

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/48/27 Part 2

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 4th
Australian Division

June 1918



AWM4-1/48/27PART2

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Appendix

Mar Diary

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SECRET.

Copy No. 21

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 124.

Headquarters,
8th June, 1918.

Ref. Map: 1/20,000

1. On a date and at an hour to be notified, an attack is to be carried out on the front of the Right Brigade of the 2nd Aust. Division with the object of improving our positions between SAILLY LAURETTE and MORLANCOURT. The objective of this attack will be, approximately, the line Road junction K.25.C.0.5. (inclusive to 2nd Aust. Division) - K.19.D.4.6. - K.13.D.65.20. - K.13.B.2.8.
2. (a) The 13th Aust. Inf. Bde. will co-operate by pushing forward its left flank simultaneously, in touch with the Right flank of the 2nd Aust. Division moving to Road Junction K.25.C.0.5.
(b) The 16th Brigade R.H.A. and the 298th Bde. R.F.A. are detailed to co-operate in the attack under the orders of the C.R.A., 2nd Aust. Division.
3. The G.C.C. 13th A.I. Bde. will arrange the details of his co-operation direct with the G.C.C. 7th A.I. Bde., who is carrying out the attack.
4. The C.R.A. will arrange direct with the C.R.A. 2nd Aust. Division to extend the barrage as far South as the Canal. Details as regards the cooperation of the barrage with our own Infantry will be arranged direct between C.R.A. and G.C.C. 13th A.I. Bde.
5. The C.O. M.G. Battalion will arrange for M.G. support required outside that afforded by the M.G.'s under the command of the G.C.C. 13th A.I. Bde. subject to the proviso that machine guns are not to be moved from their present positions in action.
6. A contact aeroplane will be over the line at 4.15 a.m. following Zero hour. Flares will be lighted and rifles laid out on the parapet when called for by the Klaxon Horn.
7. The most stringent precautions are to be taken to keep all traffic over cable communications down to normal prior to the operation.
8. Watches will be synchronised at 12 noon and at 3 hours before Zero. This will not be done on the telephone forward of Brigade Headquarters.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. Lavarack

Lieut.-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued at 12 Midnight.

- DISTRIBUTION: Normal,
Extras:
- 25 3rd Aust. Div.
 - 26 3rd Aust. Div.
 - 27 5th Aust. Div.
 - 28 - 29 AUST. Corps.
 - 30 8th Tank Batt'n.

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Annendix

16/6/18 45

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION = INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 270.

From 6 a.m. 8th to 6 a.m. 9th June, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. The following moving targets were engaged during the morning - party of six at P.14.B.2.2, working party in P.4.D. (casualties inflicted), movement in trenches P.10.B. and D., small party in P.10.D., During the afternoon a small party in P.4.D., party working on trench at P.10.B.95.70, working parties at P.11.B.31.62, and P.14.B.3.3 were engaged, casualties being inflicted. At 9 p.m. the CORSE at P.14. Central was bombarded for four minutes. At 9.40 p.m. three minute concentrations were fired on trenches in P.15. Central and on occupied building at P.6.D.9.6. At 10.50 p.m. approaches opposite divisional front were swept for four minutes. At 12 midnight a three minute concentration was fired on HAMEL. At 1.50 a.m. four minute bursts were fired on suspected H.Q. at Q.1.D.05.15, and on work to the West of VAIRE WOOD. A three minutes bombardment was put down on area P.8.D.75. 30 - P.9.C.1.5 - P.9.C.2.2 - P.8.D.8.0, where photographs show much activity. At 3.30 a.m. a rolling barrage swept back from S.O.S. plus 100 yards to S.O.S. plus 600 yards, and in from S.O.S. plus 600 yards to S.O.S. plus 100 yards in eight minutes.

(b) Trench Mortars. 3" Stokes mortars fired 50 rounds on enemy positions in P.9.B.0.9 and P.9.C.9.4, 20 rounds on positions J.36.A., 20 rounds at M.G. at J.30.D.85.40. This M.G. was silenced. 6" Newtons fired 15 rounds on QUARRY at P.5.A. 1.3, 20 rounds on trench system in P.4.B., and 30 rounds between Road Junction J.36.C.5.5 east to CEMETERY.

(c) Machine Guns. 200 rounds were fired at an A.A.M.G. in Southern edge of VAIRE WOOD. This gun has not fired since. The usual indirect harassing fire on enemy tracks and approaches was carried out during the night.

(d) Patrols. Fifteen reconnaissance patrols operated on the divisional front. No enemy seen, but wiring party was heard in VAIRE WOOD. Enemy trench at P.4.B.4.8 shows no signs of occupation. In addition, protective and liaison patrols were sent out hourly throughout the night, and touch maintained with units on flanks.

(e) Aircraft. Not as active as usual. Our planes patrolled enemy lines during the day, and bombs were dropped on HAMEL, HAMEL WOOD and VAIRE WOOD.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Increased activity throughout the period. Scattered shelling of Left Brigade front areas during the day and at dusk. The SOMME valley was heavily shelled at 11.30 p.m. At 11.45 p.m. heavy fire was directed on Left Brigade Front and Support Lines, lasting till 2 a.m. Between 11.50 p.m. and 12.30 a.m. a barrage was put down on J.27.B., J.28.A and B, J.29 and SAILLY-LE-SEC. All calibres were used up to 5.9's, and included a heavy proportion of both blue and green cross gas. A smaller gas and H.E. shoot was put down on O.10.C. and D, and O.16. C.T. running into J.29.C. and new work in this vicinity was heavily shelled. Between 5 and 6 a.m. SAILLY-LE-SEC was again heavily shelled with 77 mm. At 7 a.m. BOUZENCOURT and CANAL were shelled for 30 minutes with 150's. and 77's H.E. Shelling of battery positions was well scattered.

P.T.O.

(B).

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5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

Working parties still active on enemy trenches and defences, in spite of repeated casualties being inflicted by our artillery.

6. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

- (a) Work. Party wiring and driving in stakes heard in VAIRE WOOD. Parties working in P.4.D, P.11.E.51.62, P.14.B.3.3, and on trench at P.10.B.95.70.
- (b) Machine Guns. Little activity. M.G's. firing from in rear of northern portion of COPSE in P.14.Central. Another M.G. firing from P.9.B.1.6.
- (c) Trench mortars. Light Minenwerfer (co-operated with Artillery) during bombardment of our Front System. Mortars were firing from vicinity of P.14.B.6.3 and P.9.D.0.6.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Little activity. At 2 p.m. one E.A. made a reconnaissance of Right Brigade Front and Support Lines. Three B.A. flew over Centre Battalion Sector of Left Brigade at 6 p.m.

8. MOVEMENT.

At 5.10 a.m. 20 men observed in P.17 marching in single file to road at P.18.B.30.45, then along road running through Q.7.C and D. Party of 30 moved over same route 15 minutes later. At 9.40 a.m. party of 15 observed carrying timber at P.18.B.30.45. Movement also observed on road in Q.7.D., at P.17.D.15.65, P.17.Central, P.17.B.3.2, P.10.C.9.9, K.31.A.5.0 and R.19.A.25.70. Mounted men and cyclists seen to approach and leave P.17.B.3.2 at intervals during the day, where a H.Q. is suspected. Transport again observed on roads in Q.24.B., R.19.A, and K.31.C.7.5. Transport also heard moving through P.23.C. Motor transport observed moving along road to CHIPILLY through K.34.B and D.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Signals. During enemy's barrage a succession of red flares were fired by enemy and these were answered by a green flare. This was frequently repeated.

Visibility. Very bad till 1 p.m., improved and remained fair until 8 p.m..

Level of River Somme. During the past few days the level of the River SOMME fell 12 inches.

L. Craig. Capt
 Lieut-Colonel,
 G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

PART II.Information from other sources.THE AISNE BATTLE FRONT.

The French recaptured LE PORT village together with 38 prisoners. An additional division (10th Bavarian Division) from LORRAINE has been identified in the CURCQ valley, but as the 20th Division was incorrectly reported to be present on the battlefield the total number of divisions engaged remains unchanged, and is 42, of which 11 were fresh and 31 were previously engaged on the SOMME front.

GENERAL

Some parties of Germans were practising attack exercises South of MORCOURT between 3 and 5 p.m. They were dispersed by artillery fire.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Photographs of 7th June show that the enemy continues to work on linking up a front line between VILLE and MORLANCOURT (air photographs AS AE A 625, 626, 631).

There has been a notable increase in the rate of work N.E. of MORLANCOURT.

GERMAN GAS MASK.

The enemy has not yet equipped his troops with a new type of gas mask, but, since the middle of March this year, an extension has been added to it.

Single specimens of a new mouth plate attachment and a new mask box have also been captured. These may be an experimental issue.

The following are the latest developments in connection with the German gas mask:-

- (a) The extension is the most important modification. It consists of a perforated metal cover, which fits over the bottom of the drum and is held in place by three spring clips. It contains a disc of porous paper, which serves as a filter for fine particles. Tests show that, while the extension more than doubles the resistance to breathing, the protection obtained is not nearly so good as that afforded by the British box respirator. Prisoners state that the extension is intended for use against blue cross shell. It is carried loose in the mask box and is fixed to the drum whenever troops are in the vicinity of areas which are being bombarded with blue cross shell.
- (b) The mouth plate attachment consists of a saddle-shaped plate with a central hole, which is attached by a short cylindrical portion to a metal sleeve. This sleeve fits over the portion of the plate of the mask into which the drum screws. It may be intended to enable a man to breathe directly through the drum by pressing the plate against the mouth.
- (c) The new mask box differs from the previous pattern in that the bottom and cylindrical portion are made of 3-ply wood instead of iron, resulting in a reduction of weight of 5 ozs. It does not appear to be very serviceable.

RESERVES.

The reserves of the Second German Army (AVELUY to MOREUIL) at present consist of :-

P.T.O.

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(2).

PART II

2 fresh divisions, of which one is a Landwehr Div.
 4 divisions resting for 1 month or over.
 7 divisions " " 14 days " "
 4 divisions " under 14 days.

Total 17.

The whereabouts of these divisions is unknown, except for information obtained from various sources which shows that the following divisions were recently billeted as under :-

200th Div.	...	LE QUESNOY area.	...	May 31st.
199th "	...	VALENCIENNES "	...	" 21st.
19th "	...	VIESLY (E. CAMBRAI)	...	" 15th.
22nd "	...	MONTAUBAN area	...	" 26th.
204th "	...	PERONNE & MARCHELEPOT	...	June 4th.
107th "	...	BRAY area	...	" 1st.

The Jaeger Division is believed to have gone to CAMBRAI about the 20th May.

The above divisions have for some time past constituted part of the 2nd German Army, with the exception of the 22nd Res. Div., which after being withdrawn from the LYS battle was transferred to the MONTAUBAN area during the latter end of May.

Any of the above divisions are, as far as known, available to reinforce the front opposite the Fourth Army.

No divisions from the Second German Army, except the 14th Div., have reinforced the AISNE battle front.

Concerning the 14th Div., it is possible that it belonged to the 18th German Army, and not to the Second.

REVERSE

The reserves of the Second German Army (ARMY IN MOVEMENT) at present consist of :-

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H. Q.
4TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
No. G. <u>10/576</u>
Date

Headquarters,
4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION,
9th June, 1918.

1. The attached notes on the Corps Commander's Conference are forwarded for your information and attention where necessary.

2. In connection with the question of the prevention of Gas Casualties it will be necessary to find out in the case of every such casualty, exactly how it was incurred, in order to arrive at a solution. This would probably be best carried out through R.M.O's., who could classify individual casualties as "preventable" or otherwise, giving, in a couple of words, the cause of preventable casualties.

Lawrence

Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

DISTRIBUTION.

- 4th Aust. Inf. Bde.
 - 12th " " "
 - 13th " " "
 - C.R.A.
 - C.R.E.
 - 4th Aust. M.G. Bn.
 - 4th Aust. Pioneer Bn.
 - A.D.C.S.
 - 4th Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.
 - 4th Aust. Div. Train.
 - D.A.D.V.S.
 - 4th Aust. Div. Gas Officer.
 - 4th Aust. M.F. Coy.
 - A.P.M.
 - C.R.A., 5th Aust. Div. Artillery.
 - Detachment, A.L.H.
 - Cyclists Detachment.
- Australian Corps - For information.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

NOTES ON CORPS COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE HELD AT THIS
H.Q. ON 6/6/18.

as subject to report

GENERAL SUBJECTS.1. Dislodging of Recommendations for Honours and Rewards.

Reference D.A.G.'s. A/97/319 on subject of Recommendations for Honours and Rewards Corps Commander finds that practice of informing A. Officers and O.R. that they have been recommended for Honours and Rewards is more wide-spread than he had believed and desired that the strongest action may be taken to put an end to it. (A.Q.)

2. Relations with D.A.G., A.I.F.

Corps Commander requested Divisional Commanders to inform him of any difficulties and anomalies arising as regards relations between D.A.G., A.I.F. and formations. (A.Q.)

3. Horses.

Corps Commander spoke strongly on the subject of misappropriation of horses, and desired that when a horse has been held for more than 24 hours without having been claimed by its owner or handed over to a M.V.S. the senior officer of the unit concerned is to be held personally responsible. (A.Q., D.A.D.V.S. & units).

4. Prevention and Cure of Gas Casualties.

(a) It is desired to find out to what extent gas casualties are due to avoidable causes, and to take steps to eliminate such causes. (A.D.M.S. units & D.G.O.)

(b) Is Bicarbonate of Soda solution sufficiently used by R.M. O's for eye cases. (A.D.M.S.)

(c) 1,000 suits of spare clothing including underclothes to be kept in reserve, mainly at R.A.P's. to allow of an immediate change. (A.Q. & A.D.M.S.)

(d) Tendency towards diffidence about wearing of Gas Respirator to be energetically dealt with.

5. Church parades and medal presentation.

Corps Commander has no particular views on subject of ribbon and medal presentation. They can be made at a Church Parade or on other occasions as Divisions prefer. Only proviso is that Divisional Commanders shall inform him a couple of days before, to enable appointment to be made. Initiative re these parades to come from Divisional Commander. (A.Q.)

6. Training. (A.Q., formations and units).

(a) Intelligence Staffs and personnel to be sent up to Corps I. to have the Intelligence System demonstrated to them.

(b) Staff training and selection of Trainees.
On broadest possible lines. No trainee to be restricted to water-tight compartment, but to be trained in all phases of G. & A.Q. branches and return periodically to regimental duty for short lengths of time to review regimental work in the light of his staff experience,

P.T.O.

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BOURNE AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

NOTES ON CORPS COMMANDER'S GOVERNANCE
H.Q. 6/8/14.

Divisions not intended to be entirely self-supporting as regards Staff appointments.

Principle of having Staff Trainees at Brigades as distinguished from special B.M. and Staff Captain Trainees at Brigades agreed to.

Reference to A.A.C.'s... Honours and Awards... that they have been recommended for Honours and Awards in more wide-spread than has been believed and desired that the appropriate action may be taken to give effect to it.

2. Relations with A.A.C.

Corps Commander requested Divisional Commanders to inform him of any difficulties or anomalies arising in regard to relations between A.A.C. and Brigades.

It is requested that when a leave has been granted for more than 28 days, the member should be placed on the list of absentees in so far as possible. (A.A.C. 2.1.1.1)

(a) In the event of a member being absent for more than 28 days, the member should be placed on the list of absentees and the appropriate action should be taken. (A.A.C. 2.1.1.1)

(b) In the event of a member being absent for more than 28 days, the member should be placed on the list of absentees and the appropriate action should be taken. (A.A.C. 2.1.1.1)

3. Training and Education

Corps Commander has no particular view on subject of ribbon and medal presentation. They can be made at a single Parade or on other occasions as may be desired. This matter is that Divisional Commanders should advise the Corps Commander of any changes to be made in the award of ribbons and medals to members to come from the A.A.C. (A.A.C. 2.1.1.1)

4. Training and Education

(a) Intelligent members should be encouraged to go on to Corps I. to have the intelligence training. (A.A.C. 2.1.1.1)

(b) Staff training and education of Trainees. On progress possible lines, no trainee to be restricted to white light compartment, but to be trained in all phases of A.A.C. training and return periodically to regimental duty for short lengths of time to review regimental work in the light of his staff experience. (A.A.C. 2.1.1.1)

T.T.O.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

NOTES ON CORPS COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE HELD AT THIS H.Q. ON 8/6/18.

