

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/50/27 Part 2

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 5th
Australian Division

May 1918



AWM4-1/50/27PART2

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 1st May to 6 a.m. 2nd May 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. At 5.15 p.m. enemy working parties in P.11.d and P.17.a were dispersed. At 4 p.m. a three minute burst from S.O.S. plus 500 to S.O.S. plus 300 was fired on Centre Brigade front, and 60 rounds gas shell into the BOIS D'ACCROCHE. At 7.15 p.m. a two minute burst was fired on approaches to HAMEL. At 8 p.m. a five minute concentration was put down on the BOIS de HAMEL; at 8.35 p.m. a two minute concentration on BOIS de VAIRE, and at 1 am a two minute burst on P.5.c and d, and P.21.central. At 3 a.m. the BOIS de VAIRE again received a five minute concentration. At 4.35 a.m. a two minute burst swept roads in P.14.b and d. At 5.35 a.m. a rolling barrage was put down from S.O.S. lines plus 50 yards to S.O.S. plus 550 yards, for five minutes.

H.T.M.'s. 6" Newton T.M. fired 29 rounds at various targets on night 30th/1st May.

M.G.'s were active on enemy communications, trenches and tracks during the night.

L.T.M.'s. At 12 midnight 140 rounds Stokes were fired with good effect on enemy M.G. position at P.4.b.6.2 and posts at J.30.d.4.4, J.30.d.1.1 and J.36.b.2.9. 10 special incendiary shells were fired in rear of post at J.35.d.4.5 and enemy were seen running from his forward posts.

Patrols report:- Coughing was heard in enemy post at approximately P.9.a.9.8; wiring party heard at P.4.b.6.2; movement heard in clump of trees at P.14.b; enemy working party heard near cross roads in P.20.a; 2 enemy patrols were seen at approximately P.20.a.4.6; they were fired on with rifle grenades and took cover, at the same time retaliated with rifle fire.

Minor operation. A fighting patrol of 2 officers and 30 other ranks carried out an operation against enemy post at J.35.d.4.5. They took up a position 100 yards from enemy post and at midnight under cover of artillery and T.M. fire rushed the post. The enemy saw them coming and the garrison (about 10 with L.M.G) fell back into a large S.P. about 50 yards in rear. This S.P. was then rushed and the whole of the enemy (about 20 strong) fell back into a strong trench which is heavily wired about 75 yards in rear of second S.P. Patrol advanced to the wire and bombed the enemy and used their L.G. and inflicted several casualties as enemy were later seen to jump out of trench and pull the wounded in. After throwing all their bombs patrol returned to our lines.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. On left sector enemy artillery was much quieter than usual and did not retaliate after our bombardment at 12 midnight. Areas shelled during period were:- P.8.a, J.28.d, J.29.a, SAILLY-LE-SEC, posts in P.2.c and d. At 7.20 p.m. 85 rounds of 4.2 Yellow Cross Gas fell in VAIRE.

Right Sector During the day artillery fire was slight but showed increase during the night. Areas shelled were P.8.c, P.13.d, P.19.b reserve line, O.6.c, O.5.d, O.12.a. Between 2.30 a.m. and 2.37 a.m support line in P.7, 8 and 13 was heavily shelled.

4. **ENEMY ATTITUDE. Alert.** Enemy patrols were active opposite right sector in vicinity of cross roads in P.20.d. Minenwerfers fired 20 rounds on front line in P.13. and P.14. M.G's were active at intervals on front line system during the night.
5. **ENEMY DEFENCES.** Enemy defences in J.35.d consist of advanced posts (10 men and M.G) at J.35.d.3.4. Strong post with same garrison but much larger exists at J.35.d.4.5, it consists of continuous trench strongly wired, wire is 20 feet in depth and stands 3 feet high. About 75 yards in rear of this there is another strong point which is strongly held. It appears to extend to the Canal and runs from there in a N.E. direction west of cemetery and then over ridge. New mound of earth is visible at J.24.d.5.9. S.Post located at P.3.b.45.05. Wire. New wire has been erected between K.25.a.1.5 and K.19.c.1.2 (about 350 yards)
6. **ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. Inactive.** One E.A. was brought down by M.G. fire and fell in flames in P.19.c.
7. **MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.** Much transport was heard moving in rear of BOIS de VAIRE and SAILLY-LAURETTE (patrol). Large party of enemy were seen in trench on ridge at K.25.a.10.90. Owing to mist which hung low all day it was impossible to observe movement.
8. **MISCELLANEOUS.** A fire was observed during the night in P.25.d. 77mm battery observed firing from vicinity of BOIS de ARQUAIRE. Visibility bad. Ground is in good order and quite dry
Part II (Information from other sources is appended).

Green Keel
Capt
Lieut-Colonel, G.S.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

PART II.

(Information from other sources).

1. German divisions on the Western front. 30.4.18. The arrival is reported of a cavalry division from RUSSIA. There are now 4 German cavalry divisions in the Western Theatre, of which 3 are in line in ALSACE-LORRAINE. Two divisions, withdrawn from the SOMME battle, have come into line on the LYS battle front, where 36 fresh divisions and 6 withdrawn from the SOMME battle have now been engaged. A division from G.H.Q. reserve has come into line on the SOMME battle front, where 104 divisions have now been engaged. Of the 206 German infantry divisions in the Western Theatre, 140 have been engaged since 21st March, and 18 are of poor quality. There are 16 fresh divisions in reserve, and, in addition, there are 32 fresh divisions in line which have not yet been drawn into the battle.

P.T.O.

-3-

General. A prisoner of the Jager Division, under special examination states he knows of no immediate intention on the part of the enemy to attack, giving as his reason the exhausted state of the troops. This must be expected with reserve, as it would be contrary to German procedure to employ a "Sturm" Division to fill a purely defensive role. Attacks are therefore expected against VILLERS-BRETONNEUX as soon as the weather improves. Prisoners are urgently required between HAMEL and HANGARD, as the order of battle is by no means clear.



SECRET.

REPORT OF THE DEATH OF CAPTAIN BARON VON RICHTHOFEN at 62D,
J.19.b.5.2 ABOUT 11 a.m. 21st APRIL 1918.

The following report is based on the evidence of eye witnesses, written down immediately after the events.

Captain Baron von RICHTHOFEN was flying a single seater triplane painted red and reported to be of a new pattern. When first engaged he was pursuing one of our own machines, reported to be a SCRWITH CAMEL, in a W.N.W. direction, flying towards the wood in J.19.c. Here, according to a reliable witness, he was fired at by an A.A. gun of the 24th Australian Machine Gun Company. RICHTHOFEN's machine seemed to move unsteadily for a moment, but still continued in pursuit of the British 'plane.

He had now left the SOMME valley and come over the high ground north of CORBIE. Both machines were flying very low, being not more than 150 feet up. They were coming swiftly towards the A.A. Lewis guns of the 53rd Battery, 14th Australian Field Artillery Brigade, situated at I.24.b.9.5 and I.24.b.6.5 respectively. RICHTHOFEN was firing into the 'plane before him but it was difficult for the Lewis gunners to shoot owing to the British 'plane being directly in the line of fire. They accordingly waited their time till the British 'plane had passed. RICHTHOFEN's 'plane was not more than 100 yards from each when they opened fire. The 'plane was coming frontally towards them so that they were able to fire directly on to the person of the aviator. Almost immediately the 'plane turned N.W., being still under fire from the Lewis guns. It was now staggering as though out of control. Further effective bursts were fired; the 'plane veered to the north, and crashed on the plateau near the brick-works in J.19.b.5.2.

The aviator was already dead. There were bullet wounds in the knees, abdomen, and chest. The 'plane was badly smashed; it was a triplane painted dull red, and was armed with two air cooled machine guns. It had only been assembled in March 1918.

The British plane was undoubtedly saved by the action of the Lewis gunners. It altered its course and circled back over the spot where the enemy 'plane had crashed.

The papers of the aviator were taken to the Headquarters of the 11th Australian Infantry Brigade. They established his identity as Captain BARON MANNHEIM VON RICHTHOFEN, born 2nd March 1892 in BRESLAU, province of SILESIA, PRUSSIA. The machine was numbered D.R. 425.

Captain Baron von RICHTHOFEN was a great adversary. The German official wireless for the 21st April 1918, the very day of his death, contains the notice "Captain Baron von RICHTHOFEN, at the head of Pursuit Flight 11, attained his 79th and 80th air victories". It was fitting that he should have fallen, in old Roman fashion, "with all his wounds in front."

After the machine crashed, a troupe of German 'planes flew over and circled above the spot until driven off by the A.A. guns. An infantry guard was posted over the body and the plane, but they were relieved of their duty shortly after by the German artillery, which placed a ring of shells bursting with instantaneous fuzes, around the 'plane.

The Lewis gunners who brought down the machine were: No. 598 Gunner W. J. EVANS and No. 3801 Gunner R. BUIE, of the 53rd Battery, 14th Australian Field Artillery Brigade, 5th Australian Divisional Artillery.

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 2nd May to 6 a.m. 3rd May 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. A considerable amount of movement was observed and engaged. At 11 a.m. an enemy party on road in P.10.d was dispersed. During the afternoon enemy working parties by trenches in P.14.c and d were scattered, and squads moving along road in P.14.b- P.20.a dispersed. At 2.30 p.m. large hostile parties at P.16.c.5.0 and P.18.a.50 were put to flight. At 4 p.m. an 18 pr. battery firing from behind the BOIS de VAIRE was engaged and silenced. From 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. a continuous stream of small enemy formations coming up to and through the BOIS D'ACCROCHE, and on to the BOIS de VAIRE were engaged. At 8.10 p.m. a two minute concentration was fired on the BOIS de VAIRE. At 9 p.m. one single burst was fired on S.O.S. plus 800 yards. At 9.5 p.m. positions in the terrace in front of the BOIS de VAIRE and on the Western edge of the wood were subjected to a two minute burst. At 11 p.m. an occupied trench stronghold in P.4.b and d received a two minute burst. A nine minute burst was fired on the 9.5 p.m. targets at 2 a.m. At 3.25 a.m. a five minute concentration was fired on HANEL. At 4.30 a.m. a rolling barrage swept from S.O.S plus 100 to S.O.S. plus 800 yards in 7 minutes, and from S.O.S. plus 300 to S.O.S. plus 100 yards in two minutes. At 5.25 a.m. a two minute burst of fire was fired on road in K.31.a.6.0 and K.31.d.6.0 to catch early moving transport. At 10.25 p.m. reported transport on the road in P.9.d - this was heavily engaged.

L.T.M's 21 rounds were fired at enemy aircraft during the afternoon with good effect on each occasion. E.A. were driven off. M.G's fired intermittently on enemy roads and tracks during the night.

