

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/44/21 Part 2

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 2nd
Australian Division

April 1917



AWM4-1/44/21PART2

To be destroyed on receipt
of a later issue.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

G. 409.

Location of Units at 8 a.m. 17th April 1917.

Div Headquarters,	-	THE MONUMENT.	H.15.c.4.3.
Div Art.H.q. (2nd)	-	THE DINGLE.	X.27.d.3.7.
do (4th)	-	THE MONUMENT.	H.15.c.4.3.
Div Engineer.H.q.	-	do	do
<u>5th Aust Inf Bde.H.q.</u>		C.10.c.9.1.	Right Bde in Line
17th Bn.	-	C.10.c.7.c	Line Right.
18th Bn.	-	C.16.a.4.c.	Line. Left.
19th Bn.	-	C.16.a.4.4.	Support Bn
20th Bn.	-	VRAUCOURT.	Corps Sup: Line Right.
5th A.M.G.Coy.	-	C.15.b.5.0.	
<u>6th Aust Inf Bde.H.q.</u>		C.9.d.9.3.	Left Bde in Line
21st Bn.	-	VAULX.	Corps Sup: Line Left.
22nd Bn.	-	C.9.d.5.8.	Line Left.
23rd Bn.	-	H.12.b.	Corps Main Line Left.
24th Bn.	-	C.15.b.5.5.	Line Right.
6th A.M.G.Coy.	-	C.15.b.6.6.	
<u>7th Aust Inf Bde.H.q.</u>		H.16.a.4.6.FAVREUIL.	Reserve Bde.
25th Bn.	-	FAVREUIL.	
26th Bn.	-	I.7.a.	Corps Main Line Right.
27th Bn.	-	FAVREUIL.	
28th Bn.	-	BEUGNATRE.	
7th A.M.G.Coy.	-		Corps Main Line.
22nd A.M.G.Coy. (Div)	-	BEUGNATRE.	H.17.a.1.9.
2nd Aust Pioneer Bn.	-	MARLBOROUGH HUTS.	W.12.c.9.3.
<u>ARTILLERY.</u>			
"Q" Group.H.q.	-	I.1.d.7.7.	(4th, 5th & 12th A.F.A. Bde)
"P" Group.H.q.	-	C.14.b.1.7.	(10th and 11th do)
"M" Group.H.q.	-	C.22.d.3.7.	(1st and 2nd do)
5th Aust Field Coy.	-	VAULX.	C.26.c.9.3.
6th -do-	-	I.1.c.0.7.	
7th -do-	-	H.12.d.5.6.	
5th A.Field Ambulance.		H.16.d.6.6.	Main Dressing Stn.
6th -do-	-	do	do
7th -do-	-	I.1.c.6.6.	Advanced Dressing Stn.
Div Gas Officer.	-	BAPAUME.	H.26.d.3.0.
Div Train.H.q.	-	H.21.c.	Bapaume.
D.A.D.O.S.	-	H.16.d.7.5.	
Field Cashier.	-	BAPAUME.	H.26.d.3.0.
Bomb School.	-	BAZENTIN.	
Mobile Vet Section.	-	H.21.c.	Bapaume.
Salvage Coy.	-	LARTINPUICH.	(Less 1/2 Coy at AVELUY)
A.D.V.S.	-	BAPAUME.	H.26.d.3.0.
Div Bomb Office.	+		The Monument. H.15.c.4.3.
Div School.	-	PIESSELLES.	
<u>Attached Troops.</u>			
Light Horse Regt.	-	FAVREUIL.	"C" Squadron. 13th
1st Anzac Cyclist Bn.	-	do	2 Coys.

M. Hutton Capt.
for Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
2nd Aust Div.

gb

SECRET.

Copy No..... 24

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 119.Divisional Headquarters,
17th April, 1917.Reference Sheet 57.c.1/40,000.

1. The boundary between the 1st and 2nd Australian Divisional Areas has been altered to read as follows : -

From S.W. to I.4.central as heretofore, thence along a line drawn through C.23.b.5.5 - C.18.c.8.3 - C.18.b.5.0 - D.7.central

2. The 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. will extend its front to the boundary mentioned in para. 1. tonight.

3. The relief, which must be completed by 5 a.m. tomorrow, will be arranged mutually between the G.O.C., 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. and the G.O.C. Left Bde., 1st Australian Division.