TACTICAL SUBJECTS.

Dispositions in light of latest German offensive measures.

(1) Infantry. Corps Commander stated that all that is required at present is that garrisons of forward areas shall be thinned out and that Battalion reserves shall be kept as far back as possible. It was recognised that Battalion Commanders cannot be taken into full confidence as to reasons for this.

(2) Machine Guns. Any M.G.'s within possible annihilation area to be in dug-outs. Question as to design of Machine Gun dugouts and shafts. Is standard design laid down by Controller of Mines, Army H.Q., suitable? If not, specific instance to be reported to Corps H.Q. A point to be particularly dealt with is the reinforcement of the mouth of shafts to prevent their being blown in by shells falling in the vicinity.

(3) Enemy policy on the present Corps Front.

This appears to be, at present, the assumption of an offensive attitude, manifested by raids, etc., to keep our reserves here, combined with a desire to get frequent identifications, in order to find out if our dispositions have changed. Apparently he has not, of late secured an identification.

To frustrate him we must, in addition to the usual fighting precautions, take every care.

(a) To ensure that our men are thoroughly conversant with the facts as regards the few items of information they are bound to give in the event of capture, the methods employed by the enemy to extract information, ("pigeons", etc.,) and the attitude of the enemy towards a prisoner who resolutely refuses to impart information of any kind and in any circumstances, (consciously or otherwise.).

(b) To ensure that every precaution is taken to prevent information being given away to the enemy's listening organization.

(4) Identifications of enemy formations.

These are even more important from our point of view than from that of the enemy, especially at the moment, when the direction in which the enemy's remaining reserve will be used is doubtful.

Every means is to be used to obtain identifications, ranging from the searching of enemy dead to organised raids. Raids, however, should only be required in the last emergency.

(5) 37. m.m. French Gun. The Corps Commander has decided to adopt the 37 m.m. gun, to be classed as "trench stores".

Each Division to have 2 per Bde., 1 per M.T.M. Battery, and 2 at the Divisional Wing, Corps School.

They are to be used mainly for Anti-Tank defence.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 279.

From 6 a.m. 9th to 6 a.m. 10th June, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Our artillery was active throughout the period. Two hostile batteries in Q.7.C. were silenced. On five occasions working party at P.9.A.25.60 was engaged and dispersed inflicting casualties on three occasions. Other targets engaged were working party between P.10.C.9.1 and P.16.A.9.9, active Minenwerfer at P.9.B.4.5 (silenced) suspected M.G. positions at P.10.B.9.2 and P.10.B.7.6, and O.P. at P.10.A.6.3. Suspected battery positions at P.16.Central and P.15.A.3.0 were searched. Bursts of fire were put down on enemy trench systems and centres of activity during the night. At 3.30 a.m. a rolling barrage searched back from S.O.S. plus 500 yards to S.O.S. plus 100 yards, and back from S.O.S. plus 700 yards to S.O.S. plus 500 yards.

(b) Trench Mortars. 3" Stokes Mortars fired 35 rounds at P.20.A.75.35 and P.8.D.40.45 and 20 rounds on M.G. position at J.30.D.90.41. Our medium trench mortars expended 45 rounds on trench system in P.4.B. and on M.G. position at P.5.A.0.4. 6" Newtons fired a number of rounds on enemy positions in P.9.B. and D, and P.15.A and B.

(c) Machine Guns. Small parties of the enemy in P.14 were fired on, inflicting casualties. The usual indirect fire on enemy tracks and positions was carried out during the night. Ammunition expended 13,000 rounds.

(d) Patrols. Reconnaissance, liaison and protective patrols operated on the divisional front during the night. Wiring party of about 15 men observed at J.36.D.2.2. Working party was heard at J.36.A.3.4. A hostile patrol of 4 men was noticed in front of our Post at P.13.B.8.4 at 3.30 a.m. They were surrounded and after a short engagement three were taken prisoner (one wounded and two unwounded) the fourth being killed during the engagement. Enemy listening post at J.36.A.75.95 was rushed and the two occupants captured. Four men were observed at Cross Roads in P.20.A moving towards VAIRE WOOD. The quarry at P.20.A.55.50 was searched. No enemy found, but there were signs of recent occupation.

(e) Aircraft. Owing to indifferent visibility our planes were not as active as usual. Bombs were dropped on HAMEL, HAMEL WOOD and VAIRE WOOD.

(f) Minor Operation. A Company of the Right Battalion of the Left Brigade pushed forward and established a line of posts between J.34.C.55.20 and J.34.D.85.20. The operation was completed and line of posts consolidated before dawn.

(g) Prisoners. Five prisoners were brought in by patrols.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS.

- 11th Coy, 419th I.R. in P.13.B. (3 Prisoners) Normal.
- 1st Coy., 107th R.I.R. in J.36.A. (2 Prisoners) Normal.

3. ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS.

Relief. The 3rd Battalion 419th I.R. (from Reserve) relieved the front line Battalion last night, arriving in line about midnight.

P.T.O.

(2).

Strength. The strength of the 11th Coy., 419th I.R. is said to be about 70 Rifles (P.S.).

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Fairly active, principally shelling Support and Reserve areas. SAILLY-LE-SEC, J.27, and J.28, VAIRE and BOUZENCOURT were consistently shelled. The roads between VAUX and SAILLY-LE-SEC was intermittently shelled throughout the day.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

Quiet, still working on his defences.

6. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

(a) Work. Working party heard at J.36.A.3.4. Party of about 10 working at P.16.A.5.5. Large working party observed leaving trenches in P.16.B. disappearing behind bank. Material being unloaded at 3.30 p.m. from stationary train at Q.27.B.

(b) Wire. Wiring party observed at J.36.D.2.2. Enemy wire in J.35.B. and D. is very thick and forms a good obstacle. At J.36.A.30.85 enemy wire consists of a low belt of concertina about 4 feet thick, 35 yards behind is another belt of wire about 3 feet high consisting of 3 strands with ragonal wires from front to rear. Neither belt forms a very formidable obstacle.

(c) Machine Guns. One M.G. firing from P.8.D.8.1 was particularly active during the night. Otherwise little activity. A few bursts were fired from a position in J.30.D.

(d) Trench Mortars. Six Shells were fired by a heavy T.M. from approx. P.5.D. Central.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

During the morning E.A. on 4 occasions crossed our lines flying high and remained a short time. One E.A. made a low reconnaissance of our forward positions at 6 a.m. and again at 2 p.m. Otherwise inactive.

8. MOVEMENT.

Considerable movement throughout the period. Usual Movement again observed in vicinity of Dugout at K.31.C.50.95. Individual movement on several occasions in trench at P.14.B.6.3. Party of 30 observed moving towards ACCROCHE WOOD along ridge in P.16.A. 3 horsemen and considerable individual movement also observed on this ridge. Movement observed in P.17.C.5.0 and P.23.A.5.0. Also on ridge east of HAMEL and on southern slope south of HAMEL. New movement on four occasions at P.5.C.6.0 moving North, apparently collecting at P.5.C.6.3. Party of 30 observed proceeding to PROYART on road at R.25.A.9.9. Considerable transport movement on roads in P.23.C. moving south towards WARFUSSE. Transport and horseman observed at Cross Roads in Q.9.A. Sunkers road in Q.8.B. is very much used. Limbers observed in P.17. Central, and during the early morning much movement of transport is observed at P.17.D.50.65.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Signals. Shortly after enemy had shelled front line of Left Brigade

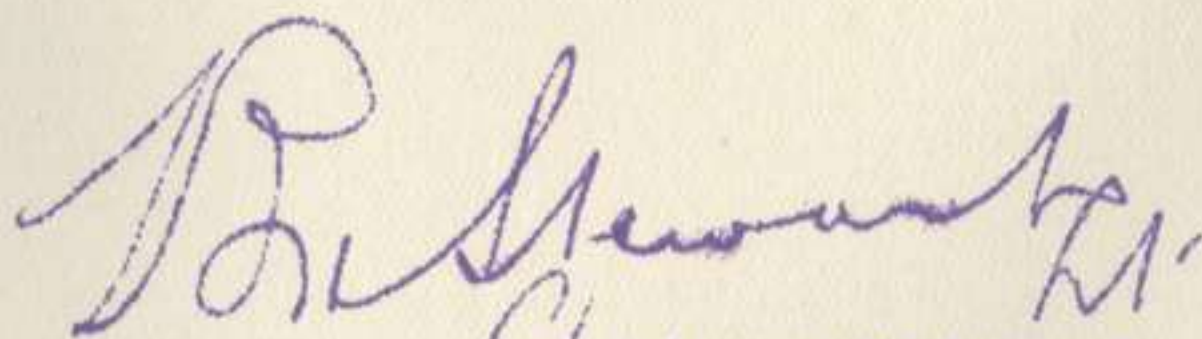
at 10.15 p.m.

(3).

at 10.15 p.m. two red flares were sent up by enemy, whereupon artillery immediately lengthened range.

O.P. There is an O.P. suspected at P.10.A.6.3 and one at Q.9.A.3.2.

Visibility. Bad until 11 a.m., improved a little and remained fair until 3 p.m.. Bad from 3 to 8.30 p.m.



Lieut.-Colonel,
G.S.; 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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PART II.

Information from Other Sources.OTHER FRONTS.

The Army on our right report that a heavy bombardment against HANGARD wood took place yesterday between noon and 2 p.m.

Early this morning an artillery preparation commenced along the whole front from about VAUVILLERS to NOYON.

At 4 a.m. the German Infantry attacked between NOYON and MONTDIDIER. No details have been received beyond the fact that fighting is taking place at LE FRETOY, LE TRONQUOY and THIESCOURT.

DUMPS.

About 40 magazines (new since May 16th) are visible on either side of the road running north of VAUVILLERS. (62.D.X.1.B.1.D and S.A.). Twelve magazines have been constructed since May 19th on the north-eastern side of VAUVILLERS dump. (French photographs).

HEADQUARTERS.

A prisoner states that brigade headquarters (FINCK von FINCKENSTEIN) is in the large house in MORCOURT (Q.16.A.46.45), and regimental headquarters near by (Q.16.A.7.6).

TANKS.

A British prisoner of war who escaped back to our lines on the 6th inst. saw 10 tanks of German pattern in HAPPY VALLEY at about L.S.E. 9.9. They were standing in a straight line close under the escarpment on north-western side of the valley. (Recent photographs show tank tracks only, but the tanks may be concealed by the shadow of the bluff.

EMPLOYMENT OF GERMAN TANKS ON THE AISNE.

The following information, regarding the employment of tanks by the Germans in the AISNE Battle, has been obtained from the British troops engaged :-

(a) Types of Tanks. There is no doubt that more than one type of tank was used in the attack on the 27th May, and it seems certain that the enemy employed captured British tanks and tanks of the "ELFRIEDE" type (described in S.S. 714, issued with G.H.Q. Summary of 3th June), possibly captured French tanks were also used.

(b) Number employed. This can only be roughly estimated, but it seems probable that about 20 Tanks were employed against the front held by 2 British divisions.

(c) Tactics. The enemy appears to have used his tanks as a support to the infantry, i.e., to engage points of resistance encountered by it. On the front of one division, the tanks advanced in front of the infantry and are reported to have penetrated as far as the battle zone but no farther. The tanks (captured British tanks) preceded the infantry by a few yards and travelled slowly, making free use of their machine guns. They did not manoeuvre at all successfully, and had to stop to swing.

On the front of the other division, the attack was first attempted with the tanks in rear of the infantry and failed. The enemy's infantry then waited for the tanks, which advanced with intervals of about 200 yards between tanks and completed the destruction of the wire and of those machine guns which were still in action. As the attack progressed the infantry fought level with the tanks and eventually outran them.

P.T.O.
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PART II

Information from Other Sources

(2).

DUMPS

Prisoners state that LA FLAQUE dump is being used as a divisional ration dump, and that there is a large quantity of material for building dugouts on either side of the AMIENS road. (S.D.P. 27, C & D).

No details have been received from the AMIENS road area.

About 40 magazines (see above) were visible on either side of the road between the AMIENS road and the dump. Five magazines were seen in the dump.

A report states that the AMIENS road area is being used as a divisional ration dump, and that there is a large quantity of material for building dugouts on either side of the AMIENS road.

A report states that the AMIENS road area is being used as a divisional ration dump, and that there is a large quantity of material for building dugouts on either side of the AMIENS road.

The following information regarding the employment of tanks by the AMIENS road area has been obtained from the British troops.

(a) A report states that the AMIENS road area is being used as a divisional ration dump, and that there is a large quantity of material for building dugouts on either side of the AMIENS road.

(b) A report states that the AMIENS road area is being used as a divisional ration dump, and that there is a large quantity of material for building dugouts on either side of the AMIENS road.

(c) A report states that the AMIENS road area is being used as a divisional ration dump, and that there is a large quantity of material for building dugouts on either side of the AMIENS road.

(d) A report states that the AMIENS road area is being used as a divisional ration dump, and that there is a large quantity of material for building dugouts on either side of the AMIENS road.

(e) A report states that the AMIENS road area is being used as a divisional ration dump, and that there is a large quantity of material for building dugouts on either side of the AMIENS road.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 380.

From 6 a.m. 10th to 6 a.m. 11th June, 1918.

(banned) NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Infantry. In conjunction with the operation of the Division on our left, the left Battalion of our Left Brigade advanced their line between J.35.B.7.7.1 and K.25.C.0.5. The attack was launched under cover of Artillery and machine gun barrage, and our troops reached their objective according to plan. In the course of the operation 1 Officer, 18 other ranks and 1 machine gun were captured.

(b) Artillery. Active during the period. Movement was engaged in the valley in P.17., P.11. and P.12., in the trench at P.10.D.2.7., movement in P.15.B., P.10.B., and working parties at P.15.C.9.8., P.17.B.9.15., P.18.A.1.6., and in P.11.C. Hostile M.G.'s at P.14.B.7.2. were engaged. Infantry operation on our Left Bde. Sector was supported with barrage lasting from 9.45 p.m. to 11 p.m. A concentration was fired on P.14.B. - P.8.D. at the same time for ten minutes. Bursts of fire were also put down on road in J.36.B. and D., HAMEL WOOD and centres of activity during the night. At 3.15 a.m. a rolling barrage swept back from S.O.S. plus 50 yards to S.O.S. plus 550 yards.

(c) Trench Mortars. 3" Stokes Mortars fired 31 rounds on positions between P.20.A.7.9. and P.14.C.7.3. 6" Newtons expended 30 rounds on enemy positions at P.8.D.5.6., P.8.D.7.1., P.9.A.9.9.2. and P.9.B.5.5., and 120 rounds on trenches between J.35.D.8.0. and J.35.D.4.4., and between J.35.D.9.9. and J.36.A.20.25. Between 9.45. and 10 p.m., in conjunction with the artillery, a slow barrage was put down on enemy trench system between J.36.A.0.2. and J.36.A.45.20.

(d) Machine Guns. Small parties of enemy, apparently moving out to occupy posts at about P.4. Central, were engaged at dusk, and again at dawn when returning to their lines. Our M.G.'s also co-operated with the artillery during the Infantry operation. Direct and indirect fire was maintained on enemy tracks and approaches and known centres of activity. During consolidation of our lines a steady fire was kept on enemy's support area. Our A.A.M.G.'s fired on all E.A. which came within range, expending 2000 rounds.

(e) Patrols. Reconnaissance patrols were active during the night. Movement and considerable noise was heard at cross roads at P.20.A.5.5. Working party heard digging at P.8.D.9.8. two bombs were thrown at flare thrower at J.35.D.4.1. No more flares were fired from this spot, but M.G. and rifle fire was immediately opened on patrol from both flanks. Enemy trench at J.36.A.1.2. was entered by a patrol, where two of the enemy were encountered. One was killed and one captured. Liaison and protective patrols were also out hourly during the night, and maintained touch with units on flanks.

(f) Aircraft. Active throughout the period. Many reconnaissances were made of enemy positions by small formations flying low. They encountered heavy A.A. and A.A.M.G. fire. During the night our bombing planes were active behind enemy lines.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS.

