

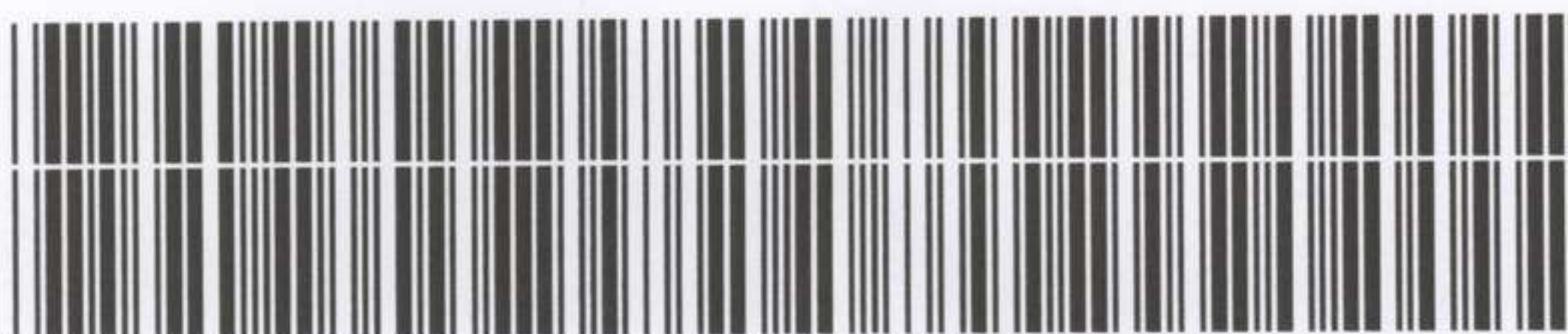
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/33/8 Part 2

Title: Intelligence, Headquarters 2nd
ANZAC Corps

December 1916



AWM4-1/33/8PART2

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.Period from 8 a.m. 14th December to 8 a.m. 15th December, 1916.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Our Batteries active throughout the day. Fired on movement on CRUCIFIX Road, at ROUGES BLANCS and B RUIRE FMT (N.18.e.), also on working parties and work at LA BIETTE, WATER FORT (N.11.b.) and TURKS POINT.

Our E.T.Ms engaged enemy's communication trenches near CLAPHAM JUNCTION, results appearing satisfactory.

M.T.Ms. registered CORNER FORT and bombarded wire and parapet N. of SUGAR LOAF, L.T.Ms. co-operating.

Centre Sector. Between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Divisional Artillery carried out shoot on enemy's transport routes and tramlines.

Group retaliation also for enemy's T.M. fire, was afforded by the Right Group.

M.T.Ms. in the RUE DU BOIS Sector damaged enemy's wire at CUSTOM HOUSE and those in BOIS GRENIER Sector destroyed concrete works visible near LA HOUSELIE, at the same time levelling the front line for about 40 yds.

Left Sector. Suspected T.M. emplacements in C.29.e., S. of FORT BALLOT came under our fire.

Our T.Ms. damaged enemy's wire at L.S. 4 HALLOTS FM.

Our Hows. bombarded enemy's support line opposite FORT BALLOT in retaliation on their continued shelling on L' PINETTE Salient.

Enemy's Minnenwerfer active on FORT BALLOT, a great number of shells failing to explode.

MACHINE GUNS.

Right Sector. Enemy's working party at LA BIETTE dispersed by our snipers and machine guns.

Left Sector. 9th M.G.Coy carried out indirect fire on cross roads I.12.d., N. of H. LT. From midnight to 2.30 a.m. the 10th M.G.Coy fired on road from LA BLAUE to BASTROU.

Indirect fire also was carried out on Dump at INTACT FARM from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Lewis Guns of the 33rd Battalion A.I.F. were active traversing enemy's parapet in front of right Battalion sub-section front.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. A patrol from the 3rd Battalion N.2.(Rifle) Bde. reports that the forward line of enemy's wire N. of TADPOLE has been practically destroyed.

A patrol from the 4th Battalion N.2.(Rifle) Bde. found wire at CORNER FORT completely cut. Sounds suggesting that iron standards were being driven into the ground in the direction of the MALE.

Left Sector. Four patrols from the 33rd Battalion A.I.F. reported an unusual number of very lights in use by enemy.

One patrol from this unit advanced to within 75 yards of enemy's parapet and reported that enemy was at work in trenches along BLOQUE DE LA BLAUE.

An enemy's machine gun fired from near RUE DE LA BLANCHE line, the gun crew being then heard to walk to the left for about 25 yards to another position, from which another burst was fired. This was repeated and in all 4 bursts were fired in about 100 yards, the last coming from I.17.a.45.95., just N. of RUE DE LA BLANCHE.

A bullet from our parapet hit enemy's parapet and the patrol Sergeant heard enemy say "Come on", patrol then moved to about 100 yards to right.

An enemy's working party in same vicinity was dispersed by Lewis Gun and rifle fire of the 33rd Battalion A.I.F. on patrols' report.

Three patrols from the 34th Battalion A.I.F. reported NO. 1 F's LAND as being very wet and difficult to patrol; one of these patrols reached enemy's wire N. of ANGLE L' PINETTE I.S.e. and detected sounds like the mixing of concrete on boards.

(2)

Four patrols from the 39th Battalion A.I.F. reconnoitred and reported no signs of enemy.
Four patrols from 40th Battalion A.I.F. report enemy wire in very good condition opposite left sub-sector.

SNIPERS.

Centre Sector. Snipers from the 10th Lincoln claim a hit on a man near "LA HOU BOU".

Left Sector. Snipers of 33rd Battalion A.I.F. claim 4 hits.

RAID.

Right Sector. A raiding party of 1 Officer and 26 O.R. from the 1st Wellington Battalion entered enemy's trenches near FM. LA HOU BOU and proceeded S.E. along enemy's front line. Flanking parties penetrated to a depth of 100 yards but had to return owing to bad going. Enemy's front line completely ruined, no fire steps, only the remains of one concrete dugout found. No sign of enemy or mining. Enemy firing flares from House N.11.a., N.E. of FME LA HOU BOU. The party remained in enemy's trenches for 2 hours. No identification and no casualties.

E. Helmer. Major

for

Brig.-General,
General Staff,
2nd ANZAC Corps.

15th December, 1916.

replied
per C.C.

Not to be taken into the trenches.SECRET.

SECOND ARMY

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE.

1st to 15th December, 1916.

Distribution of the Enemy's Forces.

As far as can be ascertained no change has taken place during the past fortnight in the distribution of the enemy's forces.

Identifications have been obtained of the following units in their normal sectors:—

1-12-16	...	179th Regiment	...	24th Division	...	XIX. Corps.
1-12-16	...	86th Res. Regt.	...	18th Res. Div.	...	IX. Res. Corps.
2-12-16	...	179th Regiment	...	24th Division	...	XIX. Corps.
7-12-16	...	104th "	...	40th "	...	XIX. "
7-12-16	...	181st "	...	40th "	...	XIX. "
10-12-16	...	14th Bav. Regt.	...	5th Bav. Div.		
10-12-16	...	18th "	...	3rd "		
12-12-16	...	77th Lwr. Regt.	...	38th Lwr. Bde.		

The order of battle of the 24th Division, XIX. Corps, has been established as under:—

139th Regiment.
179th Regiment.
133rd Regiment.

Identifications are still required on the front Ypres - Comines Canal to Hill 60.

Enemy's Defences.

Work on the enemy's defences appears to have been confined entirely to repairs and maintenance. Observation has been much restricted by bad visibility. No new information has been obtained about the enemy's rear lines of defence.

Enemy's Artillery Activity.

The enemy's artillery remains quiet on the whole. A certain increase is noticeable in the activity of hostile artillery as retaliation for our trench mortar activity on the Wytschaete - Messines front.

Enemy's Aircraft.

With unfavourable weather there has been little aerial activity. On the night of the 5th/6th a hostile machine after attempting to bomb the aerodrome at Abeele landed in our lines, having lost its way in the fog. On the 11th, when the weather conditions were favourable, hostile aircraft displayed a certain amount of activity. One hostile machine bombed Herzeele. Some registration by aeroplane is reported to have been carried out on the north of the salient.

C. H. MITCHELL, Lieut.-Col., G.S.,
for Major-General, G.S., Second Army.

200
12-63
CONFIDENTIAL NO. 171.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 16th December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 15th December to 6 a.m. 18th Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.

INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

A patrol penetrated enemy's line at N 11 a 4.6 south of LA BOUTILLERIE and found it still unoccupied. Work was heard in progress well in rear, and in the day time about 40 men were observed working at THE LAZE, N 11 a 5.0.

An officers patrol reports much noise of movement in enemy's line at I 22 a 60.83, west of VEZ MACQUART. New sandbags were seen on parapet in the morning.

A party of about 20 men was reported by a patrol working on enemy wire at I 5 b 15.35 opposite L'EPINETTE; they were fired on by our artillery.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

Work was again in progress round LA BIETTE, N 16 a 3.1, and at about N 18 a 80.65, north of BERNIERE FARM.

LIGHT SIGNALS.

At 2.50 p.m. a series of 8 white Very lights and at 3.20 p.m. another 20 were fired from enemy lines in C 17 a near FRELINGHIEN.

About 60 white Very lights were fired from front line in I 16 d near VEZ MACQUART at 6.45 p.m.

ENEMY'S ACTIVITY.

One patrol was seen in A 10 b east of CORDONNERIE FARM, and three were reported in I 5 and I 11 east of CHAPELLE D'ARMENTIERES.

Part II follows-----

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

CALIBRES OF HEAVY ARTILLERY IN THE SOMME AREA.

Rather more than 300 Foot Artillery Batteries, have been identified by document in the SOMME area; the calibre of nearly half of these batteries has been definitely established. The following table shows the proportion in which the different calibres are represented:-

	PER CENT.
9 cm. Gun (3.5")	5
10 cm. " (4.1")	6
12 cm. " (4.7")	5
13 cm. " (5.3")	2
15 cm. " (5.9")	8
24 cm. " (9.3") and over	1
Total Gun Batteries....	27
15 cm. Howitzer (5.9")	46
21 cm. " (8.3") and over	24
	73

These figures confirm the conclusions reached regarding the proportion of howitzers in the German Heavy Artillery, namely, about 75% of the total.

It is noteworthy that about 50 per cent of the heavy batteries are equipped with 15 cm. Howitzers.

PIONEER MINING UNITS.

Miners of the 324th (Saxon) Pioneer Mining Company were killed underground on the 13th December north of the YPERE-COMINES CANAL. Their uniform showed that they had been drawn from the 242nd and 244th Res. Inf. Regts. (53rd Res. Div.) which are also Saxon units.

The 324th Pioneer Company belongs to the series of Mining Companies formed in the spring of 1916, and numbered from 290 upwards. There are also 8 Bavarian Mining Companies. These units are not divisional troops, but are permanently allotted to sectors for mining operations.

The mining units identified on our front are as follows:-

BOESINGHE-R.DOUBE303, 304, 305, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 324, 335, 352.
R.DOUBE-NEUVE CHAPELLE....299, 312, 314, 1st Bav., 7th Bav.
NEUVE-CHAPELLE-LENS268, 292, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 313.
LENS-GOMMERCOURT293, 300, 2nd Bav., 3rd Bav., 5th Bav., 6th Bav., 8th Bav.
GOMMERCOURT-R.SOMME.....307, 326, 341, 4th Bav.
R.SOMME-R.AVRE.....308, 309, 311, 325.

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

16th December, 1916.

200
12-65

EXTRACTS FROM EXAMINATION OF AN OBSERVER BELONGING TO
AN ARTILLERY FLIGHT, CAPTURED NEAR ARRAS.

German Aeroplanes.

The Halberstadt single-seater scout is the favourite fighting machine. The single-seater Albatross is considered to be practically as good, but it does not climb so well as the Halberstadt. Both machines have 160 h.p. Mercedes engines, and are fitted with machine guns firing through the propeller.

The Halberstadt works are not large, and for this reason the supply of this machine is smaller than that of the Albatross.

Both types of machines carry 1,000 rounds of ammunition. The observer stated that the majority of pilots considered that the carrying of 1,000 rounds involved unnecessary weight, but it is apparently an order that this number should be carried.

The scout machines used are all tractors, and the standard fitting of machine guns is fixed to fire through the propeller. A few pilots who like in addition an overhead gun, have a movable gun on the top plane, apparently fitted in much the same way as with the Nieuport. The 160 h.p. Mercedes is the standard engine for modern single-seater scout machines. This engine is also fitted on new Fokker machines. The old type Fokker machine with rotary engines were considered difficult to fly, and those that remain of this type have been sent to the Russian front. The Albatross, Halberstadt and new type Fokker machines are comparatively easy to fly; these machines, fitted with 160 h.p. Mercedes engines, are the present standard scout machines. The Rolands are of an earlier date.

The Albatross single-seater, with full load and 1,000 rounds of ammunition, climbs 5,400 metres in 35 minutes. No more rotary engines are being built, and as far as the prisoner knows, no rotary engines remain in use on the western front. The 160 h.p. Mercedes is the largest engine that has yet been fitted in a single-seater machine. The prisoner had not heard of the Hispano-Suiza engine, and did not think that any engines of foreign design were being built in Germany. Single-seater machines with engines behind have not been built. The only German machine which the prisoner knows of, that is not a tractor, is twin-engine Aeroplane, in which the two engines are situated between the planes.

Contact Patrol Work.

This is carried out by reconnaissance flights (Feldflieger-Abteilungen) which consist of six machines. Horns similar to our Klaxon Horn have been used, but they are not thought to be so loud, and during a battle have proved not to be loud enough for signals to be correctly heard. Infantry answer by means of ground strips and flares. The prisoner said that observers consider that, during a bombardment, ground strips are easier to see than flares.

(From G.H.Q. Summary of 14th December).

Appendix No. /

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

Period from 8 a.m. 15th December to 8 a.m. 16th December, 1916.

THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.

OF RATION REPORT.

ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Enemy movement at CRUCIFIX ROAD and DELANGRE FME engaged. Other targets - LA BIETTE, suspected L.T.M. emplacement, near RUE DES TURCS, ROUGES BANCS and a working party at BERNIERE FME.

Centre Sector. Our Hows. fired on Trench Mortar emplacement whence no further activity was shown. Our M.T.Ms. cut a lane through enemy's wire opposite RUE DU BOIS and H.T.Ms. obtained three direct hits in four rounds on enemy's support trench in same vicinity.

Left Sector. At 10.30 p.m. and 11 p.m. salvos fired on heavy traffic heard in vicinity of LA PREVOTE.

Enemy's machine gun and cook-house at CHICKEN RUN came under our T.M. fire and enemy's parapet, trenches and wire suffered considerable damage. 40 Newton rifle grenades were fired by 37th Battalion A.I.F. into enemy's trenches E. of PONT BALLOT - the fire appeared very effective.

MACHINE GUNS.

Right Sector. Machine Guns of the 3rd Machine Gun Coy. silenced an enemy's T.M. firing from near CHATEAU RICHE.

Left Sector. 10th M.G. Coy. carried out indirect fire along LA HOULETTE - VERQUIN Road and also to the N. of LIENART FARM (suspected dump position), 500 rounds fired at enemy's wire and parapets to the S.E. of HOBBS FARM. his communication trenches in vicinity of L'AVENTURE were searched. A Lewis Gun from the 33rd Battalion A.I.F. fired on enemy's patrol, strength unknown, moving in front of our wire just N. of L'EPINETTE ANGLE.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. An enemy's patrol audible in NO MAN'S LAND E. of CORDONNERIE FARM and fired on - no trace however on locality being searched later by patrol of 1st Wellington Battalion.

A patrol from the 3rd Battalion, N.Z. (Rifle) Bde penetrated enemy's wire without difficulty N.11.a., RUE DES TURCS; worked along parapet finding line still unoccupied. Work in progress well in rear audible. Complete gap in enemy's wire reported S. of the ANGLE.

Centre Sector. An Officers' patrol from 24th Northumberland Fusiliers examined enemy's wire opposite RUE DU BOIS, reporting considerable movement in enemy's line at this point. No hostile patrols or working parties encountered.

Left Sector. Patrols from 37th Battalion A.I.F. reported sounds of working parties in enemy's trenches. Progress in NO MAN'S LAND difficult through mud.

One patrol within 30 yards of enemy's wire heard whistling and singing, but could not proceed closer on account of enemy's bombing.

A patrol of 1 Sergt. and 4 O.R. from 34th Battalion A.I.F. came upon an enemy's patrol S.E. of L'EPINETTE covering German wiring party, estimated to consist of about 20 men. On approach of our patrol a dog was seen to run back towards enemy's line, upon which 2 Very Lights were fired. Our patrol retired. After other patrols and wiring parties had been brought in, Artillery was asked to fire on wiring party (mentioned above). On conclusion of fire, patrol consisting of 1 Officer and 4 O.R. proceeded to inspect result, meeting a large patrol of nearly 20 of the enemy.

Our patrol withdrew and Lewis Gun was brought to bear on enemy's patrol. A patrol of the 33rd Battalion A.I.F. reported presence of enemy's patrol inside our wire. Sounds of band music and cheering audible in enemy's lines near LES 4 HALLOTS FME.

SNIPPERS.

Right Sector. One of our snipers hit man seen at DELANGRE FME who was carried away by stretcher bearers.

Centre Sector. Snipers of 10th Lincolns claim 2 hits, and the 24th Northumberland Fusiliers accounted for 3 periscopes.

E. Helms Major

16th December, 1916.

Brig.-General G.S.
2nd ANZAC Corps.

C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 172.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 17th December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 16th December to 6 a.m. 17th Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

New wire is visible behind front line in N 5 d, south of LA BOUTILLERIE, and at N 6 c 6.4 north of BAS MAISNIL.

Men were seen working in enemy's support line at I 22 a 80.65, by WEZ MACQUART.

Work was in progress about BOX FARM in C 29 c and LES 4 HALLOTS FARM, C 23 d 3.7.

Notes on enemy's trenches at I 22 a 14.44 and I 22 a 28.57, west of WEZ MACQUART supplied by raiding parties of night December 10th/11th.

Trenches.

Dry and well kept about 7 feet deep, with parapets and good duckboards. Traffic trench behind. Recesses in each bay in which about twenty bombs were found neatly arranged ready for use.

A communication trench seen really commenced 30 yards in rear of parapet.

Dug-Outs.

Appeared larger than our own; a number with sliding doors. All under parapet. They seemed to contain a fair amount of food, amongst which white bread was noticed. Some of the dug-outs were of concrete with iron swing doors.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

Fresh work is visible in N 16 a and b between LA BIETTE and LES CLOCHERS. Revetting previously seen is now practically covered with banked up earth.

Work is proceeding about N 18 a 80.65 north of BERNIERE FARM. Heavy timber was seen being carried, and the party was fired on with Lewis guns.

Part II follows:-.....

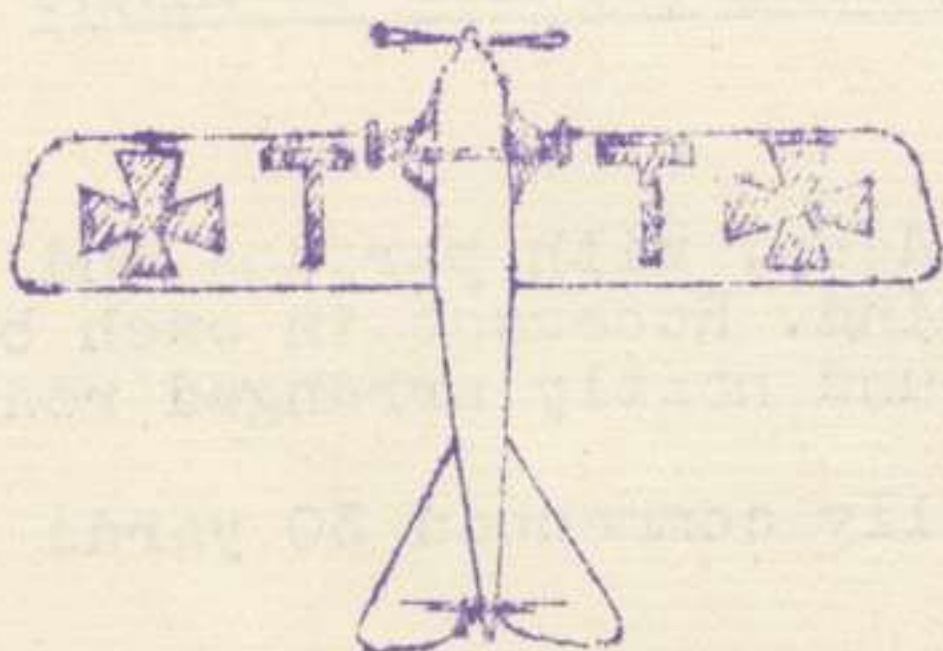
PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

LIGHT MACHINE GUN SECTIONS.

