.30 p.m. and again at 9 p.m. 40.21cm shells fell in W.37.C. Enemy's reply to our barrage at 11.30 p.m. was scattered and placed mainly on the right Battalion front and support lines and astride the railway. A light barrage also fell on W.28.C.2.D. Otherwise the reply was weak.

e. Aircraft. At 1.45 p.m. an enemy balloon was brought down in flames. Eight E.A. were observed over our front at intervals throughout the day. Between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. an E.A. flew low over our right.

f. Movement. Transport again heard between LE WATON and SCARPE COTTAGE. A Motor Lorry was observed on road running from F.1.B. 7.3. to F.2.A.5.1. Threelinesmen moved along road from BRACKEN FM to F.25.A. Though visibility was good, individual movement was not observed did not appear to be above normal.

g. Defences. Posts. F.3.C.3.6. (man observed standing in post) - trench with dugout approx. 45 feet long at E.12.B.0.8.

h. M.Guns. F.1.B.0.5. - E.12.C.4.8. - E.12.C.2.2.

i. Wire. Wiring is in progress at E.12.C.45.60.

j. Miscellaneous. From 10 a.m. throughout the day a large fire was observed in ARMENTIERES. At 11 a.m. another fire was also observed in ARMENTIERES. Several other fires were observed.

A line of new poles has been erected at F.7.A.7.2. probably for screening purposes.

k. Identifications.

57th R.I.R. - 8 prisoners captured in E.6.D. and F.1.A.

9th Bav. I.R. - 2 " "

39th Bav. R.I.R. - 6 " "

Remaining wounded prisoners were unindentified.

General Summary of Enemy Attitude. The outstanding feature is the unrelenting opposition put up by the enemy during our operation and the general aggressiveness of patrols during the day and night along the whole front. Enemy reconnaissance parties have been particularly active opposite the left Brigade.

These patrols may be merely sent out as covering parties to a relief, or to obtain identification and information. On the other hand it may be a definite attempt to regain control of No Mans Land, with a view to a minor operation. The attack on the MONT DE MERRIS with artillery preparation on the 4th inst, was preceded on the night previous by patrol activity. Low flying E.A. have been very active over our forward zone in the vicinity of the MONT DE MERRIS.

The statement of the prisoner captured two days ago, to the effect that the 4th Bav R. Division, was to be relieved on the night 10/11th inst, is apparently correct.

Last night the 57th R.I.R. relieved the 9th Bav. I.R. and there seems to be no doubt that the 13th R.I.R. and the 39th R.I.R. will relieve the 5th Bav. R.I.R. and 5th Bav. I.R. during tonight.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF PRISONERS
CAPTURED NIGHT 9/10TH JULY IN. E.C.D.
AND. F.I.

10-7-18.

Identification. 57th. R.I.R. (13th. Res. Div.) 8 prisoners.
9th. Bav. I.R. 2 "
5th. Bav. R.I.R. 4 "

The 57th R.I.R. were in the act of relieving the 9th Bav. I.R. when our attack took place and as the relief was not quite complete, prisoners were obtained from both Regts.

Reliefs. Prisoners of 5th Bav. R.I.R. stated that they expected to be relieved tonight, but could not say by whom, nor were they aware that 9th Bav. I.R. were being relieved last night.

1. 57th. R.I.R. Prisoners belong to the 3rd Coy. They state that they do not know when the other Regiments of their Division (13th. R.I.R. and 39th. R.I.R.) are coming into the line.

Coy Strength. They state that their Coys are now well up to strength having been made up whilst they were in rest at Adegem between Ghent and Bruges, but the numbers given by different prisoners varies greatly.

Advance Parties. An advance party of 1 N.C.O. and 2 men from each Coy and the M.G. Coy left a head of the Regt and came into the line the night 8th/9th.

M.Gs. They had 5 light M.Gs per Coy. The M.G. Coy had 8 heavy M.Gs for the line, and several in reserve.

Moral. Not bad, but as the Regt is largely composed of new drafts it remains to be seen how they will stand the line. Prisoners stated that amongst the older soldiers who had been in this Sector before there was very little enthusiasm and that they were very astonished at being put in the line here again after the "gruelling" they had when last here. They had been told before coming up that the Australians were no longer here having been relieved by Scottish Troops.

1920 Class. One prisoner stated that there was a sprinkling of 1920 Class in the Depots but that these were volunteers

• 9th. Bav. I.R. Prisoners belonged to 12th Coy. One of the prisoners stated that he and 5 others were transferred from 4th Coy to 12th Coy a short time ago to equalise numbers.

Method of holding Line. Prisoners stated that they did not always accept the same posts every night, but often changed from one to another. The Group Commander has a certain sector allotted to him for which he is responsible and can place his post where he thinks fit. On approach of a patrol of 8 or more men outposts withdraw to line of main resistance.

Moral. Good amongst the younger Soldiers, but a certain amount of discontent amongst older men. Whilst I Bn was at FLEURBAIX a short time ago their Divisional Commander Prince Franz von Bayern spoke to them and said he regretted having to send them back into the line on such a bad sector, but that it was unavoidable as the Division could not be relieved yet. Thereupon some of the older soldiers spoke out and told the Prince that they would not go into the line again. Prisoner did not know what happened to them, but said they were to be tried by Court Martial. This was the first time prisoner had seen such a thing occur.

Divisional relief. Prisoners knew nothing of forthcoming relief until the advance party of 57 R.I.R. arrived.

• 5th. Bav. R.I.R. II Bn in line expected to be relieved tonight, but did not know by whom.

Coy Strength. Owing to very reduced numbers in 8th Coy owing to casualties this Coy was split up and apportioned to the three other Coys 5. 6. and 7. Prisoner of 8th Coy who was transferred to 6th Coy stated that the 6 Coy strength (trench) was only 50 men. The Regt last got draft 8 weeks ago when in rest near TOURCOING. In Cellar below Convent at MERRIS until a few days ago when this was destroyed by shell fire. To the best of prisoners knowledge nobody was killed, but K.T.K. has since been moved further back - prisoners cannot say where. (K.T.K. = Commander of the Troops in line)

drafts.
K.T.K.

(3)

The 4th Bav. R. Div has been in the line exactly one month. The 13th. Ros. Div is known to us. When the 4th Bav. R. Div relieved it on 10/11th June the improvement in the enemy morale opposite us was very noticeable.

Prisoners captured during last night affirm that the 13th. Kos. Division is not pleased with the termination to its months rest. This feeling can probably be successfully exploited.

Langhorne
Lieut.-Colonel.
General Staff

1st Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES

FRENCH FRONT

South of the AISNE the French attacked N.W. of LONGPONT and penetrated the enemy's positions to a depth of 1,200 metres on a front of about 3.km. CHAVIGNY FARM was captured, and so far 347 prisoners have been counted.

GENERAL

By 1st September 1918, there will be 3,000,000 American soldiers under arms, and by January 1st, 1919, there will be 4,000,000.

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

11-7-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 88.

From 6.a.m. 10-7-18. to 6.a.m. 11-7-18.

A. OUR OPERATION.I. Infantry.

a. Minor Enterprise. At 5.30.p.m. L/Sgt. J. LOCKHART and L/Cpl. FARREL of 6th Battalion entered a trench at about F.1.A.6.3. Moving along to F.1.A.65.30. they saw an enemy post which they stealthily approached. When almost on the post they were observed by an N.C.O. who sprang to a M.G. Before the M.G. could be brought into action the post was rushed and the garrison of 8 captured and brought back to our lines. Later the two machine guns were brought in, the Heavy M.Gun by the 6th Battalion, the light M.G. by the 4th Battalion.