Patrols were active on both brigade fronts and report the following:- Large enemy working party estimated 60 strong were seen in front of BOIS de VAIRE (artillery were informed). Enemy working party were successfully engaged by L.G. fire at P.20.a.5.3, cries as from wounded were heard. Working party was hoard at P.14.b.2.2. A fighting patrol pushed out as far as P.4.d.20.90, took up a position and waited. At 6.55 p.m. a party of the enemy were seen approaching from his main wire at P.4.d.6.2, owing to bad light it was impossible to ascertain the strength of party. 2 of the party came in advance and approached patrol, when within range patrol opened fire hitting one, they then turned and tried to escape. Another burst of fire was opened with the result one man was seen to fall. Officer in charge of patrol then chased the wounded man who was scrambling to get away, he called on him to surrender and the Boche said "Very Good Sir", he was taken prisoner and patrol withdrew to our lines.

Snipers. Our snipers were active. At 4 p.m. seven of the enemy in front of BOIS de VAIRE were fired on and two casualties were inflicted.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Wounded prisoner of the 1st Coy. 133 R.I.R. 24 Reserve Division (Saxon). Captured by fighting patrol in P.4.d. Interrogation of prisoner forms annexed to this Summary.

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appendix 2

3. ORDER OF BATTLE.

N. of SOMME	31 I.R.	} 18 DIV. last identified 20/4/18.
	35 I.R.	
	86 Fus.R.	

S. of SOMME	133 R.I.R.	} 24 R. DIV.
	? 104 R.I.R.	
	? 107 R.I.R.	

	14 Bav.R.I.R.	} 9 Bav.R. DIV.
	11 Bav.R.I.R.	

3 Bav, Res. Regt. in reserve 28/4/18.

20 Jag. Bn. Jager Div. other dispositions unknown 3/5/18.

	26 R.I.R.	} 109 DIV. 29/4/18.
	2 Gren.	
	? 376 I.R.	

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Maintained usual activity and following areas were shelled:- 120 rounds of 77 m.m. and 4.2 on J.29.a., b. and c, 98 rounds 4.2 on P.8.a., 60 rounds 4.2 on P.3.a. and J.32.d., 0.18.d., 0.24.b. P.13.d. Between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. enemy shelled reserve line right sector heavily with 4.2 and 5.9 in retaliation to our artillery shoot.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Quiet, but alert continued patrol activity opposite right sector. Minenwerfers were active on our front line left sector firing from CEMETRY J.36.c.9.5. Artillery informed and MW silenced. M.G. were active at intervals during the night.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Wire has been erected from J.24.a.9.5 to J.24.a.90.15. Double belts of high French wire exists in front of posts at P.9.a.9.9 and P.5.d.5.6 (approx). M.Gs reported active from P.5.b.35.80., P.14.b.6.0., P.14.d.3.8., P.14.d.35.90., and P.14.b.2.4. Enemy working parties could be heard all night on defences immediately in front of BOIS DE VAIRE.

7. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY.

E.A. were active during the period. One E.A. was brought down in flames in 0.28.; another was driven down out of control in U.6. and one brought down in flames in P.32. All were brought down by our fighting planes. Five bombs were dropped in 0.1.c. during the night. 1 Enemy Balloon up at 101 deb.T.B. from P.8.a.35.40. Corrigendum. In summary dated 1/2 May para.6 for P.19.c. read P.9.c.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Following movement was observed:- Individuals moving from P.15.d.2.8 to P.16.c.4.7. 50 men carrying packs at P.14.c.95.80. 2 Horsemen on south side SAILLY LAURETTE disappearing at P.6.b.8.8. 100 horses grazing in Q.18. Considerable movement of individuals between BOIS DE ACCEROCHE and BOIS DE HAMEL. Tractor was heard in SAILLY LAURETTE during the night, also horse transport (artillery informed) during afternoon. There was continual movement of Horse and M.Transport on main road in Q.25. to R.26. also on BAYONVILLERS Road in Q.32. and 33. 4.30 p.m. approx 1 company of men in full marching order were observed in Q.26. moving west.

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9. MISCELLANEOUS. Directly after our artillery shoot opened up at 2 a.m. enemy fired golden clusters which were repeated back. Hostile artillery immediately opened. This fire eased down on one double green flare being fired. Searchlights were active on lines 137 deg., 141 deg., 156 deg., T.B. from I.24.d.4.1. Visibility Good.

K. A. Goodland Capt.
for
Lieut-Colonel
General Staff
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



REPORT ON EXAMINATION OF WOUNDED L/CORPORAL OF 1st COMPANY
133 R.I.R. 24 Res.DIVISION (SAXON) captured at 8.55 pm.
2/3-5-18 about 62D P.4.b.3.7.

1. IDENTIFICATION. L/Corporal of 1st Coy., 133 R.I.R. born 14/1/91 at HAMBURG. Fought in the beginning of the war, was severely wounded and had since done garrison duty in Germany. Was called up again 3/4/18 and came with a large draft to the 24 Res.Div. on 22nd April. Intelligent, spoke English well, had been a waiter in England. Knew little of local details and dispositions.
2. HOW CAPTURED. Prisoner accompanied a Corporal forward yesterday evening from the front line to look for the outpost line. They had no very sure idea of their position, came close to one of our fighting patrols and were fired on. Prisoner was twice wounded and surrendered.
3. DIVISIONAL RELIEF. The 133 R.I.R. came into line at 10.45 p.m. (English time) in the night 1/2nd May. Prisoner thought that they relieved a Guard Regiment, but agreed that he had probably mistaken the 1st Grenadiers for Guards. He believes that the whole of the 1st Division was relieved at the same time by the 24th Res.Division.
4. ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS. The 133 R.I.R. is immediately south of the SOMME. The 104 R.I.R. and 107 R.I.R. are believed to be also both in line on the south flank, but nothing definite is known. Thought that each regiment had one Bn in line, one in support and one in rest.
5. DIVISIONAL SECTOR. Uncertain, but believed to extend from the SOMME to the BOIS DE VAIRE, inclusive of the latter.
6. ENEMY DEFENCES. The enemy front line in prisoners' sector is the northern part of the old G.H.Q. line (P.4.b. and d). This now contains several deep dugouts, according to hearsay, though prisoner had not been in them. He had personally only seen shelters improvised by individuals. There is also wire on the western side of the trench, about 9 feet across (this measurement only a guess). Prisoner did not know where the outposts were but the one he was looking for when captured was "close on the road". Apparently this is the short trench on both sides of the road at P.4.b.4.8. (Compare photos 35 AE B893., 896., 2/5/18).
7. ROUTE TO FRONT LINE. via MERICOURT, MORCOURT, GERISY, and along the road leading due west to P.12.11., 5., 4.
8. REST BILLETS. For 133 R.I.R. CLERY sur SOMME.
9. CASUALTIES. The relief two nights ago was accomplished apparently without casualties. Losses when last the Division was in line were very heavy, especially in the 2nd and 3rd Bns.
near HANGARD
10. DRAFTS. On the 22/4/18, a draft of 800 men came from Germany for the 24 Res.Div. These were practically all men in the thirties, returned wounded, and very few if any, of the 1919 class. The 1st Coy received 13 men only.

Appendix 2

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11. COMPANY STRENGTHS. Trench strength over 100. Apparently all coyss are fairly strong.

12. ENEMY INTENTIONS. Any general knowledge of enemy intentions disclaimed, but certain that 24 Res.Div. would not attack. No definite reasons for this belief.

13. GENERAL. Home Morale. Good owing to the successes gained in the offensive. But there was no absolute certitude of victory among the people, and the slowing down of the advance had created many doubts. Prisoner believed that the war was bound to end this year, probably in a draw, before leaving Germany. The story told was that RICHTHOFEN had to descend owing to engine trouble and while doing so was shot from the ground and fatally wounded.

4. ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS. The 104 R.I.R. and 107 R.I.R. are believed to be also both in line on the right flank, but nothing definite is known. Thought that each regiment had one Bn in line, one in support and one in rest.

5. DIVISIONAL SECTOR. Uncertain, but believed to extend from the SOMME to the BOIS DE VIRE, inclusive of the latter.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES. The enemy front line in prisoners' sector is the northern part of the old G.H.Q. line (P.O. and 5). This now contains several deep dugouts, according to hearsay, though prisoner had not been in them. He had person ally only seen officers lamposted by machine guns. There is also wire on the western side of the trench, about 8 feet across (this measurement only a guess). Prisoner did not know where the outposts were but the one he was looking for when captured was "close on the road". Apparently this is the short trench on both sides of the road at P.O. and 5. (Compare photos 55 A 5000, 5001, 5002, 5003, 5004, 5005, 5006, 5007, 5008, 5009, 5010.)

7. ROUTE TO FRONT LINE. via MERICOURT, FORCOURT, ORSAY, and along the road leading due west to P.O. and 5.

8. REST BARRACKS. For 104 R.I.R. ORSAY and SOMME.

9. CASUALTIES. The relief two nights ago was accomplished apparently without casualties. Losses when last the Division was in line were very heavy, especially in the 2nd and 3rd Bns.

10. DEATHS. On the 22/10, a draft of 800 men came from Germany for the 24 Res. Div. These were practically all men in the 1st class. The returned wounded, and very few if any, of the 1012 class. The 1st Coy received 13 men only.

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. A great increase in enemy activity, and improved visibility, offered at large number of targets. During the morning an enemy party near a trench in P.10.d.2.8 were dispersed; a party at P.10.a.4.7 scattered on two occasions, and parties in P.14.b & d repeatedly scattered with casualties, numerous stretcher cases being removed. A party in P.21.a, was also dispersed. During the afternoon a large party in P.20.b, was engaged and many casualties inflicted. A large hostile body at P.10.d.2.8 was scattered with casualties and parties at P.16.a & P.15.a.50.20 dispersed. Enemy parties at P.16.c, P.21.a, and P.15.a.2.2 were scattered between 6 and 8 p.m. At 8.6 p.m and N.F. call P.16.a.8.5 was answered, O.K. being received after two corrections. At 8.45 p.m P.5.c & d, was engaged by a three minute burst. A 4 minute concentration was fired on HAMEL at 11 p.m. At 3.30 a.m. a five minute concentration was fired on the centre of the BOIS de VAIRE and a 5 minute concentration on SAILLY-LAURETTE. At 3.55 a.m. a rolling barrage swept from S.O.S. plus 225 yards to S.O.S. plus 525 yards, in 3 minutes. At 4.25 a.m. a two minute burst was fired on possible assembly points along the front. At 10.20 and at 11.10 p.m. traffic reported on the road in P.4.d.9.1 to P.4.d.0.2 into HAMEL was heavily engaged.
- L.T.M. At 1 a.m 30 rounds were fired on enemy post at P.20.a.4.5. At 2 p.m enemy working party at P.20.a.8.7 were successfully engaged.
- M.G's were active on enemy tracks and routes. 5,000 rounds were expended and following targets engaged. Searching fire P.14.d.60.25 to P.16.c.65.45, P.21.a.25.00 to P.21.d.2.7, P.14.b.90.15 to P.15.a.6.2, P.14.b.95.27 to P.15.a.70.19. Traversing fire from P.21.a.4.9 to P.21.a.25.00.
- PATROLS were active along whole front. Liaison was maintained between posts and flank units. In addition patrols report:- Talking was heard in enemy post at about P.8.d.5.6. Enemy post was located on the left of the road about P.20.a.2.7, as a result of an explosion in vicinity of post. 5 other ranks made an attempt to rush the post but it was strongly held and they had to withdraw; on withdrawal Lewis gun fire was opened on the post and casualties were apparently inflicted as enemy cries could be heard as if in pain. Working party was heard at P.14.d.1.5. Enemy party of approximately 17 were observed lying along the bank from P.14.b.05.40 to P.14. central.
- CORRIGENDUM In Summary dated 2nd/3rd May para 1. OPERATIONS under Patrols line 6 for "P.4.d.20.90" read "P.4.b.20.90".