Documents show that the 61st Leichter M.G. Trupp arrived in the Landrecies area from Galicia with the 3rd Bn. 25th Inf. Regt. (208th Division) on the 24th October, but on the 26th October entrained again and returned to the Russian front, where it joined the 61st Res. Inf. Regt. (36th Res. Division).

The above indicates that these units, which are armed with the Bergmann Automatic Rifle, are only intended for employment on the Eastern front. Of the 51 already identified, only one is known to be on the Western front.

MARKINGS ON GERMAN AEROPLANES.



The planes of an Albatross machine recently shot down near ARRAS were marked as shown in the accompanying sketch.

The machine belonged to a fighting unit known as "Kampfstaffel 'T'".

PART III.
CONTRE-ESPIONNAGE.

ACKOU, Camille, Workman's Pass No. I.L.134. Born at MEMIN. Aged 32 residing at BOESCHEPE, Route de Poporinghe, has been discharged and blacklisted. Bad character and frequent absences. He will not again be taken into military employment.

VANDENABEELE, Angele, 29 years, living at BAILLEUL, No. 147 Rue de la Gare, has lost his Workman's Pass (Form C.) No. 50 L.B.

17th December, 1916.

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

2nd AUSTRALIAN ARMY IN NEW GUINEA.Period from 8 a.m. 26th December to 8 a.m. 27th December, 1916.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE THUS.OPERATION FRONTARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Following targets registered - suspected T. emplacements near DOLLS HOUSE (N.10.d.), L. CLOCH RE, and BAS MAISHIL - working parties at PRO. LINE station and the A.T. M.T.Ms. engaged enemy's wire and parapet at the ANGLE with satisfactory results.

L.T.Ms. shelled a concrete dugout N.9.c., N. of F.M. LAPORETT.

Centre Sector. M.T.Ms. bombarded enemy's wire opposite RU DU BOIS.

Stokes Mortar fired with good results on enemy's front line in front of OYSTER FARM and LA HOUSE.

Left Sector. M.T.Ms. successfully engaged wire to N. of F.M. LA

HONGRIE and saps opposite F.M. S. PORT GOAL; also wire N.17.c., N.E. of F.M. DE LA MOULANDIERE; enemy's wire very thick here and suffered considerable damage.

One direct hit obtained by our 18-pdrs on O.P. opposite FORT BALLOT.

MACHINE GUNS.

Right Sector. 3rd M.G. Company dispersed an enemy's patrol near TURKS POINT (N.5.d.) and indirect fire programme as per usual carried out on rest of front.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. Patrols from 3rd N.Z. (Rifle) Bde. operated, and reported that an enemy's machine gun was firing from the vicinity of the N.E. DLE. No enemy's patrol seen, but Listening Post reported sounds of enemy's movements in NO MAN'S LAND.

Centre Sector. Patrols from the 24th and 25th Northumberland Fusiliers went out and reported all quiet in NO MAN'S LAND - one patrol heard sounds of talking and of work proceeding in enemy's front line opposite RU DU BOIS.

Left Sector. A patrol from the 34th Battalion A.I.F. confirm suspected position of Machine Gun emplacement opposite D. TINTIE.

A patrol from 37th Battalion A.I.F. came under fire from two hostile machine guns.

Opposite FARM TRIT FARM, a well worn track discovered leading right up to enemy's line where his wire is very strong, N. of RUELLE DE LA BLANCHE.

Enemy's wire opposite BUSKROOM reported to have been considerably damaged by our shell fire.

One patrol of the 33rd Battalion encountered a small hostile patrol, fired on same, but were unable to observe effect of fire.

Enemy reported to be using apparently a new type of searchlight consisting of a cluster of lights, which was very powerful.

A patrol from 38th Battalion reconnoitred NO MAN'S LAND near River LYS and came under enemy's rifle grenade fire.

SNIPERS.

Centre Sector. Snipers of the 16th Royal Scots claim a hit on a man of working party opposite RU DU BOIS, the man being pulled into the trench.

E. H. M. Major

for

Brig.-General,
General Staff,
2nd AUSTRALIAN Corps.

17th December, 1916.

C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 173.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 18th December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 17th December to 6 a.m. 18th Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

OPERATIONS.

At midnight a raid was carried out on enemy's front and support lines at CORNER FORT, N 6 d 40.95, north of BAS MAISNIL. Dug-outs were bombed and many Germans killed. Nine unwounded prisoners were brought in. They were taken asleep in the support line some 100 yards behind front.

Enemy batteries remained inactive during the operation but machine gun fire was brought to bear on our party as they returned. Our casualties were extremely light.

IDENTIFICATIONS.

The prisoners taken in the raid on N 6 d 40.95, north of BAS MAISNIL, all belonged to the 78th Landwehr Regt., 38th Landwehr Bde (normal). The right flank of 14th Bavarian Inf. Regt., 5th Bavarian Division, is stated to be about 50 yds south of point of entry.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

A patrol entered enemy's line at about N 10 c 6.4, near FME DELANGRE, and moved east along front line. About 50 yds from point of entry an enemy post of 3 men was discovered. These men were protected by wire which prevented our patrol from approaching. Two dug-outs were seen both duck-boarded inside, one having a gas-proof door. The trench was badly damaged.

Enemy wire at N 11 a 55.70, south of LA BOUTILLERIE was found to be weak and easily penetrated.

Men were seen working at C 17 d 00.25 south of FRELINGHIEN.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At N 14 b 7.8, west of DELAPORTE FARM, a machine gun emplacement is suspected. Men were seen here during a lift in the fog and fire has frequently come from this direction.

At 12.30 a.m. gongs and horns were sounded in enemy's front line in I 26 b, west of LA HOUSOIE, and many bombs were thrown from his trench.

Part II follows:-.....

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

HIGHER ARTILLERY COMMAND.

The following information regarding the German Higher Artillery Command is based on a note issued by the French General Staff:-

- (a). At the Headquarters of each German Army there is a "General Commanding the Foot Artillery of the Army". At the Headquarters of some Corps there is a "Corps Artillery Commander".
- (b). Besides the above, there exist a number of commands, numbered between 1 and 30, each under a "General der Fussartillerie Nr...". These appear to be attached to Corps or to Army Groups. It is probable that they are permanently allotted to main sectors of the front, or they may control counter-battery groupings of heavy artillery, but this is not yet definitely established.
- (c). The Germans do not appear to have yet standardized their system of Artillery command.

The following systems have been followed on different occasions:-

- (1). All the field and heavy batteries of a sector placed under the "Corps Artillery Commander" or a "General der Fussartillerie Nr...".
- (2). All the field and heavy batteries of a sector placed under the various Divisional Artillery Commanders.
- (3). Mixed groups of field and heavy artillery placed under Divisional Artillery Commanders, with a reserve of heavy batteries in special groupings for counter-battery work.
- (4). Groups consisting entirely of field batteries or entirely of heavy batteries; the former placed under the Divisional Artillery Commanders and the latter under the "General der Fussartillerie Nr...".

The 2nd, 3rd and 4th methods have been employed in the SOMME fighting, but the 3rd is probably more common. The "General of the Foot Artillery" acts as Artillery Adviser for his Army Group, and would only command the Heavy Artillery Reserve for special tasks.

COMBING MUNITION WORKERS

A prisoner of the 360th Inf. Regt. (4th Ersatz Div.), captured by us on the 18th October, had been taken from a munition factory on the 8th September and posted to his regiment on the 6th October.

The man belonged to the 1917 Class.

NEW GERMAN LIGHT MACHINE GUN.

A prisoner states that a new type of light machine gun is to be issued early next year. Six guns will be allotted per company.

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

18th December, 1916.

CONFIDENTIAL NO. 174.
 SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 19th December, 1916.
 (From 6 a.m. 18th December to 6 a.m. 19th Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

Notes on enemy's trenches about N 6 d 40.95 north of BAS MAISNIL supplied by raiding parties of night 17th/18th.

Trenches. Front line from N 6 d 40.75 to N 6 b 70.22 badly damaged and very wet - waist deep in places. The point called CORNER FORT is reported to consist of dummy trenches made of wood and canvas.

Communication trench at N 6 b 65.15 was found in excellent condition, about 7 feet deep, duckboarded and dry.

Support trench was in good order, with wide duck walks and the parapet revetted with branches. There is practically no parapet to this trench.

Dug-Outs. In communication trench and support line. Those in support line were under parapet well sunk in, some 20 yds apart and accommodating about 10 men each. They were 7 feet high and subdivided into two compartments, the outer being small and containing rifle racks. These dug-outs were not made of concrete.

Wire. That in front of support line was found to be very weak and much damaged.

Machine guns. Two opened fire from the network of trenches about N 3 d 45.90; one of these was destroyed by bombs. They could not be brought away owing to the surrounding wire and water.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

Work is proceeding at LA BIETTE, N 16 a 4.0. Truck loads of sawn timber were seen moving on tramline near by. The new work was fired on by our artillery.

Parties were also seen in the FROMELLES line and at N 16 b 4.7 near LES CLOCHERS.

Four men were seen working with long planks at I 33 d 1.5, near LE GRAND MAISNIL FARM, where the trenches appear to be very wet.

LIGHT SIGNALS.

At 7 a.m. on 18th many coloured lights were fired in N 16 d by WEZ MACQUART, and at 6.30 p.m. a white rocket bursting into red stars was fired from same place.

On a rocket being fired from our lines east of ARMENTIERES enemy fired three asteroid rockets and three flares, red, orange and white.

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

ENEMY'S LIGHT SIGNALS.

The first shell fired by the enemy during the bombardment on the 14th Dec. (HILL 60 sector) emitted a bright star which shot about 30 yds into the air, and during the bombardment, the enemy sent up 4 blue flares, which resulted in increased activity on the part of his artillery.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The 3 dead Germans of the 204th Div., killed in the attempted raid on our sap at 28 I 30 a 3.1 on the 16th Dec., were wearing ankle boots and field grey puttees in place of the customary knee boots.

Before the bombardment of the OBSERVATORY RIDGE sector on the morning of the 15th Dec., a bell was rung in the enemy's trenches.

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

19th December, 1916.

200 12-71 200

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM PRISONERS.

Morale. Prisoners all appeared to be glad to be taken. One prisoner, a Pole and apparently an intelligent man, was particularly hostile to the Germans. He remarked amongst other things "I don't care what side I fight for - I've no country of my own. During war time the Germans make me fight for them and in peace time they ill-treat me." He was very disappointed that the Russians could not capture POSEN.

Food. One man said that the food in the trenches was quite good and plentiful. Up to the present no spirit ration had been distributed. The 78th Landwehr have also not had an issue of winter clothing. This, prisoner attributed to bad management, as the clothes have probably gone to the 11th Division to which the 78th was for some time attached, and the Division has no doubt kept them.

Method of holding line. 2 Companies in front and support lines.
2 Companies in Stützpunktlinie.
1 Battalion in Reserve line about
RADINGHEM in houses.
1 Battalion in rest at HAUBOURDIN.

Stretcher Bearers. Each Company has 4 stretcher bearers under the charge of an N.C.O. These men do not do any work in the trenches. They carry no arms.

Correspondence. - from letters addressed to prisoners, the number of the Field Post Office for the 78th Landwehr Regt. is 406.

Reliefs. In the ordinary course troops remain in the front line 6 days, but as soon as a prisoner falls into our hands the time of relief changes; this is said to be an invariable rule.

Headquarters and Billets. The 38th Bde Hdqrs are at LOGS. Batt. Hdqrs are at LE BAS HAMEAU in ferro concrete dug-outs. Rest Billets are in HAUBOURDIN in houses.

Pioneer Park. There is a very large Pioneer Park in ERQUINGHEM-LE-SEC. Loading and unloading are done during the day, but trucks are only moved towards the front line during the night.

Communications. Field Railways run from HAUBOURDIN to the Pioneer Park at ERQUINGHEM. Prisoner confirmed the use of the 60 cm. gauge line from ERQUINGHEM which cuts across fields in 36 0 15 b and runs along the Rue de la LOMMERIE branching off towards RADINGHEM at 36 0 15 a 5.7 towards the front line. They also confirm the use of the tramway running from LE MAISNIL through C 7 a to the front line in N 6 b. An engine draws trucks as far as LE BAS HAMEAU and they are then pushed by hand to the front line.

The road from RADINGHEM to LE BAS HAMEAU is freely used for bringing up rations and material during the night. The busy time is said to be 2 a.m., but this statement must be accepted with reserve.

The system of trenches at BACQUART is known by the Germans as FESTE VEISS and that about LE BAS HAMEAU as FESTE RUPPECHT.

The route taken by troops for trenches seems to be the following - From RADINGHEM along the road past the POTTLRIES in N 3 c and then a track across the open to BACQUART, then up the communication trench to the front.

State of Trenches.....

200

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM PRISONERS continued.

State of Trenches. The support line trenches having been destroyed in several places by shell and trench mortar fire, a breastwork has been erected about 10 metres behind the original line. It is as a rule about 4 feet 6 ins. high, but where it is deeper there is a first step. This explains the double line which can be seen in O 1 a in recent aeroplane photographs.

The front line is said to be improving in condition owing to the efforts of the Pioneers. The second line (600 - 1000 yards in rear) is dry and in good condition. The third line (1500 - 2000 yards in rear) in very good condition as a number of large drainage trenches have been dug.

Searchlight. A prisoner confirmed a statement previously made that portable acetylene searchlights are used.

General. A prisoner who had been in Germany a few weeks ago, spoke of the colossal efforts now being made there. SAARBRÜCKEN is full of factories and enormous quantities of munitions are being turned out. A large number of prisoners, mostly Russian, are employed in the munition factories. They are well housed and are paid 75 pfennige a day; prisoner considered this good pay and expressed great astonishment on being told the good rate of pay German prisoners received.

The train transport service is being combed out and the places of even regular A.S.C. Officers are being taken by elderly men and returned wounded. Most of those combed out are being trained for artillery. A large number of new artillery units are being formed.

The latest Zeppelin story is that very large and powerful Zeppelins are being built to carry mails to and from America.

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

Period from 8 a.m. 18th December to 8 a.m. 19th December, 1916.

THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.

OPERATION REPORT.

ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Our Batteries registered suspected T.M. emplacements at LES CLOCHERS and BAS MAISNIL, also suspected O.P. S. of BACQUART.
Centre Sector. Our Artillery retaliated on large farm for hostile T.M. fire. A searchlight, reported by Survey Section as opposite RUE DU BOIS, after the third round from our 18-pdr was not again used. Our M.T.Ms. cut lanes in enemy's wire S.W. of LA HOUSEOIE.
Left Sector. Our M.T.Ms. cleared lane in enemy's wire opposite FORT BALLOT. L.T.Ms. fired on communication trench W. of HOBBS FARM with good effect.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns carried out the usual programme of indirect fire along the whole Corps front.
 9th M.G. Coy. A.I.F. silenced an enemy's machine gun.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. A patrol from 3rd Battalion, N.Z. (Rifle) Bde reports gap in the enemy's wire N. of MAZE.
Centre Sector. A Listening Post in NO MAN'S LAND S. of RUE DU BOIS, reported a small hostile patrol seen at 10.40 p.m. A fighting patrol at once went out, but no sign of hostile party could be found.
Left Sector. A patrol, from 35th Battalion A.I.F., located an enemy's M.G. position in vicinity of BULLE DE LA BLANCHE.
 Patrols from 36th Battalion A.I.F. located 2 enemy's M.G. positions opposite L'ANIN TTE.

SNIPERS.

Right Sector. A hostile working party at LES CLOCHERS was dispersed by our Snipers.

RAID.

Further details of Raid carried out night 17th/18th December by 4th Battalion, New Zealand (Rifle) Brigade -
 The Raid consisted of three parties. First and second parties entering at N.6.d.40.99., 1000 yards N.E. of BAS MAISNIL.
 First party found front line trench waist deep in water, making progress difficult. Communication trench wet, but duckboarded. One dug-out seen. At least 5 Germans killed.
 Second party made good from N.6.d.40.75 to N.6.b.70.22, working practically due N. Sentry group of 4 men encountered, all of whom were killed. 2 Machine guns opened fire from a strong point in N.6.d., of which the teams were killed and one gun destroyed. Owing to party being waist deep in water, guns could not be removed. No prisoners taken, but party threw 300 bombs and estimate that they killed 20 Germans.
 Third party entered at N.6.b.63.15 opposite LA BOUTILLERIE. Front line trench destroyed but main communication trench in excellent condition, about 7 ft. deep and duckboarded. Support line in first rate order, but wire poor. At intervals of 20 yards large dug-outs well sunk in parapet. These dug-outs about 7 ft. in height with accommodation for 10 men and divided into 2 compartments. Prisoners pronounce same to be only splinter proof. These dug-outs were well bombed, and it is believed that 17 Germans were killed. 9 Prisoners reported yesterday, taken by this party.

E. Helme May

Brig.-General,
 General Staff,
 2nd ANZAC Corps.

19th December, 1916.

C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 175.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 20th December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 19th December to 6 a.m. 20th Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

The enemy's line at I 26 c 9.1, north of BOIS BLANCS, which was found unoccupied night 6th/7th Dec., was again entered by a small patrol. The party lay behind the traffic trench for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours in hope of capturing a trench patrol, but no one passed. A sentry was heard about 50 yards away apparently at the head of a communication trench.

This patrol report the wire at point of entry to be in poor condition and the trench much damaged. Bays are small and parapets close to parapet. Dug-outs were full of water and wired across the doorways. The traffic trench was 15 yds behind the bays and consisted of a single line of duckboards screened by a row of hurdles.

Working parties were observed at I 17 a 25.75 and I 11 c 3.1 north of WEZ MACQUART, at I 11 a 55.55 opposite GRAND PORTE EGAL and at C 23 c 8.8 west of LES 4 HALLOTS.

R.F.C. observers report trenches in C 29 a and c opposite PONT BALLOT appear very wet.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

R.F.C. report three lengths of new trench about 50 yds long apparently about N 27 b 0.0, N 27 b 5.5 and N 28 a 1.5 south of railway by LECIERCO FARM.

Work continues in N 16 a about LA BIETTE, and parties were seen at LES CLOCHERS, N 16 b 6.9, and at N 18 a 8.6, north of BERNIERE FARM.

R.F.C. report new earth visible at N 17 b 4.8 by FME DE LA MARLAQUE and confirm the existence of the belt of wire faintly visible the photographs running from there past LES CLOCHERS.

DUMPS.

R.F.C. report a small dump at T 5 d 7.9, PILLY Station, and state that the dump at PETIT HAUBOURDIN appears to be in constant use, though it has not increased in size.

ENEMY'S ACTIVITY.

Enemy south and south east of BOIS GRENIER appeared very nervous during the night. At frequent intervals horns were heard, followed by bursts of fire from rifles and machine guns, the throwing of bombs and the firing of many Very lights. Elsewhere he was very quiet.

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

IDENTIFICATIONS.

Four prisoners captured this morning in M 29 d near MAUQUISCAIT belonged to 7th Bavarian Infantry Regt., 5th Bavarian Division (normal).

Infantry

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

INFANTRY ORGANIZATION OF GERMAN DIVISIONS.

The majority of German Divisions now consist of 3 Infantry Regiments.

Of the 51 active divisions which had originally 4 Regiments each, all except 6 have been reduced from a 4-regt. to a 3-regt. basis.

These 6 are:-

1st and 2nd Guard Divs.
27th Div.
28th Div.
5th and 6th Bav. Divs.

Of the 45 Res. Divisions which originally had 4 regts each, all except 10 have been reduced to 3 regiments.

These 10 are:-

2nd Guard Res. Div.
1st Res. Div.
15th Res. Div.
23rd Res. Div.
26th Res. Div.
44th Res. Div.
47th and 48th Res. Divs.
6th and 8th Bav. Res. Divs.

Of the 21 Landwehr Divisions, which originally had 4 or more regiments, all except 11 have been reduced to 3 regts.

These 11 are:-

1st, 2nd, 5th, 7th, 9th, 13th, 14th, 15th and 18th
Landwehr Divisions.
1st and 6th Bav. Idw. Divs.

Of the 16 Ersatz and Additional Divs which originally had 4 or more regiments, all except 3 have been reduced to 3 regts.

These are:-

83rd Div. 1st Naval Div. Metz Garr. Det.

All the 21 Reconstituted Divs formed in 1915 were organized on a 3-regt. basis.

Of the 38 New Divisions formed in 1916, only one, the 201st Div., appears to have 4 regiments.

Summary.

The total number of Divs which still have 4 or more infantry regiments are therefore as follows:-

6	out of 51 Active Divisions.
10	" 53 Reserve Divisions.
11	" 21 Landwehr Divisions.
3	" 17 Ersatz and Additional Divisions.
0	" 21 Reconstituted Divisions.
1	" 38 New Divisions.