107th R.I.R. (24th Res. Div.)
11th Coy. - 5 prisoners.
1st Coy. - 1 prisoner.

265th R.I.R. (107th Div.)
7th Coy. - 8 prisoners (including 1 off.)

12th Pioneer Bn. (att'd. 24th Res. Div.)
1st Coy. - 1 prisoner.

133rd R.I.R. (24th Res. Div.) 1 prisoner (wounded)

3. ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS.

Order of Battle N. to S. 90 R.I.R., 2nd Bn. 265 R.I.R., 107th R.I.R. Southern boundary of 107th R.I.R. is the SOMME Canal. 107th R.I.R. has 4 Coys. in front line 4 in Support about 1500 metres in rear and 4 Coys. another 2000 metres further back (P.S.).

Reliefs. The 2nd Bn. 265th R.I.R. expects to be relieved in a few days and will then probably return to its regiment (P.S.).

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Quiet on Right Brigade sector, but active on Left Bde. Sector. Canal in J.34.B., BOUZENCOURT, J.28.A., SAILLY-LE-SEC were consistently shelled. Enemy retaliated to our barrage at 9.46.p.m. with light shelling of our forward posts. At 9.54.p.m. our forward posts, front, support and reserve areas were shelled with guns of all calibres. Between 1 and 2.a.m. all areas were consistently shelled. At 6.a.m. situation was quiet. CORBIE was lightly shelled by 15.c.m's. at 6.p.m. fire slackened but between 2 and 4.a.m.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE. Prisoners appear very confident that no hostile attacks are contemplated on this front in the near future. Enemy appears to be alert, several of our patrols being fired on during the night. Considerable activity has been observed in rear areas, transport and trains being observed during the day in R.20.D., R.25.D., R.26.B. and C. and Q.24.B. and D. Working parties still active on his defences

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.
(a) Work. Party heard digging at P.10.D.9.B. Working parties observed at P.10.D.6.5., P.15.C.9.B., P.17.B.90.15. and P.18.A.1.6. New wire and trenches are noticeable in P.10.B. and D. and P.23.
(b) Machine Guns. Centre battalion of left Bde. report considerable M.G. fire, harassing our trenches in J.35.A. Otherwise little activity. M.G. located at approx. J.36.A.85.90. Enemy appears to have a group of M.G's, which fire from between P.14.B.7.1. and P.14.B.7.7.
(c) Trench Mortars. 30 rounds were fired by a Medium Minenwerfer from P.9.D.55.75. A few rounds of light calibre were fired on Left Bde. front during the attack. Enemy mortar observed to fire from approx. P.4.D. Central. At 9.40.p.m. 16 heavy T.M. bombs fell in J.29.B.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Enemy planes flying high made reconnaissance flights over our forward areas at intervals during the day. At 9.30.p.m. one E.A. crossed our lines and penetrated to our back area. Slight bombing activity during the night.

8. MOVEMENT. Considerable movement during day along trench P.15.E.9.8. (1) also round P.23.B.5.3. Several small parties observed leaving trench at P.10.D.5.4., moving along road to HAMEL. R.31.C.7.5. is still a centre of continual movement. Movement also noticed about K.31.A.5.0. Q.14.C. and D. is also a centre of much movement.

971

Appendix 9
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Mounted men are continually seen moving across rise from Q. 21. Cent. to Q. 14. Cent. Batteries are observed in this gully. Parties seen on road in Q. 25. D. advancing to gully in Q. 19. Cent., also on road at Q. 24. B. 50. 95. Transport observed during the day on roads in R. 27. D., R. 19. A., Q. 24. B. and D., Q. 27. D. Train movement several times during the day in R. 20. D. and R. 26. B. and C. Train consisting of 30 trucks drew up to siding R. 25. C. 7. 5., remaining there shunting till light failed at 9. P. m.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Signals. On our barrage opening, Right Bde. report the following enemy flares :- A succession of double green flares followed by double reds and a few golden rain bursts. The Left Bde. report a single green flare which apparently was his S.O.S. Signal.

Before our attack the average strength of Companies in 2nd Bn. 265th R.I.R. was 50 to 60 and that of 107th R.I.R. 110 to 120. (P.S.)

According to the majority of prisoners our attack last night took the enemy entirely by surprise, but one man stated that concentrations of troops were reported by aeroplanes about 9. P. m.

Field Kitchens of 265 R.I.R. come up to the northern outskirts of SALLY-LAURETTE every afternoon between 4 and 5 o'clock (P.S.)

12th Pioneer Bn. was engaged in building mined dugouts in the area North of the SOMME - many dugouts being under construction. (P.S.)

Visibility. Very good all day up to 9. p. m. except for one or two misty showers.

B. Stewart Li.

Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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(2) ...
(3) ...
(4) ...
(5) ...
(6) ...
(7) ...
(8) ...
(9) ...
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PART II.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

THE MONTDIDIER - OISE BATTLE FRONT.

The enemy attacked at 4 a.m. inately from ROYAN to MONTDIDIER. Eleven Divisions are believed to have been in the line in the attack and four others are reported in close reserve. Of the above, 2 or perhaps 3 belong to the Group of Armies of Prince RUPPRECHT.

The attack generally failed to gain much ground, and, according to prisoners' statements, German losses were heavy. Counter-attacks by the French at COURCELLES and VILLE resulted in the capture of 500 prisoners.

At 7 p.m. last night, the line ran as follows :-

200 metres N. of DUMMELIEU - ROYAUCOURT road to Hill 90 - W. of Hill 96 - W. of Hill 96 - LE FRETOY - Hill 96 - COURCELLES - LA TAULE - BOIS de la TAULE - northern edge of BOIS de RESSONS - BAYENCOURT farm - northern edge of MARGNY and LE PLESSIER - BELLINGLISE - St. CLAUDE farm - LA RUE des BOUCAUDES - southern edge of ORVAL - VILLE and PASSEL.

HEADQUARTERS.

According to prisoners' statements, the Headquarters of the 97th I.R. are situated on the Western slope of the big valley between HARBONNIERES and MORCOURT, 500 metres North of the main AMIENS road. Divisional Headquarters of the 10th Div. are situated either in PROYART, or some distance from the village in the open.

BILLETS.

Prisoners state that the resting battalion has two bivouacs (1) MERICOURT, situated 800 metres East of the village, on the side of the hill on the Northern side of the MERICOURT-CHUIGNOLLES road, (2) PROYART, 1,500 metres North of the village. The men at present are quartered in tents, but huts are under construction. The field kitchens are in the camp at PROYART.

RECRUITING.

(a) Of 729 prisoners captured on the British front during May, 1918, i.e., 25% belonged to the 1919 Class.

(b) The following men of the 1919 Class have been captured during the last three months :-

18 men ...	<u>MARCH.</u>	...	0.72 per cent.
65 men ...	<u>APRIL.</u>	...	2.18 per cent.
186 men ...	<u>MAY.</u>	...	25.53 per cent.

For the first time the 1919 Class is most largely represented.

(c) The analysis of the drafts received by units during the first five months of 1918 shows that the 1919 Class, which did not begin to be actually drafted in large numbers to units in the field on the Western Front until after the German offensive had begun, actually supplied over 50 per cent of the 404 prisoners who were drafted during April.

176

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Appendix

Handwritten signature and date: 22 July 62

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(8)

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 281.

From 6 a.m. 11th to 6 a.m. 12th June, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery during the day working parties and movement were engaged at P.14.C.9.0, and in P.10.B., P.16.D, P.17.B and P.4.C. The cemetery at J.36.D.9.4, a dump on the road at P.4.D.4.2 and a post at P.9.A. were bombarded. During the night bursts of fire were directed against M.G. position at P.14.B.7.2, junction of trench and road at P.15.C.3.8, on the works in front of VAIRE WOOD in P.14.B and D., the cross roads in Q.7.A, the COPSE in P.9.C, the area P.15.B, the valley in K.31, and a four minute concentration on J.36.D.7.2 where a section of 77 mm. guns was reported. At 3 a.m. possible points of assembly were swept for six minutes.

(b) Trench Mortars. Our 3" Stokes Mortars fired on trench system in P.6.D, strong Post at P.14.C.7.2, on P.4.B.5.2, and on trench between J.36.C.5.7 and J.36.C.6.9. 6" Newtons expended 20 rounds on harassing fire along road between J.36.C.5.5 and J.36.C.9.4.

(c) Machine Guns. Our A.A.M.Gs. expended 1,000 rounds against low flying E.A. The usual indirect fire was maintained during the night. X.M. 12,000 rounds expended.

(d) Snipers. Our snipers fired on enemy movement in J.36.A. from night post in J.30.C.

(e) Patrols. Sixteen reconnaissance patrols operated on divisional front during the night. Enemy trench from J.36.A.1.1 to J.35.D.8.8 found unoccupied. Camouflaged M.G. position at J.30.C.8.2 found unoccupied. Movement seen in vicinity of trench J.35.D.8.6 to J.35.D.5.3. Working party heard wiring in direction of VAIRE WOOD. Working party heard east of COPSE in P.14.Central. Party heard digging at P.8.D.4.4. When patrol attempted to move closer, they were fired on by covering party in shell holes about 20 yards west of enemy's wire. Liaison and protective patrols went out hourly between the hours of darkness and touch was maintained with units on flanks.

(f) Aircraft. Slightly less activity during the morning and afternoon but towards dusk large flights penetrated the enemy's lines, and were heavily engaged by A.A. fire. Bombs were dropped on enemy forward positions during the day, and M.G. fire directed on VAIRE WOOD. During the night our bombing planes were active.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Active on Left Brigade Sector. Between 9.45 and 10.45 p.m. a barrage was put down on area between J.30.C.65.70 and J.30.C.05.30, also in gully in J.30.C and D. Salvoes of 77 mm. H.E. were directed against our posts in J.32.D between 12 midnight and 1 a.m. SAILLY-LE-SEC was subjected to continual shelling during the 24 hours. BOUZENCOURT, VAIRE, J.27 and 28, WELCOME WOOD and Cross Roads at J.28.C. were also shelled. At 12.15 a.m. a concentration of 77's and 105's was put down on Right Brigade Front and Support lines, lasting 3 minutes. Otherwise very scattered shelling on this Brigade Sector.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

Quiet but alert. Five of our patrols were fired on by M.Gs. and snipers. Usual working parties were busy during the day and night.

P.T.O.

(2).

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - THE

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

- (a) Work. Party heard digging at P.8.D.2.4. Working party heard East of COPSE in P.14.Central. Large working party observed during the morning in P.4.C, and another in the afternoon at P.4.C.9.0, also one in P.16.D. Party working on dugout at K.31.C.7.5.
- (b) Wire. Wiring party heard in VAIRE WOOD.
- (c) Machine Guns. M.Gs. fired on our patrols from trench between J.35.D.8.6 and J.35.D.5.3 and from road at P.8.D.5.5. M.Gs. located at J.35.D.7.6 firing across canal.
- (d) Trench Mortars. T.M's located firing from approx. R.9.B.2.5 and wood in K.31.A. Medium Minenwerfer located firing from P.9.B.8.4 and P.9.D.5.7.
- (e) Snipers. Enemy sniper located at J.35.D.3.1.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Very little activity. One E.A. made a reconnaissance of Right Brigade forward positions at 6 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. flying high.

8. MOVEMENT.

Movement observed on road at P.20.A.8.7, in C.T. running through VIRE WOOD P.14.B.9.0, along sunken road East of H.MEL, in trench system in P.10.D, in trench in P.4.B. Party of 15 to 20 moved from H.MEL to trenches in P.10.B. Three men laying telephone wire from P.11.B.Central to P.11.25.00. Transport on road in P.23.D. moving towards W.RFUSLE, also on roads in P.18.B, Q.19.A, Q.24.B, and approaching lines on road in R.19.A, disappearing in low ground at Q.18.C.5.1. Train came to dump from PROYART, stopping at R.25.D.6.C.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Headquarters. A E.Q. is suspected in trench at P.15.C.9.6 as runners carrying papers frequently come and go from this position. A H.Q. is also suspected in trench system in Q.9.A., where men were observed repairing telephone lines, and cyclists visited the spot at intervals during the day.

Dump. Large dump in Q.35.B. was blown up by our Artillery at 3.5 p.m..

[Signature]
Lieut.-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

Quiet but alert. Five of our patrols were fired on by M.Gs. and snipers. Canal working parties were busy during the day and night.

PART II.Information from other Sources.THE MONTDIDIER - OISE BATTLE FRONT.

The enemy continued his attacks yesterday but only made small progress. Up to yesterday evening the French held the Western edge of MERY and the hills N. of NEUFVY and GOURNAY PORTE farm and FERME-das-LOGES were captured by the Germans but recaptured by the French. The enemy also made some progress near ATTICHE farm.

15 divisions have now been identified of which 3 belong to Prince Rupprecht's Group of Armies. The front of the attack (22 miles) was originally held by 8 divisions in line. The line has therefore been reinforced by 7 divisions.

BOMBING RAIDS.

The following bombs were dropped by night :-

GAMBRAI	...	10	112 lbs.
		10	25 lbs.
MARICOURT	...	10	112 lbs.
		32	25 lbs.
CARNOY	...	4	112 lbs.
		8	25 lbs.
GATEAU WOOD	...		
		70	25 lbs.
ETIENHEM	...	84	25 lbs.
GELON WOOD	...	56	25 lbs.
SUSANNE	...	98	25 lbs.

PARACHUTE FLARES.

The French report that parachute flares (Leuchtbombe mit Fallschirm) have been dropped from enemy aircraft in connection with night bombing operations. These flares are cylindrical in shape and are 10 cm. in diameter; they are made in two sizes, one 60 cm. and the other 90 cm. long. They contain a magnesium compound which ignites at a height of from 1,000 - 1,300 feet above the ground. The smaller type burns for about 2 minutes. Fuzes are time and percussion and are marked Dopp. Z.06. (DOPPEL-ZÜNDER 1906) The casing is of aluminium. The time ring is set at the figure corresponding to the height from which the bomb is to be dropped.

The larger size flare has been found on Gothas; this type is estimated to burn for at least 5 or 6 minutes.

BUSSY-LES-DAOURS
LES ALLECOIRS

SECRET

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Distribution of Units.

Unit.	Ref. Sheet. 1/40,000	Location.	Remarks.
<u>DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS.</u>	62D	H.34.B.9.1	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.
<u>4th Aust. Div. Arty. H.Q.</u>	Abbev. 14.	EPAGNE.	} CHATEAU. R.A. REST AREA.
10th A.F.A. Bde.		COCQUEREL.	
11th A.F.A. Bde.		EPAGNE.	
4th Aust. D.A.C.		EAUCOURT.	
4th Aust. D.T.M.O.		EAUCOURT.	
<u>5th Aust. Div. Arty. H.Q.</u>	62D.	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	} Hospice, FOUILLOY. I.23.D.6.2. I.30.A.8.3 I.21.B.5.8 H.34.C.0.0 BUSSY-LES-DAOURS. T.34.C.40.85. LA NEUVILLE. H.22.B.2.7 H.26.A.5.9
13th A.F.A. Bde.			
14th A.F.A. Bde.			
150th Army Bde. H.F.A. H.Q.			
298th " " " "			
16th " " R.H.A. "			
77th " " R.F.A.			
5th Aust. D.T.M.O.			
5th D.A.C.			
5th A.R.P.			
<u>4th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.</u>		Adv. O.5.C.65.80 Rear. N.11.A.4.0	(Billet No.35).
13th Battalion.		O.12.D.10.95	
14th " "		O.24.A.3.8	
15th " "		O.6.B.7.1	
16th " "		O.12.B.9.4	
4th A.L.T.M.Bty.		FOUILLOY	
<u>12th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.</u>		N.14.B.9.9		(Wood).
45th Battalion.		O.7.C.50.25	
46th " "		O.1.A. Central.	
48th " "		O.7.C.5.1	
12th A.L.T.M.Bty.		N.17.C.6.3	
<u>13th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.</u>		Adv. J.19.C.3.6 Rear. I.32.B.2.8	}
49th Battalion.		J.28.A.7.7	
50th " "		J.25.D.25.50	
51st " "		J.28.A.7.9	
13th A.L.T.M.Bty.		J.26.E.15.30	
<u>4th Aust. Div Engineer H.Q.</u>		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	}
4th Field Coy.		O.3.A. Central.	
12th " "		O.3.A. Central.	
15th " "		O.1.A. Central	
<u>4th Aust. Div. Signal Coy.</u>		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	}
4th Aust. M.G. Bn.		H.35.C.3.3	
4th Aust. M.G. Coy.		O.18.A.3.2	
12th " "		O.8.B.7.5	
15th " "		J.29.C.9.3	
24th " "		O.6.B.3.5	
<u>4th Aust. Pioneer Bn.</u>		I.50.C.6.6.	