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Enemy artillery maintained usual activity. Following are chief areas shelled :-

Left Sector. 44 rounds 77 mm and 4.2" on SAILLY-le-SEC, 50 rounds 4.2" on J.21, 25 rounds 77mm and 4.2" on J.28.a, 30 rounds 4.2 on HAMELET. Front Systems received usual attention.

/Right

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Right Sector. 50 rounds 5.9" and 8" on O.20.a, P.1.a, other shelling was scattered on Front support and reserve lines.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Unchanged. Artillery fire showed a slight increase during day on Right Sector. Minenwerfers inactive. M-Guns more active especially during early parts of the night, on roads and approaches to our Front Systems.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. M.G. located at P.14.b.35.65. Minenwerfer located at Cemetery J.36.c.9.5. Enemy appears to be working at night on his positions from P.20.c. central to P.20.b.0.0. New work observed on Post at P.14.d.3.5. Wire. Enemy post at P.8.d.3.8 is strongly wired. Additional wire has been erected between J.36.a.6.2 and J.36.a.8.6. From J.24.d.9.6 to K.19.c.3.1 is now continuous. Occupied shell holes located at J.30.d.6.1.
6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. EA. were active during the day and were heavily engaged with AA. and M.G. Three enemy propaganda fell in our lines during the afternoon.
7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES. Movement was observed as follows :-
M.T. and horse transport on road in R.26.d travelling East.
7.10 p.m 20 men moving from P.21.a to P.11.c.5.5.
During night much movement of transport was heard. 100 men moved from P.16.c.5.4 to P.16.a.6.7.
8.15 p.m 70 men moved from P.16.c.5.4 to P.16.a.6.7, (artillery informed). Large mob of horses grazing in Q.15. Individual movement in Q.25.c during the day.
8. MISCELLANEOUS. 5.9" gun observed firing from direction 89° T.B. from P.14.a.1.8. Searchlights were active on lines 156° 129° and 132° T.B. from I.24.d.4.1. Enemy ammunition dump caught fire about P.20.b.central as a result of our artillery fire. At 4.10 p.m smoke screen observed in MARCELCAVE. A small red propaganda balloon drifted over centre Battalion lines Left Sector and ~~landed~~ just in enemy's lines. About dusk the enemy made a rush out to get balloon, our Lewis guns opened fire with good effect, two hits are claimed. Visibility good.

Notes on Aeroplane photographs is attached.

K.A. Goodland Capt
for
Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Appendix 2.

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

NOTES ON AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

PHOTOGRAPHS 35AE. B922)
35AE. B926) joined together -

Note. Development of German trench line. A great amount of new work has been done joining up posts. In system in front of BOIS de VAIRE are a number of Minenwerfer positions. The British outpost line is also visible on 35 AE B926. This line may be followed through 35 AE. B923 and 35 AE. B913.

PHOTOGRAPHS. 35 AE. B920)
" " "930)
" " "928) joined together.
" " "933)

Note. Same development of enemy Front System. 928 shows stretches of trench with lines of individual holes behind. 933 shows a great deal of cross country movement to these lines of holes. 920 shows British trenches and forward posts, and wire.

PHOTOGRAPHS. 35AE. B907)
" "908) joined together.
" "916)

This series shows the old British line now held by the enemy. Note the tracks through the wire on the enemy side and the advanced works on our side of the system. There are evidences of much new work on the trench system.

916 shows the British outpost line.



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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 4th May - to - 6 a.m. 5th May, 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into Front Line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. Our artillery has been very active during the period, engaging live targets during the day, and carrying out counter preparation work and concentrations at night. At 10.15 a.m. movement in HAMEL was stopped and at 9.30 a.m. small parties of enemy in P.4.d.15.20 were scattered. At 1.30 p.m. a party of 15 at P.14.d.8.7 were engaged and casualties inflicted, stretcher cases being carried away. A suspected O.P. at P.10.a.78.55 was bombarded, five direct hits being recorded. At 5 p.m. the enemy had again collected at P.14.d.5.7 and were scattered. At 3.15 p.m. movement in P.15.d and P.16.a, was successfully engaged and casualties inflicted. At 6 p.m. a concentration bombardment, including Heavy Artillery, was commenced on the terrace in front of the BOIS de VAIRE, and lasted 18 minutes. Very effective shooting was reported, many of the enemy running back. 6.15 p.m. and 6.45 p.m. large enemy parties were successfully engaged at P.15.a.00.25. The following zone calls were answered :- 2.11 p.m. P.14.d.7.5; 4.14 p.m. P.10.c.4.8; 7.17 p.m. P.10.d.5.2 (A.A. Bty); 7.39 p.m. P.11.c.9.4; 7.50 p.m. P.5.c.9.5; 7.55 p.m. P.14.b.9.2. Mobile battery bombarded sunken road in P.10.a.8.5, ravine in P.9.c and d, and dug-outs and trench in P.10.d. At 11.55 p.m. a concentration was fired on Ravine in front of BOIS de VAIRE (P.14.c.9.0 to P.14.b.3.0) and the valley in K.31.c and e, lasting five minutes. At 1 a.m. intense counter battery work was carried out on hostile batteries for which zone calls had been received early in the evening, whilst Heavy Artillery dealt with batteries further back. At 2.25 a.m. a two minute concentration was fired on the BOIS de HAMEL and on the road in K.31.c and d. At 3.10 a.m. the concentration shoot on P.14.b.3.0 to P.14.c.9.0 was repeated, and SAILLY LAURETTE bombarded. At 3.55 a.m. a five minutes burst swept P.5.c and d, and the cemetery in J.36.e. At 4.40 a.m. approaches to HAMEL were searched for two minutes, and at 5.15 a.m. a five minute concentration was fired on all enemy routes opposite the Divisional front. T.M. 6" Newton T.M. fired 26 rounds on various targets on the night 3rd/4th instant.

SPECIAL SHOOT Further particulars of the shoot on terraces on W edge of BOIS de VAIRE at 6 p.m. are as follows :- Two brigades of H.A. and two F.A. Brigades bombarded the position and the wood itself was shelled with gas. Observation Posts on the high ground reported that the enemy was running out of the wood and trying to find cover. The excellent targets presented were taken full advantage of by another F.A. Brigade and there is no doubt that heavy casualties were inflicted.

M.Guns were active and following targets were successfully engaged :- Roads P.14.d.60.25 to P.15.c.65.45, P.21.a.4.9 to P.21.a.25.00, P.21.a.25.00 to P.21.d.2.7, P.14.b.90.15 to P.15.a.8.6 and cross roads at P.14.b.95.27.

Snipers. During the afternoon our snipers were active firing on enemy movement along track running S.E. through wood from P.14.b.60.00. Two hostile snipers at P.14.b.7.1 were successfully engaged.

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Patrols report as follows :- No enemy patrols were seen opposite Right Sector. Dead German found in post at P.20.a.20.00. He had apparently been killed an hour or so previously, the shoulder strap was the only identification. Talking was heard coming from posts at about P.4.central. Working party was heard at J.30.a.7.3.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Shoulder strap taken from body of dead German at P.20.a.20.00 4th Coy., 479th I.R. 243rd Division. This identification would indicate that the 9th ^{Bay Reserve} Division has been relieved by the 243rd Division.

3. ORDER OF BATTLE. North to South.

Division (last identified)

199th Div. 5/5/18.	(357th I.R. (237th I.R. ? (114th I.R.
18th Div. 5/5/18.	(31st I.R. (85th I.R. (86th Fus.Regt.
24th Res. Div. 3/5/18.	(133 R.I.R. (104 R.I.R. ? (107 R.I.R. ?
243rd Div. 5/5/18.	(479th I.R. (478th I.R. ? (122 Fus.Regt.?
Jag. Div. 2/5/18.	11st Jag.Bn. (20th " Bn. (? " Bn.
109th Div. 29/4/18.	(26th R.I.R. (2nd Gren. Regt. (376th I.R. ?

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Left Sector Enemy artillery was quiet during the day, chief areas shelled were :- post in P.2.d with 5.9's, J.29.d, a and c, HAMELET. Between 3 p.m and 7 pm 170 rounds 5.9" on J.22.c and J.23.a. O.11.d and J.23.c with 170 5.9 and 77mm.

Right Sector. Enemy artillery showed marked increase during the afternoon, special attention being paid to Battery areas. Areas shelled:- P.8.c, left Battalion Support Line. Between 2 p.m and 6 p.m 100 8" and 100 5.9" fell on O.10, 11, 16 and 17. At 12 midnight left reserve line in O.17.c was bombarded with 5.9's and 4.2's for 15 minutes. At 3.10 a.m P.13.a and c received slight attention. The increase in proportion of 5.9 How. to other calibre is very noticeable.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Much work is in progress on western edge of BOIS deVAIRE in P.14. M.Gun located in triangle of trees at P.9.b.15.82. Wire in P.10.d, P.4.d and P.6 has been damaged by our artillery fire. minenwerfer located at J.36.a.9.5.

6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. ⁻³⁻ Enemy aircraft were active over our lines during the day and were, on each occasion, heavily engaged by A.A. and M.G. fire.

7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES.