31	"	201 Divisions.
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ORGANIZATION OF A DISMOUNTED CAVALRY REGIMENT.

According to the statements of prisoners of the 5th Dismounted Cavalry Regt. recently captured in the VOSGES, their regiment is composed of:-

4 Squadrons.
1 M.G. Company.

Each Squadron is divided into 3 troops, and has a Minenwerfer Detachment.

The strength.....

PART II.

The strength of a Squadron is as follows:-

Total strength.....210.

Trench strength.....160.

Rifle strength.....120.

The Squadron has 3 officers, 1 Serjeant-Major and 20 N.C.Os.
The men are armed with carbines and bayonets.

THE 1919 CLASS.

According to information from a reliable source, the 1919 Class in Germany is expected to be called up in January, 1917.

RECRUITING FOR THE POLISH ARMY.

Two Polish deserters who surrendered recently state that the Russian Poles, and also the German Poles who fought for Russia, are being liberated in order that they may join the Polish Army.

MISCELLANEOUS. (From 1st Army Summary 16th Dec.).

On the QUINQUE RUE the enemy has cut down several trees, some of which have reappeared, but not in their original position. The new trees are shorter, have more twigs and appear to be dummies.

20th December, 1916.

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

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

Period from 3 a.m. 19th December to 8 a.m. 20th December, 1916.

THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.

OPERATION REPORT.

ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Our Batteries operated against the following targets - movement at FROMELLES Tramway Junction - enemy's T.M. emplacements at BAS MAISNIL and S. of CORNER FORT (N.E.d.), the latter gun being silenced.

Centre Sector. Our Artillery retaliated on and silenced hostile T.Ms. Our H.T.Ms. silenced hostile mortar near LARGE FARM. M.T.Ms. cut wire widening the lane S.W. of LA HOUSOIE. Our L.T.Ms. caused considerable damage to enemy's line at BOIS BLANC and RUE DU BOIS.

Left Sector. Our Hows. and 18-pdrs covered M.T.M. bombardment, effectively destroying enemy's wire and parapet opposite L'EPINETTE. Enemy's working parties came under fire opposite FIVES PORT EGAL and at L'ADVENTURE. L.T.Ms. damaged enemy's T.M. and M.G. emplacements N.E. of FORT BALLOT.

MACHINE GUNS.

The usual programme of indirect fire carried out along the Corps front.

PATROLS.

Patrols from Right and Left Sectors reported all quiet in NO MAN'S LAND.

Centre Sector. At 9.45 p.m. a patrol of 4 O.R. from the 16th Royal Scots entered enemy's line opposite FIVE GRANDE FLAMENGRIE, waiting there for 1½ hours. Bays small and parapets close to parapet. Dug-outs full of water and wired across doors. Trenches apparently unoccupied. A sentry was heard about 50 yards away, apparently at head of communication trench.

A Listening Post of the 27th Northumberland Fusiliers reported a wiring party to our Lewis gunners, who fired on point reported.

SNIPERS.

Snipers of the 11th Suffolks claim a hit on hostile sniper firing from a post in RUE DES BOIS BLANCS.

ENEMY'S ACTIVITY.

Enemy generally appear nervous. At frequent intervals horns heard, followed by machine gun and rifle fire; bombs being thrown into wire and numerous flares discharged, the latter at intervals of about 70 yards along the front line.

20th December, 1916.

E. Hilma Hagen
for
Brig.-General,
General Staff,
2nd ANZAC Corps.

CONFIDENTIAL NO. 176.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 21st December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 20th December to 6 a.m. 21st Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

A raiding party found the three lines of trench in N 15 a, north of DELAPORTE FARM, unoccupied and uninhabitable. Points of entry N 9 c 45.15, N 9 c 65.15 and N 9 d 25.10; limit reached road between DELAPORTE FARM, N 15 a 7.6 and the corner N 15 b 40.85. This road was found submerged, but a communication trench in N 15 b afforded fairly good going. No signs of the enemy were seen except by the centre patrol who observed a party of 7 in the distance.

A patrol again entered hostile trench at I 26 c 9.1, north of BOIS BLANCS, and remained an hour but none of the enemy passed.

New stakes and the top of a new revetment frame can be seen at I 26 d 2.3.

The enemy salient in I 11 a opposite PETIT PORTE EGAL was again entered and found unoccupied. A machine gun emplacement was noticed in a shell hole just south of the railway but there was no gun in it.

The wire at the south western corner of the salient appeared to have been strengthened recently.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

More revetting has been put in position and banked up with earth in the new line about N 16 a 5.0 to N 16 a 7.1 near LA BIETTE. Short lengths of new wire on heavy stakes are visible at about N 16 b 50.65.

The new work on this line of trench between LA BIETTE and LES CLOCHERS and from N 18 a 4.8 east of LA MARLAQUE to N 12 d 5.8 south east of BAS MAISNIL is now apparent on the latest aeroplane photographs.

New wire is reported at O 1 a 5.1 and 7.2, south west of LE BRIDOUX.

ENEMY SHELLING.

South and south east of ARMENTIERES enemy's artillery was more active than usual. In the former region a number of 15 cm. shells are reported, whilst in the latter enemy seemed to be registering his field guns.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A canvas screen some 150 yds long and about 8 feet high has been erected in I 6 c concealing the LA FRESNELLE - BRUNE RUE road. Other screens can be seen beyond this one.

At noon a red light was showing for about 10 minutes near CURSINS FARM, C 24 a, and at 2 p.m. one red and one white light appeared to the south of this point.

Part II follows

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

SEARCHLIGHT.

On the night of 16th at 8.20 p.m. a searchlight was seen near BLACK SHED (28 U 15 a 40.80) either in front or support line. It swept "No Man's Land" for about two minutes. At 9 p.m. a similar light appeared about 28 U 3 b 60.60. The light later made its appearance at FACTORY FARM (28 U 16 c 00.30). It is suggested that it was a single portable oxy-acetylene searchlight which successively made its appearance at these different places.

LIGHT SIGNALS.

The light on the tower of the Sacré Coeur Church in LILLE was again active shortly after midnight of 19th/20th.

DISTRIBUTION OF GERMAN HEAVY ARTILLERY.

1. Of the 1943 heavy batteries known to be in existence, a total of 1542 have been identified in the field, as follows:- 1115 on the Western Front and 427 on the Eastern Front. If 15% be added for unlocated batteries, the total in the field is 1773.

2. The following table shows the distribution of the batteries located on the different sectors of the Western and Eastern fronts:-

<u>Miles.</u>	<u>Army.</u>	<u>Sector.</u>	<u>Hvy. Batts.</u>	<u>Batts. per Mile.</u>
37	Fourth Army	The Sea - R. DOUVE	80	2.1
43	Sixth Army	R. DOUVE - GOMMECOURT	96	2.2
28	First Army	GOMMECOURT - R. SOMME	205	7.3
37	Second Army	R. SOMME - R. OISE	120	3.2
50	Seventh Army	R. OISE - BERRY au BAC	49	1.0
50	Third Army	BERRY au BAC - VILLE sur TOURBE	47	.9
50	Fifth Army	VILLE sur TOURBE - Les EPARGES	225	4.5
40	v. Strantz	Les EPARGES - R. MOSELLE	86	2.2
90	d'Elsa (In- cluding METZ)	R. MOSELLE - VOSGES	113	1.3
50	v. Gündell (in- cluding STRASSBURG)	VOSGES-SWITZERLAND	94	1.9

EASTERN FRONT.

<u>Miles.</u>	<u>Army.</u>	<u>Sector.</u>	<u>Hvy. Batts.</u>	<u>Batts. per Mile.</u>
456	Eichhorn's Group	GULF of RIGA-R. PRIPET	308	.7
375	LINSINGEN's Group	R. PRIPET-CARPATHIANS	74	.2
235	RUMANIA	CARPATHIANS-BLACK SEA	18	.1
156	MACEDONIA	ADRIATIC-ALGEAN SEA	27	.2

The average number of German heavy batteries per mile on the two fronts is therefore:- Western, 2.3; Eastern .3.

RANGING DEVICES

A German shell which fell near BEAUCOURT emitted on burst four green lights. A few minutes later, a second shell burst with a similar result, after which the enemy shelled the locality.

INFORMATION FROM PRISONERS. (From 1st Army Summary 18th Dec.)

The prisoner of the 16th Bav. Res. Regt., captured yesterday morning S.E. of SOUCHEL - a man of some intelligence who appears to have enjoyed the confidence of his officers - has made the following statements:-

1. The prisoner was very bitter against his officers and stated that, during the last attack E. of LE SARRS in Oct., not one single officer went forward with the attack; all the officers remained in their dug-outs and the N.C.Os took charge.

2.

PART II.

2. The quality of the food supplied is fairly good, but the quantity insufficient; the prisoner has lost 30 lbs in weight since he joined the Army (present age 26). Officers' rations have been cut down and they are not allowed to have any alcoholic drink in the front line.
3. He believes that two listening sets are installed S.E. of SOUCHEZ. He states that when in line at FROMELLES, the Germans constantly overheard our conversations and thereby anticipated many of our bombardments, raids, etc. By this means the Germans got to know several days in advance of the attack launched by Australian troops H.E. of FAUQUISSART on 19th July.
4. He states that all thinking Germans have given up hoping for a real victory, but that Germany must go on fighting in the hope of tiring out her enemies. The Kaiser's peace proposals are considered to be pure bluff, and no one believes that the Allies will consider peace at this stage of the war. Efforts are being made to stir the religious and patriotic feelings of the people, and to make them believe that they are fighting in a good cause, both from a religious point of view and for the defence of the German Empire.

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

21st December, 1916.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

The following air photographs taken on the 20th inst. have been received. Divisions, Brigades etc. should indent direct on 2nd Anzac Intelligence for their requirements.-

SHEET 36.

Neg. No.	Square.	Area Covered.	Neg. No.	Square.	Area Covered.
42B 401	N	6 b.	42B 425	C	29 abcd.
42B 402	N	24 a.	42B 426	I	5 (central).
42B 403	N	23 b	42B 427	N	6 b.
42B 404	N 22	abcd; 23 abcd.	42B 428	N	5 cd.
42B 405	N	6 bd.	42B 429	O	1 b.
42B 406	N	9 c.	42B 430	N	16 d.
42B 407	N	22 a.	42B 431	O	3 c.
42B 408	N	18 b.	42B 432	N	15 abcd; 21 bcd
42B 409	O	7 d.	42B 433	N	15 ac.
42B 410	N	16 d.	42B 434	N	9 abcd; 15 abcd
42B 411	N	5 ac.	42B 435	O	1 d.
42B 412	N	17 d.	42B 436	N	12 c.
42B 413	N	11 b.	42B 437	N	12 abcd.
42B 414	O	1 a.	42B 438	N	20 bd; 21 c.
42B 415	N	21 d.	42B 439	N	12 d.
42B 416	N	14 cd.	42B 440	I	11 ab.
42B 417	N	22 b.	42B 441	I	22 bd; 23 abcd
42B 418	N	12 c.	42B 442	I	23 a.
42B 419	I	11 a.	42B 443	I	28 c.
42B 420	I	11 b.	42B 444	I	34 ac.
42B 421	I	5 b.	42B 445	I	11 d; 12 a.
42B 422	C 17	abcd; 23 abcd.	42B 446	O	2 c.
42B 423	C	23 abcd.	42B 447	O	8 a.
42B 424	C	23 cd.	42B 448	I	32 d.

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

Period from 8 a.m. 20th December to 8 a.m. 21st December, 1916.

THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.

OPERATION REPORT.

ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Our Batteries shelled suspected O.Ps. at FROMELLES and E. of GIRLS CONVENT, also work at LA BIETIE, at WATER FORT and E. of FME DE LA MARLAQUE (N.18.a.)

Centre Sector. Our 18-pdrs dispersed working party N. of LE GRANDE MAISNIL FME (I.33.c.), and shelled a suspected T.M. emplacement in the WEZ MACQUART.

Our H.T.M. fired 4 rounds at LARGE FARM. M.T.Ms. continued wire cutting and widened the old lane in RUE DU BOIS.

Left Sector. Our 18-pdrs dispersed enemy's working party opposite PEAR TREE FARM.

Hostile searchlight at FME DE LA BLANCHE immediately switched off on coming under our Howitzer fire.

Our L.T.Ms. fired on enemy's working party opposite FME GD PORT EGAL and silenced hostile machine gun in same neighbourhood.

MACHINE GUNS. Carried out normal programme. Nothing to report.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. An Officers' patrol from 3rd Battalion N.2.(Rifle) Bde., approached enemy's line N.E. of FME DE MOUQUE, coming under fire from 2 machine guns about 50 yards apart; rifle fire was also opened. Wire in front of WATER FORT poor, but still an obstacle.

Centre Sector. A patrol from 16th Royal Scots remained for one hour in enemy's trench N. of LA HOUSOIE - no enemy encountered.

Other patrols from the same Battalion reported no sign of enemy in NO MAN'S LAND.

Left Sector. A patrol from the 35th Battalion A.I.F., reconnoitred Railway Salient and entered enemy's trench opposite FMES PORT EGAL. No enemy seen - machine gun emplacement located in shell hole on S. side of Railway Salient. Enemy's wire on S.W. corner of Salient recently strengthened.

Other useful information concerning enemy's wire was obtained by patrols from 9th Brigade A.I.F.

Patrol from 37th Battalion A.I.F. reported enemy's working party in vicinity of BOX FARM. Lewis machine gun fire brought to bear - working party being dispersed.

A small hostile patrol encountered opposite HOBBS FARM which was dispersed by grenades and the Lewis machine gun fire of the 37th Battn.

SNIPERS. Snipers of the 11th Suffolks fired at a man seen in I.21.c., S. of RUE DU BOIS Angle, who disappeared; shortly afterwards two men seen stooping at same place, probably attending to first man. The ^{live} latter disappeared on coming under fire.

RAID.

Right Sector. A Raiding party of 1 Officer and 57 other ranks from the 1st Auckland Battn. raided enemy's lines in neighbourhood of DELAPORTE FME. - party divided into 3 groups:-

Right group successfully crossed first and second line of trenches but at the third, were stopped by deep ditch 10 or 15 yards in front of parapet.

Centre group crossed second line of trenches about 100 yards in rear of first line, and again a third line 80 yards still further to rear.

All three lines unfit for use. DELAPORTE FME Road reached and found submerged

Left Group proceeded as far as ROUGES BABES (N.15.b.40.85), returning by a communication trench in fairly good condition. No signs of enemy seen except a party of 7 at some distance, by the centre group.

Area reconnoitred extended from points of entry (N.9.c.45.15 to N.9.d.25.10) to the Road between DELAPORTE FME and the Angle in Road N. of first B in ROUGES BABES.

E. Helme. Major

Brig.-General G.S.

7
C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 178.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 22nd December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 21st December to 6 a.m. 22nd Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

OPERATIONS.

A raid on enemy's line about I 26 d 3.7 near LA HOUSOIE, failed to get in owing to wire and machine gun fire.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

New wire is being erected near the communication trench at N 11 b 5.5, north of CHATEAU RICHE.

A considerable amount of new wire has been put out about I 26 d 6.9, near LA HOUSOIE and the parapet at this point has also been repaired.

The front line in I 17 a, north of WEZ MACQUART is reported by patrols to be strongly held.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

Work is visible at about N 23 a 9.6 near FROMELLES.

A party of about 36 men was seen working on the trenches east of FME DE LA MARLAQUE in N 18 a. For some days men have been seen erecting screens apparently along the road in N 18 b.

At 9.45 a.m. a party of 30 to 40 men was seen at work on the wire entanglement by the reserve trenches about O 10 a 3.5, north east of RADINGHEM. Our artillery dispersed the party.

Men were seen working on the trench near LA PARADIS in I 29 c, some digging and others carrying timber.

MOVEMENT OBSERVED BEHIND ENEMY'S LINES.

At 8.40 a.m. a column reported as being about 800 strong was observed at O 12 b 9.0 going towards VERT BALLOT. It was accompanied by several men on horseback and some transport wagons.

At 8.45 a.m. some 30 men were seen unloading two transport wagons at this point, and small parties were observed at work there during the day.

Part of the screen concealing the BRUNE RUE - LA FRESNELLE road in I 6 has been blown down by the wind. Through the gap infantry in parties of 20 to 40 men could be seen between 10.20 a.m. and 1.15 p.m. moving towards the front line. These parties moved at very short intervals and sometimes halted for 15 to 20 minutes. The men carried packs and some are reported to have been wearing white sheepskin coats.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A square board coloured red, white and blue was seen in enemy's front line at I 21 b 4.3, near RUE DU BOIS. This was replaced afterwards by a white disc. No apparent action followed.

During our raid the enemy put up white lights of exceptional brilliance. These lights remained invisible until bursting, when they burned for about a minute at a great height.

Part II follows:-....

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

ENEMY'S EQUIPMENT.

A short German rifle and dagger, which appear to form part of the Sturmtrupp equipment, were found after the unsuccessful raid by Sturm Abteilung, 415th I.R., on our trenches near MOUNT SORREL (28 I 30 a 5.1) on night 15th/16th December. The rifle is 43 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches long and has a bent over bolt. The sling is attached to the left side. It bears the mark "Erfurt 1916". The blade of the dagger is 6 inches long; the handle is pressed steel and is made to fix bayonetwise to the rifle. It appears, however, rather light for effective use in this manner.

CATEGORIES OF GERMAN REGIMENTAL OFFICERS.

1. The following table gives the ranks and categories the officers of the 55th Res. Inf. Regt. (2nd Guard Res.

<u>Rank.</u>	<u>Active.</u>	<u>Reserve.</u>	<u>Landwehr.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Lieutenant-Colonel	1	-	-	1
Major	1	-	-	1
Captains	1	1	3	5
Lieutenants	1	-	-	1
2nd Lieutenants	4	41	12	57
Sergt.-Major Lieuts.	5	-	-	5
Medical Officers	3	2	-	5
Totals	16	44	15	75

2. The various categories are represented in the following proportions:- Active 21%; Reserve 59%; Landwehr 20%.

3. The ages of the 2nd Lieutenants ranged between 19 and 47, the average age being 28.

22nd December, 1916.

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

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.Period from 8 a.m. 21st December to 8 a.m. 22nd December, 1916.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Our Batteries engaged the following targets - suspected L.T.M. position N.E. of FME DE MOUQUE - enemy's movement and work at LES CLOCHERS - suspected battery position S. of HAYEM (N.16.d.) - movement at FME DELANGRE and LA BIETTE - suspected T.M. position N.6.d., 1000 yards N.E. of BAS MAISNIL.

Centre Sector. At 10.5 a.m. 3 salvos fired at large working party seen near trenches E. of LES BAS CHAMPS FME (O.10.a.) - party dispersed. M.T.Ms. bombarded enemy's wire N.E. of LA HOUSOIE and at RUE DU BOIS.

Left Sector. Our Artillery fired at searchlight near STEP FARM (I.17.k) which immediately switched off.

Enemy's working parties at INTACT FARM and RETALIATION FARM, (both I.6.c.,) also at SPARROWS NEST I.5.d., were dispersed by our Artillery, casualties being inflicted.

MACHINE GUNS.

Right Sector. Enemy's party, dealing with a truck on tramline, at N.15.c., E. of FME DELEVAL dispersed.

Left Sector. Lewis Guns from the 35th Battalion A.I.F. inflicted casualties on enemy's working party opposite the MUSHROOM.

The normal programme of indirect fire along Corps front carried out.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. Three small enemy patrols seen N. of FME DE MOUQUE.

Centre Sector. A patrol from 27th Northumberland Fusiliers found the enemy's line held opposite RUE DU BOIS, several sentries being seen.

Left Sector. Patrols from the 37th Battalion A.I.F. report that Very Lights and searchlights usually appear to operate from support and rarely from enemy's front line trenches.

A footbridge across ditch 4 ft. in width found opposite PONT BALLOT.

Patrols from the 36th Battalion A.I.F. report that enemy frequently bombed and searched with machine gun fire, his own wire.

A patrol from 35th Battalion A.I.F. reports enemy's front line apparently strongly held opposite RUELLÉ DE LA BLANCHE.

A machine gun located on enemy's parapet S. of L'EPINETTE Angle.

RAIDS.

Right Sector. A dummy raid carried out by M.T.M. Battery and machine guns on enemy's line N.E. of FME DE MOUQUE caused enemy to fire numerous flares from both flanks of portion bombarded.

Centre Sector. A raid of the 10th Lincolns failed to effect entry of enemy's line S. of LA HOUSOIE owing to enemy's wire and machine gun fire. Casualties 1 wo unded.

22nd December, 1916.

E. Helme. Major
 for
 Brig.-General,
 General Staff,
 2nd ANZAC Corps.

C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 178.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 23rd December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 22nd December to 6 a.m. 23rd Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

OPERATIONS.