The left post of the right Company of 4th Battalion was advanced about 70 yards in order to conform with the advance of the previous night.

b. Patrols. A freshly camouflaged and munitioned M.G. post at X.26.B.2.3. was found unoccupied. The enemy could be seen on the parapet of a trench in rear of the M.G. position. When the trench was reached by the patrol, it also was found unoccupied. Hedge at X.26.B.4.8. was examined from the road to the BECQUE. Several small dugouts and posts being found. A post at X.26.B.5.8. showed no sign of recent occupation, but several dead Germans were found. Hedge from X.26.B.5.7. to X.26.B.7.7. was examined and found unoccupied. At about 10.p.m. an enemy M.G. well forward in No Mans Land opened fire on our post at F.1.C.06.80. It was engaged and silenced by our Lewis Guns. A patrol of 1 Officer and 20 other ranks of the 4th Battalion then went out and found the gun in the open and deserted. The gun was brought home. An enemy wiring party with a covering party was observed at E.12.B.2.9.

c. Machine Guns. T.Mortars. During the morning two M.Ws at F.1.B.3.3. and F.1.C.8.9. were silenced by our L.T.Ms. Harassing fire was maintained throughout the night.

d. Rifle Grenades. 12 rifle grenades were fired into hedge at X.26.B.5.8. with good results. Groans were heard. All favourable targets were engaged.

2. Artillery. Our field pieces were very active, harassing fire being increased 100% during the night, owing to enemy relief. T.Mortars opposite the left Brigade were silenced and T.M. positions engaged. A destructive shoot was placed on squares enclosed by X.26.C.0.0. - X.26.A.4.0. - X.26.B.0.0. - X.26.D.0.0. A suspected anti-tank gun at X.21.D.65.16 was engaged. A considerable amount of destructive fire was applied to targets during the period.

M.T.Mortars. Registration was carried out and enemy movement at X.26.B.7.2. was engaged.

3. Aircraft. At 7.40.a.m. 6 of our planes attempted to bring down enemy balloons and were heavily engaged by A.A.guns. Weather was unfavourable for flying, but every opportunity was taken.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Seems resigned to the loss of his posts in F.1.A. and has made no attempt to counter-attack. A night patrol, probably trying to locate our posts, was encountered at F.1.C.00.55.

b. M.Guns. Indirect fire on approaches to the left Brigade was maintained. Activity opposite the right Brigade was negligible.

c. T.Mortars. F.1.A. and W.29.D. received considerable attention. Our artillery and T.Mortars when informed quietened them. Two rounds fell at F.1.A.4.2.

d. Aircraft. At 6.p.m. an E.A. flying red and white streamers flew low over our front line posts and dropped white lights. Otherwise aerial activity was slight.

31-7-11 (2)

5. Artillery. Activity was below normal on the right Brigade front, but above normal on the left Brigade, the valley in W.30. B. and D. X.25.A. & B. and X.20.A. receiving most attention. Squares E.5. & 6. and W.15.C. were treated to harassing fire.

2. Movement. Considerable movement was observed during the day. At 11.10 a.m. 40 men in single file and marching order moved forward on track at F.3.C.1.3. At 12.5 p.m. and at intervals up to 5 p.m. individual movement (all men in marching order) towards the rear was seen.

Other individual movement was along normal lines.

At 12.30. and 1.30 a.m. transport again heard on LE WATON - SCARPE Cottage Road. Two trains observed on grid bearing of 1380 from W.29.B.6.4. one moving N.E. and one S.W. (probably railway vicinity of DOULLEU). At 9.22 a.m. smoke from a train at ESTAIRES was seen.

3. Defences. Posts. X.25.D.5.3. (strongly held and with 2 M.Guns) X.25.D.65.45. (small post) - X.26.B.2.3. (unoccupied last night) - X.26.B.2.3. - X.26.C.6.7. (previously reported) - F.1.B.6.8. - E.6.D.7.3. - E.12.A.30.35. Connected shell holes between E.12.C.5.9. and E.12.A.5.0. are unoccupied. Post at E.12.A.7.4. is unoccupied. M.Guns. X.25.D.5.2. - X.25.D.5.3. - X.26.C.2.6. (previously reported) X.26.B.2.5. (not manned last night) and F.2.A.4.0. - F.1.C.8.9. - F.1.C.3.6. - F.2.D.2.3. (located and silenced) - F.1.B.3.3. (previously reported)

Work. New work observed along light railway from X.28.A.2.8. to X.27.B.8.9. thence along road to X.27.B.4.0. Along railway from X.27.B.5.6. to X.27.B.8.7. Work near hedge at F.1.B.2.5. Wire. Suspected in front of post at X.25.D.4.3.

3. Miscellaneous. Chimney stack smoking (8.000 to 10.000 yards) grid bearing 1200 from W.29.B.6.4. At 8.5 p.m. flash lamp working 1070 grid from W.29.B.6.4. At 9.30 p.m. enemy 7.7 cm firing on left of our sector were firing short. Orange coloured flares repeated to the rear lengthened the range. At 10 a.m. man signalling with a helio at E.18.B. 1530. During storm at 4.45 p.m. part of hessian screen at F.14.Central fell away from poles. Poles referred to in yesterday's report have been hung with hessian and the location is F.21.C. and not F.7.Central.

4. Identifications. 2nd. M.G.K. 5th Bav. R.I.R. 3 prisoners. 5. K. 5th. Bav. R.I.R. 5 "

Captured at F.1.A.6.3.

Material captured during 24 hours ending 6 a.m. 11th inst.

10. L. M.Guns. 1 Heavy M.Gun. and 2 Granatenwerfers.

General Summary of enemy attitude.

The abnormal movement observed during the day is doubtless due to the relief of the regiments of the 4th. Bav. Div. Otherwise the enemy attitude during the period remained the same. M.Gun inactivity opposite the right Brigade is sustained and significant.

Laughlin Capt
Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

Later. 2 p.m.

At about 9 a.m. this morning (11th inst) 4 men went along the railway and captured some 30 or 40 prisoners in E.12.B. Prisoners belonged to 93th. I.R. of 207th Div. They had come into the line last night and apparently imagined this sector to be a quiet one. This hallucination was immediately exploited by the 1st. Bn and later by the 4th Bn, with the result that up to the present time captures total over 70 including two Company Commanders. Patrols of the right Brigade are still in motion.

(3)

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

Left Division Summary.

An Officer's patrol of Royal Scots reports enemy wiring about X.17.A.30.40., protected by a strong covering party. About 1.a.m. a light transport wagon coming from the direction of BAILLEUL via APPETITE FARM was heard very distinctly. It appeared to stop at house at X.17.A.2.2. Sounds of iron material being unloaded were heard.

Another patrol proceeded to X.16.B.4.2. - no trace of enemy was seen. Enemy transport was heard and appeared to halt at about X.16.D.30.86. - neighing of horses was heard. Sounds of wiring heard about X.16.B.40.15. Patrol returned to post at X.16.B.32.60. and then proceeded via X.16.B.60.35. to about X.16.B.40.15. where enemy wire was seen. Sounds of transport again heard, also sound of voices and working.

This unusual appearance of enemy transport close to the line suggests the possibility of his bringing up either wiring material in large quantities or Trench Mortars, possibly for gas projection in retaliation for our gas projector attacks.

=====

APPENDIX IV

73

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

12-7-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 89.

From 6.a.m. 11-7-18 to 6.a.m. 12-7-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Infantry.

a. Patrols. At 10.a.m. 2/Lieut. GASKELL and one other rank of the 1st Battalion left our line at E.12.A.3.5. to reconnoitre house at E.12.A.9.4. which was found unoccupied. While on the return journey an enemy post was located at E.12.A.7.4. containing 2 men and a L.M.G. which were brought back to our lines. The same party went out twice again and brought in 9 more prisoners and another L.M.G.

It was decided to exploit the enemy's apparent lack of vigilance, and the 1st Battalion sent out further patrols. The 4th Battalion on the left did likewise and shortly the right Brigade front was covered by stealthily moving patrols. Very little opposition was met, the garrisons of most posts being surprised and captured before being quite aware of the position. However some bombing occurred. Some patrols penetrated F.7. Our Artillery refrained from firing on Squares E.12. It is estimated that about 40 Germans were killed.

By following up the patrols our line was advanced and posts are now consolidated as follows; - E.11.C.80.15. (unchanged) - E.11.D.6.2. (unchanged) - E.12.C.2.5. - E.12.C.50.65. - E.12.A.70.15. - E.12.A.9.3. - E.12.B.10.55. - E.12.B.25.75. - E.6.D.3.0. - E.6.D.5.4. - E.6.D.7.5.