P.T.C.

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<p>A. D. H. S. 4th Aust. Field Ambulance. 12th " " " 13th " " "</p> <p>4th Aust. Div. Train H.Q. 7th Coy. A.A.S.C. 14th " " " 26th " " " 27th " " "</p> <p>S. S. O. RAILHEAD</p> <p>4th Aust. Div. M.T. Coy. 4th Aust. Div. Salvage Coy. 4th Aust. Div. Sanitary Sec. 4th Aust. Mob. Vet. Section.</p> <p>4th Aust. Div. Reinforcement Staging Depot.</p> <p>13th A.L.H. Regt. (1 troop) Aust. Cyclist Bn. (1 platoon.)</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S. A.P.M. D.A.D.V.S. Div. Paymaster. Div. Claims Off. O.C., S.A.A. Section. Div. Baths Off. P.O.W., Collecting Station.</p>	<p>62D. BUSSY-LES-DAOURS. LES ALENCONS. H. 19. B. 0. 6. M. 4. 0. 9. 8.</p> <p>BUSSY-LES-DAOURS. H. 14. D. H. 2. 62D. POIT REMS. RIVERY. POIT NOYELLES.</p> <p>BUSSY-LES-DAOURS. AILLY-sur-SOMME. SAINT SAUVEUR.</p> <p>N. 6. C. 1. 1. DAOURS. CAGNY. G. 33. B. 7. 1.</p> <p>H. 27. C. Central.</p> <p>H. 34. B. 8. 3. BUSSY-LES-DAOURS. H. 34. B. 7. 5. BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.</p> <p>H. 19. D. 0. 0. BUSSY-LES-DAOURS. " " " " M. 2. D. 7. 9. BUSSY-LES-DAOURS. N. 6. C. 9. 4. DAOURS.</p>
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R. Stewart
 for

Major-General,
 Commanding 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION..

As at NOON.
 12/6/18.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 202.

From 6 a.m. 12th to 6 a.m. 13th June, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

3. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the morning a box barrage and concentration was put on COPSE in K.31.A, which is a centre of much activity. Working parties at P.10.A.5.5 and P.10.D.20.55, and movement in K.31.A, K.25.B, C and D were engaged. During the afternoon hostile parties were dispersed in P.16.C, P.10.D, K.31.C and at P.3.B.4.0, and movement in trench at P.9.A.9.8. M.G.'s at P.9.B.1.8 and P.10.A.3.8 were bombarded. Hostile T.M.'s were engaged at K.31.A.5.5, K.31.A.5.8, and K.31.A.6.7. During the night bursts of fire were put down on enemy approaches and centres of activity opposite the divisional front. At 3.5 a.m. a barrage lifted back from S.O.S. plus 75 yards to S.O.S. plus 575 yards in six minutes.

(b) Trench Mortars. 90 rounds were fired by our 3" Stokes Mortars on French along road P.8.D. 5 rounds on quarry at P.20.A.65.45 and 5 rounds on P.9.C. Central. Harassing fire was carried out on Junction of Roads in P.4.B and on trenches from P.4.B.35.15 to P.4.B.7.2. 6" Newboms fired on targets in P.4.B and J.35.D. during the night.

(c) Machine Guns. 3,000 rounds were expended on a target in P.10.B where movement was observed. Indirect fire was maintained throughout the night on enemy roads and tracks, on trench from P.15.C.3.7 to P.15.D.0.7, on dump in P.9.C., and on southern edge of VAIRE WOOD.

(d) Snipers. Our snipers were active when enemy exposed himself, and claim a number of victims.

(e) Patrols. Our reconnaissance patrols were active during the night. Enemy observed to enter trench N.E. of Cross Roads P.20.A. Central and movement was heard as if rifles and equipment were rattling together. Working parties were heard digging S.E. from Cross Roads in P.20.A, about 150 yards from road in P.14.C, and at edge of VAIRE WOOD in P.14.D. Movement was noticed around enemy post at P.3.C.95.15. Liaison and protective patrols went out hourly during the hours of darkness and touch was maintained with units on flanks.

(f) Aircraft. Usual activity throughout the day, patrolling our forward areas and crossing well over enemy lines. Bombs were dropped on HAMEL and VAIRE WOOD. Our planes were heavily engaged by A.A.M.G. fire from COPSE in K.31.A. During the night our bombing planes were heard to cross the enemy lines.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Scattered shelling of Right Brigade Sector during the night, enemy's main activity being directed against back areas. Intermittent heavy shelling of Left Brigade Support area and communications. VAIRE was consistently shelled with 77 mm. H.E., and SAILLY-LE-SEC was occasionally shelled with 150 mm. H.E. 100 shells of 105 mm. calibre were directed on to CANAL in J.34.B.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

Enemy snipers were active firing on movement in J.30.A, B, & C. His Trench Mortars show slightly increased activity. M.G. fire is still confined to occasional bursts during the night.

P.T.O.

(e).

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6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work. Working parties observed on ridge at P.18.C.5.5, at P.10.A.5.5 and P.10.D.20.55. New work is visible at P.21.A.2.2 with timber lying on top. It has the appearance of four dug-outs. New earth works are reported between P.9.C.0.1 and P.9.C. Central. Tunnelling is in progress on ridge East of HAMEL.

(b) Machine Guns. M.G's. located firing from posts at P.14.B.5.8, J.35.D.5.4, P.14.B.7.3, P.14.B.8.9, P.8.D.8.2, (Approx.) P.4.C.8.3 and two in P.9.C.

(c) Trench Mortars. 20 rounds fired on P.8. Central by T.M. firing from about P.9.B.95.20. A bombardment of light and medium trench mortars was put down in vicinity of Cross Roads at K.25.C.0.5. No damage was done to our posts. Light T.M. fires from COPSE in K.31.A. A minenwerfer firing into J.30.C.5.2 could not be located.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Opposite Left Brigade Sector E.A. were active behind his own lines but did not attempt to cross our lines. One E.A. flew high over left Battalion front of Left Brigade Sector at 8.45 a.m.

8. MOVEMENT.

At 9.35 p.m. what appeared to be a Battalion in artillery formation was seen between P.4.D.1.2 and P.4.D.8.1. A relief is suspected. Considerable movement between HAMEL and P.4.D.6.2, party of 30 observed in Sunken Road J.36.D, and 50 men near bank K.31.A.20.98. Much movement takes place at dusk and dawn in J.36.C. Central and J.36.C.24.35. Individual movement continually observed in P.17.A, B, and P.17. Central. Also in trench system on ridge East of HAMEL. Men in pairs observed along sunken road in P.10.D. going towards HAMEL. Movement around the H.2. suspected at P.15.C.9.6. Road to PROYART through Q.24.B and R.19.A. continually used by transports and small parties. Men and horse transport also seen on road in P.11.B and P.5.C travelling in a westerly direction. An engine and 8 trucks observed on railway line in R.26.C.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Signals. When several of the enemy's shells fell short opposite Left Brigade Sector a flare bursting into two reds was fired from COPSE in K.31.A. and another from SAILLY-LAURETTE. Range was immediately lengthened.

Visibility. Very bad until 12 noon. Improved slightly, poor up to 8.45 p.m.

[Signature]
Lieut. Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

ENEMY'S ATTITUDE

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PART II.

Information from Other Sources.

THE MONTDIDIER - OISE BATTLE FRONT.

Fighting continued yesterday, the French regaining ground at MERY, LATAULE, LA GARENNE Farm and ANTHEUIL. By a counter-attack yesterday evening they also recaptured BETHANCOURT and the high ground near MACHEMONT, together with 1,200 prisoners.

16 divisions have now been identified in the fighting, while 3 divisions are believed to be in reserve.

No further divisions from Prince RUPPRECHT'S Group of Armies have so far been engaged.

At 10.30 p.m. last night the line ran as follows :-

LE REETOY - 1 km. north of COURCELLES - 1500 m. east of MERY - southern borders of LATAULE - GARENNE Farm - des LOGES Farm - ANTHEUIL - southern borders of VIGNEMONT southern borders of CHEVIN COURT - MELICOCQ - southern borders of MACHEMONT - the confluence of the MATZ and OISE.

ENEMY'S INTENTIONS.

From information obtained from prisoners captured yesterday and during the last few days previously, it would appear that the enemy intend shortly to carry out an attack in the ARRAS sector. This may be accompanied by a small attack between the SOMME and the LUCE. It is important during the next few days to secure prisoners in all sectors along the front, so as to obtain confirmation of the above.

BOMBING RAIDS.

The following bombs were dropped :-

(a) By day :-

BOIS DE TAILLIES	...	...	102	25 lb.
Wood in K.28.B.	...	...	137	25 lb.
Various targets	...	...	83	25 lb.
CHAULNES	...	...	22	112 lb.
SUZANNE	...	...	70	25 lb.
ETINHEM	...	...	70	25 lb.
CEYLON Wood	...	...	56	25 lb.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

According to prisoners little work is being done on front trenches east of SAILLY-LE-SEC. Trenches are in most places 5 feet deep and the wire is weak.

The T.M. Coy. of the 24th Res.Div. is said to be in the valley north-west of SAILLY-LAURETTE. The mortars are taken forward 100 meters to the hill in front when in action.

Recent photographs have shown much activity along the ravine on the north bank of the SOMME. Prisoners report mined dugouts for reserve companies east of SAILLY-LAURETTE in K.31.C. (cp Army Summary 5th June, Para. "Enemy Defences"). There is an Artillery Regiment in the valley W. of MALARD Wood (K.32.B. cp. air photograph A3 AE A 580). A reserve battalion occupies mined dugouts in the valley north-east of CHIPILLY (K.35.A) There are probably other Battalions in the ravine which is evidently much occupied. (Air photographs A3.AE.A.584, 544, 555 46.V. 4592, 4595).

P.T.O.

PART II.

Information from Other Sources.

THE MONTGOMERY - OISE BATTLE FRONT.

(2).

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ENEMY'S FORCES.

The following identifications have been established.

(a) Fourth Army Front.

24th Reserve Division.

18th Pioneer Bn. ... W. SAILLY LAURETTE ... June 11th.

The 1st Res. Coy. and 6th Coy. of 18th Pioneer Bn. are attached to the 24th Res. Div. The former works north of the SOMME and the latter south of it.

224th Minenwerfer Coy. J.38.A. ... June 11th
N.W. SAILLY LAURETTE. ... P.S. (Normal).

54th Division.

54th Minenwerfer Coy. ... MORLANCOURT sector ... June 7th.
Doct. (Normal).

78th Bearer Coy. ... GERISY ... June 11th
P.S.

4th Bav. Foot Art. Bn. ... LES CELESTINS ... June 11th
Wood, ... P.S.
K.27, N. CHIPILLY.

24th Res. Div.

107th R.I.R. ... K.25. ... June 12
E. SAILLY-LE-SEC. ... Pris.

(b) Army on our Left.

24th Division.

139th I.R. ... AVELUY sector ... June 11/12th
Men taken. (Normal).

According to prisoners little work is being done on front between east of SAILLY-LE-SEC. Troopers are to most places 5 feet deep and the wire in place.
The 1st Coy. of the 24th Res. Div. is said to be in the valley north-east of SAILLY-LAURETTE. The workers are taken forward 100 yards to the hill in front when in action.
Recent photographs have shown much activity along the ravine on the north bank of the SOMME. Troopers report mined ditches for tanks reserve companies east of SAILLY-LAURETTE in K.25.0. (op Army Summary 25th June, Para. "Enemy Defences"). There is an Artillery Regiment in the valley W. of MALLARD Wood (K.25.A.0). (op. photographs AS A.25.0). A reserve battalion occupies mined ditches in the valley north-east of CHIPILLY (K.25.A). There are probably other battalions in the ravine which is evidently much occupied. (All photographs AS A.25.0, AS A.25.1, V.452, 453).

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Appendix

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SECRET.

Copy No. 71

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 125.

Headquarters,
14th June, 1918.

Ref. Map: 620 1/20,000.

1. The 12th Aust. Inf. Bde. will relieve 13th Aust. Inf. Bde. in the left Brigade Sector on the night 16/17th June, taking over similar dispositions. Details of the relief will be arranged mutually between Brigadiers concerned.
2. The 4th Aust. Pioneer Bn. will remain in present positions and continue to be Reserve Bn. to Left Brigade.
3. The C.O., 4th Aust. Machine Gun Battalion will arrange for the relief of the Vickers Machine Guns in this area on night 15/16th June.
4. Command will pass on completion of the relief which will be reported to this office. The 13th Aust. Inf. Bde. will then occupy positions vacated by 12th Aust. Inf. Bde. and take over duties of Reserve Brigade.
5. Engineer Field Coys. will not be relieved. Arrangements will be made to continue present works policy and to ensure continuity of work.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Edward Maitland
Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued at 12 noon

DISTRIBUTION. Normal.

- Extras :
- 25. 2nd Aust. Division.
 - 26. 3rd " "
 - 27. 6th Tank Battalion.
 - 28) Australian Corps.
 - 29)
 - 30. 5th Aust. Division.

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APPENDIX

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SECRET.

Copy No. 22

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 126.

Warning Order for 'Q' Operation.

Headquarters,
14th June, 1918.

Ref. attached Sketch Map.

1. The Right Brigade will carry out a number of raids, at a date and hour to be notified later, on enemy defences on the Western edge of VAIRE WOOD and in P.S.D.
2. The objects of the operations are -
 - (a) To inflict losses upon the enemy.
 - (b) To obtain prisoners and identifications.
 - (c) To gain information about any enemy preparations for offensive action.
3. The raids will be carried out simultaneously with Artillery co-operation as shown on attached sketch. The C.R.A. will arrange the details of this co-operation direct with the G.O.C., 4th Aust. Inf. Bde.
4. The following will be the strength of the Infantry parties engaged :-
 - Raids on VAIRE WOOD - Three parties of 50 each.
 - Raids on enemy defences in P.S.D. - Two parties of 30 each.
5. Arrangements will be put in hand at once with a view to carrying out the operation, if required, on night 15/16th June.
6. This operation will be referred to as "Q" operation.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. Ravarick.

Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued at 1/June

DISTRIBUTION. Normal.

Extras :	25.	2nd Aust. Division.
	26.	3rd " "
	27.	5th " "
	28.	8th Tank Battalion.
	29.)	Australian Corps.
	30.)	

Maps to Div. Artillery.
 4th Aust. Inf. Bde.
 12th " " "
 Australian Corps.
 4th Aust. M.G. Bn.

SECRET.
*****AUSTRALIAN
DIVISION

817071

Reference Divisional Order No. 126.

'Q' Operation will be carried out tonight 15/16th June.

Zero hour 11.30.p.m.

Acknowledge.

Headquarters,
15th June, 1918.