A raiding party attempted to enter enemy's line between N 11 a 4.6 and N 11 a 52.67, south of LA BOUTILLERIE, but the trench was found full of men who opened heavy rifle fire on our party. A bomb fight took place on the parapet in which an enemy machine gun was disabled and several casualties inflicted.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

The trench tramway by CORNER FORT, N 6 d 4.9, was heard in use during the night, and a wiring party in this neighbourhood was fired on.

Enemy repairing parapet about N 6 b 7.5, west of LE BRIDOUX, were reported by a patrol and fired on by Lewis guns.

Work is reported at I 32 c 40.95 near BOIS BLANCS, and about I 26 d 25.55 and I 21 c 2.0 by LA HOUSOIE.

About 4 p.m. enemy appeared to stand-to along their front line in I 16 d near VEZ MACQUART. Caps were seen. Trench seemed to be lined at regular intervals of 10 yards.

A working party was discovered by one of our patrols north of the railway line in the salient in I 11 a near PORTE EGAL.

In I 5 c, south of L'EPINETTE enemy working parties were seen repairing their parapet and the trench seemed fully garrisoned. No Man's Land in this region is free from water, and enemy's wire was found to be in good condition.

North of L'EPINETTE work is proceeding behind a screen at C 29 d 1.2 and woodwork is visible at C 29 c 9.4.

Working parties were seen in support line at C 17 d 30.65 south of FRELINGHEM.

A small portable searchlight in enemy's front line just south of the CHICKEN RUN in C 17 a did not reappear after being fired on by our machine guns.

MOVEMENTS OBSERVED BEHIND ENEMY'S LINES.

Movement of groups of three or four men was seen during the day about N 15 a 4.0, south of DELAPORTE FARM and on the road north of FROMELLES in N 22 b.

Two men were seen on the track at O 4 d 75.00 going towards ESCOBECQUES.

Several parties of men were seen on the road at I 30 a 5.1, west of CAPINGHEM, one of which was carrying sheets of corrugated iron.

A party of 30 and some motor transport was seen on the road in J 7 c near ST. ANTOINE going towards PERENCHIES.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Reference mention made under this heading in Summary 22nd December to white lights burning in the air, a sketch and description of the remains of one such light is given over-leaf. It was fired from I 26 b west of LA HOUSOIE during our raid and fell about I 19 b 9.2 north east of BOIS GRENIER.

Remains.....

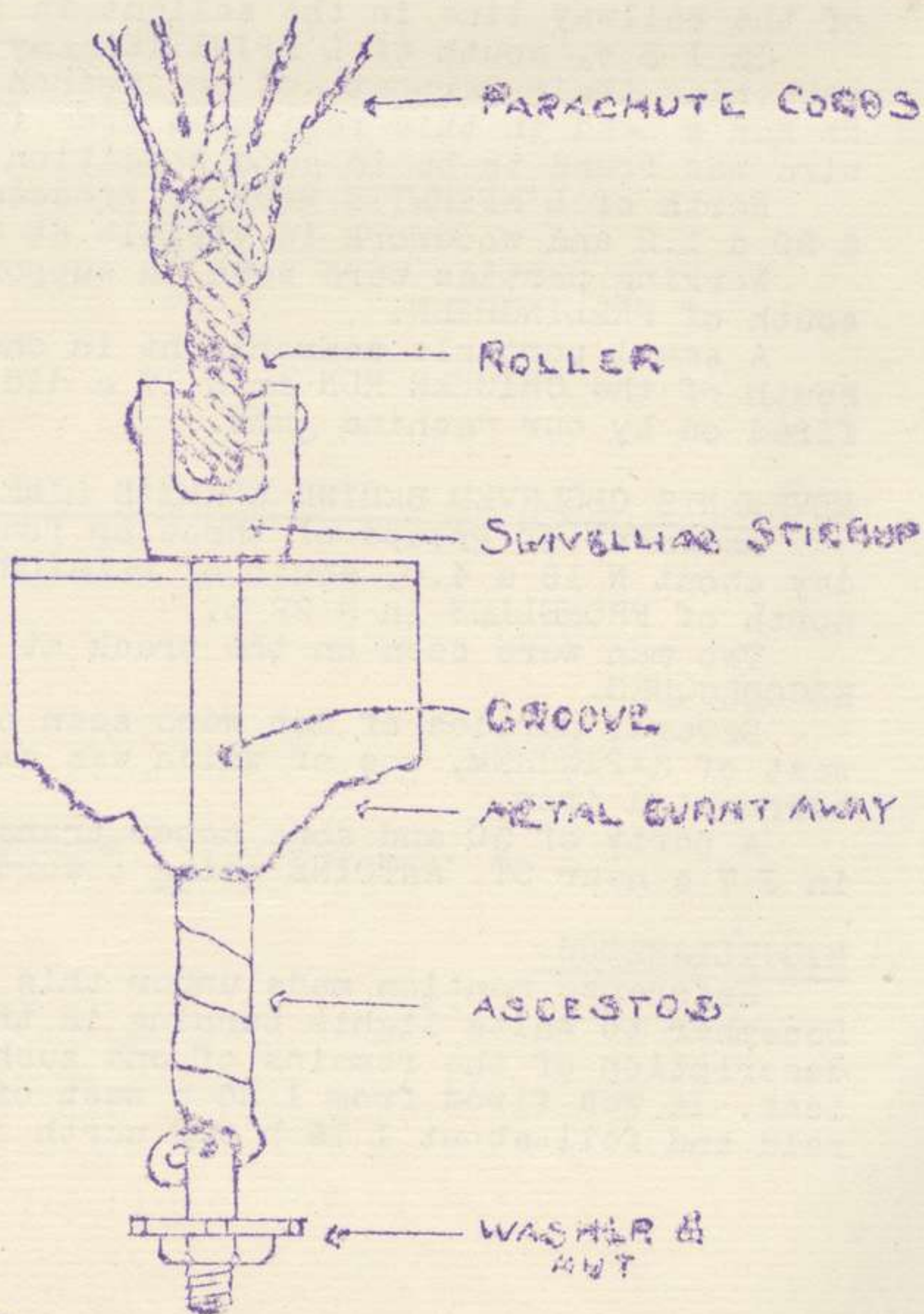
Remains of German Parachute Star Shell picked up near
BOIS GRENIER 22nd December, 1916.

Shell Case.

9 c.m. diameter X apparently 15 c.m. long, of iron
 about 1 m.m. thick. Groove about 1 c.m. wide down side,
 possibly to take thick centre cord of parachute.

Parachute.

Cloth, eight sectors, doubled down the seams, with
 leather backed eyelet holes through which suspending
 wire-cords are threaded. Diameter expanded some 45 c.m.;
 length of centre cord 75 c.m.. Centre wire-cord 4 m.m.
 diameter; eight wire-cords attached to circumference
 3 m.m. diameter.



SCALE 1/2 SIZE

SHELL CASE

Part II follows:-.....

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

ARTILLERY PARK COMPANIES.

The cadres of Park Companies existed in peace time. They were allotted in the proportion of one to each Foot Artillery Regiment (8 heavy batteries) engaged in siege operations. They were intended to be employed on the heavy work connected with the mounting and dismounting of siege artillery, and with ammunition supply in the siege parks. The establishment of a Park Company was laid down as 5 officers and 238 men. A number of these Park Companies have been identified during the war; there appears to be one for each Foot Artillery Regiment. These companies were largely drawn on to find personnel for the new Foot Artillery units formed during 1915 and 1916, the gunners withdrawn from the Park Companies being replaced by men transferred from the Infantry, Cavalry, Train and Labour Battalions.

9th Foot Artillery Regt., Park Company. A captured Unteroffizier of this Unit states that:-

1. His company is attached to a group of heavy howitzer batteries for the purpose of preparing emplacements and for general fatigue work in connection with ammunition supply.
2. In the BAPAUME area there are two "mortar batteries", each of one 42-cm. howitzer only.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF AUTOMATIC RIFLES. (MUSKETEN).

The following is a translation of instructions issued by headquarters of the 38th Division on 10th November 1916:-

- "1. The Automatic-rifle is purely a defensive weapon. It is not to be employed in attack.
2. Automatic-rifles are to be kept out of artillery fire as much as possible, and are not to be used until the enemy's infantry attacks. It is therefore necessary for dug-outs to be told off for the automatic-rifle squads.
3. Automatic-rifles will only be sent into the front trenches in exceptional cases. They should remain in the second or third support trench, or else in the reserve line.
4. Platoons of men with automatic-rifles are to be concentrated at threatened points in order to enable the maximum volume of fire to be developed at these places.
5. Ammunition will be replenished from the infantry ammunition reserves. The infantry must give the automatic-rifle units every assistance in this way.
6. The Company and Platoon Commanders are not to be employed for other purposes. They will remain with their units in action.
7. The automatic-rifle squads must not be called on to provide sentry posts and patrols.
8. The men of these units will be rationed by the unit in whose sector they are employed. The same applies to medical attendance."

OPERATIONS. (From First Army Summary).

On the afternoon of 21st a most successful raid on a large scale was carried out by our troops at 3.15 p.m. in daylight on the German defences just west of the ARRAS-LENS road N.E. of ECURIE. Our troops attacked on a front of 400 yds and penetrated two lines of German trenches, reaching all their objectives. Heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy, both by our raiding parties and by our fire; one German officer and 57 unwounded other ranks were captured and brought back to our lines. No wounded prisoners appear to have been

Taken.....

PART II.

taken. The German trenches were found to have been badly damaged by our artillery fire and were fairly lightly held. All the German dug-outs were searched and blown up before our parties returned. Our casualties amounted to 6 other ranks killed and 18 other ranks wounded, all of whom were brought back to our lines. Our artillery co-operation was perfect throughout, and aeroplane observation reported our artillery fire to be very accurate.

C. Chipper Capt.

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

23rd December, 1916.

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.Period from 8 a.m. 22nd December to 8 a.m. 23rd December, 1916.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Our Batteries fired on the following targets - suspected O.P., E. of LA PIETRE, several direct hits being obtained - good sheds at and to the W. of FROMELLES - LA BIETTE and FOULES BANOS.

Centre Sector. M.T.Ms. fired on enemy's wire near LA HOUESCIE and W. of RUE DU BOIS.

H.T.Ms. fired on enemy's trench mortar in the area of LARGE FARM.

Left Sector. L.T.Ms. dispersed enemy's working party opposite FME GRANDE PORTE EGAL - a enemy's O.P. near BRUNE RUE was fired on and damaged. A sniper's post N.E. of BRUNE RUE was successfully engaged.

MACHINE GUNS.

Centre Sector. Machine Guns fired during the night on selected target in rear of enemy's lines and on gaps in his wire.

Left Sector. 9th M.G. Coy employed indirect fire on INTACT FARM.

The 10th M.G. Coy carried out indirect fire on LIENART FARM - the cross roads W. of LA HOULETTE - the junction of trenches N.W. of FME DU CHASTEL and along the LA HOULETTE and VERQUIN Road. The road between LES 4 HALLOTS and L'AVENTURE also received attention.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. A patrol from 4th Battalion, N.Z. (Rifle) Bde report enemy repairing damage done by our L.T.Ms. near the ANGLE. Another patrol from the same Battalion reported a wiring party at CORNER FORT, who were dispersed by our fire.

Centre Sector. Patrols from 26th and 27th Northumberland Fusiliers report enemy's wire opposite RUE DU BOIS badly damaged and no hostile wiring parties were seen at work there.

Left Sector. A patrol from 35th Battalion A.I.F. discovered enemy's working party in Railway Salient just N. of railway line.

Patrols from 36th Battalion report enemy's working party repairing parapets S. of EPINETTE Salient. Enemy's wire was examined and found in good condition. In this vicinity enemy appears to occupy every bay in his trenches and NO MAN'S LAND is free from water.

Work of patrols from 40th Battalion A.I.F. hindered by enemy rifle and machine gun fire.

RAIDS.

Right Sector. A party from the 3rd Battalion, N.Z. (Rifle) Bde attempted to enter the enemy's trenches N.E. of FME DE MOUQUET.

The enemy's trench was found full of men who opened a heavy rifle fire on our party. A bombing fight took place on the parapet at which an enemy machine gun was disabled and several casualties inflicted.

23rd December, 1916.

E. Helmer, Major
for
Brig.-General,
General Staff,
2nd ANZAC Corps.

C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 179.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 24th December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 23rd December to 6 a.m. 24th Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.

INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

A patrol entered and reconnoitred 50 yards of front line trench N 9 d 90.25, north of ROUGES BANCS. The trench was in a derelict condition, and three dug-outs entered showed no signs of recent occupation.

Work was proceeding in the front line at I 32 c 1.9 near BOIS BLANCS, in I 11 a east of GRAND PORTE EGAL, at C 29 c 5.8 by PONT BALLOT, and at C 17 d 15.50 near HOBBS'S FARM. Also in support line at C 23 b 5.9 and C 17 d 35.60 east of HOBBS'S FARM.

Work on wire was reported by a patrol in C 23 c west of BOX FARM. Another patrol reports enemy's wire between C 23 c 8.7 and 8.8, west of LES 4 HALLOTS very strong and five feet high in places.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

A wiring party behind LES CLOCHERS, N 16 b was dispersed by rifle fire.

Sandbag work was observed proceeding near LA BIETTE, N 16 a 4.0, and at O 7 d 4.4 by LE MAISNIL.

New stakes are reported in the wire in O 12 b in front of JOYEUX MILL.

Timber has been dumped at O 4 c 8.5 south west of LA VALLEE.

MOVEMENT OBSERVED BEHIND ENEMY'S LINES.

The usual traffic of men in twos and threes was seen on roads in rear.

Smoke from an engine on the light railway in O 13 d near LE MAISNIL was seen between 2.5 and 2.10 p.m.

30 men with packs and rifles marched towards BEAUCAMPS from direction of FOURNES.

A number of small parties were seen in the neighbourhood of PREMESQUES, I 24 d, during the day.

Part II follows:-...

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

ENEMY'S LIGHT SIGNALS.

When one of the enemy's shells fell in his own lines in the BOESINGHE sector, a white rocket bursting into two green lights was put up. This was probably a signal to lengthen range.

MISCELLANEOUS.

North of the VIERSTRAAT-WYTSCHAETE road a patrol reports the discovery, about 30 yards from the enemy's trench, of a box with white tape running diagonally to the enemy's line at 28 N 18 b 2.9. There is a German sentry at this point.

This is probably a box-light apparatus of the type fully described in the Second Army Summary of 21st February 1916. It consists of a tin box containing an illuminant of the consistency of sealing wax. It is manipulated by a string from the trench, burns for about half an hour and sheds a very bright light.

HIGHER COMMAND.

1. A captured document dated the 30th November shows that the Crown Prince has given up command of the Fifth Army, and has taken over the Group of Armies which hold the front from REIMS to the Swiss frontier.

2. According to a prisoner's statement, the Fifth Army is now commanded by General von LOCHOW, who formerly commanded the III Corps.

GERMAN METHOD OF CONSTRUCTING DEFENCES IN THE SOMME AREA. (From the French).

1. The different lines under construction were divided into regimental sectors under permanent officers, generally lieutenants.

2. Regimental depots (in addition to Divisional) were pushed as far forward as possible. These contained R.E. stores, ammunition and rations (including mineral water and solidified alcohol).

On arrival in the SOMME area, companies were organized in 4 platoons, 3 of which were employed in the trenches, and the fourth platoon for bringing up stores to the front line only.

3. Special units were formed to carry out skilled work, e.g.: - "Betontrupp", for concrete work; "Stollenbaukommando", for making deep dug-outs.

4. The number of men actually employed digging trenches, as well as the amount of work demanded from the individual, was considerable.

Russian prisoners and civilians were employed on back lines.

LANDSTURM GARRISONS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. (From a Note by the French General Staff).

Further information has been obtained with regard to the employment and distribution of Landsturm Battalions in Belgium and in Poland (vide Summary of 14th December, 1916).

The Military Governments of Belgium and Poland are now provided with two types of unit for the safeguarding of the conquered territory, viz.: - (a) Divisions and formations resting in the area; (b) Permanent garrisons of Landsturm Battalions. In Belgium there are 90 battalions of Landsturm forming the permanent garrison, and in Poland 40 battalions. The battalions in Belgium are distributed as follows:-

(a) 4 Groups.....

PART II.

(a) 4 Groups of from 5 to 12 battalions each at the railway junctions on the main lines of communication, ANTWERP, BRUSSELS, LIEGE and NAMUR.

(b) Battalions distributed singly or in pairs along the main railway lines, viz.- LIEGE-ANTWERP; LIEGE-BRUSSELS; LIEGE-NAMUR-MONS (or MAUBEUGE or GIVET); ARLON-NAMUR-BRUSSELS; ANTWERP-BRUSSELS-MONS. Several battalions are also distributed along the frontier.

PART III.CONTRE-ESPIONNAGE.

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

Green Card Pass No. 12385 for motor cycle issued to Sergt. CREEDON, 4th Div. Sigs.

Green Card Pass No. 18138 for motor cycle only issued to No. 0196 2/A.M. COX, H., 23rd Squadron R.F.C.

Green Card Pass No. 5030 reported lost in S.A.S. 20/12/1 has been found.

2. HENBAULT, Ernest, C.E. Index Part I p.61. Please cancel this entry.

3. Cases have recently arisen of individuals in neutral countries trying to obtain information of military value through subscriptions to local papers published near the front. Among those is Emilie KUPFER-SCHMID of 28 rue des Tanneurs, BALE.

24th December, 1916.

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

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.Period from 8 a.m. 23rd December to 8 a.m. 24th December, 1916.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Our Artillery fired on enemy trench mortar reported active in neighbourhood of LES CLOCHERS and on working parties near FROMELLES and BAS MALSNIL.

Centre Sector. Our Artillery fired at working parties at BONTRES near RADINCHEN and at WEZ MACQUART.

Left Sector. Our Artillery fired on suspected Minnenwerfer emplacements near LES 4 HALLOTS FARM with good effect, much material being blown up.

M.T.Ms. fired on enemy's wire and front opposite L'EPINETTE.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns carried out the usual programme of indirect fire throughout the night, along the whole Corps front.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. A patrol from 2nd Auckland Battalion, 2nd N.Z. Pde, entered enemy's trenches at N. 9. d. 90. 25 near FME DELAFORTE and reconnoitred 50 yards of the trench. 3 dug-outs were found but showed no signs of recent occupation.

Centre Sector. A patrol from the 15th Royal Scots, 101st Brigade found no signs of enemy in NO MAN'S LAND but heard work in his front line opposite Trench I. 26. 4.

Left Sector. A patrol from 35th Battalion A.I.F. found the ground in NO MAN'S LAND in vicinity of Railway Salient very wet. The borrow ditch between enemy wire and his parapet is full of water. Trench appeared to be unoccupied.

A patrol of 39th Battalion A.I.F. found a hostile wiring party W. of BOX FARM which was dispersed by Lewis Guns of the same Battalion. This patrol found pieces of wood and paper indicating a route across NO MAN'S LAND to our wire.

A patrol from 40th Battalion A.I.F. report enemy's wire W. of LES 4 HALLOTS FARM to be very strong, in places it is 5 ft. high.

24th December, 1916.

W. S. Robertson
 for Brig.-General,
 General Staff,
 2nd ANZAC Corps.

C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 180.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 25th December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 24th December to 6 a.m. 25th Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

Work was observed in front line at N 11 a 6.7, west of BAS MAISNIL, and in support line in O 1 a west of LE BRIDOUX.

Between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. brushwood and timber were carried along front trench in I 21 b and I 22 a, west of VEZ MACQUART.

A raiding party entered enemy salient in I 11 a opposite PETIT PORTE EGAL and found the trenches unoccupied.

Working parties were seen in support line in I 5 b south of BRUNE RUE, at C 23 b 30.05, north of LES 4 HALLOTS, and at C 17 d 45.15, east of HOBBS FARM.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

Our artillery dispersed working parties at N 16 d 35.60 near HAYEM, N 22 d 6.7 by FROMELLES station and N 18 c 9.3 near BERNIERE FARM.

Smoke was seen rising from a suspected dug-out at O 2 a 9.2 near LE BAS HAMEAU.

TRENCH MORTAR EMPLACEMENTS.

Suspected in house at I 22 b 85.50 at VEZ MACQUART.

SCREENS.

A large brown canvas screen has been erected at I 27 c 9.9, by LA HOUSOIE and another at I 30 c 2.5, south west of MONT DE PREMESQUES.

Wooden screens have been erected at I 5 b 4.2 and C 29 d 20.25 near BRUNE RUE, whilst other new screens are visible apparently along the support line north east of HOBBS FARM from C 17 d 50.45 to 15.90.

OBSERVATION POSTS.

A platform was observed between two trees at O 14 a 3.7, north east of LE MAISNIL, and a telescope was seen glittering in the trees at O 10 d 9.9 by ESCOBECQUES.