The 1st Battalion captured 3 Officers and 95 other ranks and 9 L.M.Guns and the 4th Battalion captured 17 other ranks and 2 machine guns, a total for the 1st Brigade of 3 Officers and 112 other ranks all of whom have reached Corps Cage. In addition 5 wounded prisoners went through C.C.S. Our casualties all told do not exceed 10.

Protective patrols covered the consolidation of our new line during the night, and fighting patrols endeavoured to gain further touch with the enemy without result. At 11.15.a.m. Lieut. ROBERTSON and 2 other ranks left X.26.A.1.1. to gain identification. A L.P. with 2 of the enemy asleep in it was discovered at X.26.C.7.7. When awakened the prisoners were so terrified and made such a noise that they had to be killed. Neighbouring posts by this time were very alert and the return to our lines was made extremely difficult for the party. However a shoulder strap bearing figures "39" and papers were obtained. The left Brigade sent out patrols along the front to keep in touch with patrols of the right Brigade, but everywhere opposite the left Brigade the enemy was found to be extremely alert. Patrols during the night gained much information, most of which is summarised under "Enemy Defences".

b. Machine Guns. T.Mortars. Lewis Guns. A M.G. at F.1.B.5.1. was temporarily silenced by T.M. fire. Lewis Gunners supported the patrol activity of the right Brigade by engaging enemy M.Guns when the occasion arose.

c. Rifle Grenades. Groans were heard from enemy post at X.25.D.30.25. after a fusillade of rifle grenades. Hedge at X.26.B.5.8. was engaged and other targets harassed.

d. Snipers. of left Brigade claim one hit.

2. Artillery. Normal harassing fire prevailed during the day, but was increased by 100% during the night. A hostile T.M. position in F.8.B. was engaged and the Mortar silenced.

A large working party at F.14.Central was dispersed. Movement in F.3.A.&C. and vicinity of OUTERSTRENE also provided good targets.

3. Aircraft. Owing to weather conditions, flying was considerably hampered.

(P.T.O.)

(2)

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Enemy remains alert opposite the left Brigade. With the exception of posts in X.25.D. he does not appear to be anxious to hold positions close to ours. The post at F.1.A.6.3. raided on the 10th inst has not yet been re-occupied.

b. Machine Guns. Fino was heavy opposite the left Brigade, but light opposite the right Brigade.

c. A.H.T.M. fired 10 rounds on to E.11.C. Two rounds only were fired on to X.25.D. from direction of X.26.B.2.2.

d. Artillery. Enemy artillery was generally quiet during the period, the areas receiving most attention being E.6.-E.10. - X.25.A. - W.24.D. - STRAZEELE. Enemy artillery made no attempt to check the patrol activity of the right Brigade during the day.

e. Aircraft. In the early morning and towards dusk E.A. were most active. A patrol of 10 scouts flying at about 8,000 feet attempted to cross our lines at about 8.30 a.m. but were driven off by our A.A. fire after hovering overhead for 10 minutes. At 12 Midnight an E.A. was over left Brigade for 30 minutes. At 1 a.m. it dropped 5 bombs near SEC BOIS.

2. Movement. Individual movement was above normal during the day, but was generally along normal lines.

Considerable movement was observed in DOULIEU, which would seem to contain a Headquarters. Motor Cyclists and other messengers were in evidence. Several men were seen running in a S.E. direction along the PLATE BECQUE during the afternoon. Visibility good.

3. Enemy Defences. Posts. X.26.A.78.10. - X.26.C.80.85. - X.26.C.7.6. (last two previously reported) - X.25.D.3.2. (strongly garrisoned) - F.1.B.2.0. (20 men observed entering this post) - F.1.A.6.3. (unoccupied since daylight raid on 10th inst) Trench at F.1.A.5.0. approx 100 yards long. An unoccupied Snipers post was found at X.26.C.5.9. Dirt has been thrown from trench in front of house at E.14.C.9.4. M.Guns. X.21.C.4.6. - X.20.D.9.1. (previously reported) X.26.B.8.2. - F.1.A.9.2. - X.26.C.2.6. (previously reported) - F.1.B.2.2. (undoubtedly had alternate positions.)

T.Mortars. F.1.B.10.25. - F.1.A.95.20. (both previously reported)

Work. Carrying parties lost to view about F.3.C.1.3. It is suggested that something is under course of construction at about F.2.D.7.4. Sounds of digging heard at post at F.1.B.2.0. Working party of 22 between F.20.B.5.0. and F.20.B.4.3. and another of 9 at F.14.C. Central carrying logs about 12 feet in length which require 4 men each.

Enemy forward posts captured consisted of shell hole positions 15 to 20 yards apart built to hold 2 or 3 men only. No attempt to connect the posts up had been made. Light overhead cover is built over the greater portion of the shell hole and for the riflemen's post the roof forms the parapet for the garrison to fire over.

In the case of a M.G. post the entrance of the shelter opens towards our lines and a rest for the Gun is built up in front.

4. Miscellaneous. Message rocket appeared to be sent up from enemy posts N. of METEREN BECQUE and repeated to the rear. Red Cross flag on ERQUINGHEM Spiro. Several fires in F.4. and F.12 observed. A screen runs from roof of rear of house E.14.C.9.4. passing N.E. corner to ground. During the night enemy re-erected camouflage along road F.25.C. which had been knocked down during the day. A helio seen working from house at L.14.B.

5. Identifications. Shoulder strap "39" taken from man killed at X.26.C.7.7.

57th.R.I.R. - 13th.R.Div. - 1 Off. 50 Other Ranks.

98th.R.I.R. - 207th. Div. - 2 Offs. 60 Other ranks.

213th.R.I.R. " " - 2 Other ranks.

General Summary of Enemy Attitude.

The outstanding feature of the enemy attitude during the period has been the lack of opposition to our patrols in E.12. The M.G. inactivity opposite the right Brigade which became noticeable when the 207th Div, relieved the 44th Res. Division, alone would seem

(3)

to signify the presence of an unaggressive unit. This has been verified by the ease with which our patrols mopped up enemy posts. Ground Observers reported evidences of an extensive relief taking place opposite the right Division day of the 3rd inst and night 3rd/4th inst. It will interest them to know that the relief of the 44th R. Div. by the 207th Div actually took place at that time.

Frank Phillips
Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

LATER. Another 28 prisoners and 4 Machine Guns of 213th R.I.B. captured in E.12. South of the railway during the morning (10th inst.)

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF PRISONERS OF
57TH. R.I.R. (1ST. COY.) 98TH. R.I.R. (9TH.
11TH. 12TH. COYS) AND 213. R.I.R. (1ST. COY)
CAPTURED IN ENTERPRISE. 11-7-18.

12-7-18.

Order of battle. N. to S. 57th R.I.R. (13th. Reserve Division) 98.
R.I.R. 213. R.I.R. 209. R.I.R. (207. Div.).

Prisoners could not give any information as to sectors held but knew that the boundary between 57. R.I.R. and 98. R.I.R. was the Railway Line in E. 12. B.

Prisoners of 98. R.I.R. and 213. R.I.R. were captured in E. 12. C. & D.

Reliefs. I. Bn 57th R.I.R. relieved a Bn of 9th Bav. I.R. on night 9th/10th. III Bn 98th R.I.R. relieved I. Bn 98th R.I.R. on night 10/11th. The I. Bn had been 4 days in the line, the 207 Div. having come up from BERGLAU 7 days ago.
I. Bn 213 R.I.R. came into line on night 7/8th. and are due for relief tonight. They relieved a Bn of 208 R.I.R.

Intentions. Prisoners knew of no intentions to attack and had noticed no movement out of the ordinary in rear areas.

Moral. Fair.

Coy Strength. Trench strength of Coys in 57. R.I.R. averaged 40/45, mod. In 98th. R.I.R. 60/70. 213. R.I.R. 60/70.

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

13-7-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 90.

From 6.a.m. 13-7-18. to 6.a.m. 13-7-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.I. Infantry.

a. Minor Enterprise. At 12 midnight, a successful minor operation was carried out under cover of a light artillery barrage by 2 Platoons, B Coy, 6th Battalion. Opposition was made by the enemy, but when the assaulters were close to their objective the enemy turned around. Firing from the hip, Lewis Gunners engaged the fleeing enemy. Two prisoners (one wounded) and 2 L.M.G.s were captured. The position was consolidated and now posts are now occupied at the following positions; - X.25.D.4.2. - X.25.D.6.4. - X.25.D.8.5.

b. Patrols. In daylight an Officer and 2 Other Ranks of 6th Battalion moved to within 50 yards of enemy post at X.25.D.4.2. and fired rifle grenades into the position. The enemy was found to be alert.