Following movement was observed :-
Between 11 a.m. and 11.45 a.m. isolated movement in P.16.c and P.22.a. At 8 p.m. a party of 12 men in P.15.central. This party was fired on by Lewis gun with good effect. 1.35 p.m. motor ambulance moved south along road in Q.17. 2 p.m. considerable movement of transport and men along MORCOURT - LAMOTTE road. 7.50 p.m. there was continuous movement of men in two's and three's about dug-outs at P.18.c.40.40 and P.18.c.3.3. 7.45 a.m. 30 men working at P.12.b. 1.20 pm 10 men moved along road in Q.15.a going towards BAYONVILLERS.
Train Movement. 3.15 p.m. train moving South in R.9 with about 25 covered trucks attached.
3.20 p.m. double engine moving north in R.9.
3.25 p.m. train shunting in R.9.b.
3.45 p.m. double engine train and 25 trucks moving S in R.9.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. Large cloud of smoke observed 95° T.B. from I.24.d.4.1. Observatio. balloon up at 91° T.B. from I.24.d.4.1 At 1.5 am as a result of our artillery shoot a fire broke out in HAEEL.

Flash of Minenwerfer observed on T.B. of 127° T.B. from I.30.a.5.2.
Visibility good.

K.A. Goodland Capt-

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

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 am 5th May - to - 6 am 6th May, 1913.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. Our artillery continued very active during the period engaging live targets and zone calls during the day and carrying out counter preparation work, concentrations, and area shoots during the night. During the morning transport in P.17.a. was engaged. During afternoon transport at P.14.d.2.3 engaged. Movement in HAMEL engaged at 2 pm. Hostile party of 10 in P.27.c. engaged at 6.5 p.m. N.F calls P.10.c.5.4 engaged at 6.45 p.m - several other N.F. calls were received but were beyond range. During the night, 9.55 p.m and 2.10 a.m, concentrations were put down on BOIS de VAIRE and new work west of BOIS de VAIRE for 5 minutes. 11.45 p.m and 3.25 am concentrated and enfilade shoot on Trench system P.4.b. and d, and P.10.b, and d for two minutes. At 4.10 a.m counter preparation targets were engaged for 5 minutes. At 5.10 a.m roads and tracks on Divisional front were swept for 2 minutes. Bursts of fire were also put down during the night on SAILLY LAURETTE, valley in K.31 and T.M. at J.36.c.90.50.

H.T.M. 6" Trench Mortars fired 10 rounds on hostile strong points in J.30.b.

L.T.M's 3" Stokes. At 10 pm 40 rounds were fired on enemy posts at P.4.b.6.2 and P.4.b.8.4. Splendid shooting was reported by the covering party.

Patrols. At 9.20 p.m a patrol of one officer and 14 o/ranks with a Lewis gun left our line at P.13.d.7.9 and moved out to the terrace at P.14.c.8.7. Patrol then moved along top of terrace and located a post at P.14.c.7.3; the post was rushed. It was found to contain three men. Two ran, the third attacked the patrol leader. All three enemy were killed. Whilst our patrol was searching the bodies two more of the enemy came from a post on the right. They were fired on at a distance of 10 yds. and were killed. A large body of the enemy then approached the patrol from the BOIS de VAIRE. Patrol retired dragging one of the bodies to P.14.c.55.20, where it was thoroughly searched and the identification secured. Our patrol had no casualties.

Other patrols report as follows:-
 No enemy movement could be heard from the QUARRY at P.20.a.4.5. Movement was heard in the vicinity of P.14.c.6.6. Fresh tracks were discovered leading from this point to the wood. Patrol attempting to approach a post at P.4.a.8.7 was fired on from this post with rifles, and with M.G's and rifles from about P.4.central.

For reports on enemy defences see below.

M.G's. Active on usual targets.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 8th Company, 265th R.I.R., 108th Division, from body of enemy killed in Post at P.14.c.7.3 (first identification of the 108th Division in this Sector).

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3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY decreased. Very little artillery fire either in the day or during the night. Vicinity of FOUILLOY (10 rounds heavy calibre at 5 p.m) VAIRE, HAMELET and SAILLY-le-SEC were shelled at intervals. A few rounds of 4.2 fell in P.13.b,c, and d. O.18.d received 67 rounds 77mm and 4.2's at 5 p.m from the direction of . T.B. 95° from P.13.a.6.0. Other areas shelled were J.15, J.25.a, J.27.a, J.28.c, J.29.d, J.33.c and J.31, I.30.a, I35.b, I.36.a, O.10, 11.
4. ENEMY DEFENCES. Trenches. New trenches observed as follows :-
 (i) Immediately in front of South corner of the BOIS de VAIRE running 30 yds. in a northerly direction.
 (ii) Short line at P.20.b.15.35.
 (iii) Short trench at P.20.a.95.75.
 Enemy continues working on post from K.31.d.2.9 to K.25.a.1.9. Post can be seen running from P.9.a.9.4 to P.9.c.8.9.
Wire. New wire observed running from P.20.b.10.35 to P.20.b.15.75. Wiring party heard on road at P.14.d.3.4 (Patrol).
M.G's. Corner of wood at P.14.b.9.2, P.15.a.central, P.4.central (approx). All these fired on patrols. Also at J.30.d.7.4 and a suspected AA.MG near the dugout at K.26.b.4.6.
O.P. A day O.P. was discovered by a patrol at P.9.a.5.0 with a good view of the Right Battalion sector of our Left Brigade. Post is only for one or two men. Another abandoned O.P at K.31.c.65.45. L.P. suspected at P.4.a.9.7.
5. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Enemy activity slight. An E.A. was over Right Battalion sector of Right Brigade at 12.50 p.m, 2 p.m, 3 p.m and 4.45 p.m. Fired on by our A.A. guns and M.G's. Seven enemy triplanes reported over our Left Brigade Centre Battalion Sector at 7.40 p.m.
6. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES. There was considerable movement of men (isolated and in parties), transport and trains observed all day from 11 a.m. onwards. Forward isolated movement in ones, twos and threes was observed specially in P.12.d, 14.a, 15.c, 16, 18.c, 23.b, .
 11.a.m. 6 limbers and two wagons along road between LA MOTTE and Q.26.c.
 11.18 am Parties of men left huts at Q.1.c. and moved towards LA MOTTE.
 11.30 a.m Three men observed carrying coil of barbed wire at P.18.a.2.8 walking in S. direction and disappearing in valley at P.17.a.
 11.35 a.m Considerable number of horses and men in fields in Q.18 and 24.
 11.45 a.m. One man observed disappear in Quarry at P.17.b.3.2 isolated movement from this quarry observed all day.
 11.50 a.m. Two horse loaded limber and three men observed travelling in SW. direction across country in P.29.c.5.4.
 12.15 pm Between 200 and 300 horses on road in Q.34.a. and b. travelling in direction of MORCOURT .
 12.35 p.m. Four men with full packs walking in east direction in Q.13.d.central.
 12.40 p.m A company on Road R.24.b.5.8 marching towards FRAMER VILLE.
 12.55 p.m. Long column of Horse transport on road in Q.36 and R.35 travelling in direction of PROART.
 Between 1 and 2 p.m. much movement observed at P.15.d.0.8 and P.22.a.4.5 .

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1.45 p.m. 100 men followed 6 limbers in Q.25 d. towards LA POTRE .

2.10 p.m. Five motor lorries standing in main road in Q.27.c also a party of 20 to 30 men appeared to be unloading them. Evidently a dump at this point. At 5.45 p.m. our artillery shelled this area and a small ammunition dump was set on fire. At 3.40 p.m. about 200 horses seen grazing near cross roads Q.7.a. Heavy Artillery informed .

5.20 p.m. Four horsemen seen rounding up the horses in Q.7.a.

5.30 p.m. Six men with full packs walking along road in P.18 in Northerly direction.

5.40 p.m. Frequent movement in copse near P.11.a.

6.40 p.m. Long column of horse transport in road in Q.36 going N. East.

6.45 p.m. Four men walking ^{North} along road in P.18. Four men again observed here at 7.20 p.m.

7.35 p.m. till dusk. Isolated movement on roads in P.11.d. to and from HAMEL.

8.25 p.m. Party of about 100 men standing on main road in P.28.d. also large amount of horse transport. Our artillery opened fire at 8.47 but it was too dark to observe results.

8.30 p.m. Seventy men came down road in P.17.d.c and a to valley in P.17.a.1.9.

8.41 p.m. 12 men moved from P.16.c.5.2. to P.15.c.5.2.

6/5/18.

5.45 a.m. Twenty men observed walking along road in Q.20 and Q.26 towards GERISY .

5.50 a.m. Continual stream of G.S. wagons at P.30 b. central travelling south east to main road at Q.25.c.5.3.

TRAFFIC MOVEMENT was observed continuously from noon till 8 p.m. in R.26 and R.32.

7. MISCELLANEOUS. A fire started on the 5th instant in a factory in HAMEL burnt all day. 7 p.m. a message dog was seen making towards HAMEL . It was shot about P.1.d.5.0 and message secured.

At 1.30 p.m. a flare dump in the BOIS de VAIRE was hit by one of our shells. State of Ground still wet and slippery. Visibility poor till 11 a.m. good afterwards except with intervals.

K. A. Goodland Capt.
 for Lieut-Colonel, G.S.
 5th AUSTRALIAN LIGHT DIVISION.

Part II.

(Information from other sources).

(a) TANKS. Information up-to-date concerning hostile tanks is summarised below:-

April 24. From the statement of a tank prisoner, fourteen German built tanks were present on the battlefield at VILLERS BRETONNEUX. i.e. 3 sections of 5 tanks (minus one). He knew of the existence of two sections of British tanks each consisting of 6 tanks. These apparently did not take part in the action.

April 28. A prisoner stated he saw 20 tanks in the valley near MORLINCOURT.

May 4. A prisoner stated he saw on April 26 fourteen disabled German tanks in NURLU.

May 4 Three objects resembling tanks or tractors were seen

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immediately South of ALBERT and fired on .

(b) GERMAN DIVISIONS.

No fresh Divisions have been identified on the battle fronts. A Division, withdrawn from the SOMME battle front, has been put into line in a quiet sector South of LAON.

Of the 206 German Infantry Divisions in the Western Theatre, 145 have been engaged since the 21st March, and 18 are of poor quality.

There are 16 fresh Divisions in reserve and in addition there are 27 fresh Divisions in line which have not yet been drawn into the battle.

(c) GENERAL.

From the increase in ammunition dumps, hospitals, aerodromes, railway sidings and roads in the NESLE, OUECOURT, ROSIERES, WIENCOURT and MARICOURT (plateau) area as shown in air photographs there is no doubt that a big attack South and North of the SOMME is contemplated and that arrangements are well advanced.

The presence of tanks between ALBERT and the SOMME must be expected, and it is considered that the Germans will attack both between the SOMME and the ANCRE and due West of ALBERT, in co-operation with attacks in greater strength further North.

NOTE on 108th DIVISION.

108th Division (97th I.R.
(137th I.R.
(265th R.I.R.

This Division was in line in the LAON area in March, 1918 and has since been G.H.Q. reserve. Its previous service has been all in the East, where it participated in the German offensives into RUSSIA and GALICIA 1915. The 265th R.I.R. was identified by our Right Brigade last night at P.14.e.7.3 and the 137th I.R. by the Division on our Left, in an attempted raid on our post at P.25.e.8.6 on the night of 4th/5th May. It is uncertain which division has been relieved in line.