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

NEW FORMATIONS.

1. A new 225th Division has been identified on the TRANSYLVANIAN front. This division has been formed by regrouping the fourth regiments of other divisions.
2. This raises to 205 the total number of German divisions in the field.

HIGHER COMMAND.

A document shows that General der Infanterie von FABECK, commanding the 12th German Army on the Russian front, died recently. He has been replaced by General der Infanterie von MUDRA, who formerly commanded the XVI Corps, and who has lately been in command of an Army-Group north of VERDUN.

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

25th December, 1916.

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.Period from 8 a.m. 24th December to 8 a.m. 25th December, 1916.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHESOPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.Right Sector. Our Artillery & dispersed working parties near HAYEM, FROMELLES Station and LE HAUT QUESNOY.

An O.P., W. of FROMELLES was successfully shelled.

One Battery carried out a shoot upon HAYEM HOUSE with aeroplane observation.

Centre Division. Heavy Artillery and Divisional Artillery retaliated for enemy trench mortar and artillery fire.

M.T.Ms. and L.T.Ms. damaged enemy wire and parapet in I.22.a. and I.26.c.

Left Sector. Our Artillery dispersed working parties N.W. of FERENCHIES and S.W. of LES 4 HALLOTS FARM.

M.T.Ms. bombarded enemy's front and support lines.

L.T.Ms. fired on wire and parapet N.W. of HOBBS FARM doing considerable damage.

MACHINE GUNS.Left Sector. 11th M.G.Coy. dispersed an enemy's wiring party N. of the Railway Salient.PATROLS.Right and Centre Sector patrols were active, but report no signs of enemy in NO MAN'S LAND.Left Sector. A patrol from 29th Battalion A.I.F. penetrated 3 lines of enemy's wire at C.23. Central near LES 4 HALLOTS FARM. This wire was in good condition and is reported to be very thick.

A patrol from 40th Battalion A.I.F. report enemy's wire to be considerably damaged.

SNIPERS.Centre Sector. The snipers of 10th Bn, Lincoln's Regiment fired at and hit a man who looked over the parapet of front line opposite BRIDLOUX Salient.

25th December, 1916.

C. Clifton Cuthbert
 10 Brig.-General,
 General Staff,
 2nd ANZAC Corps.

CONFIDENTIAL NO. 181.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 26th December, 1916.
(From 3 a.m. 25th December to 6 a.m. 26th Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

OPERATIONS.

Our artillery shelled enemy's communication trenches at intervals during the day and night.

A raid was carried out on enemy's trenches about C 17 c 95.15 opposite HOBBS' FARM. The wire was cut by hand and a German working party driven in. Enemy bolted so rapidly that raiders were unable to obtain a prisoner. They brought back, however, a pack and two rifles.

IDENTIFICATIONS.

Letters found in pack brought in from C 17 c 95.15 east of HOBBS' FARM confirm the continued presence of the 23rd Bavarian Infantry Regt. 3rd Bavarian Division.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

Thick wire has been observed behind support line between N 14 b 4.3 and N 14 b 6.5 west of DELAPORTE FARM.

Work was observed in front line in I 31 d west of BOIS BLANCS and at C 17 a 2.5 near the LYS. Also in support line at C 23 b 5.5 north of LES 4 HALLOTS, and in front and support line in C 29 c and d about BOX FARM.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

Work is proceeding on the line between LA BIETTE and LES CLOCHERS in N 16 a.

New sandbagging is visible about N 12 a 40.05 near BAS MAISNIL.

Smoke was seen rising from dug-outs at O 13 b 25.70 by LE MAISNIL. O 2 a 9.2 near LE BAS HAU, O 4 c 8.3 south west of LA VALLEE and I 33 d 15.55 by TROIS FETUS.

MOVEMENT OBSERVED BEHIND ENEMY'S LINES.

Parties of some half dozen men were observed moving in either direction on the LE MAISNIL-RADINGHEM and ESCOBLOQUES-ENNETIERES roads between 8 and 10 a.m.

Five men were observed at 11.40 a.m. proceeding from the trenches towards BACQUART along road in O 1 c.

The smoke of two trains was seen during the morning on the light railway near LE MAISNIL, O 13 c and d.

Movement was seen on the road in O 12 d at 10.40 a.m., and 9 men were observed at work by the suspected dump at O 12 b 9.0 near VERT BALLOT.

TRENCH MORTAR IMPLACEMENTS.

Suspected at I 22 b 85.50 and 8.6 in VEEZ MACQUART and at LES 4 HALLOTS, C 23 d 2.7.

Bearings on a flash at 8.21 p.m. intersected at C 17 d 60.65 north east of HOBBS' FARM.

OBSERVATION POSTS.

Suspected at J 7 b 9.5, LA BELLE VUE and I 6 a 4.2, south east of BRUNE RUE.

P.T.O.

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

DEFENCES.

A refugee from LILLE reports that:-

- (a). A number of houses in the LAMBERSART district have been put in a state of defence.
- (b). N.E. of the town, outside the fortifications, between the PORTE DE GAND and the PORTE DE ROUBAIX, there are well-wired trenches.
- (c). There is a good deal of wire in the BOIS d'ANNAPPES.

26th December, 1916.

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

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.Period from 8 a.m. 25th December to 8 a.m. 26th December, 1916.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.Right Sector. Our Artillery dispersed working parties N.E. of FROMELLE and at LES CLOCHERS.

A scheme was carried out against enemy's communication trenches at night.

M.T.M. Batteries bombarded enemy's line opposite LA BOUTILLERIE - considerable damage appeared to be done.

Our L.T.Ms. bombarded the KNUCKLE and PME DELANGEE.

Centre Sector. Group schemes were carried out during the day consisting of intermittent bursts of fire; hostile trench mortars were engaged.

Many parties of Germans were seen to pass a gap in the parapet of communication trench W. of WEZ MACQUART. A gun was kept on this point and direct hits in the trench and among the parties were observed.

The 103rd L.T.M. Battery fired 200 rounds in conjunction with the Left Group Artillery scheme.

Left Sector. Small parties of enemy were fired at and dispersed S. of LA FRESNELLE and near LA OURSINS FARM.

Tramways, communication trenches and screens in rear of enemy's line were fired at.

The right group Hws. fired upon a searchlight N.W. of WEZ MACQUART. L.T.Ms. caused considerable damage to enemy's trench opposite HOBBS FARM.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns and Lewis Guns fired on targets in rear of enemy's lines throughout the night.PATROLS.Right Sector. Patrols report all quiet in NO MAN'S LAND.Centre Sector. A patrol from 15th Royal Scots reports enemy's trench opposite GRANDE FLAMENGRIE FARM occupied.Left Sector. A patrol from 41st Battalion A.I.F. examined enemy's wire opposite the MUSHROOM and found this to be very strong.

A patrol from 40th Battalion A.I.F. reported 2 machine guns active from enemy's parapet opposite L'EPINETTE Salient in I.5.

A patrol of 39th Battalion report 8 red lights having been fired from enemy's line opposite PONT BALLOT.

An enemy working party S.W. of LES 4 HALLOTS was discovered by a patrol of the 40th Battalion and dispersed by Lewis Guns of the same Battalion.

A hostile patrol of 6 men was encountered in NO MAN'S LAND S. of PONT BALLOT and forced to retire by a patrol of the 40th Battalion who claim to have made 2 hits.

SNIPERS.Centre Sector. The snipers of 15th Royal Scots shot a man who looked over the parapet of front line N.W. of LA HOUSOIE.RAIDS. A raiding party from 37th Battalion A.I.F. entered the enemy's trenches opposite HOBBS FARM. The garrison retreated too quickly for prisoners to be taken, but 2 rifles and a pack were brought back and supplied an identification.

No Artillery was used in connection with this raid, the wire being cut by hand.

W.B. Robertson *Cap^t*
 for Brig.-General,
 General Staff,
 2nd ANZAC Corps.

26th December, 1916.

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

A working party was seen driving in stakes at N 6 c 60.45 north of BAS MAISNIL.

Wire has been put out on the parapet in numerous places in I 22 a and I 16 d near WEZ MACQUART where the wire had been damaged.

Working parties were seen at C 29 c 6.9 east of PONT BALLOT, and C 23 d 1.4 south of LES 4 HALLOTS.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

R.F.C report a large mound of new earth at N 23 a 05.55, the site of FROMELLES Church, also a new erection of some kind at N 23 a 25.40.

MACHINE GUN EMPLACEMENT.

Suspected at N 8 d 85.15, forty yards west of where the River LAIES cuts enemy's parapet.

TRENCH MORTAR EMPLACEMENT.

Suspected at I 27 a 7.3, near LA HOUSSEIE.

DUMPS.

R.F.C. report that dump at ERQUINGHEM - LE SEC, O 16 b, appears well stocked. Also that work which covers two or three acres, possibly levelling, is going on at O 34 b 5.0 near LIGNY.

SEARCHLIGHTS.

Intersections on searchlights east of ARMENTIERES taken during the last fortnight may be summarised as follows:-

- I 17: 5 rather scattered pin points in neighbourhood of RUELLIE DE LA BLANCHE.
- I 11: An intersection in front line at S 55.60 and near support line at d 0.4.
- C 29: 3 intersections at point of salient S 4.9 to a 4.1 one at S 60.85 and one at c 8.7
- C 23 and C 17: 30 intersections extending fairly evenly all along front line. Two places seem especially favoured, intersections on six different dates clustering about C 23 c 95.15 and C 17 c 8.6.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the appearance of an enemy searchlight in I 11, north of WEZ MACQUART, a small bell has been heard by our patrols for the past three nights. The ringing of the bell is suggested to be a signal for enemy working parties to take cover while the beam sweeps No Man's Land.

Part II follows:-....

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

IDENTIFICATIONS OF THE ENEMY'S UNITS.

II Bav. Corps. A prisoner of the 5th Bav. Regt., 4th Bav. Div., was taken night 25th/26th east of LE GHEER (28 U 22 c 3.5). The 23rd Bav. Regt. was also identified by equipment south of FRELINGHIEN (36 C 17 c 9.1). Both these identifications are normal. The prisoner states that the Order of Battle of his Division (north to south) is:- 5th Bav. Res. I.R., 5th Bav. I.R., 9th Bav. I.R., - thus no change has occurred.

WASTAGE OF GERMAN MAN POWER.

Comparing the composition of the 111th Res. Inf. Regt (28th Res. Div.) during its first and second engagements in the battle (July and October 1916), the large increase in the proportion of the 1916 Class identified during the second engagement is very noticeable.

The drafts received by the regiment during the first night of July consisted almost entirely of the 1916 Class. The 15th July the drafts have been made up of the following categories:-

- (1) "Combed" men.
- (2) "Permanent unfit".
- (3) Returned wounded.
- (4) 1917 Class.

NEW FORMATIONS.

A captured document states that the Germans are forming by March 1917 ten new Divisions, composed as under:-

- 3 Infantry Regiments (each 3 Battalions).
- 1 Field Artillery Regiment (3 Abteilungen).
- 2 Pioneer Companies.
- 1 Minenwerfer Company.
- 1 Medical Company.

27th December, 1916.

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

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

Period from 8 a.m. 23th December to 8 a.m. 27th December, 1916.

THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.

OPERATION REPORT.

ARTILLERY.

Right Division artillery silenced Trench Mortars and shelled a suspected battery position near LA HAUT LOGE, BAS MAISMIL and an O.P. in a building North of the BAS MAISMIL - THIROUAMNE Road. Medium Trench Mortars bombarded enemy's wire, parapet and communication trenches North of BAS MAISMIL and North of ROUGE BLANCS. At the latter point large quantities of iron and timber were thrown up.

Centre Division artillery fired on hostile Trench Mortars retaliating to our Trench Mortar shoots. Medium Trench Mortars fired on enemy's wire and parapet Northwest of WEZ MACQUART and opposite the ERIDOUX salient. Observation was difficult on account of mist but shoot appeared to cause considerable damage.

Left Division 18-pdrs. and Hows. supported Medium Trench Mortar shoots against front line near RAILWAY Salient and opposite PEAR TREE Farm.

A battery of R.H.A. fired on suspected traffic routes, and an active searchlight after dark.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine guns fired throughout the night on the Corps front. The 10th M.G. Company on the Left Sector dispersed working party.

PATROLS

Patrols from the Right and Centre Divisions report no signs of enemy in NO MAN'S LAND.

A patrol from the 41st Battalion, A.I.F., reported two enemy wiring parties. These were dispersed by the Lewis guns of the same Battalion.

SNIPERS.

The snipers of the 21st Northumberland Fusiliers fired at 2 men seen in the open North of MANAGERS HOUSE. Both men fell, three others who tried to get over to the fallen men were also fired on and disappeared.

Snipers of the 40th and 42nd Battalions, A.I.F. claim two and one hits respectively.

W.B. Robertson (ap)
for B.G., G.S.,
2nd ANZAC Corps.

27th December, 1916.

C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 183.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 28th December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 27th December to 6 a.m. 28th Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

Work was seen about I 31 d 2.1 and I 31 d 8.6 near LE BRIDOUX.

Enemy wire has been strengthened in I 26 c north of BOIS BLANCS.

Working parties in front line were fired on in I 5 c south of L'EPINETTE, also in C 29 c near PONT BALLOT and C 23 c by LES 4 HALLOTS.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

New work is visible in the line between LA BIETTE and LES CLOCHERS at about N 16 a 70.15 and wire about N 16 a 8.2.

Smoke was seen rising from the suspected battalion headquarters at I 33 d 0.5 near TROIS FETUS.

TRENCH MORTAR EMPLACEMENTS.

Suspected at I 27 a 70.45 and I 27 b 3.3 near LA HOUSOIE and at I 22 b 85.55 in WEZ MACQUART.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

No enemy were seen in No Man's Land by our patrols. South of ARMENTIERES trench patrols were heard passing in enemy's lines.

South east of ARMENTIERES enemy still throws bombs into his own wire at night.

Artillery activity was normal. Some 20 rounds of 10.5 cm. fell in I 5 c by L'EPINETTE, and enemy trench mortars were troublesome.

Part II follows.-.....

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

GERMAN COAST DEFENCE TROOPS.

The German Coast Defences are under the command of Generaloberst von HEERINGEN, who formerly commanded the Seventh Army.

The troops allotted to the Coast Defences consist of:-

- (a) Some naval units.
- (b) 50 Battalions of armed Landsturm belonging to the Army Corps Districts adjoining the Coast (X, IX, II, XVII, and I.).

GERMAN FRONTIER GUARDS.

The troops allotted to guard the German land frontiers consist of about 40 Landsturm Battalions. The majority of these are concentrated on the Dutch and Swiss frontiers; only a few are on the Danish frontier.

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

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

The following air photographs taken on the 27th inst. have been received. Divisions, Brigades, etc. should indent direct on 2nd Anzac Intelligence for their requirements:-

SHEET 36.

<u>Neg. No.</u>	<u>Square.</u>	<u>Area Covered.</u>
42B 452	J	1 acd.
42B 453	I	16 c; 22 a.
42B 454	J	1 cd; 7 ab.
42B 455	I	22 b; 16 d; 17 c.
42B 456	J	7 c; 13 a.
42B 457	J	1 a.
42B 458	I	7 b; 18 ac.
42B 459	D	24 d; 19 c; 25 a; 30 b.
42B 460	D	25 abcd.
42B 461	J	7 abc.
42B 462	I & O	1 31 cd; 32 cd. 0 1 ab.
42B 463	N	22 abc; 28 ab.
42B 464	N	11 cd; 17 ab.
42B 465	N	16 abcd.
42B 466	O	13 acd; 19 ab.
42B 467	O	7 d; 13 bd; 14 a.
42B 468	H	10 bcd; 11 a.
42B 469	C	17 abcd.

Appendix No. 1

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

Period from 8 a.m. 27th December to 8 a.m. 28th December, 1916.

THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.

OPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Right Divisional artillery registered a hostile battery North-east of LE MAISONAL, with aeroplane observation. Front, support and communication trenches were shelled, as were also Machine gun emplacements in front line N.W. of FNE DELAPORTE and in support line at CHATEAU RICHE, a suspected O.P. at the POTTERIES and a billet in N.17b. FNE DE LA MARIACQUE. Hostile T.M.'s were silenced by our T.M. and artillery fire.

Centre Sector. A howitzer battery fired on and silenced hostile T.M.'s active from near WEZ MACQUART. Medium Trench Mortars cut enemy's front line wire beside ARMENTIERES-WAVRIN railway and also in front of LARGE FARM. The enemy's support line along the RUE DE BOIS BLANCS was considerably damaged by our bombardment carried out by our Medium Trench Mortars.

Left Sector. Left Divisional 18-pdrs. dispersed a working party N.W. of PORT BALLOT and the 4.5 Hows. shelled a Trench Mortar emplacement and a suspected M.G. emplacement in C.29.d. and C.29.c. respectively. The Heavy Trench Mortar Battery fired at enemy's front line opposite PORT EGAL FARM. Light Trench Mortar Batteries of the 10th and 11th A.I.F. Brigades bombarded enemy's front line at many points.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine guns fired throughout the night on targets in rear of enemy's lines.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. Patrols from 2nd New Zealand Brigade report hearing movement of enemy's trench patrols. Patrols from 2nd Bn. New Zealand Rifle Brigade examined enemy's wire near CORNER FORT but found no gaps.

Centre Sector. Patrols of the 15th Royal Scots and 10th Lines report no signs of enemy in NO MAN'S LAND.

Left Sector. Patrols from 41st and 42nd Battalions, A.I.F. reported wiring and working parties. These were dispersed by the Lewis gunners of the respective battalions. A patrol of the 38th Bn. A.I.F. heard a hostile patrol in NO MAN'S LAND West of LES 4 HALLOTS FARM, but were unable to see it owing to the mist.

SNIPERS.

Centre Sector. Snipers of the 15th Royal Scots claim to have hit the centre man of three seen on the parapet opposite GRANDE FLAMENGERIE FARM at 7.30 a.m..

A sniper of the 10 Bn. Lincoln Regt. claims a hit on a German who fired 2 shots over the parapet in front of OYSTER FARM.

W.B. Robertson Capt.
for B.G., G.S.,
2nd ANZAC Corps.

C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 134.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 29th December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 28th December to 6 a.m. 29th Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.

INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

Enemy was observed repairing his front line parapet at N 6 b 7.2 and 9.5, west of LE BRIDOUX.

New wire has been erected in front of support line in N 10 b west of MOUQUET FARM, and in No Man's Land at I 16 d 50.95 near WEZ MACQUART.

Work was observed in front line in I 11 a opposite GRAND PORTE EGAL.

TRENCH MORTAR EMPLACEMENTS.

Suspected at I 27 a 45.60, I 27 a 5.9 and I 27 b 00.95 by LA HOUSSEIE.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Smoke was observed rising from among trees about N 11 d 5.4 north of FME DE LA MARLAQUE.

No Man's Land is reported very wet in C 29 opposite PONT BALLOT and C 23 near LES 4 HALLOTS.

Three hostile aeroplanes flying over our lines south of ARMENTIERES between 10.30 and 11 a.m. were driven off by the fire of our anti-aircraft guns.

29th December, 1916.

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

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.Period from 8 a.m. 28th December to 8 a.m. 29th December, 1916.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. On the Right Sector the New Zealand Divisional Artillery shelled a suspected pumping station in N.16.c., North-east of FROMELLES and new work near the RUE DES TURCS in N.11.a. Medium Trench Mortar Batteries cut wire and bombarded enemy's front line trench destroying three dugouts. A direct hit was observed on a fourth dugout, but failed to destroy it.

Centre Sector. The Centre Divisional Artillery carried out group retaliation for hostile Trench Mortar activity. Medium Trench Mortars cut a narrow lane in enemy's front wire in front of SNIPERS HOUSE, enemy retaliated heavily.

Left Sector. A howitzer battery engaged a hostile Minenwerfer located South of LES 4 HALLOTS, considerable damage was caused and an ammunition dump was destroyed. The enemy's front and support lines opposite L'EPINETTE Sector were bombarded. Medium Trench Mortars cut wire at points N.E. and S.E. of PONT BALLOT. Light Trench Mortars shelled many points of enemy's line.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine guns fired on gaps in enemy's wire and selected points in rear of enemy's line throughout the night.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. Patrols from the New Zealand Rifle Brigade report trenches at the LOZENGE and CORNER FORT occupied.

Centre Sector. Patrols report all quiet.

Left Sector. A patrol of the 41st Battalion, A.I.F., reports the wire South of the RAILWAY SALIENT very much cut, and no sounds of occupation in the trench at this point. Patrols from the 37th and 38th Battalions, A.I.F. report NO MAN'S LAND very wet and considerable rifle fire from trenches opposite the HOUPLINES Sector.

W.B. Robertson (ap)
for B.G., G.S.,
2nd ANZAC Corps.

