

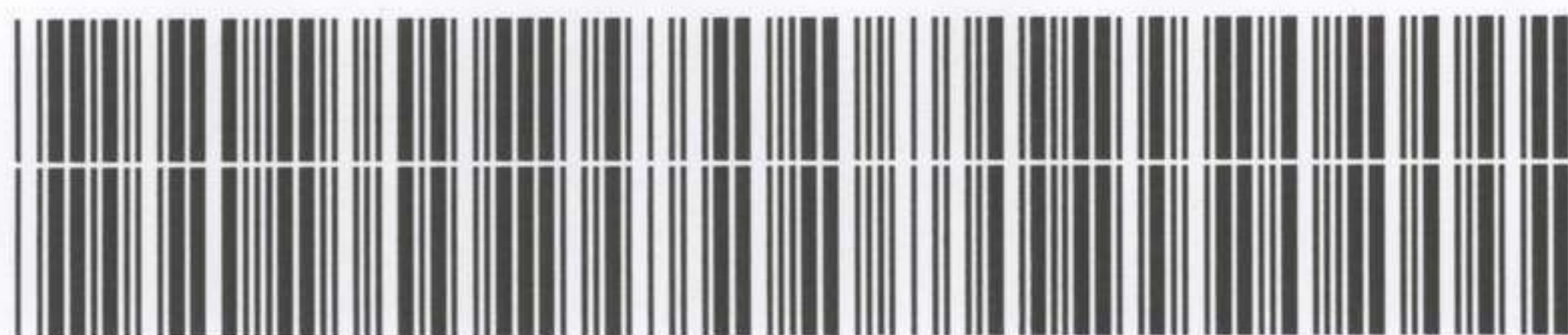
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Formation Headquarters

**Item number:** 1/33/9 Part 2

**Title:** Intelligence, Headquarters 2nd  
ANZAC Corps

January 1917



AWM4-1/33/9PART2



2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.Period from 8 a.m. 14th January to 8 a.m. 15th January 1917.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE TROOPERS.OPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Our Batteries effectively shelled enemy trenches and supports between BAS MAISNIL and LE BRIDOUX and dispersed a working party North of ROUGES BANCS besides searching and sweeping CRUCIFIX and the FROMELLES - AUBERS roads, the RUE DE LA LOMMERIE and the cross roads at PONT DE PIERRE.

Various billets and Minnenwerfer positions were fired on. L.T.Ms. bombarded enemy wire and front line North of the LOZENGE and on a front of 300 yards North of ROUGES BANCS.

Centre Sector. The Right Group retaliated for enemy T.M. activity. An 18-pdr Battery fired a few rounds at a suspected dump East of LE BAS CHAMPS FARM.

L.T.Ms. did considerable damage to enemy front line opposite GRAND FLAMENGERIE FARM.

Left Sector. A Minnenwerfer was silenced at LES 4 HALLOTS FARM and an enemy working party South of BOX FARM was fired on. The raid on the night of 13th/14th instant received Artillery support. L.T.Ms. fired at points in the enemy's line opposite PEAR TREE FARM and L'EPINETTE and North of LES 4 HALLOTS FARM.

MACHINE GUNS. Our Machine Guns carried out the usual programme of indirect and night firing. The Lewis gunners of the left sector dispersed working parties N.W. of SPARROWS NEST, West of LES 4 HALLOTS, opposite PORTE EGAL FARM and South of BOX FARM.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. Our patrols report everything quiet. A party attempting to make an entry into enemy trench between the SUGAR LOAF and the River LAIES was held up by water and the boggy nature of the ground. Another patrol succeeding in making an entrance opposite FME CORDONNERIE. They worked along 30 yards before leaving. The bad state of the ground made the wire difficult to get through.

Centre Sector. A party covering our wiring operations reported an enemy wiring party near SNIPERS HOUSE. Lewis Guns and rifle fire was brought to bear on it.

A strong officers' patrol got within 5 yards of enemy wire where they saw three Germans. On being fired on they disappeared quickly in the mist. One appeared to be hit. Enemy machine guns then opened fire but the patrol returned without loss. The rest of the line was reported quiet.