4. The command of the area under relief will pass to the G.O.C., 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. on completion of relief.
Completion of relief will be notified by wire to D.H.Q.

5. Acknowledge.

H. W. Bridges
Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

Issued at 11.30 a.m.

DISTRIBUTION -

1 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

For Information -

2 C.R.A. 4th A. Div.	16 1st Anzac Cyclist Bn.
3 C.R.E.	17 C. Squad. 13th A.L.H.
4 2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Co.	18 4th Aust. Div.
5 6th Aust. Inf. Bde.	19 5th -do-
6 7th -do-	20 Anzac Heavy Art.
7 22nd A. H.G. Co.	21 3rd Squad. R.F.C.
8 A.D.M.S.	22 G.O.C.
9 D.B.O.	23 A.Q.
10 D.G.O.	24 } War Diary
11 1st Anzac G.	25 } "
12 1st Anzac I.	26 } File
13 1st Anzac Q.	27 } "
14 1st Aust. Div.	28 } "
15 62nd Division	29 } Spare
	30 }

No 91.

18-4-17.

For official use only. 55

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 17th April to 6 a.m. 18th April 1917.

NOTE : - Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OPERATIONS.

The 17th BN (Right Bde) relieved the 8th Bn of left Bde of 1st Aust Div in accordance with the alteration of the Divisional boundary. Our right flank now rests at C.18.b.7.c.

Artillery. Enemy front line and communication trenches were shelled at intervals throughout the day. Wire cutting was carried out by "Heavies" and field guns, but owing to mist observation was limited.

Machine Guns. Our machine guns fired on gaps in enemy wire throughout the night to prevent repairs being effected.

Lewis guns fired on and dispersed two parties of enemy moving along BULLCOURT-LEDESCOURT road at U.16.d.9.7. at 6 a.m. (17th)

Patrols. Communication with flanks was maintained throughout the night.

At 2.30 a.m. an officers patrol of right brigade left our line at C.5.a.7.6. and moved along track leading to enemy wire. At the point reached it appeared to be uncult and was raised on wooden stakes from 2'6" to 3' high, which are not more than 5 to 6 feet apart. Patrol moved to East as far as track at U.29.b.7.1. At this point patrol reports wire to be broken for a short distance on either side. NO MAN'S LAND for a distance of 100 yards in front of enemy wire is badly cut up with deep shell holes and was sticky owing to rain. Large shell craters were met at 300 to 400 yards from enemy lines. A number of bodies - both Australian and enemy - were found in NO MAN'S LAND. Flares were thrown from several points along sector patrolled, and from flanks. Patrol returned to C.5.b.5.4. at 4 a.m.

At 10.30 p.m. a patrol of 1 n.c.o. and 6 men from Left Bde left our line at C.4.b.7.7. and proceeded toward enemy wire at U.29.a.4.5. The wire was examined 400' west, is in good condition, and no gaps were observed. Enemy L.Gs and snipers were quiet and few flares were fired. No enemy encountered.

At 10.30 p.m. another patrol from Left Bde proceeded along bank in U.29 to enemy wire, which was examined for 300 yards west. It was found to be in good condition and not breached.

Patrols on Left flank of Left Bde report that the wire in U.28.b. is in fair condition, but in U.28.a. it is well cut.

SECTOR OPERATIONS.