The 97th I.R. and 137th I.R. come from the 21st Army Corps District (LORRAINE) and the 265th R.I.R. from the 9th Army Corps District (MECKLENBURG SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN).

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

6 a.m. 6th May - to - 6 a.m. 7th May, 1918.

NOTE: NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. At 7.5. a.m enemy movement in P.10. d.7.8 was successfully engaged. At 7.15 a.m twelve men in P.16. c were put to flight. At 9.15 a.m. a hostile party in P.15.d was scattered. New work in P.14.b, was bombarded with satisfactory results, many direct hits being obtained. At 11.31 am an enemy party in P.16.b.2.8 was dispersed. Small hostile parties in P.15.c, were scattered during the afternoon. Our artillery were active during the night on counter preparation. At 9.45 p.m a Divisional salvo (all groups) was fired on P.10.c.4.5. Counter preparation Lines were swept for 10 minutes at 9.55 p.m, 11.25 p.m., 2.30 a.m., and 3.20 a.m., interspersed with Divisional salvos at 11.20 p.m on P.14.d. 7.5; at 2.24 am on P.10.c.4.8 and at 3.25 a.m on P.5.c.9.5. At 4.5 a.m. a rolling barrage swept back from "S.O.S" plus 600 yards to "S.O.S" plus 100 yards. Between 7.30 p.m. and 11 p.m bursts of fire were put down on K.31 and on valley in K.26.c & d in co-operation with Left flank Division. The mobile Brigade bombarded the BOIS de VAIRE, BOIS D'ACCROCHE, Wood in P.11.d, cross roads in P.21.d, enemy works in P.11.a, and movement in trench running South from this work. Enemy parties in P.15 and P.16 were engaged and retired rapidly to cover. Very effective shooting by Heavy Artillery seen on new work in front of the BOIS de VAIRE.

H.T.M. 6" Newton T.M. fired 29 rounds on targets on the Left Brigade front between 4.30 and 5 a.m. 6/5/18.

Infantry. To conform to the movement forward of the Division on our Left, the Left Battalion of our Left Brigade advanced its line at 10.15 p.m to the sunken road, J.30.a.70.00 to J.30.b.80.80.

L.T.M's fired on enemy works at J.30.d.5.5 and J.30.d.7.4.

M.G's Harassing fire was maintained during the night on the following targets.

Road from P.14.b.71.15	to	P.15.c.30.45
" " P.21.a.35.73	to	P.21.a.30.00
" " P.21.a.10.05	to	P.21.d.07.74
Area P.15.c.00.40	to	P.15.c.43.30
P.15.a.67.17	to	P.15.c.30.45

In conjunction with the minor infantry operation our guns fired on K.25.c.00.60 to K.25.c.25.60. Rounds expended 7,500.

Patrols. Right Brigade Patrols found quarry at cross roads in P.20.a and post at P.20.a.15.40 unoccupied. Voices were heard in the quarry near the corner of BOIS de VAIRE at P.14.b.25.25.

Left Brigade patrols found that the post at P.8.d.5.6 was unoccupied.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Was exceptionally quiet during the night, and intermittently active with deliberate observed shoots during the day. In the morning HA ELET was lightly shelled by a 77 mm battery from the direction of BOIS D'ACCROCHE, and the same battery registered on VAIRE Church. BOUZENCOURT was lightly shelled by a 77mm battery from P.11.c. P.19.b and P.13.c were also shelled during the morning with 77mm's.

Appendix 2

Three rounds of 5.9 H.V. fell in CORBIE, FOUILLOY was intermittently shelled by 5.9 Hows. between 9.40 and 11.40 a.m. The front system was lightly shelled by 4.2 Hows. between 10.15 and 11.20 a.m. From 12.30 p.m. to 2 p.m. J.29.b was shelled with 4.2 Hows from MALARD WOOD. In the afternoon 20 rounds 77 mm fell in I.28; HAILLET was lightly shelled by 77 mm; 25 rounds 77 mm fell in VAIRE; 15 rounds 4.2 How. in I.28.b, & d; Three bursts from a 77mm battery in P.11.c on J.33; 200 rounds of 5.9 How. on J.14.b.70.35 (battery position) between 6 am 3 p.m. and 40 rounds of 4.2 How. on J.15.a. At 5 p.m. 12 rounds 4.2 How. fell in FOUILLOY. At 9 p.m. SAILLY-le-SEC was subjected to shelling.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES. Trenches. A trench has been located on Eastern edge of VAIRE WOOD extending from P.20.b.6.8 to P.14.d.75.05. Wire. The trench running along Southern side of VAIRE WOOD road has been wired from P.20.b.05.80 to P.20.a.95.70. M.G's were located at P.14.c.90.90 and P.14.b.35.35. O.P's at K.31.c.65.45 and K.31.c.7.5 were used all day.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Enemy seems to be avoiding identification. Right Brigade reports that advanced posts in P.20.a where opposition was always met previously were found unoccupied by patrols.

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Enemy planes were fairly active. Five triplanes patrolled our lines at 7.a.m and brought one of our planes down in flames to the North of our Left Brigade. At 2.30 p.m. nine enemy aircraft crossed our lines but were driven back by A.A. fire. An enemy plane is reported to have been driven down behind VAIRE WOOD at 7 p.m. At 7.10 p.m. three enemy planes patrolled our lines flying very low.

7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES. Following movement was observed :-
 Between 7 and 8 am parties of the enemy (about 70 to 90 men) were observed moving forward in K.19.b.3.0 and were fired on by artillery.
 Between 8 and 8.30 a large party of from 200 to 300 men were working along North side of road at R.13.a, and d. They marched off at 8.35 am. Horses grazing in Q.9 and Q.15 were engaged by our 60 pdrs. with shrapnel.
 Transport movement was observed intermittently on road in Q.9. Isolated movement was also observed in Post at P.8.d.35.75, between wood in P.15 and 16; on road in P.10.d and near dug out at P.21.d.9.9.
 A H.Q. is suspected at P.17.a.8.0.
 Several trains were observed in R.26 and R.32.

MISCELLANEOUS. A large area of turf has been removed at P.14.b.00.05. An area of camouflage about 50 yds. square was observed at southern corner of BOIS de VAIRE. At 9.20 p.m an enemy dump south of SAILLY LAURETTE was blown up by our artillery and continued burning for some hours.

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

Appendix 2

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Part II.

(Information from other sources).

5/5/18. ORDER OF BATTLE.

Since 27th April six fresh divisions have been identified in line between MORLANCOURT and the LUCE. Four of them (108th Div., Jager Div., 109th Div., and 14th Bav.Div.) are completely fresh and are making their first appearance on the battle front. Of the remaining two, one (199th) has been engaged three times, but it has had a long rest of nearly three weeks since its last engagement; the other (24th R.D.) is doing its second tour on this front. It has had over a fortnight's rest.



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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 7th May - to - 6 a.m. 8th May, 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Visibility was poor throughout the day, consequently few live targets were engaged.

In the morning an O.P. at K.31.c.60.45 was knocked out by 4.5" Hows. Strong points in P.4.d. were bombarded. Small parties of enemy in P.14 and P.16 were engaged and dispersed. At 4.15 p.m. active hostile battery at K.25.d.90.10

was effectively dealt with by a box barrage and bombardment. At 9.30 p.m. a two minute concentration was fired on P.15.b.3.1 to P.15.central. At 10.25 p.m. the trench system in P.10.b. and d., P.11.a. and P.4.d. was bombarded by all guns and hows. for ten minutes. At 2.30 a.m. a two minute burst was fired on the BOIS de VAIRE in P.20.b. and SAILLY LAURENT bombarded. At 3.0 a.m. a ten minute burst swept the works in front of the BOIS de VAIRE and 500 yards East; the valley in K.31. was searched at the same time.

At 3.18 a.m. a two minute burst was fired on the BOIS de VAIRE, and the cemetery in J.36.c. At 3.45 a.m. a rolling barrage swept forward from the S.O.S. plus 50 yards to S.O.S. plus 300 yards, in five minutes. At 11. p.m. a program was fired in conjunction with the Infantry advance on the left.

(b) Infantry. In order to conform to the movement forward of the Division on our left, the Left Battalion of our Left Brigade advanced their line to J.30.a.9.1 - K.25.a.10.65 with a support platoon on their flank at J.24.d.9.0 facing east. At 11 p.m. the barrage fell and four platoons moved forward. The two platoons on the Right gained their objectives first and dug in in two strong posts. The Left Centre platoon encountered an enemy Strong Post at J.30.b.7.5 which they bombed and rushed with the bayonet capturing three wounded prisoners and killing the remainder of the Garrison. The operation resulted in the gain of about 150 yds. on the Right and 300 yds. on the Left on a front of 700 yds. Three prisoners were taken and at least 20 enemy killed. Our casualties were slight.

(c) Patrols. Right Brigade patrols observed a party of eight leaving post at P.20.a.7.5, and another party of ten men entering it. An enemy patrol was also heard at P.14.c.9.2 moving back towards VAIRE BOOD. M.G's were firing from P.8.d.5.8. (approx), P.14.b.9.2 and P.14.b.6.1. Left Brigade patrols found NO MANS' LAND quite clear of the enemy and very quiet.

Wire in front of enemy trench at P.8.d.3.7 appeared to consist of plain concertina wire about 2 to 3 ft. high. Movement was noticed in the trench. A M.G. was active from P.9.c.5.8 (approx).

(d) M.G's. The following roads were searched with harassing fire as under :-

P.14.b.70.15	to	P.15.a.30.45
P.21.a.35.75	to	P.21.a.30.00
P.21.a.10.05	to	P.21.d.10.75
P.15.c.00.40	to	P.15.c.30.30
P.15.a.65.15	to	P.15.c.30.45

Left Bde. Sector.

In conjunction with an infantry operation our guns fired on the following targets :-

From K.25.a.15.00 to K.25.c.00.50; K.25.a.15.00 to K.25.a.20.60
17,000 rounds were expended.

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(e) L.T.M's. 40 rounds were fired on enemy post at P.8.d.35.75 and 35 rounds on M.G's at J.30.b.9.1 and K.25.a.2.0.