29th December, 1916.

C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 185.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 30th December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 29th December to 6 a.m. 30th Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

No Man's Land all along the front is reported by patrols to be very wet; in many places knee deep in mud. Road in C 23 a near HOBBS FARM two feet under water.

Patrols report considerable rifle fire from front line at O 1 a 35.75, west of LE BRIDOUX and much wire on parapet.

The ruins of buildings at O 1 b 40.75 in LE BRIDOUX destroyed by our artillery have since been rebuilt with square stone to a height of about 7 feet. Six telephone wires can be traced to this structure and smoke is often seen rising from it.

Smoke was seen coming from front line at I 31 d 4.4 north of LE BRIDOUX. R.F.C. report trench from I 31 d 70.55 to 90.65 in bad condition and very wet.

Much movement was seen in support line in I 22 a and I 16 d near WEZ MACQUART.

R.F.C. report front line in I 11 a opposite PORTE EGAL mostly under water. A working party however is stated by patrols to have been seen in the railway salient during the night at about I 11 a 4.1, and enemy was bombing his own wire.

Working parties were observed at C 29 c 90.35 north of L'EPINETTE, and at C 23 c 9.6, C 23 d 05.90 and C 23 b 10.65 near LES 4 HALLOTS. Also in support line at C 17 d 40.55, south of FRELINGHIEN.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

Work continues on the LA BIETTE - LES CLOCHERS line in N 16 a.

Working parties in I 35 a north east of LA VALLEE were dispersed by our artillery.

MOVEMENTS OBSERVED BEHIND ENEMY'S LINES.

A party of 30 or 40 men working in O 10 a and c, east of RADINGHEM were dispersed by our artillery at 9 a.m., and again on their return at 2.15 p.m. Two motor lorries in rear from which material was being unloaded were also fired on but no direct hit obtained.

ENEMY'S ACTIVITY.

At 5.30 p.m. a hostile party of about 12 men approached our line in C 29 south of PONT BALLOT, penetrated our first row of wire and threw a bomb. Our reply caused enemy to withdraw immediately. No casualties were incurred by us, and nothing was discovered by a patrol which searched the ground.

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

IDENTIFICATIONS.

A German N.C.O. was killed night 29th/30th whilst on patrol at C 4 a 4.8. There was no identity disc or pay book, but from papers found in a purse on the body it appears that the man had belonged to the 4th Battery, 2nd Bav. Fd. Art. Regt. in June 1916. The man was wearing a cap with Bavarian cockade and black band with red piping (either artillery or pioneer). Possibly the man was a gunner attached to a trench mortar battery (Members of T.M. Batteries are recruited from all branches of the service).

The 2nd Bav. Fd. Art. Regt. belongs to the 4th Bav. Div., II Bav. Corps. The identification is therefore normal.

AIRCRAFT.....

PART II.AIRCRAFT.

There was continual aeroplane activity on both sides on the 27th. Two enemy machines appear to have been driven down behind HOOGE; one appeared to make a forced landing, and the other seemed to fall out of control.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In the BLUFF sector, about 9.30 a.m. on the 27th, when one of our aeroplanes was crossing the lines towards the enemy, five beats on a gong were sounded. This may have been either a warning to the garrison of the enemy trenches to take cover, or a signal for the opening of machine-gun fire on the aeropl

30th December, 1916.

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

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.Period from 8 a.m. 29th December to 8 a.m. 30th December, 1916.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. The New Zealand Divisional Artillery fired on the AUBERS - FROMELLES road and CRUCIFIX ROAD. Four direct hits were obtained on a row of railway trucks near FROMELLES Station.

New work near HAYEM and suspected O.P.'s near LE MAISNIL-en-WEPPES and near FROMELLES.

Two hostile batteries were registered and silenced.

Medium Trench Mortars bombarded the enemy's wire, front and communication trenches North of ROUGES BANCS and in front of EAS MAISNIL.

Centre Sector. Many working parties were dispersed by the 34th Divisional Artillery.

Retaliation to hostile Trench Mortar fire was effective.

Medium Trench Mortars cut a clear lane in enemy's wire East of the RUE DU BOIS.

Left Sector. Working parties near the RAILWAY Salient and BOX FARM were dispersed.

Two suspected Minenwerfer emplacements were bombarded by howitzers. The Medium and Light Trench Mortars carried out shoots against selected points in enemy's first line causing considerable damage.

MACHINE GUNS.

During the night Machine guns were active along the whole of the Corps front.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. A patrol from 2nd Auckland Battalion found NO MAN'S LAND knee-deep in mud near the enemy's wire in front of FME DELAPORTE. A patrol from 2nd Battalion New Zealand Rifle Brigade reports enemy's line well wired and apparently occupied where the COURANT des BREUX crosses his parapet.

Centre Sector. Patrols report all quiet in NO MAN'S LAND.

Left Sector. Hostile working parties were reported by patrols of 41st Battalion and 38th Battalion, A.I.F., and dispersed by Lewis gun fire of the same Battalions.

Patrols from the 37th and 42nd Battalions reported on the state of the enemy's wire and condition of NO MAN'S LAND.

ATTEMPTED ENEMY RAID.

At 5.30 p.m. a party of the enemy approached our line South of PONT BALLOT. On being discovered, one of the party threw a bomb, fire was immediately opened by Lewis guns and rifles of the 37th Battalion, A.I.F. and enemy withdrew. A patrol from this Battalion immediately left to search NO MAN'S LAND but no trace of the enemy was found.

S. B. Pope Capt.

for B.G., G.S.,
2nd ANZAC Corps.

30th December, 1916.

C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 186.
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 31st December, 1916.
(From 6 a.m. 30th December to 6 a.m. 31st Dec. 1916).

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

PART I.
INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

Water was being pumped from front line in N 5 d, south of LA BOUTILLERIE, and new work could be seen about N 11 b 4.6 behind.

Enemy parapet has been built up at I 31 d 5.5 north of IE BRIDOUX and at I 16 d 50.75 near WLZ MACQUART. New wire has been put out by the latter point and at I 21 b 80.35 east of RUE DU BOIS.

Working parties were seen in the support line at I 5 d 1.1, south of L'EPINETTE, I 5 b 5.6 near BRUNE RUE and C 23 b 35.15 near LES 4 HALLOTS, also in front line about this last location.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

New work in the LA BIETTE - LES CLOCHERS line was fired on by artillery and machine guns. The gap from N 16 c 65.95 to N 16 a 80.05 has been filled in with high revetting material or a screen.

Work is in progress about N 22 b 6.2 by FROMELLES.

Stakes were being driven in at O 13 c 3.9, by LE HAUT QUEENOY.

There is a pile of wood and other material at O 4 c 60.05, south west of LA VALLEE.

Movement of working parties was seen and fired on at O 2 b 4.5 north of LE BAS HAU and at I 33 d 3.4 near TROIS FLTUS; also in I 35 near LA VALLEE and in I 30 near MONT DE PREMESQUES.

Working parties near a screen which runs apparently from I 6 c 4.2 to I 6 c 7.5, north west of LA FRESNILLE, were dispersed by our artillery.

TRENCH MORTAR EMPLACEMENTS.

Suspected at I 27 b 45.65 and at I 27 a 85.95 in the neighbourhood of LA HOUSOIE.

MISCELLANEOUS.

One of our patrols came in contact with a single wire leading from a shell hole about C 23 c 7.2 near LES 4 HALLOTS to the German lines. On this wire being touched a hostile machine gun opened fire on the enemy front system of wire.

Part II follows:-.....

PART II.
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

CYCLIST FORMATIONS. (From a note by the French General Staff).

1. Cyclist Companies. The only cyclist units which existed on the outbreak of war were one or two Cyclist Companies attached to each Jager Battalion. The majority of the divisions formed during the war have been provided with Divisional Cyclist Companies; a few of the active divisions are similarly provided. Only two Cavalry Divisions are known to have Cyclist Companies. The total number of Cyclist Companies in the German Army is about 200.

2. Cyclist Battalions. A certain number of Cyclist Companies have been grouped into Cyclist Battalions. These units first appeared in September 1916. Each Cyclist Battalion consists of 4 Companies (120 men each) and a Machine Gun Company (3 Officers, 62 men, and 6 machine guns). Five Cyclist Battalions have been identified; the 3rd is Bavarian. Two of these battalions were formed on the Western front and took part in the SOMME battle, but they are now all in ROUMANIA. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd Cyclist Battalions form the 2nd Cyclist Brigade. Cyclist Battalions appear to be used as a mobile reserve, and are employed where reinforcements are required to be moved up rapidly.

TRAINING OF THE 1917 CLASS.

A prisoner of the 1917 Class who was called up in the IV Corps District on the 1st August 1916, was sent to BEVERLOO camp after one month's training at the depot of the 72nd Inf. Regt. After another month's training he was sent to the Field Recruit Depot of the 4th Ersatz Division at RENAIX at the beginning of October. At the beginning of November (i.e. after 3 months' training) he was posted to the 361st Inf. Regt. (4th Ersatz Div.).

IDENTIFICATION MARKS ON UNIFORM.

The men of the 361st Inf. Regt. (4th Ersatz Div.) no longer wear numerals on their shoulder-straps. The battalions are distinguished by strips of coloured braid on the shoulder-strap thus:- 1st Battalion, Red; 2nd Battalion, Blue; 3rd Battalion, Yellow.

31st December, 1916.

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

Appendix No. 1

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.Period from 8 a.m. 30th December to 8 a.m. 31st December, 1916.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. The New Zealand Divisional Artillery fired on enemy's communication trenches and rear lines throughout the day.

The new work near HAYEM which is now hidden by a screen, a billet and a suspected dump S.E. of LE MAISNIL on WEPPE were also fired at. A hostile T.M. at BAS MAISNIL was silenced.

Light Trench Mortars bombarded enemy's trenches in front of FME DELAPORTE.

Centre Sector. Many working parties were fired on and dispersed by 34th Division Artillery.

Hostile T.Ms. were active against the RU DU BOIS Sector but were silenced by our retaliation.

The Corps Heavy Artillery co-operated with the Divisional Artillery in bombarding transport and traffic routes at 5 p.m. and again at midnight.

M.T.Ms. cut a lane in enemy's wire beside the WAVRIN Railway and breached his parapet opposite GRANDE FLAMENGRIE FME.

Left Sector. Working parties were dispersed by 18-pdrs and an O.P. was shelled by a 4.5 Hows. Battery.

MACHINE GUNS. - Fired as usual on communication trenches, roads, tracks, suspected dumps and tramways opposite the whole Corps front throughout the night.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. Patrols of the New Zealand (Rifle) Brigade report wire at the ANGLE to be strong.

Machine Guns fired from CORNER FORT and the LOZENGE.

Centre Sector. A patrol of the 25th Northumberland Fusiliers, 103rd Brigade report having heard shouting in or behind enemy's front line opposite GRANDE FLAMENGRIE FME.

Left Sector. Patrols of the 37th Battalion A.I.F. found a wire leading from a shell hole to the enemy's parapet. On this wire being touched a hostile machine gun opened fire into the enemy's wire. A trench patrol was heard in enemy's line near LES 4 HALLOTS FARM. Patrols of the 38th Battalion A.I.F. report enemy's wire N. of the BREAKWATER to be strong and that to the South of this Salient to have many weak places.

SNIPERS. A hit is claimed by the Snipers of the 44th Battalion A.I.F.

31st December, 1916.

W. B. Robinson Capt
for Brig.-General,
General Staff,
2nd ANZAC Corps.

Not to be taken into the trenches.SECRET

SECOND ARMY SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE

15th to 31st December, 1916.

Distribution of the Enemy's Forces.

(a) *Units in the front line.* Very few changes in the enemy's front line distribution are known to have taken place during the past fortnight. All identifications secured have been normal. The 11th Landwehr Brigade from the Yser Canal, appears to have come south to reinforce the 24th Division (XIX. Corps) and there are indications that one of its regiments, the 20th Landwehr Regiment, may be in line just south of the Ypres - Comines Canal.

The following table shows the dates on which each of the enemy's higher formations was last identified by contact:—

<i>Division or Brigade.</i>	<i>Sector held.</i>	<i>Last identification by contact.</i>
5th Bavarian Division.	Extreme southern sector.	20th December.
38th Landwehr Brigade.	Bas Maisnil - Wez Macquart (excl.).	17th "
3rd Bavarian Division.	Wez Macquart - River Lys "	25th "
4th " "	River Lys - River Douve (incl.).	25th "
40th Division.	River Douve (excl.) - south of Wytschaete.	7th "
24th " "	Wytschaete - Ypres-Comines Canal.	2nd "
204th " "	Ypres-Comines Canal - Mount Sorrel.	22nd "
207th " "	Mount Sorrel - South of Ypres-Roulers Railway.	29th November.
17th Reserve Division.	North of Railway - North of Wieltje.	29th "
18th " "	North of Wieltje - Het Sas.	1st December.

From this it will be seen that prisoners are most urgently needed from (1) the Wytschaete - Messines front, (2) opposite Hooze, (3) north-north-east of Ypres.

(b) *Reserves.* There appear to be at least two or three Divisions, withdrawn from the Somme and now resting in Belgium, e.g., the 185th, 29th and (?) 2nd Guard Divisions.

The capture of prisoners anywhere along our front might lead to the location of any one of these units.

Enemy's Defences.

Indifferent visibility again handicapped observation. The enemy appeared busy for the most part on the repair and upkeep of his trenches, which are in many places waterlogged and in very bad condition. Around La Biette and Les Clochers (S. of Armentières) very persistent enemy work is reported. Taking into account the wet and dilapidated condition of the front line trenches in this area, the considerable amount of work near La Biette and Les Clochers would appear to confirm the idea that the enemy's real resistance during the winter in waterlogged sectors would be found in strong points behind, upon the upkeep of which he is concentrating his energy. In the area north of the Bluff he has continued to provide overhead cover consisting of galvanised iron and sandbags in many of his trenches. Aerial photographs of the enemy's rear lines, taken during the period, reveal no new defensive works. The river Lys is badly flooded in places.

Enemy's Artillery Activity.

The enemy's artillery activity has very considerably increased all along our front during the past fortnight, and in fact has steadily increased by all natures of guns and howitzers since the first of the month. This increased activity has been maintained, and is particularly noticeable against the east and south-east of the Ypres Salient, where very heavy fire has been reported on many occasions. The number of hostile positions known to be or suspected of being active against this area has risen to approximately 60 (normal number from August to November, 24), and the area is also shelled by batteries opposite Corps on either flank. On the 28th December there was more hostile firing reported in this area in the one day than during a week in October or November last. It is also remarked that the enemy fires in heavier bursts than a short time ago. Behind the Messines - Wytschaete ridge many old positions have been re-occupied and new ones located. Of the batteries located during the period, more than usual are of heavy calibres.

Enemy's Infantry Activity.

The enemy's infantry activity during the past fortnight has amounted to but little compared with ours. In the southern portion of the Army area the enemy has for the most part been nervous and unenterprising. East of Armentières two attempted raids were reported, but the enemy's efforts lacked persistence; he was quickly discouraged and easily beaten off.

In the south and south-east of the Ypres salient the enemy's attitude has been somewhat unusual and more aggressive. A determined attempt to raid our trenches was made by assaulting troops (Sturmtrupp) and a considerable fight ensued. It is reported by our patrols that he has been very much alert in this area of late, using many flares and showing much activity of machine gun and rifle fire and that his trenches are much more strongly held.

Enemy's Aircraft.

Enemy aircraft increased their activity during the period. Hostile machines were many times over our lines co-operating with artillery. On two occasions enemy machines penetrated as far as Bailleul. It is reported that three enemy machines were driven down behind the enemy's lines as results of encounters with ours, two falling out of control and one making a forced landing.

Searchlights.

It has been remarked during the past fortnight that enemy searchlights have been numerous and active in the area east of Armentières. The concentration of searchlights in this region is probably due to the very complete electric supply known to exist in this locality and made available by power transmission lines from stations near Lille.

C. H. MITCHELL, Lieut.-Col., G.S.,
for Major-General, G.S., Second Army.

C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 189.
SECOND ANZAC SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE COLLECTED DURING
THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 1916.

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

OPERATIONS.

Night Dec. 4th/5th.

Gas released by us east of ARMENTIERES accompanied by artillery fire.

Night Dec. 7th/8th raid on:-

N 6 b 8.6 west of LE BRIDOUX. Bombs exchanged but no identification obtained.

Night Dec. 10th/11th raid on:-

I 22 a 14.44 and 28.57, west of WEZ MACQUART. Machine gun and dug-out destroyed with explosives. 4 Germans known to have been killed. Three prisoners and some equipment brought in.

Night Dec. 17th/18th raid on:-

N 6 d 40.95, east of LA BOUTILLERIE. Many Germans killed and nine unwounded prisoners brought in from support line some 100 yds in rear.

Night Dec. 20th/21st raid on:-

N 15 a north of DELAPORTE FARM. Trenches found unoccupied and uninhabitable; road by DELAPORTE FARM under water.

Night Dec. 21st/22nd raid on:-

I 26 d 3.7 west of LA HOUSOIE, failed to get in owing to wire and machine gun fire.

Night 22nd/23rd raid on:-

N 11 a 4.6 to 52.67 south of LA BOUTILLERIE. Trench found strongly garrisoned. Bomb fight on parapet. Machine gun disabled and several casualties inflicted.

Night Dec. 24th/25th raid on:-

Salient in I 11 a opposite PETIT PORTL EGAL. Trenches found unoccupied.

Night Dec. 25th/26th raid on:-

C 17 c 95.15, opposite HOBBS FARM. Wire cut by hand and a German working party driven in. Enemy retreated so rapidly raiders unable to obtain a prisoner. They brought back, however, a pack and two rifles.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Night 8th/9th.

At 2.45 a.m. two parties of about a dozen men attempted to raid our trenches at HOBBS FARM, C 23 a 7.9 to C 17 c 65.05 under cover of a trench mortar bombardment. The attempts were repulsed.

Night 10th/11th.....

ENEMY OPERATIONS (continued).Night 10th/11th.

About 5 p.m. fifty minutes bombardment with artillery and trench mortars of our line about LA BOUTILLERIE, N 10 b to N 6 b. Party seen entering our wire at N 4 d 8.0 driven off leaving two dead.

ENEMY'S ACTIVITY.

Few enemy patrols have been seen in No Man's Land. Besides the two attempted raids parties of 6 to 12 men have on 4 occasions thrown bombs at or tried to enter our trenches, viz.-

Night Nov.30th/Dec.1st, 4.50 a.m. N 10 b 08.20 near CORDONNERIE FM.

Night Dec.12th/13th, I 5 a, just north of L'EPINETTE.
6.20 p.m., C 29 c 15.95 near PONT BALLOT.

Night Dec. 29th/30th, 5.30 p.m., C 29, south of PONT BALLOT.

In each case enemy were immediately driven off.
Artillery and trench mortars have shown no unusual activity.

IDENTIFICATIONS.

Night Nov.30th/Dec.1st. N 6 b 90.55 west of LE BRIDOUX, 78th Landwehr Inf. Regt, 38th Landwehr Bde by greatcoat shoulderstraps from corpse.

Night Dec.10th/11th. N 6, north of BAS MAENIL, 14th Bav. Inf. Regt., 5th Bav. Div., by shoulderstraps from body found in No Man's Land about N 6 b 3.2.
N 11, north of MOUQUET FARM, 14th Bav. I.R., 5th Bav. Div. by papers found on two bodies left at N 4 d 8.0.
I 22 a 14.44, west of WEZ MACQUART, 18th Bav. I.R., 3rd Bav. Div. by prisoners and equipment.

Night Dec.12th/13th. I 26, west of LA HOUSOIE, 77th Landwehr Inf. Regt., 38th Landwehr Bde, by shoulderstraps from man killed on patrol at I 26 b 1.5.

Night Dec.17th/18th. N 6 d 40.95 east of LA BOUTILLERIE, 78th Landwehr I.R., 38th Landwehr Bde, by nine prisoners.
Right flank of 14th Bav. I.R., 5th Bav. Div. stated to be some 50 yds south of point of entry.

Night Dec.25th/26th. C 17 c 95.15, opposite HOBBS FARM, 23rd Bav. I.R., 3rd Bav. Div. by letters four in pack.

All the above identifications are normal.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

Some results of observation, patrolling and raids are shown on attached sketch map. Condition of trenches was reported on dates as below:-

13th.....

- 3 -

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES. (continued).

13th, N 19 a to N 8 d 9.2, south of PETILLON, enemy's line appeared to R.F.C. observer to be isolated by River LAIES and waterlogged. The whole of the front line and for 400 yds in rear between N 13 c 8.0 and N 6 b 4.0 also seemed very wet.