Left Sector. Patrols reconnoitering enemy's wire report 3 gaps North of the MUSHROOM. The wire in this vicinity was found to be about 3 feet high.

SNIPERS. Right Sector snipers claim a hit at FME DELANGRE. A man looking over the parapet opposite GRAND FLAMENGERIE FARM (Centre sector), when fired on, fell back apparently hit.

*W. H. Wise*  
for  
Brig.-General,  
General Staff,  
2nd ANZAC Corps.

15th January, 1917.



CONFIDENTIAL NO. 203.  
 SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 16th January 1917.  
 (From 6 a.m. 15th January to 6 a.m. 16th Jan. 1917).

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

PART I.

INFORMATION FROM OUR OWN FRONT.

PATROLS.

A patrol east of ARMENTIERES took a Lewis Gun to within 40 yards of a German working party and opened fire. Four of the enemy were seen to fall, the remainder running back to their trench. Our patrol withdrew without casualties under heavy rifle fire from the enemy lines.

ENEMY'S FRONT AND SUPPORT LINES.

A patrol reported enemy working behind the SUGAR LOAF in N 6 d south of PETILLON. No repair work has been attempted at N 9 c 05.10.

Trench between N 9 d 3.1 and N 9 d 80.25 is in ruins, and ground for 70 yards behind pitted with shell holes and water logged.

West of LE BRIDOUX enemy parapet has been built up at N 6 b 7.3 and 9.5; work was seen at O 1 a 5.8.

Work was proceeding in front and support lines in I 27 a near LA HOUSCOIE. Also at I 16 d 7.3 by WEZ MACQUART and I 5 c 25.20 near L'EPINETTE.

MACHINE GUN EMPLACEMENT.

Suspected at I 22 a 6.8 near WEZ MACQUART.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Movement was observed in front line through gaps made by T.M's at N 6 b 5.C and O 1 a 5.8 west of LE BRIDOUX, and also in O 2 c west of RADINGHEM. Possibly a battalion six day relief.

A hostile patrol was reported outside our wire east of BOIS GRENIER. Lewis Guns opened fire but no trace was found afterwards.

Part II follows:-.....



PART II.  
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE 79th RESERVE DIVISION ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

1. Prisoners of the 11th Res. Div. captured recently south of LOOS, state that they have seen men of the 262nd Res. Inf. Regt. (79th Res. Div.) in the neighbourhood.

2. It is reported that 2,000 men of the 262nd Res. Inf. Regt. arrived at LILLE about the 9th December.

3. A captured postcard with a view of LILLE appears to have been written by a man of the 79th Res. Div.

From the above evidence it would appear that the 79th Res. Div., which was last identified on the Russian front on the 23rd November, is now in the LILLE area.

CLASSES.

1. A deserter states that in the VII Corps District, the 1917 Class began to be called up in January 1916, and was not fully absorbed until late in the Autumn. The recruits of the 1918 Class joined the depots in November 1916.

2. It is reported that the 1919 Class will be called up in the VII Corps District on the 1st February 1917.

3. It is reported that in the VII and XII Corps Districts, battalions of the Armed Landsturm employed on garrison duty are being sent to the front and replaced by discharged Landsturm men of the older classes, and by elderly civilian volunteers.

4. It is reported that in the XIV Corps District, the last of the 1918 Class joined the depots on the 31st December, 1916, and that the 1919 Class, which was mustered several weeks ago, will be called up during January 1917.

5. In the XV Corps District, the 1919 Class was mustered between the 2nd and 10th January 1917.

DESTRUCTION OF THE ARSENAL AT DRESDEN.

A reliable report confirms the destruction of the arsenal at DRESDEN, reported in Army Summary of the 10th January. The arsenal, which employed 34,000 workers, blew up on the 28th Dec. The explosions continued for more than 24 hours.

15th January 1917.

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



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C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 204.  
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 17th January 1917.  
(From 6 a.m. 16th January to 6 a.m. 17th Jan. 1917).

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.

Patrols entered enemy's deserted line at N 9 c 1.1 and N 9 d 4.1, south of LE TROU, but the covering of snow over dangerous ground precluded further reconnaissance.