2. HOSTILE SHELLING. This has continued quiet. In the morning 10 rounds 77 mm fell in HAMELET from P.17. J.31 was intermittently shelled by 77 mm, VAIRE by 25 rounds 4.2 How, P.1 and O.17. intermittently by 77 mm and 4.2 Hows, I.24 and I.29 by short bursts of 4.2 Hows, J.19.c. by 12 rounds 4.2 How, and the Canal area in O.6.a by 20 rounds 77 mm. In the afternoon VAIRE was shelled by 20 rounds 77 mm from the BOIS de VAIRE, I.24.b. by 10 rounds 5.9 How, I.24.b by 20 rounds 77 mm from direction of CERISY, J.31.central by 6 rounds 4.2 How. and three rounds 5.9 H.V. on CORBIE. A 4.2 H.V. gun from South-East registered on Cross roads in P.1.a. During the day a 5.9 H.V. gun put eight rounds between BUSSY-les-DAOURS and VECQUEMONT. At night 20 rounds 4.2 How. fell in VAIRE, 50 rounds 5.9 How. fell on roads in J.25, few 4.2 How. in HAMELET and a number of 4.2's in O.17.a. Enemy replied to our 5 a.m. artillery shoot by shelling our line in P.13. and P.8 with H.E. and M.W's.
3. IDENTIFICATIONS. Three prisoners of 12th Company 114th I.R., 199th Div. captured in K.30.b. Examination forms Annexe.
4. ENEMY DEFENCES. Trenches. Enemy trench from P.20.b.2.5 to approx P.20.d.0.4 was damaged by our artillery bombardment. Several direct hits were observed. A line of six posts each capable of holding about six men was located from P.14.c.8.4 to P.14.c.85.00. Two small enemy posts about 25 yds apart were located at P.14.d.0.2. Wire in front of trench at P.8.d.3.7 (see Patrols). M.G's were active from P.8.d.5.8; P.14.b.9.2; P.14.b.6.1.
5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet but alert. No patrolling forward of his posts was noticed. M.G's were active during the whole night.
6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Towards evening several planes were seen over our lines, otherwise enemy aircraft were very inactive.
7. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES. At 9 a.m. an enemy working party was dispersed by artillery at E.31.a.4.5. Isolated movement was observed near trench at P.14.b.55.00 and in VAIRE WOOD.
8. MISCELLANEOUS. Nil.

K.A. Goodland Capt-
for
Lieut-Colonel, G.S,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Part II

(Information from other sources).

- (a) Two fresh divisions withdrawn from LAON sector and CHAMPAGNE respectively have come into line on the SOME battle front between the Rivers SOME and LUCE. Another division, withdrawn from this battle front, has relieved a division on the VERDUN front.

/or

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

Report on examination of two wounded men of the 12th Co., 114th I.R., 199th Division captured in K.30.b at 11 p.m 7/5/18.

- 1. IDENTIFICATION. 12th Company, 114th I.R.
- 2. PERSONAL. 1919 class. Called up in September 1917, went to Recruit Depot in BADEN. Went to Recruit Depot in WARSAW in the beginning of December and remained there till 6th April, 1918. Transferred to WEST in a Marsch Battalion of about 700 men, sent to 199th Division -ROUTE- through HALLE, FRANKFURT, SEDAN, CAMBRAI. Both prisoners are without military experience, this being their first tour in line.
- 3. HOW CAPTURED. A party of five men were occupying a small trench and were overwhelmed by our advancing infantry. This trench contained a small dugout 6 ft. deep and covered with a sheet.
- 4. BATTALION RELIEFS. The 3rd Bn. relieved the 1st Bn. on 2nd May, and has been expecting relief again by the 1st Bn. for the last two nights. It will most probably eventuate to-night.
- 5. DISPOSITIONS. Prisoners do not know Divisions on their Flank but one says he was told that the 86th Regt was there, 3rd Bn. in Front Line, 2nd Bn. in Reserve positions some distance back, and 1st Bn. in rest billets in BRAY. 11th and 12th Companies are in line each with one Platoon in forward posts and two platoons in new trenches some 200 metres back.
- 6. M.G's. 12th Company has four L.M.G's which are disposed in forward posts along the Company front.
- 7. REST BILLETS. Battalion rest billets are in BRAY. The troops live in the houses of the town. There is a large tent camp at SUZANNE.
- 8. ROUTE TO TRENCHES. From BRAY by road branching left from the CRUCIFIX to about K.25.d and then across country to Front Line.
- 9. DRAFTS. The large draft of about 700 men (Marsch Battalion) was the last to reach the Division and was composed almost entirely of 1919 class.
- 10. STRENGTH. 12th Company 80 to 100 men.
- 11. CASUALTIES. Light in the Company.
- 12. TANKS. Prisoners saw seven captured English tanks on the road from CAMBRAI to BRAY on 24th April.
- 13. ENEMY INTENTIONS. Prisoners do not think that their Division is meditating an attack. They have the idea that they are to hold the line only.

-3-

Of the 206 German Infantry Divisions in the Western Theatre, 147 have been engaged since the 21st March and 18 are of poor quality. There are 15 fresh Divisions in reserve, and in addition, there are 26 fresh divisions in line which have not yet been drawn into the battle.

(b) GENERAL. A big attack must be expected in the near future, along the whole Army front. South of the SOMME it is considered that this attack will be carried out by the fresh divisions now holding the line with a limited objective and in little depth. Between the SOMME and ALBERT an attack with a limited objective and in little depth is also anticipated. Between ALBERT and ARRAS it will be delivered with fresh divisions now in Reserve, who will pass through the tired divisions now holding the line and will be made in depth. The big blow will be made in this Sector.

1. The 3rd Army is expected to be relieved by the 1st Army in the next few days. It will most probably be relieved in the next few days.
2. DISPOSITIONS. The 3rd Army is expected to be relieved by the 1st Army in the next few days. It will most probably be relieved in the next few days.
3. The 3rd Army is expected to be relieved by the 1st Army in the next few days. It will most probably be relieved in the next few days.
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15. The 3rd Army is expected to be relieved by the 1st Army in the next few days. It will most probably be relieved in the next few days.

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 8th May - to - 6 a.m. 9th May, 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into the Front Line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the morning an enemy party at P.10.b.6.8 was engaged and again during the afternoon a party was dispersed at P.10.b.5.0. Party of 12 at P.16.c were scattered. On information from aerial observation a concentrated shoot for 5 minutes, in conjunction with Heavy Artillery, was put down on new work from P.14.b.50.30 to P.14.d.30.80 at 4.12 p.m. Between 6 and 7 p.m small parties of enemy moving between BOIS de VAIRE and BOIS D'ACCROCHE were engaged and the area was kept under sweeping fire. At 4.10pm and 7.10 pm movement in BOIS de VAIRE was engaged. At 7.45 pm a large enemy party in K 27.a.1.9 was engaged. At 8.40 pm the infantry reported that the enemy was observed, in large numbers, in BOIS de VAIRE, and was successfully engaged. 8.50 pm transport at P.17.a.6.4 was engaged effectively. Concentrated bursts of fire, in conjunction with Heavy Artillery, were carried out during the night for 5 minutes at 9.30 pm on trench system in P.4, 10 and 16 and at 10.15 pm on valley in P.9.c and O.5.a and 14.b. Counter preparation targets were engaged for 2 minutes at 3.25 am. "S.O.S" roll from "S.O.S" line plus 575 yards to "S.O.S" plus 75 yds. for 5 minutes at 3.55 am. At 2 a.m BOIS de VAIRE was swept with concentrated fire for 10 minutes, in conjunction with gas projectiles, which were fired on to new work on Western edge of BOIS de VAIRE.

(b) Infantry. To assist Division on our Left, our Left flank was pushed forward to K.25.a.25.90.

(c) Patrols. Right Brigade patrols found an unoccupied post about 50 yds. long at P.14.c.5.6. No sign of the enemy was encountered on the whole Brigade front.

Left Brigade. A patrol fired 16 rifle grenades into an enemy M.G. post at P.9.c.5.8. The enemy did not retaliate, one rifle shot only being fired.

Other patrols found NO MAN'S LAND quiet. Strong patrols on the left obtained touch with the Division on our left.

(d) M.G.'s. Harassing fire was brought to bear on all roads and tracks in vicinity of BOIS de VAIRE. Our guns also fired along roads at J.36.d.9.4 and J.30.b. Ammunition expended 11,000 rounds.

(e) L.T.M.'s. In co-operation with Lewis Guns, 50 rounds were fired on Posts at P.20.a.4.6, P.20.a.4.7 and P.20.a.9.8.

(f) Snipers. Seven casualties are claimed by our snipers on the extreme Left Flank.

2. IDENTIFICATION. Nil.

3. HOSTILE SHELLING. VAIRE and J.35 were shelled by 4.2 and 77mm intermittently during the morning. Between 10.30 am and 11.30 a.m 20 rounds of 77 mm fell on J.27.b; 12 noon to 12.35 pm 12 rounds of 5.9 fell on J.29 from direction of V.35.a; 12 noon CORBIE received 5 rounds of 4.2. Between 3 and 4 p.m. VAIRE and Front System in P.8.c were shelled lightly by 4.2 and 77 mm. 4.10 pm O.17.a, received 12 rounds of 5.9; 4.40 pm 6 rounds of 5.9 on O.17.b; 4.50 pm I.30.b was lightly

Appendix 2

shelled by 77 mm and from 8.30 pm to 9 pm 30 rounds of 77 mm fell on J.25. From 10 pm to 1 am J.32 was intermittently shelled by 4.2 How.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Trenches. The enemy appear to be digging a new trench from J.36.c.8.4 to J.36.c.8.0 with a sap to J.36.c.2.1. New work is being carried out at P.14.d.50.25.
M.G. A M.G. position is in course of construction at K.25.a.
4.7.
A M.G. was located at J.36.c.2.1.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

No signs of enemy patrolling were encountered. Front line battalions of the Right Brigade report considerable decrease in sniping and A.A. M.G. fire.

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Two hostile planes crossed our lines at 2.30 pm, 5.30 pm and 6.30 pm. At 7 pm one E.A. flew very low and dropped three bombs near one of our posts in P.2.c.

7. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

At 7.45 pm about 400 men were observed marching in column in K.27.c. They were severely handled by artillery and aeroplanes before they scattered into small parties. Between 6.45 p.m and 8.30 p.m there was considerable movement of transport and men on roads in P.28. Isolated movement was seen during the day and evening on roads in P.10.d, P.18.c, P.15.c; in P.17.b. and between ACCROCHE WOOD and VAIRE WOOD. At 8.30 pm a large party was seen digging on North side of road in P.28.d.5.3. Transport was heard by patrols on road in P.5.c.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

At 12.40 am a small ammunition dump was set on fire in enemy lines a T.B. of 123° from I.30.a.5.2. It burned for 20 minutes.

K. A. Goodland Capt-
Lieut-Colonel, GS
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Part II.

(Information from other sources).