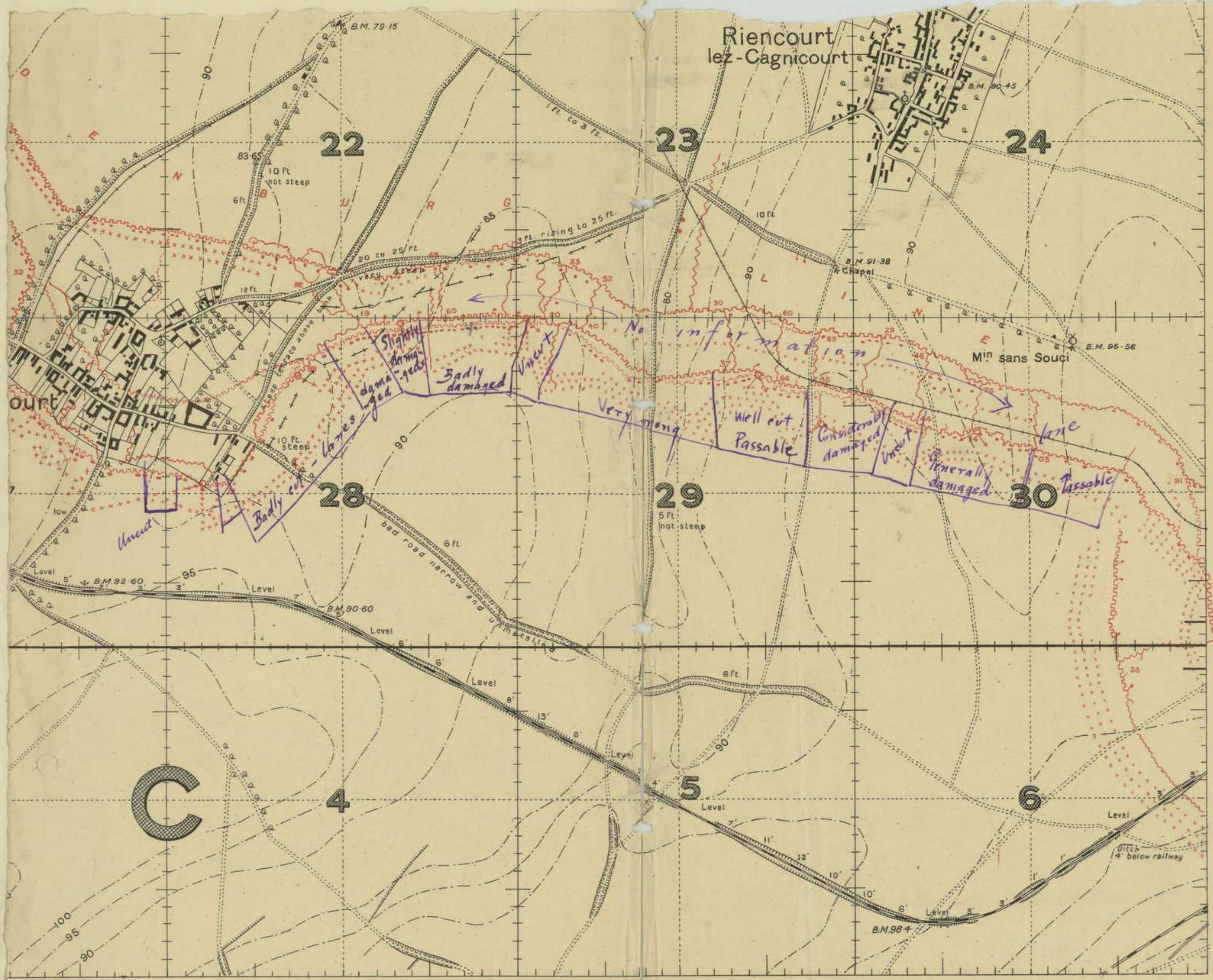
Artillery. ESCOUST and LONGATTE were shelled heavily during the night. During the day road in C.10.a and c, also FOREUIL-LONGATTE road in C.9.d., and FOREUIL Village were shelled intermittently with 5.9" H.E. and 77 mm shrapnel. At 10.15 p.m. 15 rounds gas shell fell in vicinity of C.10.c.7.9.

Machine Guns. Enemy machine gun activity was less than usual for the period. At irregular intervals during the day small parties of enemy were seen moving along road U.22.c. and b; our artillery dispersed them.

Aircraft. At 11 p.m. hostile plane was heard over Left Bde sector. Six bombs were dropped in vicinity of front line but no damage resulted.

Miscellaneous. A Dump is suspected at U.6.d.2.5. Ruins of house at U.27.d.60.35 show signs of occupancy. A round construction about 30 ft high has recently been erected close to V.13.d.3.6. This is probably the point from which flash lamp previously reported in V.13. operates. At 10.30 p.m. enemy searchlight was used to the left of our Right Bde sector.

H. Wellington Capt
Lieut Colonel.
for General Staff
2nd Aust Div.



Wire-Map
to
11 a.m.
18.4.17

TRENCHES CORRECTED FROM INFORMATION
RECEIVED UP TO 1-4-17.