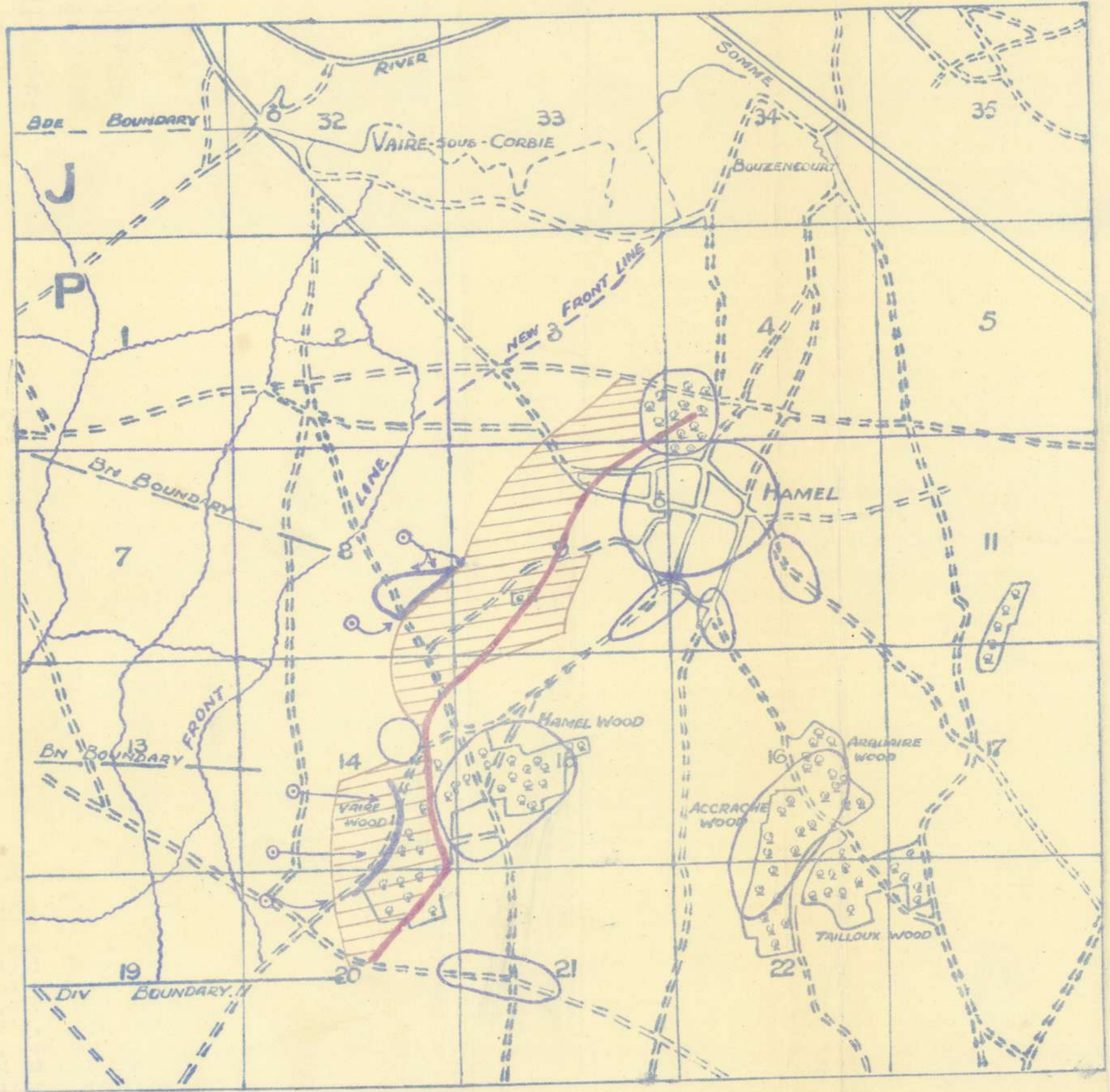
E. Langley
Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued to all recipients of Div. Order No.126.

SECRET

REFERENCE

- ⊙ = JUMPING OFF POINTS
- = OBJECTIVES of RAIDING PARTIES
- = STATIONARY BARRAGE FOR TWENTY MINUTES OR TILL ORDERED TO CEASE
- //// = CREEPING BARRAGE - 50 YDS PER MINUTE.
- = SPECIAL AREA SHOOT



SCALE: 1:20,000.

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Appendix

War Diary 75

For Official Use Only.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 285.

From 6 a.m. 13th to 6 a.m. 14th June, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the day enemy working parties in P.17.A. and P.10.D. (on three occasions) were dispersed. Groups of men in P.9.D., P.11.A. and P.5.C. were engaged and casualties inflicted. Considerable movement of small parties in P.28 and P.22 were engaged many casualties being reported. A Brigade salvo was fired on concealed ground in P.9.D. and on sunken road in P.10.D. Road running through P.20.B. and P.21.C. was intermittently searched and road in P.4.D. heavily engaged. At 10.15 p.m. possible points of assembly on the divisional front were searched. During the night concentrations were put down on Trench Mortar positions at J.36.C.95.45 and P.14.B.65.15, on the QUARRY and dug-outs in K.31.C, work to the West of VAIRE WOOD in P.14.B and D, VAIRE WOOD P.14.B and P.15.A, suspected H.Q. at P.15.C.9.6, and on enemy roads and approaches. Suspected anti-tank section at J.36.D.7.2 and anti-tank gun at P.10.A.3.8 were engaged for three minutes. At 3.15 a.m. a barrage swept out from S.O.S. plus 50 yards to S.O.S. plus 350 yards, and back from S.O.S. plus 650 yards to S.O.S. plus 450 yards in seven minutes.

(b) Trench Mortars. Our 3" Stokes Mortars engaged the following targets. P.14.C.7.5, trenches in P.8.D, Terrace at P.9.C. Central, trench system from J.36.A.7B.35 to J.36.A.8.5, and posts at J.26.A.55.05. 6" Newtons fired on P.8.D.7.2, P.9.A.1.2, P.9.B.1.6, trench system from P.8.D.4.4 to P.8.D.6.6 and trenches in J.35.D. The 9.45 Mortar registered on P.14.B.7.3.

(c) Machine Guns. Small parties moving from P.4.D.6.0 into HAMEL were engaged by our M.G's. Indirect fire on enemy forward positions, roads and approaches was maintained during the night.

(d) Patrols. 19 reconnaissance patrols operated on the divisional front during the night. An enemy L.P. was observed in enemy wire near P.8.D.8.8. Considerable movement was observed around P.8.B.2.3 where enemy appeared to be improving his wire. Working parties were heard East of Copse in P.14. Central and between Copse and VAIRE WOOD. Enemy heard digging at K.31.A.05.95 and constructing Posts about 200 yards from our line. Liaison and protective patrols went out hourly during the night and maintained touch with units in flanks.

(e) Aircraft. Our planes were again active during the day reconnoitring the enemy's lines and observing for artillery. Bombs were dropped on HAMEL, HAMEL WOOD, VAIRE WOOD, ACCROCHE WOOD and ARQUAIRE WOOD. During the night our bombing planes dropped bombs in the vicinity of ARQUAIRE Wood.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Usual activity on Right Brigade Sector during the day, with slightly increased activity during the night, especially between 10.30 p.m. and 12 midnight. 105 mms. shelled Support Line in vicinity of P.19.B.3.7 for 20 minutes. Left Bn. Sector was shelled for 30 minutes with 77's., and Right Bn. front line was lightly shelled with 77's., 105's., and 150's. Roads in vicinity of O.6.D and O.12.B. and D. were shelled with 105's and 150's. Active on Left Brigade Sector, with intermittent shelling of the whole sector. SAILLY-LE-SEC and road

P.T.O.

between VAUX and SAILLY-LE-SEC received fairly heavy shelling. BOZEMOOUR and VAIRE were lightly shelled. At 5 p.m. and 9.20 p.m. phosphorous shells fell in gully in J.28.A. 50 rounds of Blue and Yellow Cross Gas were fired by 105 Hows. on O.16.A and B.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

Enemy appeared to be nervous and frequent bursts of M.G. fire were directed on to J.29.C and at our posts of the Left Bn. of Left Brigade. His Trench Mortars were very active opposite Left Brigade Sector, but inactive against Right Brigade.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work. Working parties were again busy during the period especially in vicinity of VAIRE WOOD in P.14.B and D, in P.17.A, and P.10.D. Digging also heard about 200 yards from our line in J.30.D. where enemy appears to be constructing Posts.

(b) Wire. Enemy wire in P.8.D. consists of concertina wire with a few lateral French wires between stakes. It is a poor obstacle. Considerable movement was observed about 200 yards North of P.8.D.8.8 where enemy appears to be improving his wire. Several trip wires and belt of knee-high wire were found at J.35.D.2.2. At J.30.D.3.6 knee deep concertina barbed wire was found running East and West to bank at J.36.B.1.7.

(c) Machine Guns. More active against Left Brigade Sector, with the usual indirect fire against Right Brigade Sector. M.G's located at P.14.B.7.3, P.3.D.3.1 and approx. K.25.C.2.3.

(d) Trench Mortars. Very active against Left and Centre Battalion of Left Brigade. T.M's located firing from J.36.A.5.2, K.31.C.5.8 and several from vicinity of Copse in K.31.A.

(e) Snipers. Enemy snipers were active during the early morning firing from bank running through J.36.Central.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

At 4 a.m. an E.A. flew over the left flank of divisional front, and on returning dropped flares over his own lines. At 10.20 a.m. and 8 p.m. an E.A. crossed our lines flying low, each time being driven off by A.A. and A.A.M.G. fire. At 11 a.m. three planes flew high over our lines.

8. MOVEMENT.

Small parties were observed going from P.4.D.6.0 to HAMEL. Individual movement observed along ridge and in sunken road East of HAMEL, also in trench at P.10.D.5.40. Small party at K.31.C.5.8. Men moving about in P.23.B. and P.24.C, and individual movement all day on road in Q.14.A and C. 2 vehicles came down sunken road in P.4.D. stopped and unloaded at Cross Roads in P.4.D. and returned. Transport also observed in P.11.A, and on roads in P.18.C, Q.18.D, Q.24.B and R.19.A and B. At 8.45 p.m. 100 railway trucks observed on line in R.26.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Signals. A Signal Lamp was several times observed in the village of HAMEL. At midnight a red light was observed 1000 yards from Left Brigade Front moving from left to right and to the rear, covering a distance of 1000 yards in each direction. This was observed continuously throughout the night.

Visibility. Very bad at 4.30 a.m., improved to fair at 8 a.m.. Good from 2 to 9 p.m.

R. Stewart
Lieut. Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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Appendix

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PART II.

Information from Other Sources.

THE AISNE AND MONTDIDIER - NOYON BATTLE FRONTS.

The main German pressure yesterday was south-west of SOISSONS, where the enemy renewed his attacks on an 8-mile front. A further division from Prince RUPPRECHT'S Group of Armies was identified in this attack, making a total of 6 engaged on the AISNE and NOYON - MONTDIDIER battle fronts.

Owing to one division coming into line east of HAZEBROUCK and to the engagement of 4 divisions on the battle fronts, there is a reduction of 5, from 36 to 31, in the estimated number of divisions in reserve available for immediate operations in the Western Theatre.

DIVISIONAL RELIEFS.

The following information has been obtained from prisoners captured during the last few days :-

DERNANCOURT sector- The 50th Res. Div. expect to be relieved on June 14th and believe their division is to carry out an attack.

MORLANCOURT sector - The 54th Div. expected to be relieved on the 11th or 15th June.

SAILLY-LE-SEC sector - The 265th R.I.R. (108th Div.) expect to be relieved shortly, and go out to rest.

VAIRE Wood sector - The 77th Res. Div. expects to be relieved on the 14th June. Prisoners believe reliefs of divisions now holding the line are going to take place along the whole front, and attacking divisions will replace them.

It will be important to secure prisoners along the whole Army front from to-night onwards, so as to ascertain what truth there is in these statements.

HEADQUARTERS.

Prisoners state that an advanced Divisional Headquarters is being built at CERISY.

ENEMY LOSSES.

Losses in the German Air Service, especially in protective and reconnaissance flights, have been extremely heavy during the offensive operations since March. The 13th Protective Flight, which first took part in the March offensive in the BAPUUME area, and subsequently co-operated in the fighting on the LYS battle front, lost 4 crews (including the flight commander) during the latter operation only; this figure refers only to men killed or so badly wounded that they will not be able to fly again. In addition, there were several men lightly wounded, and many machines rendered unserviceable.

ANALYSIS OF 250 GERMAN PRISONERS CAPTURED ON THE 10-6-18.

<u>CLASSES.</u>	<u>PERCENTAGES.</u>	<u>NUMBER.</u>
*1920	.80	8
1919	22.00	55
1918	12.80	32
1917	6.80	17
1916	14.00	35
1915	4.40	11
1914	4.00	10
1913	4.00	10
1912	5.60	14.

P.T.O.

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PART II

Information from Other Sources

THE WEISZ AND MONTGIDIER - HOYON BATTLE FRONT

The main German pressure yesterday was south-west of SOISSONS where the enemy renewed his attacks on the 6-mile front. A further division from Prince Rupprecht's Group of Armies (2) identified in this attack, making a total of 6 engaged on the WEISZ and HOYON - MONTGIDIER battle front.

CLASSES	PERCENTAGES
Reserve 1907/1911.	9.20
Landwehr 1st Ban. 1902/1906.	00.40
" 2nd " 1896/1902.	02.50
Ersatz Reserve.	3.20

The following information was obtained from prisoners captured during the last few days :-

* One is a volunteer and the other combed out on account of for success on two occasions. The 10th Div. expected to be relieved on the 11th and believe this division is to carry out an attack.

The 10th Div. expected to be relieved on the 11th. The 10th Div. expected to be relieved on the 11th. The 10th Div. expected to be relieved on the 11th.

It will be important to secure prisoners along the whole Army front from to-night onwards, so as to ascertain what troops there in these circumstances.

Prisoners state that an advanced Divisional Headquarters is being built at GRIEX.

Losses in the German Air Service, especially in protective and reconnaissance flights, have been extremely heavy during the offensive operations since March. The 12th Protective Flight, which first took part in the French offensive in the RAUMER area, and subsequently co-operated in the fighting on the 12th battle front, lost 4 crews (including the flight commander) during the latter operation only. This figure refers only to men killed or so badly wounded that they will not be able to fly again. In addition, there were several men lightly wounded, and many machines rendered unserviceable.

ANALYSIS OF 250 GERMAN PRISONERS CAPTURED ON THE 10-11-18

NUMBER	PERCENTAGES	CLASSES
2	0.80	1918
22	8.80	1918
22	8.80	1918
14	5.60	1918
14	5.60	1918
11	4.40	1918
10	4.00	1918
10	4.00	1918
14	5.60	1918

P.T.O.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 284.

From 6.a.m. 14th to 6.a.m. 15th June, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the morning the area K.31.A. & B. was intermittently searched and the valley in P.22.A. & B. swept. Movement on road in P.4.D. was engaged. During the afternoon a working party in P.11.A. was engaged, and parties in P.10.D. and P.11.A. dispersed. New dug-outs at P.10.B.00.25. were engaged, and a direct hit recorded. Valley in P.16.D. was searched. From 10.15. to 10.35.p.m. possible points of assembly were swept. During the night concentrations were fired on work to the West of VAIRE WOOD, on enemy tracks and approaches, and on T.M's at P.14.B.65.15., P.9.D.0.5., P.9.D.5.4., P.9.D.5.7., P.9.B.2.5., P.9.B.8.4., P.5.D.5.4., P.5.D.8.2., J.36.C.95.45. and K.31.A. Central. At 3.a.m. a barrage lifted back by 25 yard lifts per minute to S.O.S. plus 250 yards.

(b) Trench Mortars. - Our 3" Stokes Mortars fired 93 rounds on enemy trenches in P.8.D., 80 rounds on trench system and road junction in P.4.B., 20 rounds on enemy trench from J.35.D.95.85. to J.36.A.3.4., 12 rounds into old quarry at J.36.B.20.55., and 6 rounds at enemy post in J.36.B.55.90. 6" Newtons fired 100 rounds on enemy trench in J.35.D. Central, Post at J.35.D.2.2., and from J.36.C. Central to Cemetery. 9.45" Mortars fired a few rounds in P.14.D.

(c) Machine Guns. - Our Vickers were active on direct fire at targets in P.9.O. and P.3.D. The usual indirect fire was carried out during the night.

(d) Patrols. - Reconnaissance, Liaison and protective patrols operated on the Divisional Front throughout the night, and touch was maintained with units on Flanks. Quarry at P.20.A. Central was unoccupied. Enemy L.P. located at P.8.D.85.75. Occasional movement in Copse in P.14. Gen was heard by patrol acting as a L.P. Working party heard in Wood at P.3.D.95.30. and party heard wiring at P.5.A.2.4.