Patrols of the right Brigade were active during the day and co-operated with patrols of the right Division. The right Division established itself in TERN FM and is in touch with unit at E.12.D.2.2. 35 prisoners and 3 Light M.G.s were captured by the right Battalion during the course of this mopping up by patrols. Another patrol of the 2nd Battalion captured 2 of the enemy at F.1.C. and subsequently brought in 1 wounded German.

c. Machine Guns, Stokes Mortars. Were normally active on the right in compliance with orders fired on S.O.M. lines from 8.45.p.m. to 9.15.p.m.

d. Rifle Grenades. Enemy positions at X.26.B.5.9. were visited under cover of an effective barrage of grenades and No.27 phosphorus bombs. Other targets were freely harassed.

e. Snipers. Two hits on garrison of enemy post at E.12.B.9.4. claimed by right Brigade.

2. Artillery. Besides the usual "harassing" fire during the period a special searching shoot was placed on E.12.D. and E.18.B. by guns 18.p.s. and 4.5.Hows. from 9.15 to 9.30.p.m. and repeated from 10 to 10.15.p.m. Our heavies also co-operated from 9.45 to 10.p.m. The above special shoot was arranged in view of enemy movement being observed in the squares mentioned and the possibility of a counter-attack being launched. Our artillery did good shooting and it is thought that any attempt at counter-attack was crushed.

3. Aircraft. Our aerial activity was not as great as usual and all of our machines were heavily engaged by A.A. fire.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. During the day much more resistance was encountered by the right Brigade patrols. Along the whole front the enemy remains quiet, but is very alert opposite the left Brigade. No enemy patrols were seen.

b. Machine Guns. Machine Guns opposite the right Brigade were active during the day, but inactive at night. Elsewhere normal fire was maintained.

c. T.Mortars. Slightly active in X.25.C. and F.1.A. but otherwise quiet.

d. Aircraft. E.A. except from 7.30.p.m. to 9.30.p.m. were inactive. Between these hours however two low flying E.A. flew up and down over the front posts of the right Brigade, dropping golden flares in the vicinity of the posts. They were successfully engaged by A.A. H.G. fire. Two bomb machines also operated in the forward area and dropped a few bombs.

(2)

c. Artillery. Before midnight artillery was quiet on the left Brigade, X.25.A. and C. and W.30.D. receiving most attention. 50 gas shells fell in X.25.C. After midnight both front and support lines were actively shelled. On the right Brigade, enemy artillery was active. E.6. was shelled continuously. A bombardment lasting for 77 minutes took place on E.4., E.5., E.10., E.11., E.16. and 17. A.2.B. at 6.45.p.m. Again at 8.20.p.m. a 10 cm and 15 cm barrage in which gas was mixed, was placed on E.11., E.16. and E.17. From 10.20.p.m. to 10.50.p.m. the same squares were again heavily shelled. At 11.15.p.m. E.11.B.&C. and E.10.B.&D. were heavily shelled with gas and H.F. Between 11.p.m. and 1.a.m. E.5.D. and E.11.B. were actively shelled by 7.7.cm guns. Gas shells fell in E.10., E.11., E.16. and E.17.

2. Movement. Observed individual movement was above normal, but most of it appeared to be the result of our minor operation of the preceding day. Much movement in the vicinity of F.14. and F.20. in the early morning. In the afternoon small parties were seen moving along the BECQUE from F.13.A.4.3. to E.12.C.25.30. - F.14.C.4.2. to F.14.C.0.4. and from E.18.C.5.9. to E.18.A.4.7. and in F.20.A.B.&D. late in the afternoon. This movement continued until darkness fell. Movement constantly observed throughout the day at F.9.A.4.8. Some of the men were carrying packs. Six men were cutting crop at F.3.C.5.7. Considerable movement again observed in DOULIEU. The road from F.2.D.5.1. to F.3.B.9.8. shows fresh tracks. Filled sandbags were being carried from F.14.C.7.9. to F.14.A.2.6.

Trains. were observed as follows from W.23.A.7.5.

6.10.a.m. 141st degs grid travelling S.E.

2.15.p.m. 111 " " " towards SAILLY.

2.15.p.m. 135 " " " " "

3. Defences. Posts. E.12.C.2.2. - E.17.B.35.85. - E.12.B.4.0. - E.12.C.3.9. - E.12.B.9.4. - F.1.A.1.5. to F.1.A.8.4. - F.1.A.10.65. - F.1.C.59.48. (all occupied.) a shallow trench running N and S has been dug in F.20.B. Enemy posts at F.1.A.6.3. and X.26.B.5.9. still unoccupied. M.Guns. X.26.A.9.2. (previously reported.) T.Mortars. F.2.D.2.3. (previously reported.) Work. Now work at F.3.C.3.5. Working party at 10.30.a.m. at F.14.C.4.2. Wire. Now wire erected at F.3.A.7.0. to F.3.A.7.3. O.P. in a tree at X.22.C.1.9.

4. Miscellaneous. A small camouflaged dump observed at F.2.D.4.6. Golden rain flares were used in enemy forward posts to denote short shooting. A fire W. of METEREN burnt from 11.30.a.m. to 3.p.m. When attacked last night enemy fired white flares bursting into 2 reds.

5. Identifications. 4. K. 13th. R.I.R. 13th. Res.Div. 2 prisoners (1 wounded) taken at X.25.D.5.4. 213. R.I.R. 207. Div. 30 prisoners taken in E.12. 98th. R.I.R. 207th. Div. 5 prisoners taken in E.12. 57th. R.I.R. 13th R. Div. 2 prisoners taken in E.12.

General Summary of Enemy Attitude.

The enemy remains very alert opposite the left Brigade. Opposite the right Brigade enemy resistance has stiffened. Our patrols met resistance and the enemy has been more alert. It seems obvious that throughout the day of the 11th and night 11/12th the enemy was at a loss as to what was happening. His artillery was probably silent for this reason. Yesterday and during last night, however, enemy artillery activity in this area was considerable.

The low flying planes in the evening were doubtless localizing our forward posts by means of flares. The abnormal movement observed in the vicinity of the Plate Becque during afternoon and evening was most probably due to the necessary re-organisation of

(3)

the enemy forward dispositions consequent upon our operation of the 11th inst. It must be remembered that practically 2 Companies of the enemy were mopped up.

It is doubtful if the enemy will counter-attack. It would be difficult for him to concentrate without coming under our direct observation. CELERY COPSE seems to be the only place close enough to our posts in which he could possibly concentrate.

A counter-attack in a N.W. direction across the Division on our right, striking at E.L.C. seems more possible. Even this would mean a night attack or an attack at dawn, for the enemy realizes that our ground observation of this locality is excellent.

Against the possibility of a counter-attack is the condition of the 207th Div. which is undoubtedly at present merely a line division and not an assault division.

One interesting point which has been disclosed in the interrogation of prisoners, is the effect on the enemy of our contact planes flying low over the afternoon of the 11th. Many of the enemy confessed that they were afraid to put their heads above the ground because our planes were shooting at them, and consequently our men were able to approach in many instances unscathed. This suggests for the future a possible co-operation between contact planes and ground patrols. The 4th Squadron R.A.F. is anxious to co-operate in such work.

The behaviour of the enemy opposite the 6th Battalion during their minor attack, when they turned and ran when our men approached is another illustration of the elusive tactics of the enemy opposite us.

N.B. Attached is sketch showing M.G. and Snipers positions described in yesterday's summary.

Commencing tomorrow and on every succeeding Sunday a Summary of Enemy Activity and Attitude during the preceding week will be attached.

This Summary will include Notes on (1) Enemy Operations. (2) Patrols. (3) Reliefs. (4) M.Guns. (5) T.Mortars. Material and prisoners taken will also be Summarized.

Langhorne Capt
Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

ALBANIA.