Parties patrolling in N 5 d south of LA BOUTILLERIE heard coughing in enemy's trenches. No man's Land east of the RUE DES TURCS is flooded.

Earth was thrown out of support trench at I 27 a 5.9 near LA HOUSOIE.

Working parties were observed at I 16 d 7.5, near WEZ MACQUART, I 5 c 7.2 south of L'EPINETTE, C 23 d 3.1 and C 23 b 2.6 about LES 4 HALLOTS and C 17 b 15.40 south of FRELLINGHEN.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES

New earth is reported visible between FROMELLES Railway Station and FME DU PARADIS in N 22 d.

Men were observed at work at C 12 b 20.25 near FME DU GRAND VERQUIN.

MACHINE GUN IMPLACEMENT.

Suspected at N 11 a 20.45 near MOUQUET FARM.

ENEMY'S ACTIVITY.

South east of ARMENTIERES there was much machine gun fire during the night; enemy bombed his own wire frequently and fired more Very Lights than usual.

Part II follows.-...



PART II.  
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

MOVEMENTS OF GERMAN DIVISIONS

1. A prisoner of the 8th Division, captured east of LOOS on the 14th/15th January, states that the 264th Reserve Infantry Regiment (80th Reserve Division) has recently arrived on the Western Front from Russia.

2. A deserter, who surrendered to the Russians on the 4th January near LAKE NAROCH, states that the 80th Reserve Division recently entrained for the West at SVENTSIANY.

3. The probable arrival of the 79th Reserve Division in the LILLE area from Russia was reported in Summary of the 16th January. The 80th Reserve Division, which formed part of the same Corps, may also have been transferred to the Western Front, but further confirmation is required.

INFORMATION FROM CAPTURED DOCUMENTS.

(In the sector North of the ANCRE).

1. There is great difficulty in getting supplies up to the front line. A regimental order lays down that the trench strength of companies is not to exceed 60, and that all surplus men are to form carrying parties.

2. Measures are being taken regarding the number of men who wander into our lines. A freer use of Very Lights is suggested, in addition to marking the routes.

"COMBING" RAILWAY WORKERS.

A railway employée, writing on the 1st December 1916 from a railway station near BRLESAC (VI Corps District) makes the following statement.- "Next month we shall all be called up from the railways. Perhaps I shall meet you in the trenches."

GERMAN FOOT ARTILLERY ORGANIZATION.

That portion of the German Foot Artillery which until recently was organized and numbered <sup>in independent</sup> batteries is being reorganized and renumbered by battalions.

17th January 1917.

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



2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.Period from 8 a.m. 16th January to 8 a.m. 17th January, 1917.THIS REPORT IS NOT TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OPERATION REPORT.ARTILLERY.

Right Sector. Batteries fired on movement observed East of LE PIERRE, at BACQUART, East of PONT DE PIERRE and South of FME DE LA MARLAQUE. Roads S.W. of MOULLES East of DOLLS HOUSE, at PONT DE PIERRE and near FME DE LA VOIRIE were shelled. A working party West of PROMELLES was dispersed. Other targets engaged were billets at PROMELLES, mine-works positions West of BAS MAISNIL, a battery South of LE HAUT QUESNOY (silenced), trenches at LA BIETTE and enemy front line and supports at various points. Our L.T.Ms. fired on his front line opposite FME COMDORNERIE.

Centre Sector. 4.5's fired 30 rounds at a hostile battery South of CHAU DE TERENCHICOURT. The Corps Heavy Artillery fired a few rounds at an active 77 mm. battery between ESCOBACQUES and LA VALLEE, but found observation impossible. A party of men leaving a communication trench East of SNIFERS HOUSE were fired on and dispersed.

L.T.Ms. co-operated with Artillery in a minor retaliation.

Left Sector. We bombarded enemy's front line West of BRUNN RUE. Various roads and tramways around LA FRESNELLE, also working parties were dispersed and a direct hit obtained on a suspected C.P.

Our H.T.Ms. cut wire West of LES 4 HALLOTS FM. L.T.Ms. fired on trenches N.E. of HOBBS FARM and West of BOX FARM.