(e) Aircraft. - Owing to vertical visibility being low our planes were less active than usual. Reconnaissance planes were over enemy lines during the morning, and at 11.30.p.m. our bombing planes crossed over enemy lines.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. - Nil.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. - A noticeable increase in enemy artillery activity during the period. At 10.45.p.m. a barrage was put down fully 600 yards in No Man's Land in front of Right Bde. Sector. At 11.30.p.m. his barrage was again put down in No Man's Land, when a succession of single and double red flares were fired. He then lengthened his range. Harassing fire was put down on our front and support lines between 10.30.p.m. and 12 midnight. SAILLY-LE-SEC, VAIRE and road in J.25.D. were consistently shelled. Gully in J.28.A. was frequently shelled by 105.m.m's. At 11.30.p.m. road from P.3.C.5.7. to P.3.C.4.8. was heavily shelled.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE. - Enemy showing greater activity in Artillery, Trench Mortar and Machine Gun fire. His Snipers were also active from banks in J.36.A., B. & C.

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6. ENEMY DEFENCES. -

(a) Work. Working party deepening enemy trenches in P.8.D. Party heard working in Wood at P.3.D.95.30.

(b) Wire. Wire at J.36.A.3.7. consists of 3 belts of concertina. Party heard wiring at P.5.A.2.4.

(c) Machine Guns. - Enemy M.G's firing from P.3.D.5.1. and P.9.C.7.5. were active during the night, considerable attention being paid to roads in P.2.C., J.31.D. and J.32.C. M.G's also located firing from about P.20.A.8.5., F.14.B.7.2., P.4.C.1.3. and K.25.C.2.3.

(d) Trench Mortars. Minonwerfer and pineapple bombs were again freely used, especially on trench at J.30.D.9.7. A light T.M. fired a few rounds from approx. J.36.A.4.2. A minonwerfer was observed firing from house in SAILLY-LAURETTE at K.31.C.2.5. A light T.M. appeared to be firing from P.3.D.5.0. and another from P.10.A.8.9. A few light minonwerfer bombs were fired from direction of HAMEL.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. - Showed little activity. An E.A. made a reconnaissance of Right Bde. forward positions at 5.15.a.m., 7.30.p.m. and 9.p.m. One E.A. attempted to cross over Left Bde. Sector but was driven off by A.A. and A.A.M.G. fire.

8. MOVEMENT. - Considerable movement was observed during the day in F.21.D., P.20.B. and in VAIRE WOOD. Also on Ridge East of HAMEL. Movement reported at P.11.C. Central, P.11.A.2.4., P.10.D.5.4., P.10.D.8.6. P.10.B.9.3., P.17.C.7.6. and small parties in P.4.C. & D., P.17. Central, P.18.C. and Q.13. Party of 30 observed on Road in Q.22.C., and another of 30 on road at Q.25.C.30.35. disappearing into LAMOTTE-EN-SANTIERRE. Considerable transport movement on roads in Q.22.A., C. & D. Q.18.C., R.19.D. and R.25.C. There was increased activity in rear areas, especially around railway and dumps in R.26., where men, transport and trucks were observed from 6.50.P.m. until light failed.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Signals. - During the night enemy's artillery opposite Left Bde. Sector fell short and two RED flares were again fired. The shelling at once ceased.

Dumps. - At 10.30.P.m. large dump in vicinity of MORCOURT was exploded.

Visibility. - Good from 4.30.a.m., a little misty on one or two occasions

B. Stewart
Lt Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

PART II.
*****INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.CAPTURED ORDER.

An order of the M3rd Div. dated 13/3/18, for the approach march prior to the attack on 21st March, shows the precautions taken by the enemy to conceal his movements and intentions.

(a) Secrecy of Order. - The heading of the order states that it is conveyed by an officer. It is further stated that only extracts from these orders are to be communicated to the troops.

(b) Concealment of Movement. - The division was to move into the assembly area during the night of "zero minus 2" to "zero minus 1" day. The infantry, 2 field batteries, and 4 horses Minenwerfer wagons were to start immediately it was dusk.

"The baggage sections of the train will remain in their localities as ordered.

"Travelling kitchens will accompany units on the approach march. The supply and forage wagons will remain with the baggage section of the train and will follow on later. The ration wagons will not be sent up to the troops on "zero minus 1" day; during the night "zero minus 2" to "zero minus 1", rations for "zero minus 1" and zero days will therefore have to be carried on the travelling kitchens or any other transport. Travelling kitchens will not be sent back".

(c) Concealment in the assembly area. -

All units of the division must be completely established in their areas by daybreak on "zero minus 2" or, as the case may be, "zero minus 1" day, and must be so disposed as to be completely protected from balloon and aeroplane observation. The strictest discipline must be maintained in the bivouac grounds. Every officer and man must remain under cover. The position must on no account be disclosed to the enemy, otherwise heavy casualties may be expected. Each individual man must realise this.

"The necessary reconnaissance of the bivouac grounds and the placing in readiness of material for concealment against air observation will be carried out forthwith. A bivouac commander will be appointed for each bivouac ground, and will be responsible for maintaining order and for seeing that protection from air observation is complete... No camp fires will be allowed.

"The grazing of horses by day is strictly prohibited.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 205.

From 6 a.m. 15th to 6 a.m. 16th June, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

1. OBR OPERATIONS.

(a) Infantry. At 11.30 p.m. successful raids were carried out on Right Brigade Sector against enemy trenches in P.8.D, and against enemy positions in P.14.D and P.20.B, as the result of which 16 prisoners and 4 machine guns were captured. It is estimated that at least 70 of the enemy were killed and many others are known to have been wounded. Dugouts and trenches were destroyed, after which our raiding parties returned to our lines. Our casualties were very light.

(b) Artillery. During the morning working parties in P.10.D, P.11.A, and P.16.A. were dispersed and movement at P.10.B.25.25 engaged, casualties being inflicted. During the afternoon working parties in P.10.Central and P.10.D were scattered with casualties. New work at P.14.B.6.0 was bombarded. Wire cutting was carried out. A party of 30 going back along road in rear of HAMEL, and a strong party approaching HAMEL were heavily engaged, inflicting casualties. Concealed ground on the divisional front was searched by intermittent bursts of fire throughout the day. At 10.15 p.m. roads in K.31.C and D., in P.10.D, and trench and road junction at P.15.C.3.8 were swept for three minutes. Between 11.30 p.m. and 12.15 a.m. a barrage and bombardment of strong points was put down in P.8.D and terraces in front of VAIRE WOOD in support of Infantry raids. Left Group assisted by ab 15 minutes bombardment of the valley in J.36. At intervals between 12.45 and 2.15 a.m. crashes were fired on the raided area. One minute bursts were fired on T.M's in P.14.B, P.9.B and D, P.5.D and J.36.C. At 3.25 a.m. a barrage lifted forward from S.O.S. plus 50 yards to S.O.S. plus 450 yards and in from S.O.S. plus 550 yards to S.O.S. plus 350 yards by 100 yards lifts per minute.

(c) Trench Mortars. Heavy, Medium and 3" Stokes Mortars took part in the operation on Right Brigade Sector during the night. Our 3" Stokes Mortars also fired on enemy trenches in P.4.C and P.3.D, J.35.D, J.36.B, and on enemy posts at P.4.B.4.3, P.5.A.1.3 and J.36.A.25.35, expending 142 rounds. 6" Newtons fired on enemy posts in J.35.D.

(d) Machine Guns. Direct and indirect fire was laid on various targets in support of infantry operations. Direct fire targets were - P.14.B and P.8.D. Indirect fire targets were :- M.G's at P.14.B.7.3, trench at P.11.C.2.4, Cross Roads at P.10.C.0.6, Copse in P.9.C, trench in P.9.A and G, and roads and tracks in P.10.B. Ammunition expended 73,000 rounds.

(e) Patrols. Our reconnaissance patrols operated on the divisional front during the night. Very little enemy movement seen or heard. A working party was heard at J.36.A.5.2. Protective and liaison patrols went out hourly throughout the night, and touch was maintained with Flank Divisions.

(f) Aircraft. Our planes were very active especially during the afternoon when large flights crossed the enemy lines and reconnoitred the rear areas. During the night our bombing planes were active.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS.	332nd R.I.R.	7th Coy.	2 Prisoners.
		8th Coy.	1 Prisoner.
	419th I.R.	4th Coy.	4 Prisoners.
	257th R.I.R.	6th Coy.	4 "
	11th FOOT ARTY. REGIMENT		2 "

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(a).

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In addition 5 wounded prisoners passed through our Dressing Station.

3. ENEMY'S ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS.

(a) Reliefs. First Battalion 419th R.I.R. relieved the Third Battalion in the front line, night 15/16th inst. Second Battalion 257th R.I.R. relieved Third Battalion in the front line night 14/15th inst. arriving in front line about midnight. Normal cycle of relief in both Regiments is six days. Nothing is known of intended Divisional Reliefs. Each of the three Regiments has one Battalion forward, one in Reserve and one Resting. (P.S.)

Order of Battle. N. to S. 332 R.I.R. 419 I.R. 257 R.I.R.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Less active during the period. Scattered shelling during the day, chiefly in back areas. Feeble reply to our operations during the night. SAILLY-LE-SEC, VAIRE, Gully in J.30.A, J.28.A.8.9, J.27.A and C, J.22.C and J.27.B received attention during the period.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

Quiet. Little activity during the night, and reply to our operations very weak. His working parties were busy during the day, despite repeated casualties being inflicted upon them by our Artillery.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

- (a) Work. Working parties were observed during the day in P.18.A, P.11.A, P.10.Central and P.10.D (on several occasions). At night a working party was heard at J.36.A.4.2.
- (b) Machine Guns. Quieter than usual. M.G's located at P.9.C.5.8, P.4.B.3.4, J.35.D.3.2 and J.36.A.4.2.
- (c) Trench Mortars. A few T.M. shells were fired from P.9.B.9.2, P.9.B.75.55 and from direction of J.36.D.Central.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

At 12.30 p.m. one E.A., at 6.30 p.m. 5 E.A., and at 7.30 p.m. 3 E.A. crossed our lines, all flying high. At 7.15 p.m. 2 E.A. flew very low over left Battalion front of Left Brigade. They were driven off by L.G. and Rifle fire.

8. MOVEMENT.

At 8.25 p.m. parties of Infantry observed moving South from ACCROCHE WOOD to WARFUSEE. Several large parties of Infantry observed moving from P.22.Central and P.21.A. Between 4.30 and 5.30 a.m. continuous movement of enemy in pairs observed along road ridge East of HAMEL. Two parties of 10 each moving South to North along Ridge. Five men left P.10.D.5.4 proceeding to HAMEL. Considerable individual movement in P.10.B and D, P.11.A, P.16.C, P.17.A, and P.18.A. Movement of Transport above normal, especially in rear areas. Horse Transport observed moving from TAILLOUX WOOD to WARFUSEE. Horse Transport moving North on road in P.28.A. At 7.30 p.m. 40 Horse Transport Wagons seen on main road in R.25.C and D. They disappeared along road in direction of HARBONNIERES. At 7.45 p.m., 8 p.m., 8.20 p.m. and 8.40 p.m. groups of about 12 wagons were observed travelling in the same direction. Hostile troops in large numbers detrained at R.25.C between 7.50 and 8.30 p.m. and moved along road towards LAMOTTE. Trains seen in Q.36 at 7.40 p.m.. Train of 12 trucks disappeared in rear of PROYART at 4.45 p.m. and one of 19 trucks

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at 11.40 p.m. At 10.30 a.m. 8 horses were observed drawing what appeared to be a heavy gun on road at R.19.B.10.65.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Our raids last night were unexpected and the enemy was taken entirely by surprise. (P.S.)

Strength of Coys in 419 I.R. averages 70 to 80; in 257 and 332 R.I.R. Coys. are about 50 to 60 strong (P.S.).

Resting Battalion of 419 I.R. was stated by one prisoner to be at CAPPY, another said it was in MERICOURT. The Resting Bn. of 257th R.I.R. was stated to be in MERICOURT.

Prisoners have no knowledge of hostile offensive intentions.

Signals. At 11.45 p.m. a flare bursting into two greens was fired along front that was raided. The Artillery response was very feeble.

At midnight enemy dropped 9 shells into his own posts at approx. J.36.A.5.4. Two red flares were fired and shooting immediately ceased.

VISIBILITY. Fair to good from 4 a.m. to 9 p.m.

R. Stewart
for Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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SECRET

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
DISTRIBUTION OF UNITS.

UNIT.	Ref. Sheet 1/40,000	Location.	Remarks.
DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS.	62D	H.34.B.9.1.	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.
4th Aust Div. Artillery H.Q.	Abbev. 14.	EPAGNE) COCQUEREL.) EPAGNE.) EUCOURT) EAUCOURT)	CHATEAU. R.A. REST AREA.
10th A.F.A. Bde.			
11th A.F.A. Bde.			
4th Aust.D.A.C.			
4th Aust.D.T.M.O.			
5th Aust. Div. Artillery H.Q.	62D.	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
13th A.F.A. Bde.		Hospice, FOUILLOY.	
14th A.F.A. Bde.		I.23.D.6.2.	
159th Army Bde. R.F.A. H.Q.		I.30.A.8.3.	
298th Army Bde. R.F.A. "		I.21.B.5.8.	
16th Army Bde. R.H.A. "		H.34.C.0.0.	
77th Army Bde. R.F.A. "		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
5th Aust.D.T.M.O.		I.34.C.40.85.	LA NEUVILLE.
5th Aust.D.A.C.		H.22.B.2.7.	
5th A.R.P.		H.26.A.5.9.	
4th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.	Adv.	O.5.C.85.80.	
	Rear.	H.11.A.4.0.	
13th Battalion.		O.12.D.10.95.	
14th Battalion.		O.24.A.3.8.	
15th Battalion.		O.6.B.7.6.	
16th Battalion.		O.12.B.9.4.	
4th A.L.T.M. Bty.		FOUILLOY.	(Billet No.35.)
12th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.		J.19.C.3.6.	
45th Battalion.		J.25.D.25.50.	
46th Battalion.		J.24.A.7.7.	
48th Battalion.		J.28.A.70.99.	
12th A.L.T.M. Bty.		J.26.D.15.30.	
13th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.		N.14.B.9.9.	
49th Battalion.		O.1.A. Central.	
50th Battalion.		O.7.C.5.1.	
51st Battalion.		O.7.C.5.3.	
13th A.L.T.M. Bty.		H.17.C.6.3.	
4th Aust. Div. Engineer H.Q.		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
4th Aust. Field Coy.		O.3.A. Central.	
12th " " "		O.3.A. Central.	
13th " " "		O.1.A. Central.	
4th Aust. Div. Signal Coy.		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
4th Aust. M.G. Bn.		H.35.C.3.3.	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.
4th Aust. M.G. Coy.		O.18.A.3.2.	
12th Aust. M.G. Coy.		O.8.B.7.5.	
13th Aust. M.G. Coy.		J.29.C.9.3.	
24th Aust. M.G. Coy.		O.6.B.6.5.	
4th Aust. Pioneer Bn.		I.30.C.6.8.	

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A. D. M. S.	62D.	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
4th Aust. Field Ambulance.		LES ALAISONS.	
12th " " "		H. 19. B. 0. 6.	
13th " " "		N. 4. C. 9. 2.	
4th Aust. Div. Train H. Q.		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
7th Coy. A. A. S. C.		H. 14. D. 6. 2.	
14th Coy. A. A. S. C.	ABBEV. 14.	PONT REMY.	
26th Coy. A. A. S. C.	62D.	RIVERY.	
27th Coy. A. A. S. C.		PONT NOYELLES.	
S. S. O.		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
RAILHEAD		AILLY-sur-SOMME.	
4th Aust. Div. M. T. Coy.		SAINT SAUVEUR.	
4th Aust. Div. Salvage Coy.		H. 15. A. 2. 2.	
4th Aust. Div. Sanitary Sec.		CAGNY.	
5th Aust. Div. Sanitary Sec.		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
4th Aust. Mob. Vet. Section.		G. 33. B. 7. 1.	
4th Aust. Div. Reinforcement Staging DEPOT.		H. 27. C. Central.	
13th A. L. H. Regt. (1 troop)		H. 34. B. 8. 3.	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.
Aust. Cyclist Bn. (1 platoon)		H. 34. B. 7. 5.	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.
D. A. D. O. S.		H. 19. D. 0. 0.	
A. P. M.		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
D. A. D. V. S.		"	
Div. Paymaster.		"	
Div. Claims Off.		"	
O. C., S. A. A. Section.		M. 2. D. 7. 9.	
Div. Baths Off.		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
P. O. W., Collecting Station.		N. 6. C. 9. 4.	DAOURS.