The advance of the Allied troops continues, and the Austrians are reported to be falling back on the SKUMBI river. French troops have captured the crest of KOSNITZA and occupied all the villages in the TOMERICA Valley upstream from DODRENY. Italian troops captured the heights of GAFI GLAMUKA with over 250 prisoners.

ANNEXE TO INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 90.

13-7-18.

Short preliminary Interrogation of 3
prisoners taken this morning.

Identification. Two of the above prisoners taken in F.I.C. belong
to 2nd Coy. 1st. Battalion. 57.R.I.R. 13th. Res. Division.

The other prisoner taken at X.25.D.5.4. was from the
4th Company 1st. Battalion. 13. R.I.R. 13th. Res. Division.

Method of capture. The two prisoners from the 57.R.I.R. were fast
asleep in a splinter proof shell hole, when all of a sudden, they
were gently awakened by, commands in English, which they immedi-
ately obeyed.

The prisoner from the 13th.R.I.R. apparently made a little
better show for himself. Upon seeing small parties of our
troops advancing upon them from a flank, he was the only one of
his company who did not make a rapid retreat, with as he expressed
it "this excellent result".

Intentions. Prisoners were all confident that no immediate attack by
us is contemplated, giving the following reasons for this
confidence.

1. Their regiments are too weak in numbers to participate
in any offensive operation at the present.

2. The dispositions of their Battalions, i.e., 1 in line,
1 in reserve and 1 in rest., is a disposition which is
never adopted prior to an attack.

3. The training whilst in rest was confined to elementary
infantry training.

4. They knew of no men having been detached from their units
with a view to being specially trained for a raid, or any
minor enterprise.

5. They have very little artillery in rear.

6. Have seen no increase in size of the dumps.

7. Were told they were coming into a quiet sector.

8. They have seen absolutely nothing which would lead them
to believe preparations were being made.

Moral. The moral was very indifferent, all prisoners being very pleased
at being taken, and were perfectly willing to part with any
information they knew.

Their knowledge of a tactical value was very limited,
on account of-

1. Their lack of interest in the war.

2. Their new arrival in this Sector.

Illness. Prisoners all confirmed the prevalence of the "Flu" amongst
their ranks, and states that in one company of about 45 strong,
10 were known to prisoner to have been treated in one day.

0.19

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

4th Bavarian Division. (Army Summary.)
A captured document of the 4th Bavarian Division, dated 30/3/18 orders maps to be sent in weekly, showing work done during the past 8 days, and work projected for the next week. This activity is probably due to our frequent raids and the heavy casualties inflicted on the garrison.

GERMAN OPINION OF AMERICAN TROOPS.

The following are extracts from a report on the examination of American prisoners by the General Staff of the Seventh German Army issued at the end of June, 1918:-

"Fighting value. The 2nd American Division may be considered a very good Division, even if not an assault division. The various attacks delivered by the two regiments on BELLEAU WOOD were carried out with dash and boldness. The moral effect of our fire was not able to stop the advance of the infantry seriously. The American's nerves have not yet become unshakable.

"The physical standard of the division may be classified as 'remarkable'. The men are well set up, of good physique, between 18 and 28, and only need at present the necessary training to make them formidable adversaries.

"The troops are in good spirits and full of naive confidence. The statement of one prisoner is characteristic, 'we kill or are killed'.

"Details of the position. It was impossible to obtain any information. The prisoners will give scarcely any information as to where they were in line.

"Moral." Generally speaking, the prisoners make a good impression and seem wide awake.

"At present they look at the war from the point of view of the 'big brother' who has come to help his oppressed brothers and sisters, and is everywhere received with friendship. Their feelings, however, have a certain moral basis. The majority of the prisoners express themselves with a simplicity which is comprehensible, and declare that they have come to Europe to defend their country.

"Only a few men are pure Americans by birth. The majority are the sons of immigrants. These half-Americans, however, who were nearly all born in America, and have never been in Europe, express, without hesitation, the same feelings as the pure-bred American.

P.T.O.

ANNEXE TO INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.96.

PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION OF PRISONERS TAKEN THIS MORNING BY OUR RIGHT BRIGADE IN E.12.D.

- Identification. 4th Company, 1st Battalion, 98.I.R. 207th Division.
- Method of Capture. Prisoners were company runners, being despatched by their company Commander with the morning report. When arriving at the railway, they lost themselves and turning to the left instead of the right, wandered in our lines.
- Order of Battle. North to South. - 57.R.I.R., 98. R.I.R.
- Disposition. Companies of 1st Battalion. 98.R.I.R., North to South. 5. 4. and 3 companies in line - 1st. Company support company echelon in rear.
- Company Strength. 56.
- Intentions. Prisoners know of no preparation being made for an attack by them, on this front. They were confident their regiments were not strong enough, and the moral of the Division at the present time was very bad.
- Reliefs. Battalions were relieved every 4 days. The 1st Battalion relieved the 3rd. last night 18/19th in front line. They expect to be relieved on the night 22/23rd inst, and have been promised that on completing 4 days in support, the division is to be relieved, and go to LILLE. The time of relief is generally about 11.p.m. or 12.p.m. prisoners being told that our artillery rarely fired before midnight.
- LOSSES. With the exception of the large number of prisoners taken by us the casualties inflicted upon the 98.R.I.R. have been comparatively light.
- Moral. The moral of the division is very bad, and numerous instances have occurred, of men refusing to go into the line. The Battalion Commander of the Battalion which lost so heavily in our minor operation of the 11th, was dismissed from the service for the following reasons. x x
- Reinforcements. The prisoners were called up. in Germany on the 15-12-17 after 4 weeks training, they went to near Tournai where they did another 2 months training. They were then sent direct as reinforcements to the 98.R.I.R. having only completed 3 months training.
- Miscellaneous. Whilst in rest, training of a purely elementary nature was carried out. Much practice was made with a rifle grenade. The range of which is 200 metres. A translation of the captured morning report is as follows:-

MORNING REPORT.

1. Relief was carried out without incident.
2. On the Night we are in touch with the 3rd company about 30 metres away on the left with the 2nd company about 20 metres away.
3. The enemy during the relief carried out a heavy artillery shoot on the sector on our left at 12.30.a.m. Harassing fire was directed on to our rear area during the night.
4. The enemy is, in front of our posts, about 60 - 80 metres in front of copso. (E.12.0.5.2.) On our right wing about 150 metres away and in our old positions - (A sketch as below shows the dispositions of Coy Headquarters, and M.G. emplacement.)
5. The above plan shows the distribution, 3 double posts are pushed forward. The light M.G. by company headquarters fires in directly on to a small wood (copso) A shelter for an artillery F.O.O. has been built about 150 to 200 metres behind our lines.
6. Four light machine guns are in firing position.
7. Strength 3 platoon commanders and 33 O.Rs. No casualties.

P.10

ANNEXE TO INTERVIEW REPORT NO. 98.

PRELIMINARY INTERVIEW REPORT OF PRISONERS TAKEN THIS MORNING BY OUR RIGHT BRIGADE IN E.I.B.D.

- ** 1. He stated that the men were too tired to go into the line again.
2. The numbers of men of his Battalion lost to our patrols on the 11th inst.

INTERPRETATION OF GERMAN SKETCH
VERIFIED BY AIRPHOTOS.

1st. Company support company company in rear.

Prisoners know of no preparation being made for an attack by them, on this front. They were confident their regiment were not strong enough, and the moral of the Division at the present time was very bad.

The 1st Battalion relieved the 2nd. Last night 1st Battalion was relieved by the 2nd. They expected to be relieved on the night 22/23rd inst., and have been promised that on completion of their duties in support, the Division is to be relieved by the 1st. The time of relief is generally about 11.00 p.m. - 12.00 a.m. being told that the 1st Battalion would be relieved by the 2nd. With the exception of the large number of prisoners taken by us the Battalion relieved upon the 22.11.18. have been compared.

The moral of the Division is very bad, and numerous instances have occurred, of men refusing to go into the line. The Battalion Commander of the 1st Battalion which lost so heavily in our minor operation of the 11th, was dismissed from the service for the following reasons.

The prisoners were called up. In company on the 12-13-17 error & women (prisoners) they went to meet them where they did another 2 months training. The prisoners were only 2 months training.