Issued with I.S. 91.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Examination of No 2143 Pte. CARNE H.H. and 2490 Pte. RYAN J.M. of
47th Battalion, 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Pte. CARNE H.H. stated he "went over" on the morning of the 11th inst at 5.30 a.m. from SUNKEN ROAD in C.5.a.55.75. entering HINDENBURG LINE at U.22.d.85.00. Wire was found to be well cut and passable. During the consolidation of the first line the enemy counter-attacked in such numbers that he was forced to leave the trench as his supply of bombs was exhausted. He managed to get into a shell hole 50 yards in front of the trench, where a series of shell holes existed, but not connected up. He stayed here till dark with 2 others, a corporal of No 3 Platoon, "A" Company, 47th Battalion, whose name he does not remember, and Pte. LALLY M. of "A" Company 47th Battalion. They remained there together all day on 12th inst and on night 12/13th at dusk hearing a noise on their right about 20 yards away, saw an enemy party putting a light field gun similar to our 18-pdr. in position at about U.28.b.75.90. Shortly after this gun was put in position the party moved to another shell hole 20 yards further to the left, reaching to within 10 yards of enemy barbed wire at about U.28.b.80.85. At daylight on the 13th inst the party was joined by 2490 Pte. RYAN J.M. who also was trying to regain our lines. The four men remained here all day hoping to move at night, but enemy flares were so numerous and the night fairly bright that they decided to remain where they were that night and all day on the 14th. On the night 14/15th inst they got out and moved to the edge of the barbed wire and found two sets of equipment containing food and water. One set was marked "E.C. COLE, H.Q. Details, 48th Battalion." During this move the Corporal and Pte LALLY M. were killed by M.G. fire. CARNE and RYAN stayed here all day on the 15th and then moved to another shell hole 10 yards further on right into the enemy wire. They stayed here all day on 16th inst and on night 16/17th they got through remainder of enemy wire safely and eventually reached our lines held by 22nd Battalion.

Pte. RYAN J.M. "went over" close to Pte. CARNE reaching HINDENBURG LINE a little to the right of U.22.d.75.60. When compelled to retire he got out into a shell hole about 12 yards in front of the first line. Enemy M.G. and rifle fire was heavy, so he stayed there till dusk. At dusk he attempted to move, but a vigilant enemy sentry saw him, fired a white flare and M.Gs. opened, compelling him to keep down. After waiting for an hour he made a sudden rush and reached another shellhole 40 yards closer to enemy wire, where he remained for that night and all day on 12th instant. Shortly before 5 a.m. on the 13th inst he crawled out again, and jumping into another shell hole met CARNE. After this they remained together.

They both state :-

- (a) Front line trench HINDENBURG LINE averages 6' deep, width at top 4'6", at bottom 3'6". Traversed but not revetted or duckboarded. No parapet but 3' parados. No concrete dugouts or emplacements or any concrete work of any kind seen. Two dugouts were observed but they were of the ordinary type. Trench was dry.
- (b) Condition of wire. Wire generally, as far as they could observe from their positions, was well cut. No definite "lanes" were noted, but wire was seen to be badly "chopped" about. Quite passable by infantry.

Patrols. Enemy sends out numerous patrols, commencing at dusk. Strength from 7 to 8 men. Patrols were not armed with rifles. They patrolled both outside and inside the wire simultaneously.

Machine Guns. Enemy machine guns were seen to fire from outside the wire, inside the wire and from shell holes between the wire and the line. Machine guns of the usual type generally fired from the wire as well as positions immediately in front of the front line. The fire was very constant during day-time; a short burst about every 30 minutes. During night-time it was practically continuous. In addition there was a lot of machine gun fire which sounded as if a lighter pattern gun, very similar to our Lewis gun was being used. The bursts were rapid but short; at no time were they continuous, and it would appear as if these were either automatic rifles or captured Lewis guns. They did not sound as if belt fed.

The field gun already mentioned was emplaced in a hidden pit which could not be seen in daylight from the shell hole where the men were concealed.

In addition to this gun, there was another type of light gun which fired with a short, sharp report, and with more rapid rate of fire than our 18-pdr. It appeared to fire about 15 rounds a minute, and of a pronounced quickfiring type. At least 3 to 4 guns of this type were emplaced on the edge of the wire in their vicinity (U.25.b.) but the actual location could not be picked up.

Enemy Strength. Enemy is holding two "outpost" lines, one immediately in front of his line, and one immediately in front of his wire. Strength of garrisons of posts not known as all the men were not actually seen whilst on their posts. The reliefs for the M.G. crews came over the open at dusk from direction of support line, in pairs. They carried no rifles nor were any other arms visible. Flares were fired from the posts both in front and behind the wire. From the sounds of speaking and coughing, enemy does not appear to hold his actual front line trench in any strength. The reliefs for the field gun previously mentioned at about U.28.b.75.90 mount at 4 a.m.