17th/18th, N 6 b 65.15, east of LA BOUTILLERIE, communication trench found by raiding party about 7 feet deep, duckboarded and dry. Support trench in good order, wide duckwalks and parapet revetted with branches. Dug-outs in support line under parapet 20 yds apart holding about 10 men. 7 feet high divided into two compartments, outer small containing rifle racks. Not of concrete.

13th, I 21 c 2.0 to 6.2, south of RUE DU BOIS, reported by R.F.C. to be badly damaged by shell fire and very wet.

10th/11th, I 22 a 14.44 - 28.57, west of VEZ MACQUART, trench found by raiding party dry and well kept. About 7 feet deep with parados and good duckboards. Recesses in each bay containing about 20 bombs. Dug-outs under parapet, large, with sliding doors. Some of concrete with iron swing doors.

13th and 29th, I 11 a, opposite PORTE EGAL, reported by R.F.C. waterlogged. Railway Salient found unoccupied by patrol on 7th/8th and raid 24th/25th, but working parties reported here on other occasions.

13th, trenches between EPINETTE, I 5 b and FRELINGHIEN, C 17 a, appeared to R.F.C. to be dry and in good repair, but on the 20th those in C 29 a and c opposite PONT BALLOT were reported as appearing wet.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

Work was reported as follows:-

Throughout the month on the LA BIETTE - LES CLOCHERS line in N 16 a and b.

From 15th December onwards on the continuation of the same line from N 18 a 4.8 east of FME DE LA MARLAQUE to N 12 d 5.8 south east of BAS MAISNIL.

On 18th and 30th, about I 33 d 1.5 near LE GRAND MAISNIL FARM; possibly a battalion headquarters.

On 21st and 29th in O 10 a north east of RADINGHEM and in I 29 c and I 35 a near LE PARADIS.

MOVEMENTS OBSERVED BEHIND ENEMY'S LINES.

Time.	Date.	Place.	Numbers.	Direction.
9 to 10 am.	5th	RADINGHEM-LA VALLEE road	Parties aggregating about 150 men	LA VALLEE.
-	5th	FME DE LA GRAND COUR, I 36 d.	5 parties of about 12 men each.	-
11 am.	13th	ESCOBECQUES-ENNETIERES road.	5 parties aggregating 150 men.	ENNETI
8.40 am.	21st	O 12 b 9.0	Column about 800 strong with transport wagons.	VERT BALLOT.
10.20am to 1.15 p.m.	21st	BRUNE RUE - LA FRESNELLE road in I 6.	Parties of 20 to 40 men with packs.	BRUNE RUE.

Routes.....

- 4 -

ROUTES AND TRACKS USED BY THE ENEMY.

On 5th men were seen approaching front line via PARADISE ROAD as far as I 22 a 4.3, thence to LARGE FARM by shallow C.T. and then by trenches giving good cover to front line in I 22 a and I 16 d.

Men going N.E. on track I 28 c 9.6, west of FLEUR D'ECOSSE, reappear on track I 28 d 50.65 and can be seen as far as I 28 d 7.7

At 11 a.m. on 14th parties of men numbering 200 altogether were seen moving at intervals on the track across centre of O 4 d; they appeared to come from ESCOBECQUES. Two men were seen on this track on 22nd.

Suspected:-M.G. EMPLACEMENTS.

N 6 d 45.90
N 8 d 85.15
I 16 d 60.95

T.M. EMPLACEMENTS.

N 11 a 5.5
N 11 a 8.4
N 6 c 91.33
N 6 d 95.30
O 1 b 35.70
O 1 b 4.7
I 31 d 3.2
I 27 a 7.3
I 22 c 52.92
I 22 b 7.4
I 22 b 8.5
I 22 b 8.6
I 22 b 85.50
C 29 a 9.7
C 23 d 2.7
C 17 d 60.65

OBSERVATION POSTS.

N 14 b 4.2, tree.
O 10 d 9.9, tree.
O 14 a 3.7, tree.
I 22 b 65.35, house.
I 6 a 4.2, house.
J 7 b 9.5, house

DUMPS.

T 5 d 7.9, PILLY Station; reported by R.F.C.

O 34 b 5.0, near LIGNY; 2 or 3 acres of ground reported by R.F.C. as apparently being levelled.

O 12 b 9.0, near VERT BALLOT, open shed visible and movement in neighbourhood.

O 26 d, PETIT HAUBOURDIN) continued use reported by R.F.C. and

O 16 b, ERQUINGHEM) in latter case confirmed by prisoners.

SEARCHLIGHTS.

The use of searchlights on the front east of ARMENTIERES has always been favoured by the enemy, probably owing to electric power being available from LILLE. Besides powerful projectors in rear small searchlights seem to be used from the actual front line. Prisoners taken on two occasions mentioned having seen a portable searchlight which was carried along the trench on a man's back. The light was thought to have been produced by acetylene. No searchlights mounted on motor cars had been seen.

On 12th Dec. in the region east of HOUPLES bearings taken over a month were found to intersect most frequently in three localities.

(a) C 23 c 95.10 to 95.20.

(b) C 23 b 2.3 and for 100 yds north and south.

(c) C 17 c 95.20 to C 17 c 8.7.

On 27th December intersections during a fortnight were summarised as follows:-

I 17:.....

- 5 -

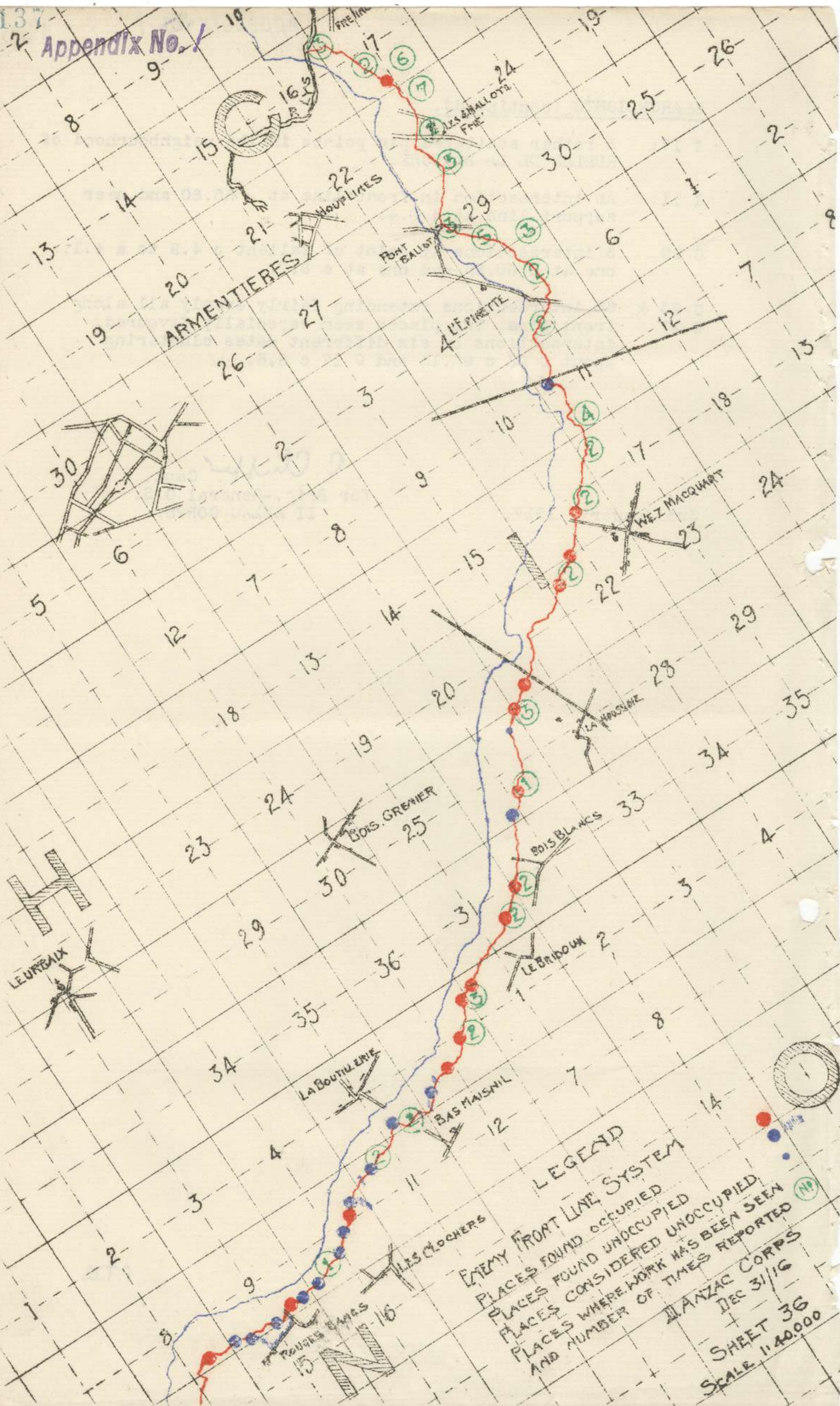
SEARCHLIGHTS (continued).

- I 17: 5 rather scattered pin points in the neighbourhood of RUEILLE DE LA BLANCHE.
- I 11: An intersection in front line at c 55.60 and near support line at d 0.4.
- C 29. 3 intersections at point of salient c 4.9 to a 4.1, one at c 60.85 and one at c 8.7.
- C 23 & C 17: 30 intersections extending fairly evenly all along front line. Two places seem especially favoured, intersections on six different dates clustering about C 23 c 95.15 and C 17 c 8.6.

3rd January, 1917.

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

P.T.O.



PRINCIPAL NEW WORK IN ENEMY'S LINES DURING MONTH OF DECEMBER
AS INTERPRETED FROM AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

NOTE:- A tracing showing new work opposite their front has been issued to divisions for the information of all concerned.

"N" & "O" SQUARES.

Trenches. Two new bits of trench are visible between LA BIETTE and LES CLOCHERS, one extending from N 16 c 5.9 to N 16 c 65.95 and the other from N 16 a 80.05 to the existing line at N 16 a 90.25. A new long stretch is also apparent south of BAS MAISNIL joining up N 18 a 4.8 with N 12 d 5.9.

The extreme point of TH. ANGLE, N 6 b 8.6 west of LE BRIDOUX is evidently abandoned, the actual corner being at N 6 b 85.50.

A shallow trench has apparently been dug just south of LE MAISNIL continuing the C.T. at N 13 c 55.55 via N 13 d 3.3 to the road at N 13 d 55.40.

Wire. A large amount of new wire has been ^{put} out in front of the FROMELLES ridge.

One line runs from LE PIETRE, N 20 b 3.7 to N 14 d 45.80; then east to N 15 d 8.5; curves in front of LA BIETTE N 16 a 4.1 and then via N 16 a 9.4 and 8.6 to the wire erected in November at 16 b 7.5 by LES CLOCHERS. This wire has also been continued from FME DE LA MARLAQUE N 17 b 40.85, via N 18 a 40.85 to N 12 d 40.85 in front of the new trench.

New wire is visible about LE CLERCQ FARM running from N 27 a 8.8 in front of the network of trenches to 22 c 5.6 and also interspersed amongst them.

Another strip in front of the trenches from FROMELLES to BERNIERE FARM pursues a zigzag course: N 23 a 2.9, 23 a 65.90, 17 c 75.20, 80.25, 17 d 05.05, 35.25, 5.0, 75.05, 80.15, 18 c 4.2.

Trench Tramway. Although not very apparent on the photographs prisoners statements confirm the existence of a 60 c.m. track along the road connecting up the tramway at N 6 d 90.65, north east of BAS MAISNIL with that marked on the map at O 13 b 30.75 north of LE MAISNIL.

Buried Cable. Two branches from the cable at N 28 b 95.10 south of FROMELLES are seen. One runs north west to the cable at 28 a 70.95, while the other extends north east to 23 d 65.35 and then turns towards the line at N 24 c 5.3, south of BERNIERE FARM.

Another cable appears to run from O 7 a 55.20 near BACQUART to LE MAISNIL, O 13 b 2.0.

A length of track is visible near LE BAS HAMEAU O 2 d 5.2 - 90.45 - 3 c 9.0.

Tracks. On either side of the communication trench in N 17 a and c from LES CLOCHERS to FROMELLES is a track which would seem to be used in preference to the trench itself.

"I" & "J" SQUARES.

Trenches. The communication trench along the railway in I 34 c is now joined up, and a branch apparently dug from I 34 c 3.4 to MONT PINDO, I 34 a 15.35.

A short avoiding trench leaves the road at I 22 d 3.9 and runs round the east side of EST. DE LA BARRIERE, WE2 MACQUART, joining the one previously dug about I 22 b 65.15.

The trace.....

- 2 -

"I" & "J" SQUARES (continued.)Trenches (continued).

The trace of a now traversed trench is visible north east of RUELLÉ DE LA NOIX running from I 12 c 95.15 to I 18 a 85.95 and then towards the reserve line at I 18 b 2.4.

A wide cutting has been made across the ARMENTIERES - PERENCHIES railway at I 12 c 55.80 south west of LA FRESNELLE. This spot should be watched for further work of any kind.

Buried Cable. A short length of track is visible near BOIS BLANC from I 32 b 15.35 to I 32 b 95.60.

A long line runs back from the support trenches south east of RUE DU BOIS, I 21 d 2.5 via 28 a 05.30, 28 c 05.80, 27 d 9.4, 27 d 95.25 to existing cable at 33 b 6.6. At I 27 d 95.25 near GRAND MARAIS there is a short branch to 28 c 15.15.

"C" & "D" SQUARES.

Trenches. A straight trench probably for drainage appears by the support line near LES 4 HALLOTS extending from about C 23 d through d 05.50 to d 2.7. A "Y" shaped branch runs from the trench towards the salient at 23 c 8.7.

The trenches round the east side of LIENART FARM C 18 b appear to have been cleaned out and two of the dug-outs com

In C 12 near L'OS A MOELLE three lengths of narrow trench visible. One 12 a 55.00 to 6.4, another 12 a 4.6 to 9.2 and third 12 b 2.4 to 12 a 90.95.

Wire. New wire is visible in front of and behind the support line opposite HOBBS' FARM. One belt runs from C 23 b 1.4 via 17 d 45.35 to 17 d 05.90. The other from 23 b 3.3 to 17 d 6.2.

3rd January, 1917.

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

APPENDIX.

(Second Army Intelligence)

I.C. 527.

VIIIth Corps.
IXth Corps.
Xth Corps.
II A.S.Z.A.C.
11th H.A.Group.

1. Reference 2nd Army No. A/927/10 of December 17th, 1916, "Instructions for the guidance of Officers Commanding Prisoners of War Companies, Second Army" and "Procedure in case of the escape of German Prisoners of War".

The following will be the procedure to warn troops in the front line, to assist in recapture in case of the escape of prisoners :-

- A. On receipt by Corps of a message stating a prisoner of war has escaped from a company in the Corps area, (see Clause "A" Para.2. "Procedure"), Divisions will be immediately notified by priority message, which will be passed on by them to front line units without delay in the same manner.
- B. On receipt by Second Army Intelligence of similar notification (see Clause "C" Para.2. in "Procedure") all Corps will be immediately notified by priority message which will be forwarded by Corps to lower formations and by them to front line units without delay.
- C. In order to avoid confusion and congestion in the signal service the following form of message will be sent uniformly toward the front :-
"German Prisoner (s) escaped warn all units".
No mention is to be made of the locality from which they escaped.

On the receipt of the warning message by troops in forward areas the procedure to be taken to effect recapture will be directed by the local responsible Officers concerned as may appear to best suit the circumstances. The following considerations should be borne in mind in connection with escaping enemy prisoners attempting to return to their own lines :-

- (a). The attempt will probably be made at night.
- (b). The point of our line at which the crossing might be attempted may not necessarily be in proximity to the place from which they escaped; it is more likely that definite landmarks discernable at night would affect the choice and in any case the enemy's flares would guide them.
- (c). They will probably endeavour to attach themselves to some working party or a relief going up to the trenches.
- (d). They would probably avoid crowded or well patrolled communication trenches when near the front line taking to disused ones or ditches or going overland.
- (e). When arriving at the front line they would doubtless utilize a wiring party to get into No Man's Land if opportunity offered.
- (f). Their dress might be wholly or partly of British uniform or possibly Belgian.

This Memo. is to be attached to and kept with the documents already issued on the subject referred to in the first paragraph.

2. Sufficient copies of this Memo. are enclosed for transmission down to battalions and batteries.

C. H. Harrington

Major-General, G.S.
Second Army.

20th December, 1916.

SOME POINTS TO BE REMEMBERED IN REPORTS OF OBSERVATION.

State exactly what you observe before attempting to draw conclusions, e.g. "a light flashing at ----- believe it to be a heliograph."

If information is of immediate importance, send in straight away and keep copy.

In all reports give TIME and DATE, PLACE seen, where seen from and whom by.

If movement is seen, give also:-

NUMBERS, even if only approximate, e.g. "about 20", not "a few".

DIRECTION, e.g. "going south east", "going towards PARENCHILS".

If troops observed, state:-

Equipment, e.g. "marching order", "without rifles".

Nature of load, if any, and how carried, e.g.

"each man carrying either pick or shovel", "objects like boxes about 4ft X 1ft X 1ft carried between two men".

Map Square Points should always be accompanied by reference to locality as a check, e.g. "on road near BRUNE RUE", "in C.T. near FME DU MOUQUET".

Names of Places to be written exactly as on map and in block capitals, e.g. BAS MAISNIL.

The hour of 12 will be followed by word "noon" or "midnight".

When bearings are given, place taken from should be stated accurately and whether true or compass bearings.

Avoid using terms "right" and "left". If necessary to do so, state whether own or enemy's.

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.Period from 8 a.m. 30th January to 8 a.m. 31st January, 1917.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Our Artillery activity increased. A 77 mm. position S. of THIROUANNE was engaged with satisfactory results. Also we shelled a 10.5 cm. battery in action just behind it. M.T.Ms. damaged enemy wire and parapet N. of BAS MAISWIL.

Left Sector. Various portions of the enemy's front and support line trenches were fired on.

M.T.Ms. were busy cutting wire. L.T.Ms. fired effectively on a Minnenwerfer position S. of GERMAIN HOUSE.

Corps Heavy Artillery. 9 hostile batteries reported active from various sources (5 by Sound Rangers) were neutralized. 50 rounds of H.E. were put into a T.M. in a house at FIZ MACQUART. The side of the house was completely demolished. A 60-pdr battery shelled FORT ENGLOS.

MACHINE GUNS.

Right Sector. Direct and indirect fire was carried out on important points including LE BAS HAU and the FME DE LA MARLAQUE - PONT DE PIERRE road.

Left Sector. Roads and trenches in rear were swept. Lewis guns dispersed working parties at MUSHROOM SALIENT and E. of SPARROW'S WEST. They also traversed wire and parapet intermittently throughout the night.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. A party examined enemy's front line for 250 yds. East of the SUGAR LOAF.

Another entered North of FME DELAFORTE and moved along 100 yds. They remained an hour withdrawing when a hostile patrol about 20 strong was seen coming up a communication trench.

A third party got in to the front line N. of ROUGES BANGS finding it deserted.

A patrol reported good cover at the creek crossing to the left of the BRIDOUX SALIENT.

Left Sector. The enemy was alert and frequently opened machine gun and rifle fire.

A patrol from the centre sub-sector took out a Lewis gun and dispersed a large wiring party which did not recommence work. Our patrol withdrew safely.

Another party was detected on reaching the hostile parapet. The enemy spread the alarm, firing several lights, and the patrol withdrew under heavy Machine Gun fire.

31st January, 1917.

W.B. Robertson *Cap.*
for Brig.-General,
General Staff,
II ANZAC Corps.

C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 222.SECOND ANZAC SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE COLLECTED DURING
THE MONTH OF JANUARY 1917.

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

OPERATIONS.

Night 7th/8th Jan. Raid at O 1 a 3.7 west of LE BRIDOUX about 5 p.m. 19 prisoners captured. 45 of enemy believed killed.

Night 9th/10th Jan. Raid at C 23 c 9.3 south west of LES 4 HALLOTS. 12 enemy killed and a machine gun destroyed.

Night 10th/11th Jan. Raid at I 5 c 65.00 south of L'EPINETTE. Trench found in good condition but unoccupied.

Night 28th/29th Jan. Raid in C 29 a opposite PONT BALLOT. Nine dugouts demolished and about 30 Germans killed. One wounded prisoner obtained.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Night 3rd/4th Jan. at 6 p.m. after short heavy bombardment about 50 enemy attempted raid in C 17 c near HCB'S FARM. Driven off without being able to enter our trenches. One body left in our wire.

Night 22nd/23rd Jan. at 4.40 p.m. after 3 hours bombardment raiders entered our line in C 17 a near PRELLINGHIEN but were speedily ejected.

With the exception of the bombardment mentioned above no unusual artillery or trench mortar activity recorded.

IDENTIFICATIONS.