199th Division.
114th I.R. of 199th Division was identified in J.30.b on night 7th/8th May. This is well within the sector formerly held by 18th Division. The 199th Division appears to have taken over a considerable part of the front of the 18th Division. On the other hand, a document dated 8th May is addressed by the 86th Fus. Regt. of the 18th Division to the 59th Landwehr Brigade of the 199th Division. The document shows that the 86th Fus. Regt. is still in the neighbourhood of SAILLY LAURETTE. This is confirmed by the prisoners of the 114th I.R. taken on the night of 7th/8th May who asserted that the 86th Fus. Regt. was on their left. It seems, therefore, that the 199th Division controls the sector from BUIRE to the SOMME, which is held by its own troops and the exhausted 18th Division.

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 9th May - to - 6 a.m. 10th May, 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into Front Line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. (a) Artillery. In the morning an enemy party at P.17.central was dispersed. In the afternoon movement in the southern portion of the BOIS de VAIRE was engaged, and enemy parties at P.10.d, P.17.a & b, P.12, and P.14.b.5.0 engaged at different times and casualties inflicted. Dug-outs at P.14.d.05.10 were demolished and a hostile battery in P.17.a. neutralised. At 6.15 pm a group concentration was fired on enemy infantry and transport in Q.8.d and Q.9.a. From 7 to 11.45 pm harassing fire on enemy approaches and dead ground was continued actively. At 11.45 pm a two minute burst was fired on counter preparation targets. At 1.55 am a five minute concentration was fired on P.14.b.5.3 to P.14.d.3.8. At 2.25 am approaches to HALELET were swept for two minutes. At 3 am P.15.d, was searched for two minutes. At 3.40 am a rolling barrage swept back from "S.O.S." plus 625 yards to "SOS" plus 25 yds, in six minutes.

(b) Patrols. Night Brigade patrol found the trench at P.20.a.7.6 strongly manned. Enemy patrols were seen at different times near the cross roads at P.20.a.6.5. A working party was also observed in this neighbourhood. The enemy trench at P.8.d.3.6 was found to be occupied. There was no listening post in front of the wire. Left Brigade patrols encountered M.G. fire from P.9.a.9.8 and J.34.d.5.2. No enemy patrols were seen.

(c) M.G.'s. Our guns searched with harassing fire the following roads :-
From P.20.b.30.10 to P.20.b.90.00; From P.14.b.60.10 to P.15.a.20.40.

Concentrated fire was brought to bear on cross roads as under :-
P.21.a.40.00, P.14.b.90.25, P.15.c.30.45.
Ammunition expended 7,000 rounds.

(d) H.T.M.'s. Our 6" Newtons were active on the following targets :-

Cemetery in J.36.c, road junction J.36.a.5.5, and M.G. and M.W. positions in J.35.d, J.36.a, and P.5.b.

L.T.M.'s. Twenty rounds were fired on P.20.a.4.6. Twenty rounds were fired at low flying aero planes,

(e) Sniping. Seven hits are claimed by the Left Battalion of Left Brigade. Enemy in post at P.8.d.35.75 were also fired on.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. HOSTILE SHELLING. Has considerably increased in activity, both during the day and night, on the Left sector. The Right Sector has remained comparatively inactive. I.29 has been heavily shelled by 5.9 Hows from 11.30 am to 6 p.m on a true sound bearing of 140° from I.36.a.3.9. J.15 was continuously bombarded from 10 am until 7 pm by 4.2 hows. from HALLARD WOOD. This recommenced at 8.30 pm and ceased at 10.30 pm after a further 300 rounds had fallen. Shelling of this area re-commenced at 6 am 10th. In the morning HALELET was lightly shelled by 4.2 Hows from the BOIS D'ACCROCHE; J.19 and J.20 by 5.9 Hows; J.20.c, & d intermittently by 77 mm and 10 rounds 4.2 How fell on front line system on the Left. In the afternoon VAIRE was lightly shelled by 4.2 Hows; road in

I.30.c, heavily by 5.9 Hows (3 to 6 pm), O.11.c, by 24 rounds 4.2 How, and O.16.b, by 16 rounds 77 mm. Between 8 and 9 pm 50 rounds 5.9 and 4.2 fell in J.19; J.20 and J.32 were lightly shelled by 4.2 Hows from 9 and 9.45 p.m. Copse and battery position in J.15.b by 300 rounds 4.2 from 8.30 to 10.30 pm; burst of fire on O.24.a, at 8.45 pm J.29.a, J.29.b and SAILLY-le-Sac intermittently bombarded during the night. Area J.29.b. and c was shelled with blue cross gas shells at 12 midnight.

4. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE.

(199th Div	357th I.R.	)	Sector-
(& 18th Div.	? 31st I.R.	)	237th R.I.R.) BUIRE to
	114th I.R.	)	85th I.R.) the SOMME.
	86th Fus.Reg.)	
24th Res. Div.	133rd R.I.R.)	
	? 107th R.I.R.	)	SO. E to P.8 (inclusive).
	? 104th R.I.R.)	
108th Division.	265th R.I.R.	)	P.14 (inclusive) to
	97th I.R.	)	VILLERS BRETONNEUX road.
	137th I.R.)	

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy is strengthening his line in K.25 and more wire has appeared in places. New wire was observed at P.20.b.0.6. M.G's were active from P.9.c.9.8, J.36.b.15.55, and J.30.d.5.5.

6. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Enemy artillery was active North of the SO. E. Several enemy patrols were seen but they were close to his own wire.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Enemy aircraft were active during the day engaged on artillery registration. Four small bombs were dropped on VAIRE at 10.15 am. Air fight took place at various times during the day but no decisive results were observed.

8. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Much movement was seen during the day in enemy lines in K.25. Abnormal hostile movement, both of transport and infantry has been observed in each area. Early in the afternoon reconnaissance plane reported a long column with its head at Q.26, proceeding westward along the AMUSEE road. At 6.40 p.m. a large column (approx. one mile) of infantry with transport was seen in Q.9.a and Q.8 b and d towards CHAISY. This was still moving between CHAISY and CHIFFELLE at 7.30 pm. At 6.50 pm a continuous stream of infantry, in parties of twenty and transport, was seen in Q.25. and Q.26. moving westwards. All these targets were engaged by bombing planes and heavy artillery. Isolated movement was noticed during the day in PLAT IRON COPSE P.11.c, post at P.8.d.35.75 and between HAMEL WOOD and ACCROCHE WOOD.

9. MISCELLANEOUS. At 9.45 pm an enemy search light was active on T.B. 119° from I.30.a.5.2. At 12.20 am a small dump blow up in rear of HAMEL.

At 7.55 pm an enemy A.A. gun was firing from road at W.22.e.9.6.

for K.A. Goodland Capt-
Lieut-Colonel G.S.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Part II.
(Information from other sources).

GERMAN DIVISIONS. A captured map confirms that the 86th Fus. Regt. (18th Div) in the SAILLY LAURETT. sector, is under the orders of the 199th Division. The same map shows that the Order of Battle from North to South is :-

- | | | |
|--------------|---|-----------------|
| 357th I.R. | } | 199th Division. |
| 237th R.I.R. | | |
| 114th I.R. | | |

86th Fus. Regt. 18th Division.
These regiments cover the front from VILLE-sur-ANCRE inclusive to the S.O.E. The 237th R.I.R. has possibly been relieved since by the 31st I.R., 18th Division.

ENEMY LOSSES. 108th Division. A prisoner of the 97th I.R. states that our artillery fire has been particularly effective against the support Battalion and the ration carriers of his regiment. The ration parties are formed from elderly men and come up from BARBONNIERES. They suffered casualties every night and eventually refused to continue.

199th Division. A prisoner of the 114th I. states that since 25th March his company has lost 50%. Many of the troops billeted in BAY have had to camp outside the town owing to the heavy losses caused by bombing. Many horses were also killed which could not be replaced and transport difficulties were acute.

Owing to heavy losses and lack of rest the morale of the Division has been considerably lowered.

1919 class. It is interesting to note that 40% of the prisoners taken from the 237th R.I.R., 199th Division have been of the 1919 class.

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5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 10th May - to - 6 a.m. 11th May, 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into the Front Line Trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. (a) Artillery. During the afternoon a hostile body at P.14.d was dispersed; a body of twelve enemy in P.14.a scattered, and a working party at P.14.d.5.8 was engaged and casualties inflicted. A number of the enemy engaged in carrying boxes from the BOIS D'ACROCHE to the BOIS de HAFEL were put to flight. Movement was observed in a post at P.10.b.10.95, which was bombarded and three direct hits obtained. From 5 to 5.50 p.m. a building at P.9.b.1.9 (occupied by a machine gun party) was bombarded with good results. At 6.5 pm an N.F. call on K.21.a.6.3 was answered. At 8.15 pm enemy movement on the Eastern edge of the BOIS de VAIRE was engaged. At 9.25 pm a ten minute concentration was put down on new work J.36.c.8.4 - J.36.c.8.0 - J.36.c.2.1. At 2.40 am a burst of fire swept the BOIS de VAIRE and worked to the West for five minutes. At 3.25 am points of possible assembly and routes were searched for two minutes. At 3.40 am a five minutes area shoot was fired on P.15.c. At 4.25 am a rolling barrage proceeded from "S.O.S." plus 75 yards to "S.O.S." plus 575 yards, five minutes. Counter battery concentrations, in conjunction with Heavy Artillery, were fired at 11 p.m. and 1 a.m.
- (b) Patrols. Right Brigade patrols came into contact with enemy posts on several occasions. One patrol was fired on by M.G. and rifle bombers from enemy post at P.14.c.8.5. The enemy was heard moving in the copse at P.14.c.80.75 and a M.G. was seen firing from behind hedge at P.14.b.2.5. A small enemy post at P.14.b.2.0 was examined and is evidently used occasionally by a flare thrower. Near the post in P.8.d.3.7 a patrol was fired at by a minenwerfer from the rear of the post. Three attempts were made to approach the post at P.20.c.6.6 but were prevented by M.G. fire. Two sentries were seen in post at P.20.a.4.6. Grenades were thrown at the patrol from this post. An attempt to approach an enemy post at P.14.a.9.6 was frustrated by heavy M.G. fire and bombs. An enemy flare showed the terrace here to be strongly held in three places.
- Left Brigade. Searched for a suspected enemy M.G. post at P.3.c.3.0 but found no sign of it. Fighting patrols protected the British plane in P.4.b. At 7.10 pm. one Officer (Lt. HILL, M.C.) and one man went forward with a stretcher and brought in the pilot of the British plane which had crashed in P.4.b.4.8. The enemy did not open fire on them although they were seen observing the operation.
- (c) M.G. Harassing fire was maintained on all roads and tracks in vicinity of BOIS de VAIRE. 7,000 rounds were expended.
- (d) H.T.M's Twenty-five rounds were fired on enemy posts and trenches in J.35.d, J.36.c, P.5.b.
- L.T.M's Thirty rounds of incendiary shells were fired on British plane in P.4.b. Fire was brought to bear on enemy posts at P.20.c.7.5, P.20.a.9.4 and on low flying planes.
- (e) Snipers. Casualties are claimed on extreme Left Flank and several hostile parties along the front were dispersed.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS.