Prisoners. Whilst in rear, training of a further 2 months was carried out. Much training was made with a rifle grenade. The range of which is 300 metres. A translation of the captured German report is as follows:-

M.G. Shelters
Front
Ruined house
Linn of Posts
any

Detail Sketch. Scale 1:5000.

On the night we are in touch with the 3rd company about 30 metres away. On the left with the 2nd company about 30 metres away. The enemy during the relief carried out a heavy artillery bombardment on our left at 12.30 a.m. Heavy artillery was directed on the rear area during the night. On our right with about 150 metres away. On our left with about 150 metres away. A sketch as below shows the positions of Coy Headquarters, and M.G. emplacement. The above plan shows the distribution, 3 double posts are pushed forward. The light M.G. by company headquarters lines in directly on to a small wood (copse) A sniper for an artillery 7.0.0. has been built about 150 to 200 metres behind our line. Four light machine guns are in firing position. Strength 3 platoon commanders and 25 O.B. No casualties.

970

14-7-18.

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 91.

From 6.a.m. 13-7-18. to 6.a.m. 14-7-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry. Garrison of post at X.25.D.90.85. moved forward to X.26.C.15.76. and X.26.A.15.00. without opposition. Concertina wire was placed in front of each post.

a. Patrols. One of our patrols in X.26.C. was observed and the enemy threw two bombs and opened fire with a M.Gun. Our patrol retaliated with rifle grenades and quietened him, although flares continued to be fired.

On the right Brigade front patrols penetrated 500 yards into No Mans Land. Opposition was encountered. Two other ranks of the 2nd Battalion left to locate an enemy M.G. Patrol reached the position and found it had been recently vacated. The two men moved 10 yards N.W. of this position and found a line of shallow dugouts at F.1.C.5.9. where 2 prisoners were captured. Other patrols failed to gain touch with the enemy.

b. Machine Guns, T.Ms. Rifle Grenades, Snipers etc. Were normally active. Rifle Grenadiers on occasions silenced enemy M.Guns. One hit is claimed by a Sniper with a patrol of the right Brigade.

2. Artillery. On the Right Brigade front harassing fire was modified to suit the requirements of the Infantry, and only observed shoots were permitted. During the day Batteries of the 1st.F.A.Bde kept up intermittent fire on occupied hedges and houses. The 101st.Battery carried out a successful observed shoot on an enemy dugout at F.7.A.30.70. At 4.15.p.m. "A" Battery of the 64th.Army.Bde.R.F.A. directed fire on to a hostile post at E.12.C. 2.2. where movement had been seen. Detached sections of the 2nd.F.A.Bde, went into forward positions both by day and night, and carried out harassing fire. All Batteries of the Brigade at 11.30.p.m. and again at 2.30.a.m. put down shell storms of two minutes duration on the area enclosed by the lines joining X.27.C. 4.0. - X.27.D.5.0. - X.27.B.5.0. - X.27.A.5.0. Selected targets were engaged by Batteries of the 12th.Aust.Army F.A.Bde. At 6.a.m. the 47th.Battery dispersed enemy movement at F.3.C.4.8. from 5.35.p.m. to 7.30.p.m. the 112th.Hov.Battery with aeroplane observation, engaged a hostile battery at F.C.3. with good effect, several O.Ks were registered.

3. Aircraft. Our patrol reconnaissance and bombing machines were in evidence during the day.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Enemy is quiet but very alert. Opposite the right Battalion, the attitude adopted by the enemy on approach of our patrols seems to vary with the occasion. In some instances, the garrison stood and engaged our patrols, and in others, the garrison ran to the rear.

b. Machine Guns. were normally active. Posts of the right Battalion were actively engaged.

c. T.Mortars. 30 rounds were fired in vicinity of E.12.A.5.9. at 11.p.m.

d. Artillery. Right Brigade area was actively shelled throughout the period. A light barrage of 7.7.cm and 10 cm shells was placed in E.6.A. and W.30.D. from 9.35.p.m. to 9.45.p.m. E.3.D. was subjected to a prolonged shoot by 7.7.cm and 10.cm. from 10.15.p.m. to 12.25.a.m. Squares E.11.A.2.C. E.5.B. W.28.D. W.29.C. & D., X.25.B. & D., F.1.A. were harassed. 20 gas shells fell in E.4.C. at 10.45.p.m.

e. Aircraft. Hostile aircraft, with a few exceptions in the early morning and about 9.p.m. in the evening, remained inactive. At 5.20.a.m. and again at 6.30.a.m. enemy planes flew along our lines at an altitude of about 2,000 feet. At 9.p.m. E.A. flying low examined our forward zone, although heavily engaged by M.G.

(2)

fire and a little A.A. fire. ~~This plane has previously been reported on several occasions.~~ Bombing machines were also heard to cross our lines at night.

2. Movement. 2 large parties were observed. A working party of 10 men observed at F.3.C.5.8. in vicinity of road. At 7.35 a.m. a party of 8 men seen digging at F.3.C.5.8. Much individual movement seen in F.14.D.8.B. and also much traffic in L.5. Men seen carrying full sand bags in an E. direction in E.24.B. Otherwise individual movement was along normal lines.

3. Defences. Posts. F.7.A.1.5. (approx) - E.12.D.4.3. (3 newly dug) E.12.D.7.5. - (old but signs of recent occupation) - E.12.D.6.8. - E.12.D.65.70. - E.12.D.75.80. (the last two posts are heavily manned) - E.12.C.2.2. - E.17.B.9.8. - F.7.A.4.5. (which appears to be in enemy main line - F.1.A.3.5. (occupied shell holes) Tronchos. F.1.C.55.96. F.3.C.2.5. along hedge to F.1.C.75.95. Dugouts. F.1.C.55.80. to corner of hedge at F.1.C.55.96. and thence to house at F.1.C.75.95.

Houses. At E.12.B.4.1. and E.12.B.5.0. unoccupied.

M. Guns. F.1.C.56.92. - E.12.C.2.2. - F.1.C.4.3. - X.26.B.00.45. -

X.26.C.65.65. - X.26.A.8.2. - F.1.C.4.3. - F.1.B.5.8. (approx.)

Work. 7 a.m. in F.14.D. 6 men. Behind screen at F.27.A. at 10.45.

a.m. 6 men. Wire. E.12.C.0.3. - Party wiring from F.8.D.5.5. to F.8.D.3.0. Snipers. F.7.C.0.3. - E.12.D.2.3.

4. Miscellaneous. Orange flares were fired by the enemy and artillery fire lengthened almost immediately. Smoke seen issuing from house at F.26.C.67.99.

5. Identifications. 3.K. 13th.R.I.R. 13th.Reserve Div. 2 prisoners from F.1.C. 10.K. 13th.R.I.R. - 13th.R.Div. 1 prisoner at X.25.D.8.5.

General Summary of Enemy Attitude.

Our patrols of the right Brigade are quickly locating the enemy's outpost line. It is interesting to note that many of the enemy posts located are freshly dug. The behaviour of the garrisons opposite the right Brigade on the approach of our patrols is interesting.

The enemy attitude appears to be normal.

Robert R. Capt
Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

* Later.

(a) Patrols. At 12.30 a.m. a patrol of 12 Other Ranks under Command of Sgt. DELANEY. of 3rd Battalion gained touch with the enemy in vicinity of E.12.D.6.8. Patrol waited and shortly a party of the enemy about 70 strong moved S. in front of the patrol. The patrol Commander restrained the fire of his patrol until the enemy were directly opposite him and at about 10 yards distance. The patrol then opened fire with bombs, rifles and Lewis Gun. Many of the enemy fell and the remainder fled with shouts and squeals which were heard by our front line posts. A few seconds later, another party, much superior in numbers was observed approaching from the right rear, whereupon the patrol withdrew.

Result of operation this morning in DICKEBUSCH sector to re-occupy old British front line about RIDGEWOOD. All objectives believed taken. Prisoners 3 Officers and 255 Other Ranks.

Weekly Intelligence Summary No. 1. attached.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. 14-7-18.Second Army (News Report)ALBANIA.