L. Boyaj. Kapet
Major-General,
Commanding 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

As at 8. a. m., 17/6/18.

4th Aust. Div. H. Q.
4th Aust. Div. M. T. Coy.
4th Aust. Div. Salvage Coy.
4th Aust. Div. Sanitary Sec.
5th Aust. Div. Sanitary Sec.
4th Aust. Mob. Vet. Section.
4th Aust. Div. Reinforcement
Staging DEPOT.

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FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 286.

From 6 a.m. 16th to 6 a.m. 17th June, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. - During the day working parties at P.14.B.55.30. (on two occasions) and at P.14.B.8.4. were dispersed. An enemy party at P.14.B.05.30., a small body marching in P.18.A., movement in trench in P.16.B. and in valley in P.16.D. were engaged. Bursts of fire were put down at night on concealed ground behind HAMEL, on roads and approaches, and dead ground on the whole of the divisional front. At 12.15.a.m. a barrage was placed on trench system in P.4.B., concluding with a three minute concentration bombardment on the system in P.4.B. & P.10.B., including gas. Heavy Artillery co-operated on trenches in P.10.B. and P.11.A., and Right Group bombarded the trench system West of VAIRE WOOD. At 1.25.a.m. a six minute concentration was fired on VAIRE WOOD in P.14.D., HAMEL, and the valley in K.31., including gas. Gas was used in a four minutes bombardment at 2.35.a.m. on HAMEL WOOD, P.15.C. and SAILLY LAURETTE. At 3.15.a.m. a barrage crept back from S.O.S. plus 600 yds. to S.O.S. plus 100 yards.

(b) Trench mortars. - Nil.

(c) Machine Guns. - A small party was dispersed by M.G. fire in P.10.B. at dusk. The following targets were engaged by indirect fire during the night :- Centre of movement in P.10.B. and P.9., Front Line at P.20.B.22.40., road in P.20.A. & B, and M.Gs at P.14.B.7.3. Ammunition expended 6,725 rounds.

(d) Patrols. - Reconnaissance, protective and liaison patrols operate on the divisional front throughout the night and touch was maintained with flank Divisions. Quarry at P.20.A. Central found unoccupied. Movement heard in VAIRE WOOD and a wiring party heard between P.20.A. Gen. and VAIRE WOOD. Traffic heard East of HAMEL.

(e) Aircraft. - Our planes were very active during the day, large formations crossing and re-crossing enemy lines. Bombs were dropped in vicinity of HAMEL, HAMEL WOOD and ACCROCHE WOOD. Our bombing planes were active during the night.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. - More active than usual. Our Front and Support lines were shelled with 105.m.m's. and 150.m.m's at intervals. Considerable attention was paid to SAILLY-LAURETTE, VAIRE-SOUS-CORBIE, HAMELET, FOUILLOY, CORBIE and areas P.8.A. & C. and P.7.B. & D.

4. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE. - More active during the period, especially in the air. His M.Gs were also more active. There was a noticeable increase in the use of Flares opposite the Right Mde. Sector.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work. - Working parties were observed during the day at P.14.E.8.4. and P.14.B.55.30.

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- (b) Wire.- A wiring party was heard between P.20.A.Cent. and VAIRE WD.
- (c) Machine Guns.- Increased activity. Frequent bursts of fire distributed along our Front Line, and roads in P.2.C. and J.32.C. Also along SAILLY-LAURETTE - SAILLY-LE-SEC road and on path along Canal. M.Gs located firing from approx. P.8.D.8.0., P.3.D.9.4., P.4.D. Central and from direction of wood in K.26.D.
- (d) Trench Mortars.- 20 rounds were fired on Left Battalion front of Right Bde. from positions at P.9.D.5.7. and P.9.B.8.4. 30 rounds fell in Orchard at J.35.C.8.8. and a few shells in vicinity of M.G. position at J.30.C.35.80.
7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.- More active during past 24 hours than it has been for some time. One E.A. crashed east of ACCROCHE WOOD and bombs were dropped in our back areas one brought down in flames during the night.
8. MOVEMENT.- Movement on ridge east of HAMEL was again fairly continuous during the day. Frequent movement observed at P.10.D.3.3. and P.10.D.6.7. Small parties observed during the day at K.31.C.8.3., K.31.A.4.7., and J.36.C.5.9. Considerable individual movement on road in Q.15.A. & C. Movement on road from PROYART to main road R.25.C. and D., increasing from 4.p.m. to 9.p.m. Two parties of 60 and several smaller parties using same route, disappearing at R.25.C.05.40. Train movement in R.25.D. and R.26.A.
9. MISCELLANEOUS.
- Dump.- Some timber has been dumped and roughly camouflaged at P.5.C.3.1.
- Fires.- Two big fires started in enemy back areas by Heavy Artillery on T.B.106° and 112° from P.19.A.45.75.

P. Stewart Lt.
 Lt. Colonel,
 G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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Appendix

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War Diary

For Official Use Only.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 287.

From 6.30 a.m. to 17th June, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Working parties and movement were engaged in the following areas during the day :- P.28.B.5.5. (casualties inflicted) P.17.D. P.17.A.4.8., P.17. (G.S. Wagons) P.15.B. & D., P.10.D., P.10.B.8.6. and P.4.D.5.1. Trenches in P.21A. & B. were bombed with good results. Active Minenwerfer at J.35.D.5.3. and J.36.C.3.2. were engaged and silenced. At 10.15 p.m. a three minute burst swept roads and approaches on the divisional front. During the night bursts of fire were directed against the following targets :- VAIRE WOOD, HAMEL WOOD, C.T. in P.15.C., minenwerfer positions at P.14.B.60.25., P.9.B.2.5., J.36.C.9.5., H.Q. at P.15.C.9.6. and P.11.A.3.2. and dugout area near the quarry in K.31.C. A creeping barrage searched out from S.O.S. plus 50 yards to S.O.S. plus 450 yards in five minutes. At 2.10 a.m. and 3.15 a.m. possible points of assembly were swept for 3 minutes.

(b) Trench mortars. Our 3" Stokes mortars fired 25 rounds on trench system in P.8.D. and 38 rounds on working party at P.4.B.8.4., quarry at J.36.B.20.55. and bank at J.36.A.8.4. Medium T.Ms engaged targets at P.14.B.35.85., P.8.D.7.7., P.9.A.7.2., P.9.A.78.60. and 120 rounds were expended on M.W. positions at J.36.C.50.55. and J.36.C.60.75., Cemetery at J.36.C.85.40., and enemy trenches at P.4.D.6.9., J.35.D.7.6. and J.35.D.30.35. 9.45" mortars were active against targets in P.14.B.

(c) Machine guns. 500 rounds were expended by A.A.M.G. fire. Indirect fire was maintained on the following targets during the night :- Centre of movement in P.10.B., P.9.A.9.1., P.4.D.5.1., M.Gs at P.14.B.7.3. and P.3.D.5.1., Cross roads at P.10.C.0.6, C.T. in VAIRE WOOD at P.15.B. and D., H.Q. at P.15.C.88.60 and Dump at P.9.C.50.45. Ammunition expended 21,000 rounds.

(d) Patrols. Reconnaissance, protective and liaison patrols operated on the divisional front throughout the night and touch was maintained with flank divisions. Quarry at P.20.A. Central again found unoccupied but a M.G. opened fire from its vicinity. Wiring party heard in vicinity of VAIRE WOOD at about P.14.D.8.4, and working party heard at P.4.B.6.3. A telephone wire bearing towards Pear Shaped Trench in P.8.D. was found by Patrol, and brought in to our lines. M.G's. opened fire along direction of wire whilst it was being pulled in.

(e) Aircraft. Our planes were again very active during the day and bombing planes were heard crossing the enemy's lines during the night.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Again fairly active but shelling well scattered and little damage done. H.V. Guns active against rear areas. 15 - 15 cm. H.E. and 66 - 15 cm. "Yellow Cross" shells fell in BUSSY-LES-DAOURS during the morning.

5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

Appears nervous. Enemy fired many more flares during the night than he has done for some time, On hearing a member of our patrol coughing he bombed his own wire.

P. P.M.O.

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6. ENEMY'S DEFICIENCIES.

(a) Work. Working party observed during the day at P.10.D.8.6. At 9.p.m. 5 wagons loaded with what appeared to be R.E. material drove down road in ARQUARE WOOD at P.16.D.2.7., returning 15 minutes later. At night working parties were heard in VAIRE WOOD and P.4.B.8.3. Party digging at P.10.B.1.3.

(b) Wire. Wiring party heard at about P.14.D.8.4. 2 strands of new wire on single screw pickets found near road at approx. P.3.D.85.60.

(c) Machine Guns. M.Gs located at approx. P.3.C.8.1., P.4.D.2.3., Chalk patch between P.20.A.Cent. and VAIRE WOOD, and vicinity of quarry in P.20.A.Cent. Indirect fire was used at intervals during the night on our forward positions and communications.

(d) Trench Mortars. A T.M. was observed firing from HAMEL. On Left Bde. Sector enemy T.Ms were active, causing casualties in orchard at J.35.C.8.8., Mortars suspected in Cemetery in J.35.C. and at K.31.A.50.75.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. At intervals during the day small reconnaissance formations attempted to cross our lines but were driven off by A.A. and A.A.M.G. fire. One E.A. brought down in flames.

8. MOVEMENT. Individual movement during the day again noticed on ridge east of HAMEL. Movement observed during the day in P.17.A., P.15.D. P.10.B. & D and P.4.D. Several parties observed around trenches in P.15.B. and P.16.A. Small parties observed along road in K.31.C. going in direction of SAILLY-LAURETTE. G.S. wagons observed in Sunken road East of HAMEL. Transport using roads leading from WARFUSSE to HAMEL all day. Usual movement of transport and men on road in R.19.A. & B., roads from PROYART through areas R.19.D., R.25.A. and R.26.A. frequently used by transports and men. About 40 4 horse wagons travelling east on road through R.25.D. at 5.30.p.m. Trains moving about in R.25.D. and R.26. at 8.30.a.m., 9.a.m., 2.p.m. and 7.40.p.m.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Visibility.- Moderate. Slight haze, lasted all day.

B. Stewart
Lieut-Colonel,
G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

PART II.

(A.O.S.P.) information from other sources.

RAILWAYS.

Rail movement was continuous all day on the NESLE - CHAULNES - ROSIERES line; movement of at least 10 trains was traced through these stations moving west, and considerably more past west between CHAULNES and ROSIERES.

There was also marked activity at PLATEAU Station (near MARICOURT) in an easterly and north easterly direction. A number of trains passed in both directions between ROSIERES and BRAY; the light railway south of the SOMME showed some activity, and there was movement, more pronounced than usual though not abnormal, between PERONNE and CHAULNES and between CHAULNES and ROYE, the trend being southerly.

SUMMARY.

From the above it seems probable that the movement north of the SOMME is still connected with the relief of the 54th Division by the 233rd Divn., and also the probable relief of 24th Res. Divn.

The movement on the CHAULNES ROSIERES line is probably connected with the relief a division, but confirmation has not yet been received.

BOMBING RAIDS.

The following bombs were dropped by us :-

i. By day.

FAUCAUCOURT	...	26	113-lb.
aerodrome.		66	25-lb.
Various targets	...	27	25-lb.

ii. By Night.

CARNOY Station	...	72	25-lb.
FRICOURT.	...	100	25-lb.
S. & E. of FRICOURT	...	82	25-lb.
BRAY	...	76	25-lb.
MAMETZ	...	14	25-lb.

At 11.20 p.m. an enemy plane dropped 7 bombs in the SOMME Valley and vicinity of GLISY.

BILLETS and ACTIVITY. Prisoners state that the rest billets of the 257th R.I.R. are at MERICOURT, and those of the 419th R.I.R. are at CAPPY. The valley south of MORCOURT, (62D. Q.29.) is occupied by troops. (P.S.) This is confirmed by photographs.

A bearer Company is stated to be billeted in a house on the east of the valley (62D. Q.35.) The old park in this vicinity has been emptied owing to our bombing. The old English dump and huts south of MORCOURT (62D. Q.33., 34 - "ROMERLAGER") are stated to have been taken away in lorries. This confirms a previous statement. The photographs at present available do not show much activity at the dump. The huts were apparently frequently used up to June 2nd.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

The enemy has improved his front line between VILLE and MORLANCOURT in K.2.A.C. and dug a new portion of communication trench in K.2.E. (Air photographs A3 AE A 670, 669). West of MORLANCOURT (K.2.A.C.) there are still only disconnected lengths of trench and groups of rifle pits. (Air photo. A3 AE A 671). Further south the enemy has traced a new front line in K.14.A.C. astride the old communication trench. (Air photo. A3 AE A 674).

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According to prisoners there are 2 companies in front line (P.20.A) S. of VAIRE Wood with 2 companies and Bn. H.Q. in (P.20.d.) The support Bn. has two companies in dugouts along road in P.21.a.c. and 2 companies in shell-holes and dugouts at P.21.d. These statements agree with evidence from Air photos. (AS AE A 648, 653, 663, 607). The Reserve Bn. is in rest in German-built huts N. of MERICOURT Q.9.A.1.3. cp. Air photo. 82 AE A 1082.

Regimental H.Q. is at LAMOTTE.

There is a resting Battalion on the slopes of the valley (Q.9.b.d.) between MORGOURT and CERISY. (P.S. and cp. air photo. AS A 1122)

Artillery. A gunner prisoner states that the three heavy batteries of the 11th Foot Art. Bn., the only heavy artillery of the 77th Res. Div., are in the LAMOTTE valley. The Bn. staff is in dugouts on the hill beside the MORGOURT - HAMEL road Q.15.B.9.9. (Air photo. 82 AE A 1092).

The heavy ammunition columns and the waggon lines are near FROISSY in a wood beside the SOMME, probably in L.34. (Air photo. 205 V.797). The main ammunition dumps are also here. The forward dumps are on either side of road at S. exit of MERICOURT in holes in the ground. (205.V.778). Div. Arty. H.Q. is at CAPPY.

Headquarters. The H.Q. of 77th Res. Div. has now moved from PROYART probably to CAPPY. (P.S.) PROYART is empty except for some field kitchens in cellars but the areas round CAPPY, CHAULNES, FROISSY and MERICOURT are occupied by troops. (P.S.) There is a Regimental H.Q. at MORGOURT. (P.S.)

86th F.A.R.

This regiment is stated to be in line in HAMEL Sector. This requires confirmation as the 86th F.A.R. is the divisional artillery of the 86th Div. which was last identified at BLIGNY (AISNE battle front) on 7th June.

STRENGTH and DRAFTS. (3rd Bn., 11th Foot Arty. Regt.)

The 3rd Bn. Staff consists of a Captain (Commander), an Adjutant, and an Orderly Officer, with 40 to 50 O.R. The Bn. consists of about 700 men all ranks, averaging 90 to 120 in the batteries.

A draft of 40 men belonging mostly to the 1917 & 1918 classes came to the Bn. at the beginning of June. (P.S.).

TRENCH MORTARS.

Trench mortars are being brought up and put into position in the Sector of the 332nd I.R. to retaliate for the losses caused by our trench mortar fire in that sector. (P.S.)

ORGANIZATION. The 3rd Bn. was formed in Jany. 1917, at MARIENBURG, West PRUSSIA, from men of the 17th Foot Art. Regt. The depot of the 11th Foot Art. Regt. is at THORN, and has 2 Ersatz Bns. there.

The 3rd Bn. consists of 2 batteries of 15 cm. hows. (10th and 11th Batteries) and one of 10 cm. guns (8th Batty.) The Bn. is allotted to the 77th Res. Div., and is the only heavy artillery in the division. It is called "GRUPPE RUBEN", or "FERNKAMPFGRUPPE 77" (P.S.).

ENEMY LOSSES FROM BOMBING RAIDS AND SHELL FIRE.

While the roll was being called at midday two days ago at a battalion parade of the 104th I.R. in Q.9.b. and d., a direct hit disposed of all four C.S.M.'s and the Adjutant. Our bombs and shell fire are said to be most effective and cause casualties daily. There were some casualties from our bombing in the MORGOURT area on the night of the 15/16th inst.