Nil

3. HOSTILE SHELLING. Has remained active - scattered shelling, with two early morning concentrations on the South of the river. In the morning J.22 and J.27 were intermittently shelled by 4.2 and 5.9 Hows. and one burst of 12 rounds 77 mm; J.20.c was searched by 77 mm on a T.B. 115°, 20' from J.27.a.7.0; I.24 lightly shelled by a 5.9 how. from FLAT IRO COPSE and by salvos of 77 mm, and a 4.2 How. registered on P.13.c. firing from a direction of the BOIS de V. IRE. In the afternoon the front System before AAMI received 30 rounds 77 mm; HA ELET 30 rounds 77mm; J.19.d shelled by 20 rounds 77 mm; I.29.b. and a. by 30 rounds 4.2 how; I.33 by 15 rounds 77mm; BONNAY by 8 rounds 5.9 how. road in I.50.c by 10 rounds 77 mm (from the BOIS de FAMEL); I.31.c by 3 rounds 77 mm (four guns firing); CORBIE by a 4.2/and J.26.a b a 77mm/ on a T.B. 120°, 20' from J.27.a.7.0. During the night a few rounds 4.2 how. fell in VAIRE (1 a.m.); 0.17.c.2.9 to 0.12.c.7.7 was bombarded for five minutes by 4.2 and 5.9 hows. and 77 mm guns at 9.20 am, and at 5 am a five minute burst of 50 rounds 4.2 how. fell in 0.12.c. From 10.15 to 10.20 pm J.27.b was heavily shelled with 77 mm Green Cross gas shells.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES. Trenches. The following enemy posts were found to be occupied :- P.14.c.8.5, P.8.d.3.7, P.20.c.4.7, P.14.a.9.6, K.25.c.7.3. The copse in P.14.b is reported to be held at night only. The enemy continues to work on his posts in K.25. Wire. Post P.8.d.3.7. is wired on front and both sides, and crosses the road. The wire in front of post at P.14.b.4.2 has been cut in several places by our shell fire. A new belt of wire has been erected in front of trench at K.25.a.4.4. M.G's were located in copse at P.14.b.2.0, P.14.b.45.10, P.14.b.25.55, P.20.a.9.9. Four A.A., M.G's fired on our planes from K.25.c.75.30. O.P. An O.P. is suspected at P.14.b.4.0

5. ENEMY ACTIVITY. Patrols found the enemy very alert in his forward posts. There was no retaliation for our artillery shoot. Two heavy though short concentrations were put down on Right Brigade Reserve Area.

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. There was aerial activity by both sides during the latter part of the afternoon. At 7 pm as a result of a combat over SAILLY-le-SEC one of our planes crashed in P.4.b

7. MOVEMENT IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Movement was seen late evening near trench at P.20.d.95.20, also in P.10.d. and tracks in P.15.d and P.15.c. Movement was also seen in the gap at P.10.d.9.5. Transport was heard on roads in rear of BOIS de VAIRE at 10 pm. An enemy wiring party about 60 strong at K.25.a.4.4 was engaged by a Lewis Gun. Four including an Officer were killed and 12 wounded. Several stretcher cases were carried out of VAIRE WOOD at 5.5 am

8. MISCELLANEOUS. Patrol report that enemy M.G. fire opened on Left Battalion front on signal given by single rifle shot. A big dump exploded near HARBONNIERES at 4.50 pm.

for *Katoodland Camp*
Lieut-Colonel, G.S.,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 11th May - to - 6 a.m. 12th May, 1918.

NOTE: NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.

1. OPERATIONS. (a) Artillery. Considerable movement was observed and engaged. In the morning a working party on the grid line P.15.d - P.21.k was dispersed; small parties near the BOIS de VAIRE scattered; a party of ten with packs and rifles at the BOIS de HAMEL put to flight; movement in P.16.c engaged and casualties inflicted, and a hostile party at P.15.d driven to cover. In the afternoon a suspected H.Q. at P.15.d.7.0 was engaged, three direct hits being observed. A number of the enemy in P.14.central were scattered. During the afternoon a single gun was run forward into the SOMME salient, so as to enfilade the new work in front of the BOIS de VAIRE where active construction is still in progress. This gun was registered on the work and then remained silent. At 8.30 pm it opened and maintained continuous sniggering fire sweeping the whole work until 3.15 am when a divisional concentration was fired on the same target. This gun was then withdrawn to the main position. At 10.17 pm all guns fired a creeping box concentration, shepherding the enemy into the wood in P.15.e from a radius of 1000 yards. All guns, including Heavy Artillery, then engaged this area for two minutes. At 2 am a 25 minutes Trench mortar concentration was fired on the Left of Brigade front, supported by two groups of artillery, the remainder engaging routes and assembly points. At 3.7 am two minute concentrations were fired on strong points in P.16.b, and on HAMEL in P.9.b. At 3.20 am a six minute jumping barrage was put down along the divisional front, fluctuating between "S.O.S" plus 500 yards and "S.O.S" plus 75 yards.
- (b) Patrols. Right Brigade patrols examined small copse at P.14.central and found it clear of enemy. Post at P.8.e.2.7 was reconnoitred and it was found to be only 10 yds. from the wire where it crosses the road. The post was occupied. A patrol found the quarry at P.20.a.5.4 unoccupied. An enemy patrol of four was encountered on road near quarry and two enemy were killed. The other two escaped. Left Brigade patrols report the enemy very quiet. All NO MANS' LAND was searched without meeting with any sign of him.
- (c) Machine Guns. Our guns traversed and searched all roads and tracks in the vicinity of BOIS de VAIRE. Rounds expended 8000.
- (d) H.T.'s. Eight rounds were fired in enemy posts in J.35.d, J.36.e and P.5.a.
- L.T.'s. Three hundred rounds were fired on following targets. British plane in P.4.b, enemy posts and machine guns at J.35.d.5.2 P.4.b.3.6, P.9.a.2.8, P.8.d.5.5, P.20.a.7.8. Incendiary shells were fired into HAMEL and a S. . . and flare dump blown up.
- (e) Sniping. Casualties were elicited along the whole front.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Two men of 10th Co. 265th R.I.R., 108th Div., killed in P.20.c. (Normal).
3. HOSTILE SHELLING. Remained active but scattered on the Left of the Sector, quiet on the Right except for two bursts. The night was quiet. In the morning P.8 was lightly shelled by 4.2 how; VAIRE by 77 mm, 5.9 how and 4.2 how from P.30; WELCOME WOOD intermittently by 77mm battery from SAILLY LAURETTE; P.19.b by 10 rounds 4.2 how, J.15 by a few rounds of 5.9 how. In the

Appendix 2.

-2-

afternoon eight rounds 4.2 H.V. fell in BONNAY apparently from P.18.b; J.30.3 shelled lightly by 5.2 how: VAIRE by 20 rounds 4.2 how. from P.18; J.19 b. 4.2 how. lightly and O.17.a b. a burst of 40 rounds 4.2 and 5.9 hows. at 7 pm according to programme. Between 10 pm and midnight forty rounds 5.9 how. fell in J.21 and a few rounds of 4.2 how. in J.15.b; at 3 am a burst of 40 rounds of 4.2 and 5.9 how. fell in O.17.b; and at 4.10 a.m 12 rounds 4.2 how. fell in VAIRE. Minerwerfers. Fourteen rounds were fired on J.34.c.8.8 and four rounds on J.34.d.50.33 from the direction of F.4.b.2.3.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES. Trenches. Observers report four posts along ridge from P.21.a.5.2 to P.21.a.5.6. Much work has been done here during the past two nights. There is a line of posts along road from P.20.a.6.6 to P.14.d.2.3. These posts are wired. There is a continuous trench from P.14.d.4.7 to P.14.d.40.05. This is also wired. A post was dug during the afternoon at I.15.b.85. Work is being carried on at the post at K.25.c.75.70. Wire. New wire has been erected from K.25.a.7.9 to K.25.b.25.80.
5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. The enem. is working hard on his defences in K.25.a and P.21.a. Artillery action now includes concentrated shoots of short duration.
6. AERIAL ACTIVITY. There was very little aerial activity. At 5.40 pm seven E.A. crossed our lines.
7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES. At 10.50 am twenty men were seen working in sunken road in P.22.a. Isolated movement as seen in P.10.d, P.15.c and P.9.c, between ACCROCHE WOOD and VAIRE WOOD, roads in G.2, P.28.b and P.23.d. Movement was seen at suspected Headquarters at P.15.d.7.0. Ration parties leaving VAIRE WOOD at 7 pm were scattered by snipers. Two enem. were killed and three wounded near trench at K.35.c.75.70.
8. MISCELLANEOUS. Front line observers report that enem. transport was caught in HAMEL being our shoot at 10.17 pm - shouting and furious driving heard. Three horn blasts were heard in enem. lines at 11.30 am and one at 3.15 p.m.

for *K. Fordland*
Lieut-Colonel, G.S.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Part II.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

10th May, 1918.

A fresh division from CHAMPAGNE has come into line on the SOMME battle front.

Of the 206 German infantry divisions in the Western Theatre, 150 have been engaged since the 21st March, and 18 are of poor quality. There are 12 fresh divisions in reserve, and, in addition, there are 26 fresh divisions in line which have not yet been drawn into battle.

LOSSES.

18th Division. In a letter dated 5th May a man of this Division writes :-

"Our company has suffered heavy gas casualties".

3-

Part II.
(Information from other sources).

9th May, 1918.

A fresh division from the LENS sector has come into line on the LYS battle front. Of the 206 German Infantry divisions in the Western Theatre, 149 have been engaged since the 31st March, and 18 are of poor quality. There are 15 fresh divisions in reserve, and in addition, there are 26 fresh divisions in line which have not yet been drawn into the battle.

STRENGTH. 199th Division.
A captured document shows the following fighting strengths of the 114th I.R. on various dates :-

APRIL 7th.-

1st Bn. ...	3 Officers.	...	209 O.R.	....	12	I.M.G's.
2nd "	6 "	...	245 "	....	16	"
3rd "	6 "	...	215 "	....	16	"

	16 "	...	667 "	....	44	"
Bn. H.Q.	8 "	...	56 "	....	

TOTAL	26 "	...	703 "	....	44	"
Three M.G. Coys. each of 3 Officers, 119 O.R. 12 M.G's.						
T.M.Coy ... " 3 " 97 " 5 I.T.M's.						
Signals. ... " 1 Officer 50 "						
<u>MAY 1st.</u>						
114th I.R.	15 Officers	...	512 O.R.			
M.G. Coy.	3 "	...	106 "			