Our bombardment of enemy wire is described as "something tremendous". The detonations were heavy and the shooting excellent. On two occasions the men saw enemy M.G.belts fly up into the air. Our shrapnel was bursting well and raking the wire very methodically.

Owing to our bombardment, and the vigilance of the enemy, the men had almost despaired of getting back.

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER No. 120.
-----Divisional Headquarters,
18th April, 1917.Reference Sheet 57.c.N.W. 1/20,000.

1. In connection with the attack to be made upon the HINDENBURG Line on a day ("Z") to be notified later, the 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. will be relieved in that portion of the front line now held by them, from the Divisional boundary on the Right (C.18.b.9.5.) to the railway embankment at C.6.c.5.3., by a battalion and 4 Vickers Machine Guns to be detailed by the G.O.C. 7th Aust. Inf. Bde.

2. The relief will be carried out on "X"/"Y" night under arrangements to be made mutually by the G.O.'s C. 5th and 7th Aust. Inf. Bdes.

Relief to be completed by 5 a.m. on "Y" day and to be reported to D.H.Q.

Preliminary reconnaissances will be carried out forthwith.

3. The relieving troops will come under the orders of the G.O.C. 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. after they pass forward of VAULX.

The relieved troops will be disposed by the G.O.C., 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. as he may think fit.

4. The command of ^{the} front occupied by the right flank battalion (para. 1 above) will be taken over from the G.O.C. 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. by the G.O.C. 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. at 6 p.m. on "Y" day.

5. Acknowledge by wire.

A. Bridges

Lieut. Colonel.
General Staff.

Second Australian Division.

Issued at 3.30 p.m.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. 1. 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.
2. 7th Aust. Inf. Bde.

For information.

3 C.R.A. 4th Aust. Div.
4 C.R.E.
5 2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Co.
6 6th Aust. Inf. Bde.
7 22nd M.G. Coy.
8 A.D.M.S.
9 D.B.O.
10 B.G.O.
11 Detach. 1st ANZAC Cyc. Bn.
12 C. Squad. 13th A.L.H.

13. 1st ANZAC "G".
14. " " "G"
15. 1st Aust. Div.
16. 4th " "
17. 5th " "
18. 62nd Div.
19. ANZAC Heavy Artillery.
20. 3rd Squad. R.F.C.
21. G.O.C.
22. A.G.
23. }
24. } War Diary.
25-6 File.
27-30 Spare.

War Diary

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 18th April - to - 6 a.m. 19th April, 1917.

NOTE:- Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. A 9.2" battery scored several direct hits on enemy post at U.23.d.05.50.

BULLECOURT & RIENCOURT were shelled at intervals with 18-pdr.H.E. & 4.5" Hows. "Heavies" were active on points in rear of enemy front line.

Machine Guns. Our machine guns fired into enemy wire to prevent repairs being effected.

Patrols. Communication with units on flanks maintained. At 1.15 am. a small patrol examined the wire for a distance of 70 yards from D.7.c.8.8 to D.7.d.0.5 and found it almost undamaged. No enemy movement was observed. Later enemy activity in front of his wire at D.7.d.8.0 prevented patrol from closely examining the wire in that vicinity.

Patrols from left battalion, right brigade, report enemy was working on his wire in D.7.a. until our artillery opened fire on it. As far as could be seen, wire was still uncut, though damaged by our fire. In U.29.b. & U.30.a. wire was inspected closely and found to be damaged at intervals. At the points at which Bangalore Torpedoes had been used the wire was destroyed and blown out as far as torpedoes had been pushed in, effecting a breach of about 10 feet in width in the first line of wire.

At 9 pm. a patrol of 1 n.c.o. and 2 men left our lines from C.4.b.5.7 and moved to the wire in U.28.b.5.7. It was examined for 70 yards and found to be in good condition. Patrols from the right of each sector examined the wire in the vicinity of U.29.a.4.5. The wire was slightly damaged but not sufficiently cut to allow a passage.