MACHINE GUNS. Our Machine Guns fired throughout the night on points in rear and on gaps in enemy's wire.

PATROLS.

Right Sector. Three parties out in front of TURKS POINT heard coughing in enemy's trenches. The ground East of TURKS POINT is reported to be flooded.

A patrol entered enemy trench N.W. of FME DELAPORTE and found it full of water and badly knocked about.

Another party entered further East but the snow obliged them to return.

Centre Sector. NO MAN'S LAND was reported clear of enemy parties.

Left Sector. The enemy's wire was examined at several points. Patrols reported trains moving and a band playing well in rear. The snow restricted the movement of patrols.

SNIPERS. Snipers of the Right Sector claim to have hit a German and a periscope N.W. of FME D'LANGRE. The Centre Sector claims one and the Left two hits.

17th January, 1917.

*H. Schurab*  
Lieut.  
for  
Brig.-General,  
General Staff,  
2nd ANZAC Corps.



C O N F I D E N T I A L NO. 205.  
SECOND ANZAC INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 18th January 1917.  
 (From 6 a.m. 17th January to 6 a.m. 18th Jan. 1917).

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 front line in N 10 about FME DELANGRE appeared to be occupied by snipers, as our patrols were fired at continually during the night; no machine gun fire was used. South of LA BOUTILLERIE a machine gun fired during the early part of the night from about N 5 d 3.2.

The gap in front parapet at O 1 a 4.3 west of LE BRIDOUX recently screened with brushwood has been re-opened by our trench mortar fire and attempts at repair hindered by snipers.

Enemy's parapet has been repaired at I 26 b 7.6 west of LA HOUSOIE.

Work was seen at I 17 a 05.42 and I 11 c 42.22 north of VEZ MACQUART.

ENEMY'S REAR LINES.

A working party at N 12 b 55.20 south east of BAS MAISNIL was dispersed by machine gun fire.

Men were seen at C 18 c 95.25 near FME DU CHASTEL apparently shovelling snow from a tramline.

MACHINE GUN EMPLACEMENTS.

Suspected at N 12 a 4.1 in house south west of BAS MAISNIL and at I 26 d 20.43 opposite GRANDE FLAMENGRIE FARM.

TRENCH MORTAR EMPLACEMENTS.

Suspected at N 11 a 35.35 near MOUQUET FARM and at I 22 a 1.1 east of RUE DU BOIS.

ENEMY'S ACTIVITY.

South east of ARMENTIERES increase in hostile machine gun fire is noticeable.

East of ARMENTIERES during the last three days trench mortars have been inactive while rifle grenades have been more freely used.

ENEMY SHELLING.

Artillery activity was above normal in the region south east of CHAPELLE D'ARMENTIERES. Between 3 p.m. and 3.25 p.m. front and support trenches were bombarded with trench mortars and field guns; communication trenches and area in rear were also shelled.

Part II follows:-



PART II.  
INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

MOVEMENTS OF GERMAN DIVISIONS.

Prisoners state that the 79th Reserve Division has relieved the 7th Division in the LA BASSEE sector: they also state that the 80th Reserve Division is in the DOUAI area and will shortly relieve the 8th Division (see this Summary of 16th and 17th January).

IDENTIFICATIONS OF THE ENEMY'S UNITS.

1. 5th Bavarian Division (III Bav. Corps). The 19th Bav. Infantry Regiment was identified east of FAUCUISSART on the 14th January by the body of a man killed. (Normal).
2. 6th Bavarian Division (III Bav. Corps). The 13th Bav. Infantry Regiment was identified by document as present with its Division on the 1st January. (Normal).

SHORTAGE OF RESERVES.

A Man of the 3rd Bavarian Ersatz Regiment (9th Bav. Res. Division), writing on the 7th December 1916, makes the following statement.-

"We are now near LAON in a wretched position between REIMS and SOISSONS. We are half under water and always under fire. We should have gone to the SOMME a fortnight ago, but, as we only received a draft of 58 men instead of 500, our move was cancelled. It will probably take place in January."

15th January 1917.

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