Since the ARRAS offensive, 3 Bn. 11th F.A.R. has lost 260 horses from bombing and shell fire. The 11th Battery has only 2 riding horses and 2 draught horses left, and no remounts are available. No effort is made to protect the horses from bombs.

(3)

Our gas shoot in the LAMOTTE Valley on the 14th inst. caused many casualties in the Regt., estimated at 10 or 12 per battery. More casualties are caused by short irregular bursts than by prolonged bombardment.

On the night 15/18th our airmen caused casualties by machine gunning the front line trenches of the 419th I.R.

Further notes on photographs taken 16/6/18.

A.3. AEB. 21. C.T. in P.17.b. has been extended from P.17.B.15.13. to P.17.A.45.15.

A.3. AEA. 608. Short length of trench from K.26.B.00.85. to K.26.B.00.70.

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Appendix

SECRET.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

DISTRIBUTION OF UNITS..

UNIT.	Ref. sheet 1/40,000	Location.	Remarks.
<u>DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS.</u>	62D.	H.34.B.9.1.	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.
<u>4th Aust. Div. Artillery H.Q.</u>	Abbev. 14.	EPAGNE.	} CHATEAU. R. A. REST AREA.
10th A.F.A. Bde.		COCQUEREL	
11th " "		EPAGNE.	
4th Aust. D.A.C.		EAUCOURT	
4th Aust. D.T.M.O.		EAUCOURT	
<u>5th Aust. Div. Artillery H.Q.</u>	62D.	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
13th A.F.A. Bde.		Hospice, FOUILLOY.	
14th A.F.A. Bde.		I.23.D.6.2.	
159th Army Bde. R.F.A. H.Q.		I.30.A.8.3.	
298th " " R.F.A. "		I.21.B.5.8.	
16th " " R.H.A. "		H.34.C.0.0.	
77th " " R.F.A. "		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
5th Aust. D.T.M.O.		I.34.C.40.85.	LA NEUVILLE.
5th Aust. D.A.C.		H.22.B.2.7.	
5th A.R.P.		H.26.A.5.9.	
<u>4th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.</u>	Adv.	O.5.C.65.80.	
	Rear.	N.11.A.4.0.	
13th Battalion.		O.24.A.3.8.	
14th Battalion.		O.12.D.10.05.	
15th Battalion.		O.6.B.7.6.	
16th Battalion.		O.12.B.9.4.	
4th A.L.T.M. Bty.		FOUILLOY	(Billet No.35.).
<u>12th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.</u>	Adv.	J.19.C.3.6.	
	Rear.	I.32.B.2.8.	
45th Battalion.		J.25.D.25.50.	
46th Battalion.		J.28.A.7.7.	
48th Battalion.		J.28.A.70.99.	
12th A.L.T.M. Bty.		J.26.D.15.30.	
<u>13th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q.</u>		I.32.B.2.8.	
49th Battalion.		O.1.A. Central.	
50th Battalion.		O.7.C.4.1.	
51st Battalion.		O.7.C.5.3.	
13th A.L.T.M. Bty.		N.17.C.6.3.	
<u>4th Aust. Div. Engineer H.Q.</u>		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
4th Aust. Field Coy.		O.3.A. Central.	
12th " " "		O.3.A. Central.	
13th " " "		J.19.C.5.5.	
<u>4th Aust. Div. Signal Coy.</u>		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
<u>4th Aust. M.G. Bn.</u>		H.35.C.3.3.	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.
4th Aust. M.G. Coy.		O.18.A.3.2.	
12th " " "		J.22.C.9.3.	
13th " " "		O.2.B.00.40.	
24th " " "		O.6.B.6.5.	
<u>4th Aust. Pioneer Bn.</u>		I.30.C.6.8.	

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A. D. M. S.			
4th Aust. Field Ambulance.	62D.	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
12th " " "		LES ALIENCONS.	
13th " " "		H. 19. B. 0. 6.	
		N. 4. C. 9. 2.	
4th Aust. Div. Train H. Q.		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
7th Coy. A. A. S. C.		H. 14. D. 6. 2.	
14th Coy. A. A. S. C.	Abbev. 14.	PONT REMY.	
26th Coy. A. A. S. C.	62D	RIVERY	
27th Coy. A. A. S. C.		PONT NOYELLES.	
S. S. O.		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
RAILHEAD		AILLY-sur-SOMME.	
4th Aust. Div. M. T. Coy.		SAINT SAUVEUR.	
4th Aust. Div. Salvage Coy.		H. 15. A. 2. 2.	
4th Aust. Div. Sanitary Section.		CAGNY.	
5th Aust. Div. Sanitary Section.		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
4th Aust. Mob. Vet. Section.		G. 33. B. 7. 1.	
4th Aust. Div. Reinforcement } Staging DEPOT.		H. 27. C. Central.	
13th A. L. H. Regt. (1 troop)		H. 34. B. 8. 3.	BUSSY-LES-DAOURS
Aust. Cyclist Bn. (1 platoon)		H. 34. B. 7. 5.	" "
D. A. D. O. S.		H. 19. D. 0. 0.	
A. P. M.		BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.	
D. A. D. V. S.		"	
Div. Paymaster		"	
Div. Claims Off.		"	
Div. Baths Off.		"	
O. C., S. A. A. Section.		M. 2. D. 7. 9.	
P. O. W. Collecting Station.		N. 6. C. 9. 4.	DAOURS.

R. Stewart
Major-General,
Commanding 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION...

As at Noon 19/6/18.

For Official Use Only.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 288.

From 6 a.m. 18th to 6 a.m. 19th June, 1918.

NOT to be taken into the Front Line.

1. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the day the following targets were engaged :- Hostile Battery positions at P.23.A.06.93 and in P.22.B, working party on trench P.14.D.25.40, party of 5 in P.14.D, and movement in trench P.10.C.1.7. During the night bursts of fire were directed on roads and approaches, work at P.20.B.10.95, T.M. positions in P.9.B, and K.31.A., H.Q. at P.6.D.9.6, valleys in P.8.C and K.31.A. C.T. in P.15.D, trench systems in P.9.A and C, P.10.B, HAMEL WOOD, HAMEL-CERISY road in P.4.D, and CERISY. At 3 a.m. a creeping barrage searched out from S.O.S. plus 100 yards to S.O.S. plus 600 yards. At 3.30 a.m. one crash on S.O.S. plus 600 yards and Heavier one crash on HAMEL.

(b) Trench Mortars. 3" Stokes Mortars fired 40 rounds at P.3.D.8.5, M.G. at K.31.A.30.95 and at J.36.B.20.55. Our 6" Newtons fired on the following targets :- P.8.D.47.50, P.8.D.25.40 and P.9.A.89.92 and 100 rounds expended on J.36.A.45.80, J.36.A.5.0, J.36.C.5.6 and J.36.C.6.8.

(c) Machine Guns. 750 rounds were fired at low flying E.A. During the night 1000 rounds were expended on indirect fire on the following points :- Road in P.21.C and D, H.Q. at P.14.C.9.6, C.T. in P.14.B and D, P.14.B.7.3, P.9.A.80.05, P.10.B and C, P.3.D.5.1 and roads and tracks in the vicinity of SAILLY-LAURETTE.

(d) Snipers. Our snipers fired on periscope observed at P.20.A.9.7. After each shot enemy waved a white flag. Snipers continued firing till both White Flag and Periscope disappeared.

(e) Patrols. 18 Reconnaissance Patrols operated on the divisional front during the night. A wiring party was heard in vicinity of P.8.D.7.9, and on flare going up one was seen at approx. P.10.B.4.8. A party was heard digging at approx. P.4.B.8.2 and was engaged by our T.M.'s. Trench at J.35.B.95.50 unoccupied. Trench running from J.36.A.3.8 to J.35.D.95.90 was unoccupied north of J.36.A.2.3 but from this point to roads at J.35.D.90.75 is occupied by M.G., and flares were fired from this trench. Trench shown on map at J.35.D.5.9 could not be found at this location. In addition, liaison and protective patrols went out hourly during the hours of darkness, and touch was maintained with Divisional on flanks.

(f) Aircraft. Very active. Patrolling and reconnaissance flights were carried out during the day, and bombs were dropped on HAMEL, HAMEL WOOD, VAIRE WOOD, and ACCROCHE WOOD. During the night our bombing planes were active.

(g) Prisoners. An enemy artilleryman who had lost his way was made prisoner by the garrison of one of our forward Machine Gun posts.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 1st Battery, 68th Field Artillery Regt. (attached 24th Res. Div.). (1 prisoner).

3. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS.

The 24th Res. Div. has not yet been relieved. Prisoner has no knowledge of intended relief of this Div.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Remained active but well scattered. H.V. Guns still active on back areas. 77 mm. guns shelled J.15.D. lightly with Gas, and a few gas shells and H.E's. from 15 cm. H.V. Gun fell in BUSSY-LES-DAOURS during the night.

P.T.O.

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5. ENEMY'S ATTITUDE.

Quiet, but alert during the night.

6. ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

- (a) Work. Working party of 20 at K.31.C.6.5, appeared to be driving a shaft into a bank. They were dispersed. Digging was observed in J.36.C.
- (b) Wire. Wiring parties in vicinity of P.8.D.7.9, and at approx. P.10.B.4.8.
- (c) Machine Guns. Enemy A.A.M.Gs. were very active during the day. The usual indirect fire was carried out during the night on our forward positions and lines of communication. M.G's. located at P.14.B.7.3, P.9.C.6.5, P.5.B.80.95, P.4.D.5.9, P.3.D.48.15, P.3.C.8.1, J.35.D.8.7, and J.36.B.3.8.
- (d) Trench mortars. Nine rounds fired by M.W. fell at P.4.A.4.3, the same mortar firing a few rounds into BOUZENCOURT. A T.M. observed to be firing from SAILLY-LAURETTE.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

E.A. were more active during the period. Our front line was patrolled at 9.30 a.m. and 2.10 p.m. Small formations crossed our lines at intervals between 1 and 8 p.m. and dropped bombs on our back areas. One of our balloons was set on fire at 2.30 p.m..

8. MOVEMENT.

Considerable movement again observed along ridge East of HAMEL. Also considerable movement around P.16.C.8.9 and on roads in K.31.C, mostly small fatigue parties. Movement at frequent intervals observed at P.11.C.15.90, in P.23.B, and along sunken road east of HAMEL. At 9 p.m. three motor lorries and 10 parties each of about 20 men in file were observed on road from CRUCIFIX at P.28.B.55.35 to VAIRE WOOD. 4 parties of about 15 men on same road at 9.20 p.m. They were engaged by Artillery with good results, and infantry scattered in all directions. Individual movement during the day between P.28.B.55.35 and P.21.C, near trench at P.15.D.8.3 and in areas Q.20.D. and Q.22.Central. Limbers and wagons on road running from HAMEL through P.16.Central were fired on by our heavies. 20 horses and 7 transport wagons on road from Q.25.B. to Q.25.D. Transport also observed on road between ACCROCHE WOOD and WARFUSEE, two G.S. wagons between P.28.B.55.10 and P.28.B.55.35 and transports and horsemen using roads from R.26.D. to R.25.C.0.4, and from Q.24.A.7.8 to Q.24.B.9.5. Two long trains observed in Q.27.C and D, and trains at intervals during the day at railway junction in R.25.D and opposite dump in R.26. Trains also observed moving from V.10.B. to WIENCOURT. An enemy party estimated at 200 was seen in Q.17.Central walking towards MORCOURT.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

Fire. A large fire was burning in SAILLY LAURETTE throughout the morning.

Information concerning the 68th F.A.R. The 68th F.A.R. recently had heavy casualties from our Heavy Artillery fire and from aeroplane bombs. Ammunition is stored in the open near batteries and is roughly camouflaged with wire netting entwined with grass and heather. The Battery detachments live in deep dug-outs near the battery. As a rule when a counter-battery shoot commences they leave their guns and take refuge in the dug-outs.

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 PART II.

Information from Other Sources.

RAILWAYS.

The activity on the HAM - NESLE - CHAULNES - ROSIERES line, reported in the Summary of the 17th inst., continued yesterday morning; 24 trains passed in all directions through CHAULNES Station during the afternoon forenoon; and it appears probable that a movement of at least 6 trains East and 6 trains West took place between HAM and WIENCOURT between 5 and 11 a.m.

Activity in the neighbourhood of PLATEAU Station was reported; it was rather less pronounced than on the day before. A certain amount of movement was seen on the light railways.

During yesterday afternoon, there was apparently much less activity but this may have been due to the increasingly bad visibility. Between 1.15 and 2.50 p.m., all lines in the Army area were reported clear, but normal rolling stock was visible in the principal stations. Between 5 and 6 p.m. the lines in the Army area were again reported clear, but visibility was too bad to observe rolling stock in stations.

BOMBING RAIDS.

(a) By day .- The following bombs were dropped :-

SHELTER Wood. (X.22).	...	170 25 lb.
Wood in R.1.	...	177 25 lb.
FOUCAUCOURT aerodrome	...	
and CHAULNES.	...	48 112 lb.
Various targets	...	215 25 lb.

(b) By night.

CARNOY, TRONES, BERNAFAY
 Camp- MONTAUBAN, sidings in
 57.C., T.S.B. and various targets. ... 276 25 lb.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Air photographs of 17th June show that the enemy is continuing his efforts to form a new front line S.W. and S. of MORLANCOURT. Most work has been done astride and South of the BRAY - CORBIE road. (Air photographs A3 AE A 683, 684, 685, 687).

The front line between VILLE and MORLANCOURT has been slightly improved. (A3 AE A 680).

N.E. of SAILLY-LAURETTE the enemy position consists of several series of short disconnected trenches. (Air photographs A3 AE A 690, 688).

Work continues on front trenches at VAIRE Wood, and short new trenches have been dug at the W. end of HAMEL. (Air photographs A3 AE A 693, 694).

The communication trench in P.17.B. has been continued eastwards towards the CERISY - LAMOTTE Valley, and Westwards to join up with the trench from HAMEL Wood through ARQUAIRE Wood, as indicated in Army Summary para. ENEMY DEFENCES, 7th June. (Air photograph A3 AE B 39). This communication trench is now continuous for 4,000 yards.

GENERAL.

During the last few days identifications have been secured along the entire Army front, except in the ALBERT sector. No change has taken place in the order of battle except that the 233rd Div. has apparently relieved the 54th Div. in the MORLANCOURT sector. Prisoners have no definite information about reliefs, nor of any intended attack to be made by them.

Yesterday an increase of fighting scouts was noticeable and conveyed the impression that F.E.A.'s. have returned to this front from the AISNE battlefield, where operations appear to have terminated.

PART II (3)

Information from Other Sources

The Regiment now has its full establishment of 9 batteries, (P.S.)

Visibility. Nil until 7 a.m., improving up to 11 a.m., remained good until 8 p.m. In the SOMME VALLEY, heavy rain in the morning, clearing at 8 a.m.

R. Stewart

G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

During yesterday afternoon, the weather was generally clear and visibility was good. The temperature was in the 50's and 60's. The wind was light and variable. The ground was dry and the vegetation was green. The position of the front line was as follows: ...

(a) The following positions were proposed:

- 170 27 12
- 177 27 12
- 48 118 12
- 215 27 12

(b) By night

GARNY, THOMAS, MERRILL
Camp - HORTON, within 10
77.0, 1.0, and various batteries ... 175 27 12

The front line between VILLIERS and HORTON has been slightly improved. (AS AN A 240)

The position of the front line consists of several series of short disconnected trenches. (Air photographs AS AN A 280, 281)

Work continued on front trenches at VALLE Wood, and short new trenches have been dug at the end of HALL. (Air photographs AS AN A 282, 283) The communication trench in E.T. 11, has been continued eastwards towards the HULLY - LAROTTE Valley, and westwards to join up with the trench from HALL Wood through ANGLAIS Wood, as indicated in map. (Air photographs AS AN A 284, 285)

GENERAL

During the last few days identification have been secured along the entire Army front, except in the ALBERT sector. No change has taken place in the order of battle except that the 23rd Div. has apparently relieved the 5th Div. in the HORTON sector. Prisoners have no definite information about details, nor of any intended attack to be made by them. Yesterday an increase of 17th Brigade was noticeable and conveyed the impression that P.S.A's. have returned to the front from the ALBERT battlefield, where operations appear to have terminated.