Demolition of Enemy Wire. Parties of sappers covered by Inf. proceeded at 11.40 pm. to enemy wire, along the line U.29.b.25.35 to U.29.a.95.36. Seven Bangalore Torpedoes were inserted in wire at intervals of about 40 yards, and at a given signal these were exploded. The enemy did not discover presence of our men until explosion occurred, following which there was an increase in the number of flares fired from 5 or 6 points on the sector as well as the flanks. As all torpedoes exploded together it was difficult to distinguish whether all had gone off, but there is no doubt that at least 5, if not 6, were successful. All parties returned to our lines without casualties in spite of brisk M.G. and rifle fire opened by enemy immediately after explosion. The wire along area operated on was raised on 3' stakes and very thick.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Moderately active during the day, becoming more quiet from 6.30 pm. onwards. NOREUIL was continually shelled with 5.9"H.E. and a few 77 mm. during the day. Sunken roads leading out of the village and the valley in C.15 were also shelled with same calibre. Between 6 pm. and 6.30 pm. 12 - 4.2"H.E. shrapnel and 9 5.9"H.E. fell just behind the front line of our right battalion (right brigade). At 6.45 pm 8 - 5.9"H.E. fell in NOREUIL and 6 near the crucifix on the NOREUIL-LONGATTE Road (C.10.c.1.2). Shelling appears to come from direction of N.E. of NOREUIL, with exception of a 5.9" gun firing into NOREUIL from direction of QUEANT. 77 mm. and 10.5 cm. shells fell in vicinity of left sector, (right brigade) front line at intervals during the night.

Machine Guns. Enemy M.Gs. fired occasional bursts from U.29.b. Apparently only 1 M.G. was firing after the explosion of the torpedoes.

Movement. Small parties of men were observed working on BULLECOURT - HENDECOURT Rd. (about 7 am) in vicinity U.22.b.1.8.

Signalling. Flares were normal. Between 1 am. & 3.30 am. red, green and orange flares were fired by enemy. Occasional red flares were observed between 3.30 am. & 4.30 am. Flash lamp in V.13 was again active. Portions of messages were intercepted and on translation appeared to relate to observation of enemy shelling of NOREUIL.

R. B. Wirthum Capt.
for Lieut.-Col., G.S.
2nd Aust. Div.

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To be destroyed on receipt of a later issue.

G. 444.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Location of Units at 8 a.m. 19th April 1917.

Div Headquarters. THE MONUMENT. H.15.c.4.3.

Brigade Headquarters.

5th Aust Inf Bde. C.10.c.9.1. Right Sector.

6th -do- C.9.d.9.3. Left Sector.

7th -do- FAVREUIL. Div Reserve.

Advanced Line.

(i) Right Sector. C.5.central - C.6.c.3.2. - D.7.c.0.0.

17th Bn. H.q. - C.10.c.7.8. Line Right.

18th Bn. " - C.16.a.4.8. Line Left.

19th Bn. " - C.16.a.4.4. Support.

(ii) Left Sector. Railway Line. U.27.d.1.3. - C.5.central.

24th Bn. H.q. - C.15.b.5.5. Line Right.

22nd Bn. " - C.9.d.5.8. Line Left.

Support Line. C.13.c.0.0. - C.13.d.8.8. - C.20.a.9.2. - C.20.d.5.6

C.27.a.2.9. - C.27.b.0.6. - C.27.b.8.7. - C.28.c.4.6

I.4.b.2.8.

20th Bn. H.q. VRAUCOURT. Right.

21st Bn. " VAULX. Left.

Corps Main Line. H.4.central. - H.5.d.0.5. - H.6.c.0.4. - H.12.b.

0.8. - I.7.a.2.0. - I.7.b.0.2. - I.7.b.9.0. -

I.8.c.central.

26th Bn. H.q. - I.7.a. Right.

23rd Bn. " - H.12.b. Left.

Div Reserve.

25th Bn. H.q. - FAVREUIL.

27th Bn. " - FAVREUIL.

28th Bn. " - BEUGNATRE.

Artillery.

C.R.A. (4th D.A.) THE MONUMENT. H.15.c.4.3.

C.R.A. (2nd D.A.) THE DINGLE. X.27.d.3.7.

"q" Group. H.q. - I.1.d.7.7. {4th, 5th & 12th A.F.A. Bdes}

"p" -do- - C.14.b.1.7. {10th and 11th -do-}

"m" -do- - C.22.d.3.7. {1st and 2nd -do-}

Engineers.

C.R.E. - THE MONUMENT. H.15.c.4.3.

5th A. Field Coy. VAULX. C.26.c.9.3.

6th -do- - I.1.c.0.7.

7th -do- - H.12.d.5.6.