Night 3rd/4th Jan.:-
C 17 c 3.4 near)
HCB'S FARM)

23rd Bav. I.R., 3rd Bav. Div. by
identity disc (normal).

Night 7th/8th Jan.:-
O 1 a 3.7 west)
of LE BRIDOUX)

65th Inf. Regt. 18th Div. by prisoners.
(This regiment had relieved the 78th
Landwehr Regt. a few days previously).

Night 9th/10th Jan.:-
C 23 c 9.3 near)
LES 4 HALLOTS)

23rd Bav. I.R., 3rd Bav. Div. by papers
and shoulder straps (normal).
A document showed that the 23rd Bav. I.R.
has now 3 M.G. companies.

Night 20th/21st Jan.:-
N 6 d 10.95 north)
of BAS MAISNIL)

Prussian cockades and clothing with
markings of VIII Corps District. (The
3 Regiments of the 185th Div. come from
this district).

Night 22nd/23rd Jan.:-
C 17 a near)
PRELLINGHIEN)

9th Bav. I.R., 4th Bav. Div. by identity
disc and shoulder straps (normal).

Night 28th/29th Jan.:-
C 29 a opposite)
PONT BALLOT)

23rd Bav. I.R. by prisoner (normal).

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINE.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

The condition of enemy's lines was reported on as follows:-
 2nd Jan. N 19 c TRIVILET to N 6 central north of BAS MAISNIL.
 R.F.C. report ground waterlogged.

Trenches west of FME DELAPORTE to north of FME DU MOUQUET:-
 31st Jan. N 8 d 4.3 to N 8 d 3.1. Trenches disused and derelict.
 7th, 8th Jan. N 8 d 7.2. Trench waterlogged.
 14th N 8 d 90.15. Thick wire but trench derelict.
 15th N 8 d. Ground near River LALES waterlogged.
 13th, N 15 b 70.65.)
 26th, N 9 c 3.1.) Trenches derelict
 7th, 10th, N 9 c 55.15.) and
 11th, 13th, 16th, 23rd, N 9 c 9.1 to N 9 d 1.) deserted.
 24th, 25th, 27th, 28th, N 9 d 3.1 to N 10 p 15.25)
 29th, 30th, 31st. N 10 c 3.3 to N 10 b 9.5.)
 23rd, 28th, N 5 d 4.2 south of LA BOUTILLERIE, trench deserted.
 5th south east of BOIS GRENIER, line strongly held.
 31st, I 31 d, north of LE BRIDOUX, enemy alert.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

Were reported on as follows:-

6th, N 15 d 7.5 near LA BIETTE. Second belt of wire apparently under construction.
 2nd, N 16 and N 12 through LA BIETTE and FME DE LA MARLAQUE new trench in dry condition reported by R.F.C.
 11th, N 22 b 7.1 by FROMELLES construction with large square loopholes every two . 3.
 N 23 b, FROMELLES, new communication trench.
 29th, N 23 a 05.55 FROMELLES, a number of houses appear to have been pulled down and large mound built in gap.
 22nd, O 13 b 5.5 near BAS MAISNIL, 60/70 men digging new trench.
 3rd, O 14 a 45.80, north east of LE MAISNIL, large dugout or gunpit under construction amongst trees.
 20th, O 10 a north east of RADINGHEM about 200 men digging around dump.
 21st, O 10 a 2.5 to O 10 a 45.95 north east of RADINGHEM, much work appears to have been done.

MOVEMENT OBSERVED BEHIND ENEMY'S LINES.

9th, N 11 b 4.5 west of BAS MAISNIL. Party of 41 men in communication trench. Increased movement in this region.
 7th, N 12 d 20.55 south east BAS MAISNIL, small parties frequently seen.
 19th, N 22 b on LUYER-FROMELLES road, movement above normal.
 16th, N 6 b 5.0 and O 1 a 5.8 west of LE BRIDOUX also at O 8 c west of RADINGHEM. Movement suggesting Battalion Relief.
 11th, O 13 a 3.4 CARTIER FARM, party of 80 coming from direction of LE MAISNIL.
 20th, O 10 a north east of RADINGHEM, working party of 200 men.
 9th, O 6 c near ENGLOS small parties amounting in all to about 100.
 Movement on roads about ESCOBECQUES above normal.
 10th, small parties, total amounting to about 70 men going to ESCOBECQUES on THIROUANGE-ESCOBECQUES road.
 4th, east of BOIS GRENIER, local relief suspected.
 9th, I 36 c 4.7, about 120 men in small parties going towards CAPINGHEM.
 11th, I 23 d 9.0 south east of VEZ QUART, company in single file on LUYER road.
 19th, much movement east of L'EPINETTE.

ROUTES AND TRACKS USED BY ENEMY...

ROUTE S AND TRACKS USED BY ENEMY.

FROMELLE - HAYEM road in N 22 b much used throughout the month.
Wheeltracks noticed on 8th.

SUSPECTED EMPLACEMENTS.Trench Mortars.

N 15 b 05.10.
N 10 c 8.2.
N 11 a 35.35.
N 12 a 5.6.
N 12 a 5.5.
O 1 b 5.8.
I 31 d 3.2.
I 27 a 2.7.
I 27 a 7.3.
I 27 b 25.85.
I 27 b 5.5.
I 22 a 1.1.
I 16 d 52.32.
I 16 b 85.15.
I 17 c 4.2.
I 17 c 53.35.
I 17 a 35.90.
I 5 b 5.6.
I 5 b 45.85.
C 17 a 4.6.
C 17 a 70.58.
C 17 a 95.20.

Machine Guns.

N 14 b 6.6.
N 11 d 12.50.
N 11 a 20.45.
N 12 a 4.1.
N 6 c 5.2.
N 6 d 4.9.
O 1 a 7.9.
I 26 d 20.43.
I 22 a 6.8.
I 16 d 5.6.

Observation Posts.

N 15 a 5.2. Tree.
N 22 b 9.5. House.
I 33 d 0.2. Tree.
I 16 d 65.05. House.

Dumps are reported at:-

C 23 d 1.9 by LES 4 HALLOTS.
C 23 d 30.95 do.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Shells reported throwing up light about 30 feet on explosion.

ENEMY ACTIVITY

Night Jan. 2nd/3rd. Hostile patrol of 6 men seen in N 10 c near FME DELLANGRE. Bombed and dispersed.
Night Jan. 5th/6th. South east of ARMENTIERES enemy opened rapid fire at 6.30 p.m. and bombed his own wire.
Night Jan. 8th/9th. About LE BRIDOUX horns sounded and rapid fire opened. Flares sent up. Two red flares followed by sounding of horns & gongs.
Night Jan. 14th/15th. In I 31 c near LE BRIDOUX 12 Germans appeared outside our wire at 2.30 a.m.; dispersed by rifle fire.
Night Jan. 16th/17th. South east of ARMENTIERES enemy bombed his own wire frequently. Hostile machine guns very active.
Night Jan. 17th/18th. Increased hostile machine gun activity.
Night Jan. 20th/21st. At N 6 d 10.95 north of BAS MAISNIL enemy patrol of about 8 engaged post at point of salient, throwing some bombs; dispersed by rifle fire.

ENEMY SEARCHLIGHT ACTIVITY.

ENEMY SEARCHLIGHT ACTIVITY.

Observation during the month showed continuous use of searchlights especially during the hours of 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The table attached shows the proportion of flashes observed and the localities from which the searchlights were used. The general distribution and timing indicate that several portable searchlights are being employed. During the last week of the month, little activity.

Searchlight Activity Table.

<u>In.</u>	<u>Percentage of</u> <u>times observed.</u>	<u>mainly at about.</u>
I 17 a	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	I 17 a 3.8.
I 11 c	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	I 11 c 6.6.
I 5 d.	4	I 5 d 4.8.
C 29 c.	1	C 29 c.
C 29 a	10	C 29 a 8.8)
C 23 c	9	C 23 c 95.20) δ
C 23 d	10	C 23 d 0.2.)
C 23 d	13	C 23 d 0.8.
C 23 b	16	C 23 b 2.2.
C 17 d	3	C 17 d 0.1) δ
C 17 c	26	C 17 c 8.7) δ
C 17 a	4	C 17 a 6.0.

δ Pin points bracketed indicate that flashes were fairly evenly distributed between these points.

A few flashes were observed from No Man's Land (in C 23 a) and also from support lines (in C 23 d and C 29 d).

3rd February 1917.

C. Cliffe Capt.
for Brig-General C.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.

PRINCIPAL NEW WORK IN ENEMY'S LINES DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY.
AS INTERPRETED FROM AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

Note:- A tracing showing new work opposite their front has been issued to divisions for the information of all concerned.

"N" and "O" SQUARES.

A new line of trenches in under construction from the FOURNIES defences as far as O 26 b; this line is not a continuous line at present. Staked wire has been put up in front.

A new line of trenches at present about 500 yards long has been dug in rear of RADINGHEM village from O 14 b up to the RADINGHEM - THIROUANNE road, parallel to and 100 yards in front of the THIROUANNE - LE MAISNIL road.

Wire. East of DELEVAL FARM the wire has been much strengthened: in front of the building N 14 d 95.75 two belts of wire have been put out in diamond shape, and 200 yards further east in a square. The wire eastwards to LA BILTTE has been doubled.

Two additional belts have been put up in front of FME DE LA MARLAQUE (N 17 a) south west of TRAMWAY VIEW (N 12 central), and between TRAMWAY VIEW and BACQUART.

One belt of wire has been put up round the strong point in front of LE BAS HAMEAU (O 12 central).

In the rear line one additional belt of wire has been added in front of existing wire from AUBERS to FROMELLES in rear of the HAYEM and DUBEM wood, near FME CARTIER (O 13 a); one belt in front of POTTERIES O 8 c in diamond shape, and one belt in rear of the road from O 8 c to FETERIE: there is a great deal of new wire between the front and support lines of the system. The new trench south of RADINGHEM has one belt of wire in front.

"P" SQUARES.

Trench. A new trench has been dug from the road just north of VERT BALLOT to FORT ENGLOS, this contains two lines of trenches, the front line being traversed in places.

Wire. The new trench reported above has fresh wire in front, two belts south of the Fort. This wire continues round the Fort and northwards.

"I" and "J" SQUARES.

Trenches. A new trench has been dug at the apex of the GERMAN HOUSE Salient in I 21, running from the road at I 21 b 12.18 to the sap at I 21 b 34.36

The communication trench on the east side of the railway in I 34 a has been continued 400 yards northwards to I 33 b 8.9.

The communication trench between GRAND and PETIT MARAIS has been completed and has been extended to I 27 b 42.10.

The traversed trench from the LE PARADIS - LE BEANC COULON road at I 35 b 48.48 has been extended 400 yards, crossing the LA VALLEE - LE BLANC COULON road at I 35 central.

A new traversed trench has been dug from I 12 b 1.7 west of LA FRESNELLE connecting the strong point there with that at I 6 c 35.80.

200 yards of traversed trench have been dug in J 1 a in front of the road running N.E. from LA FRESNELLE.

A new strong point consisting of 2 lines of trenches has been constructed between the Railway and the VERLINGHEM - LAMBERSART road in J 23 and 24.

Trench Tramways.

The tramline down the road towards WEZ MACQUART has been extended up to the support line; it leaves the road at the TUILERIE I 23 a and runs parallel to the road through the village 15 to 20 yards away. West of the Chateau de PERENCHICOURT the tramline has been extended to the halt in J 7 c and a trench to the wood J 13 a.

Wire.....

"I" & "J" SQUARES continued.

Wire. Much wire has been put up during the month. Between the front and support lines wire is visible from WEZ MACQUART to the Railway Salient I 11 a. Existing stretches of wire on the line about 1000 yards in rear have been joined up at the following places:

I 33 central, near LE QUESNE, in front of GRAND MARAIS FARM, through the woods of Chateau D'HANCARDRY, and near RUELLE DE LA NOIX.

In the 2,000 yards line wire has been put up in front of new trench near LE BLANC COULON, in front of MONT DE PREMESQUES, and in I 18 a. Additional wire has been put up in front of LILLE Defence Line in J 8 c, and wire is visible in wood north of the BECQUE DU CORBEAU in J 14 d.

"C" & "D" SQUARES.

Trenches. A new trench has been dug from I 6 a 35.60 to the C.T. at C 30 c 50.05. Short connecting trenches have been made to the trench between I 6 a 4.6 and 4.9.

A support trench line has been dug from D 28 d 2.3 northwards for 1,000 yards, with communication trenches to front line.

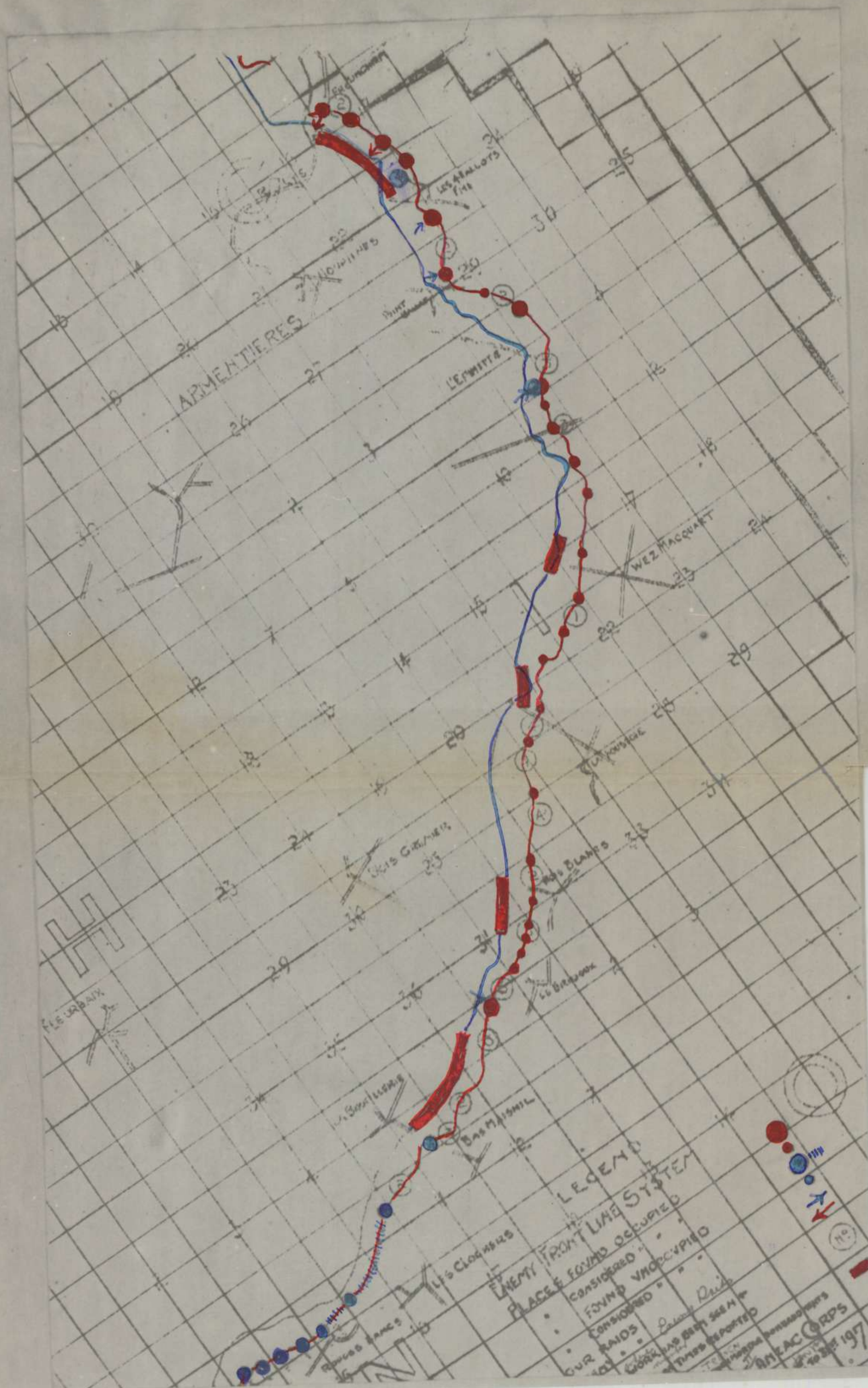
There are many new short stretches of trench east of FORT DU VERT GALANT.

Wire. There are patches of wire in front of trench line running north from I 6 a 5.3 to FME DU CHASTEL, but there is no continuous line of wire: round the defences of the Farm the wire has been strengthened.

The wire in D 30 b has been joined up to the existing wire in F 25 central.

A canal has at some time been made on the bend of the River DEUL at F 26 a 00.55 west of WAMERECHIES similar to the one further west.

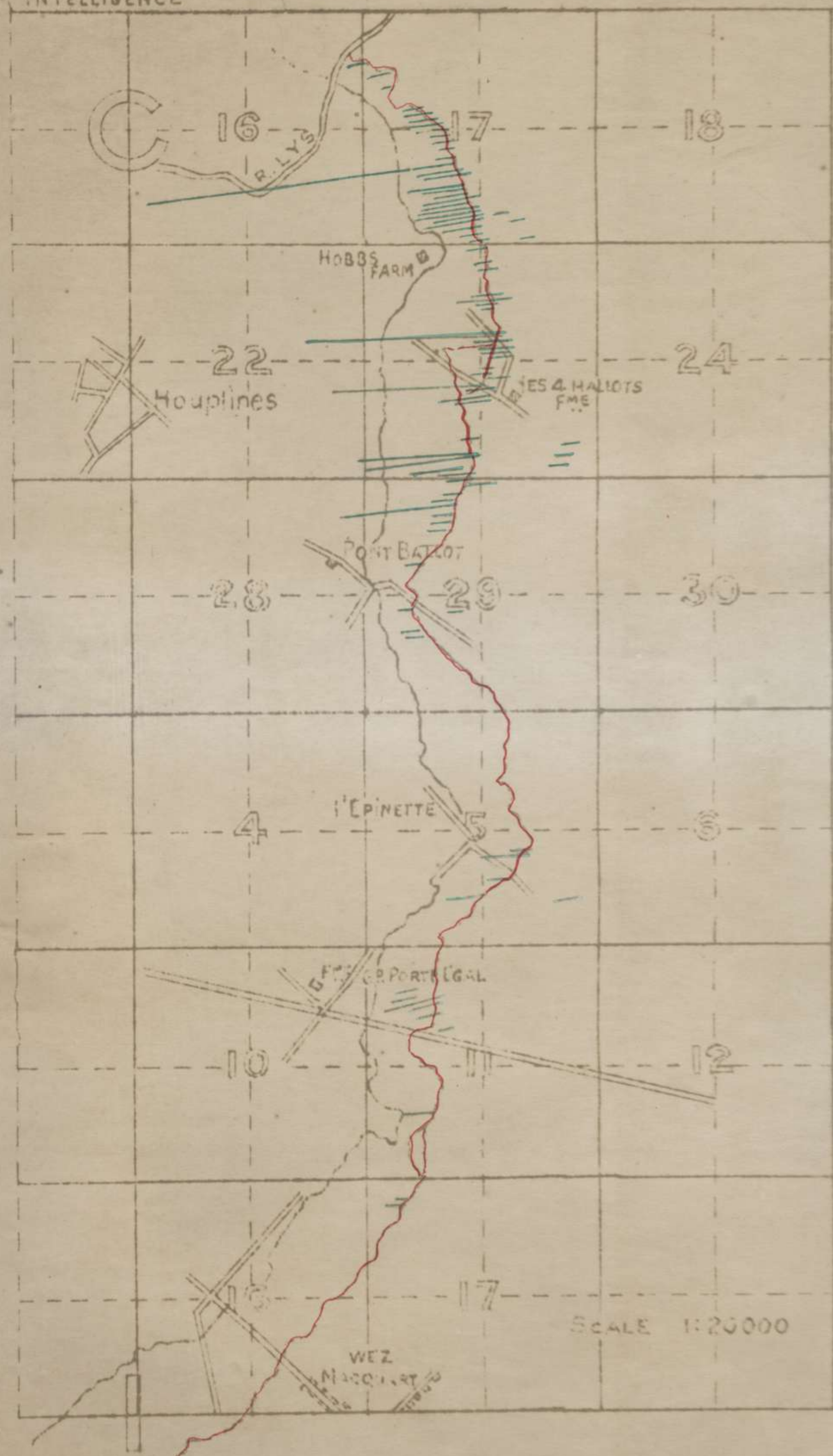
(Sgd). C. Chipper. Capt.
for Brig-General. G.S.
II ANZAC CORPS.



Searchlights

II ANZAC
INTELLIGENCE

FROM OBSERVATIONS DURING MONTH OF JANUARY 1917.



EASTERN EXTREMITIES OF GREEN LINES SHOW POINTS OF INTERSECTION
ON FLASHES. LENGTHS INDICATE COMPARATIVE FREQUENCY.