Italian troops have reached the Lower and Middle SEMENI on the West, the heights and head of the TOMORICA to the East, and are advancing in the Centre astride the OSUM.

Bulgarian desertions are increasing on the Salonica Front; from 59 cases in April to 210 in June.

GENERAL NEWS. The American Department of Agriculture announces that the estimated wheat crop will be 90,000,000 bushels above the average.

Corps Summary.PROPAGANDA.

Information is required as to whether the enemy drops propaganda within our lines from aeroplanes. Any recent cases should be reported to General Staff. Intelligence. 1st Aust. Division.

The following are extracts from Austrian captured orders issued to Divisions before their last offensive on the PIAVE.

"Stores of foodstuffs, wine, etc. which are found in the last stage of the advance, are not to be destroyed with out reason. Our own country is short of foodstuffs. We must, therefore, absolutely, as long as it is possible live on the country, so as not to have recourse to our own territory.

Feeding horses with corn is forbidden, because, after the month of July, there will be no more supply of bread flour from the rear. Everything should be collected and sent to depots. We are in great need of uniforms, underclothing, boots, etc., therefore behave like conscientious people.

When we have succeeded in the offensive, in conformity with orders No. 2400/59 of the Isonzo Army, each man will receive food, cloth, leather and soap for himself and for those dear to him, to take away to his home.

Let every man know that this our present offensive - together with that of the Germans - is the most violent, perhaps the decisive and last blow against the Italians."

INTENTIONS. (XV Corps Summary.)

Prisoner has a friend who is batman to 11th Company Commander. This friend told him that on about the 4th he had overheard a conversation between his Company Commander and some other officers of the battalion from which he gleaned the following information:-

The 207th Division is to be relieved on the 18th July. The 98 R.I.R. is to be relieved by the 55 R.I.R. On relief, 98 R.I.R. is to go to rest at LA NEUVILLE. 207 Div. is to remain in rest for about a month during which time it is to receive drafts and be trained for an offensive. No offensive is to take place on this front for the time being but an attack is to be launched 2 or 3 regimental sectors to the right of the Sector of the 98 R.I.R. at the beginning of September.

=====

(P.T.O.)

IV

AERIAL ANNEXE TO INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.91.

14-7-48.

The following information is gathered from Aerial photos and should be carefully watched and confirmed by ground observers.

Nature of Target.	Map Reference.	Photo.	Remarks.
Activity.	E.18.D.05.50.	4.B.2122.	compare with photo 4.B.2118.
Activity.	F.7.B.31.09.	4.B.2125.	compare with photo 4.B.1950.
Occupied House.	F.4.C.1.2.	4.B.2046.	
Area of activity & House.	F.4.C.1.3.	" "	
Occupied House.	F.3.C.6.5.	4.B.2043.	
Occupied House.	F.5.D.5.3.	" "	
Activity & House.	F.10.A.3.9.	4.B.2046.	
Activity & House.	F.11.B.05.95.	" "	
Dump.	F.12.C.3.6.	4.B.2043.	
Area of Activity.	F.17.C.3.6.	4.B.2053.	
"	F.19.C.3.6.	4.B.2057.	
"	F.20.A.2.3.	4.B.2058.	
Dugouts.	F.20.B.7.4.	4.B.2050.	
Occupied Area.	F.20.A.6.7.	4.B.2060.	
Activity.	F.20.C.7.1.	4.B.2058.	
Possible Dug-Outs of Battery Positions.	F.20.C.8.6.	4.B.2060.	
Activity.	F.21.A.15.55.	4.B.2059.	
Dump.	F.22.B.1.1.	4.B.2052.	
Activity.	F.23.D.2.7.	" "	
Dump.	F.23.D.15.35.	" "	
Occupied House.	F.23.A.3.6.	4.B.2053.	
Activity.	F.26.A.4.9.	4.B.2058.	

(P.T.O.)

WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.1.

To C.A.M. 14-7-18.

1. ENEMY OPERATIONS. Nil.

2. PATROLS. A patrol, probably trying to locate our posts (after our minor attack, was encountered at F.1.C.00.55. on the night 10/11th inst.

3. RELIEFS. Relief of 9th.Bav.I.R. by 57th.R.I.R. night 9/10th. Relief of 4th.Bav.Div. by 13th.Reserve Division completed on night 10/11th. On the night the 44th.R.I.R. Div was relieved by the 207th on the night 3/4th inst.

Order of battle of regiments opposite us from N. to S.:-
59th.R.I.R. - 13th.R.I.R. - 57th.R.I.R. (all of 13th Reserve Div.) - 93th. R.I.R. - 213th.R.I.R. (of 207th.Div.).
The boundary between 207th Div and the 15th.R.Div. is the MAZEBROUCK - ARMENTIERES Railway.

4. MACHINE GUNS. Activity opposite the left Brigade has been considerable while L.Guns opposite the right Brigade have not been active. This is the reason why more L.G. positions have been located opposite the left Brigade than opposite the right. That the disposition of Machine Guns opposite the right Brigade has been normal and not sub-normal is proved by the number of Machine Guns captured by the 1st Brigade during the recent patrol activity.

Indirect fire on approaches of the left Brigade has been the rule. L.G. fire on No Mans Land has been very noticeable. Machine Gun positions located and suspected during the week are summarized below; It is impossible to distinguish between Heavy and L. Guns. It is also difficult to obtain aerial confirmation of many of these positions, owing to the careful method of camouflaging them practised by the enemy. This system of camouflaging is described in Divisional Intelligence Summary No. 89. of 12th inst.

(a) L.Gun positions suspected by ground observers and confirmed by captured maps.

F.1.B.20.30. - F.1.B.15.90.

(b) Positions given by captured maps alone:-
F.1.C.30.90. - F.1.A.72.12. - F.1.A.95.50. - F.1.A.95.55. -
F.1.B.76.75. - F.3.A.18.55. - F.2.A.36.88

(c) Positions confirmed by ground observers and patrols.

E.12.B.35.45. - E.12.B.97.00. - E.12.B.77.95. -
F.7.A.05.90. - F.1.C.40.08. - F.1.C.34.01. -
F.1.D.58.39. - F.1.A.94.09. - F.1.A.92.86. -
F.1.A.35.57. - F.1.B.60.57. - F.2.A.42.03. -
X.26.C.24.46. - X.26.D.13.46. - X.26.B.80.20. -
X.23.B.20.50. - X.26.D.60.70. - X.26.E.52.30. -
X.20.D.92.10. - X.21.C.42.00.

(d) Positions suspected but not confirmed are shown in green on Map.

5. TRENCH MORTARS. It was suspected during the week that the enemy was using many alternative T.M. positions, and this has been more or less confirmed. Positions located below are positions from which Trench Mortars have several times fired. Positions described as "suspected" are most probably alternative positions. The Mortars are grouped in 3 main groups North of MERRIS. There appear to be few if any mortars on the Divisional front South of MERRIS. None were captured by us during the recent patrol activity in this vicinity although our patrols penetrated as far as F.7. This seems to verify the above conclusions.

(2)

(a) Positions confirmed. (All positions have been confirmed as far as possible by Aerial photographs.)

F.1.C.30.70. - F.1.C.95.93. - F.1.B.05.15. -
F.1.B.22.27. - F.2.A.10.55. - F.2.A.18.10. - F.2.B.12.48.
F.2.B.44.72. - X.26.Central. - X.26.B.22.50.
Heavy M.W. at F.2.D.15.30. (in ruins of house - Ammunition
apparently on E. side of the road.)

(b) Positions "suspected" but not confirmed are shown in green on map.

6. AIRCRAFT. E.A. have not paid any attention to any particular portion of the Divisional area. A low flying E.A. attempted to localize our posts in E.12. after our advance by dropping coloured flares. A two seater E.A. each evening has followed our planes home at about 8.30 p.m. and flown at an altitude varying from 800 feet to 3,000 feet above our forward, support and artillery areas, paying no attention to our A.A. fire. It seemed to fly mostly over the right Brigade area. Sometimes it is accompanied by another E.A. and protected by scouts flying in rear and above. The particular plane is difficult to distinguish from a DE HAVILLAND 9.