2nd Aust Pioneer Bn - H.32. b.0.9 (2 Coys with Corps L.Klys)

22nd A.M.G. Coy. (Div) - C.15.b.9.5.

Mounted Troops.

"C" Squadron. 13th A.L.H. FAVREUIL.

1/2 Coy Anzac Cyclist Bn. do

Field Ambulances.

A.D.L.S. - THE MONUMENT. H.15.c.4.3.

5th A.F. Ambulce - H.16.d.6.6. Main Dressing Stn.

6th -do- - do do

7th -do- - I.1.c.6.6 Advanced Dressing Stn.

Div Train H.q. - H.21.c.

D.A.D.O.S. - H.16.d.7.5.

Mobile Vet Sect. - H.21.a.3.a.

M. Hutton Capt.
 Maj. Lieut Colonel.
 General Staff.
 2nd Aust Div.

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War Diary

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER No 122.

Divisional Headquarters,
19th April, 1917.

Reference: Sheet 57c NW
1/20,000.

1. Second Australian Divisional Order No 120 is cancelled.
2. The 5th and 6th Aust. Infantry Brigades in the front line will be relieved by the 7th Aust. Infantry Brigade on the night 19th/20th April, 1917.
3. The details of relief will be arranged mutually between the Brigadiers concerned.
4. One n.c.o. per platoon and the Nos. 1. of Lewis and Vickers gun/teams will remain for 24 hours after relief.
5. The 22nd M.G.Co. (less 4 guns on anti-aircraft work) will be at the disposal of the G.O.C., 7th Aust. Inf. Bde.
6. Artillery Escorts.
(a) The artillery escort of 2 platoons for "Q" Group at NOREUIL will be relieved by 7th A.I.Bde.
(b) The 5th A.I.Bde. will continue to provide the escort of 2 platoons with "M" Group at LAGNICOURT.
(c) The 6th A.I.Bde. will continue to provide the escort of 1 platoon with "P" Group at LONGATTE.
7. Relief to be completed by 5 a.m. 20th inst. and to be notified to D.H.Q.
8. Command of the front line will pass to G.O.C., 7th A.I. Bde. on completion of relief.
9. On relief the 5th & 6th A.I.Bdes. will be disposed as follows : -
Support Line - One battalion 5th A.I.Bde. on right and one battalion 6th A.I.Bde. on left.
Main Line - Two battalions 5th A.I.Bde. on right, one battalion 6th A.I.Bde. on left, and 6th Aust. M.G.Co.
Divisional Reserve - One battalion 5th A.I.Bde. , two battalions 6th A.I.Bde. , 5th Aust. M.G.Co.
5th & 6th Aust. L.T.M. Batteries in the FAVREUIL-BEUGNATRE Area.
Headquarters 5th A.I.Bde. - FAVREUIL.
Headquarters 6th -do- - H.18.a.
10. The three brigade signal sections will remain in their present positions.
The 7th A.I.Bde. Signal Section will be responsible for the communications of the 5th & 6th A.I.Bdes.
11. Acknowledge.

C. G. Miles
Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

Issued at 4.30 p.m.

DISTRIBUTION OVERLEAF.

DISTRIBUTION - 2ND AUST. DIV. ORDER No. 122.

1. 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.
2. 6th -do-
3. 7th -do-
4. 22nd A. M.G. Co.

For information:-

- 5 C.R.A., 4th Aust. Div.
- 6 C. R. E.
- 7 2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Co.
- 8 A.D.M.S.
- 9 D?B.O.
- 10 D.G.O.
- 11 Detach. 1st Anzac Cyclist Bn.
- 12 C. Squadron, 13th A.L.H.
- 13 1st Anzac G.
- 14 1st Anzac Q.
- 15 1st Aust. Div.
- 16 4th -do-
- 17 5th -do-
- 18 62nd Division
- 19 Anzac Heavy Art.
- 20 3rd Squadron R.F.C.
- 21 G.O.C.
- 22 A.Q.
- 23)
- 24) War Diary
- 25-26 File
- 27) Spare
- 28) "
- 29) "

No. 93.

20-4-17.

For Official Use only.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 19th April -to- 6 a.m. 20th April, 1917.

----- :: -----

NOTE:- Not to be taken into front line trenches.OUR OPERATIONS.

Relief. The 7th A.I.Bde. relieved the 5th & 6th A.I.Bdes. in the 2nd Aust.Div. front line on night 19/20th April, 1917. The relief was completed successfully at 3.30 a.m.