7. GENERAL. Enemy Infantry has remained alert and unaggressive. A temporary lack of vigilance on the part of the 207th Div was taken advantage of. The 4th. Bav. Div put up more opposition than usual to our minor enterprises during the week, possibly due to the moral effect on the troops of their imminent relief by the 13th. Res. Division. The 13th. Res. Div seems to have profited by its months rest and is decidedly more on the "qui vive" than it was when previously in the line opposite us. The enemy, on the occasions of relief, showed no obvious indications of the reliefs, by changes in his attitude or behaviour except (1) increased individual movement preceded the reliefs of the 4th. Bav. Div and the 44th. Res. Div. (2) when the 207th came into line, M.G. activity opposite the right Brigade decreased considerably. The enemy has given us during the week frequent illustrations of his policy of vacating forward posts on the advance of a strong hostile patrol or attacking party. It is doubtful if the 13th. Res. Div will continue with the policy of the 4th. Bav. Div of occupying alternative forward posts. Map showing the above and other matters of Intelligence attached.

Summary of Prisoners and Material Captured.
By the Division from 13th. April. 1918 to 13th. July. 1918.

Offs.	Other Ranks.	H.M.Gs.	L.M.Gs.	T.Ms.	Miscellaneous
13	642	6	90	18	1 7.7. cm 1 Flammer wer.
(including wounded)					

About 350 of the prisoners have been taken by patrols.
Prisoners and Material Captured during week ending 13th July 1918.

Offs.	Other Ranks.	H.M.G.	L.M.Gs.	T.Ms.
By 1st. Aust. Inf. Bde.	171	22		
By 2nd. Aust. Inf. Bde.	20	2	9	2

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 92.

15-7-18.

From 6 a.m. 14-7-18 to 6 a.m. 15-7-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.I. Infantry.

a. Patrols. A patrol of 1 Officer and 3 other ranks of the 3rd Battalion at 4.15 p.m. moved to within 15 yards of enemy post at E.12.D.5.5. where a sentry was found to be alert. The enemy strong, lined the parapet. Bombs were exchanged and owing to M.G. fire our patrol was obliged to withdraw. Lt. ROBB and the Sgt both being wounded. A daylight reconnaissance patrol of the 2nd Battalion reached F.1.C. 36.82. and from there secured valuable information. The 9th and 11 Battalion fronts were patrolled thoroughly day and night. Two daylight reconnaissance parties of 2 N.C.O.s each were out searching crops and high grass. One party moved to within 25 yards of enemy post at X.26.C.65.75. and were observed by the garrison of 9 men, who without firing, attempted to crawl out of the post with the evident intention of surrounding our patrol. This design was frustrated by the patrol withdrawing for a certain distance. Rifle grenades were then fired into the post with unknown results.

b. M.Guns. T.Ms. Lewis Guns. On two occasions active hostile M.G. at F.1.B.5.1. was silenced by Stokes Mortar fire. Lewis Guns fired in direction of the sounds of enemy wheeled traffic. Concentrated L.G. fire was placed on to Machine Guns sweeping our positions with good results.

c. Rifle Grenadiers. Enemy post at E.12.C.3.2. and M.G. posts were engaged with good results.

2. Artillery. Little observed shooting could be done owing to unfavourable weather conditions. Harassing fire was however carried out in moderation. Working parties on one of our fallen aeroplanes in F.14.B. were engaged and dispersed. Shell storms were put down by all Batteries of the 2nd Brigade at 10.30 p.m. and 1.30 a.m. Bursts above CELERY COPSE were well timed. A dump of Very lights near LE WATON was fired at 3 a.m. and explosions followed our shelling on several occasions.

3. Aircraft. Were very active during the morning until inclement weather prevented flying. At 8.28 a.m. one of our formations flying at a high altitude engaged a large flight of E.A. The combat lasted 5 minutes, one of our machines fell in F.14. The E.A. were forced to scatter and retreated over their own lines. At 10.20 a.m. one of our planes was forced to land in V.24.C. owing to engine trouble.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Remains extremely alert. Opposite the right Brigade in many cases occupants of posts appear to "stand to" both by day and night. They are also slightly aggressive with Machine Guns and Snipers. Opposite the left Brigade, the enemy is quiet but alert and nervous.

b. Machine Guns. Were active along the whole front sweeping No Mans Land principally. They were more active than usual opposite the right Brigade.

c. T.Mortars. Slight activity against the left Brigade is recorded. Left Coy receives daily a few bombs from direction of LE WATON. 20 Granatenwerfer bombs were fired on X.25.D. and F.1.A. from a direction S. of X. Roads in F.1.

d. Artillery. Was more active than usual. From 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. a shoot by 7.7 cm gun and 10 cm hows took place on E.4. E.5. E.10. and E.11. About 50 21 cm shells fell in E.9.A. & B. between 7 p.m. and 9.45 p.m. Front posts in E.12 were lightly shelled by 7.7 cm gun between 10 p.m. and 11 p.m. E.10.D. and E.11.C. were subjected to a gas bombardment commencing at 10.30 p.m. and lasting for 30 minutes. Squares X.19.C. and E.6. and the gully and wood in W.30.D. were consistently and actively shelled. More attention was paid to rear areas than usual. 100 10.5 cm and 7.7 cm shells falling in the vicinity of BORRE.

(2)

e. Aircraft. Were slightly active during the early hours of the morning. A balloon observed on the ground in F.21.C.

2. Movement. 6 men seen cutting crops at F.2.A.6.9. They were dispersed by L.G. fire. 16 men worked on aeroplane in vicinity of F.14.B. one man was taken from the plane. Transport seen on road at F.8.B.9.8. Other individual movement was normal in character. Visibility bad.

3. Defences. Posts. X.26.C.65.75. (unwired and crop in front uncut) Posts in the vicinity of E.12.D. Central are well garrisoned both by day and night. Posts between E.12.C.3.2. and E.12.D.8.8. are much bigger than his previous advanced posts in this area, some of them accommodating as many as 20 men. Hedge from X.26.A.8.4. to X.26.B.3.5. unoccupied. M.Guns. X.20.D.9.3. - X.26.B.8.7. - F.1.C.8.7. (approx.) F.1.B.7.6. (approx). Transport. heard on roads at night in F.1.B.&.C. and near LE WATON. (X.26.B.5.5. morning)

4. Miscellaneous. Ammunition dump near battery position at F.27.C. blown up. House and Artillery dump in E.2.D. set on fire. Smoke seen rising from houses in F.11.D. Signal lamp seen at 1100 grid from W.25.A.7.5. Flags observed flying from 2 houses in BLEU

General Summary of Enemy Attitude.

It appears certain that the enemy in E.12. has had to bring up reserve Companies and dig in. It is reported that these new posts are larger and that they accommodate more men than the posts previously in use in this area. If this is confirmed by Aerial photographs and other means, it would appear that the enemy has realized the temptation small posts offer to enterprising patrols and has increased his garrisons accordingly.

This furnishes opportunities for our guns and it is important that such enemy posts be accurately pin-pointed and reported.

The unwired small post at X.26.C.65.75. even though the garrison is alert may prove an illustration of the weakness of the system of small unwired forward posts.

One of our low flying contact planes under heavy A.A. M.G. fire accompanied patrols of the right Brigade at 9 a.m. and fired into enemy posts. Results however, in this case, were not so effective as previously, as the enemy has apparently adopted in this sector the safe but weary policy of "standing to" all day and night. It will be interesting to know when he abandons that policy.

L. J. Barrett
Lieut.-Colonel.
General Staff.
1st Australian Division.

Information from other sources.

ALBANIA. Italian troops have occupied BERAT and established themselves on the line of the SEMIN. By this advance of 25 miles the line has been shortened by 30 miles. During the week the enemy has had to give up 1,400 sq. miles of land in ALBANIA. French troops are advancing astride the DEVOLIA.

Enemy attacked this morning on a 50 mile front with RHEIMS as Centre. No progress made East of RHEIMS but a little WEST of RHEIMS. French are quite happy.

Result of yesterday's operation at RIDGE WOOD. Enemy completely surprised and all objectives taken and held with very little opposition. No counter-attack as yet. Total captures 8 Officers 322 Other Ranks. 2 M.Gs. and 17 M.Gs. Our casualties estimated 3 Officers, 210 Other Ranks.