Artillery. A constant bombardment was carried out during the day on enemy wire and forward area, but owing to poor visibility the effect of the fire could not be ascertained.

Patrols. Our entire front was continuously patrolled during the night, and touch maintained with units on the flanks. No hostile activity was observed. One party of 4 men left our post at C.4.b.6.8 and worked along the sunken road running through U.29.c. & a., thence westward along the enemy wire, and report that the wire in U.29.a. is almost intact.

Machine Guns. Our M.Gs. were active throughout the night, firing on gaps in enemy wire.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery. The valley running through C.15.C.16 and C.11, was shelled intermittently throughout the day and night with 77 mm. and 4.2"H.E., the former from the direction of U.22.c., the latter from behind RIENCOURT.

Gas shells were sent over intermittently and in small numbers throughout the night in this valley from direction of RIENCOURT.

Machine Guns. Activity less than usual.

Patrols. A hostile patrol heard in locality of W.28.c.central was promptly fired on by our Lewis guns - result unknown.

Working Parties. At 6 p.m. a party of about 50 was seen apparently digging a trench in rear of their wire at approximately D.1.d. 1.1. Party was dispersed by our 18-pdr. fire.

Wire. Special daylight observation was directed on enemy wire, and the following information obtained:

U.28.c.2.7 to U.28.b.0.5 appears to be well cut.

U.28.b.0.5 to U.28.b.7.8.: very few portions cut, the only clear gap being made by the Bangalore Torpedo used by the engineers on night 17/18th inst.

U.28.b.7.8 to U.29.a.0.8.: very mutilated, and appears to be passable.

for N. Wellington Capt.
Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

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War Diary

Appx. XIII.

To be destroyed on receipt of a later issue

SECRET. 65
G. 458.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Location of Units at 8 a.m., 20th April, 1917.

<u>Div. Headquarters</u>	The MONUMENT	H.15.c.4.3
<u>Bde. Headquarters.</u>		
5th Aust. Inf. Bde.	FAVREUIL	
6th -do-	H.18.a.	
7th -do-	C.10.c.9.1	Line
<u>Advanced Line.</u>		
C.18.b.7.8 - C.6.c.3.2 - along railway to U.28.c.2.5.		
25th Bn. H.Q.	C.9.d.5.8	Line left
26th " "	C.10.c.7.8	Line Right
27th " "	C.16.a.4.8	Line Centre
28th " "	C.16.a.4.4	Support
<u>Support Line.</u>		
I.4.b.2.8 - C.28.c.4.6 - C.27.b.8.7 - C.27.b.0.6 - C.27.a.2.9 - C.20.d.5.6 - C.20 a.9.2 - C.13.d.8.8 - C.13.c.0.0. Held by 17th & 21st Bns.		
<u>Corps Main Line.</u>		
I.8.c.central - I.7.b.9.0 - I.7.b.0.2 - I.7.a.2.0 - H.12.b.0.8 - H.6.c.0.4 - H.5.d.0.5 - H.4.central. Held by 18th, 19th & 22nd Bns.		
<u>Div. Reserve.</u>		
20th, 23rd & 24th Bns. in FAVREUIL - BEUGNATRE Area.		
<u>Artillery.</u>		
C.R.A. (4th D.A.)	The MONUMENT	H.15.c.4.3
C.R.A. (2nd D.A.)	The DINGLE	X.27.d.3.7
"Q" Group H.Q.	I.1.d.7.7	(4th, 5th & 12th A.F.A.Bdes.)
"P" -do-	C.14.b.1.7	
"M" -do-	C.22.d.3.7	
<u>Engineers.</u>		
C.R.E.	The MONUMENT	H.15.c.4.3
5th A. Field Co.	VAULX	C.26.c.9.3
6th -do-	I.1.c.0.7	
7th -do-	H.12.d.5.6	
2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn.	H.32.b.0.9	(2 Coys. with Corps LRys)
22nd A.M.G. Co. (Div)	C.15.b.9.5	
<u>Mounted Troops.</u>		
"C" Squadron, 13th A.L.H.	FAVREUIL	
1/2 Co. Anzac Cyc. Bn.	FAVREUIL	
<u>Field Ambulances. (ADMS.)</u>		
5th A. Field Amb.	The MONUMENT	H.15.c.4.3
6th -do-	H.16.d.6.6	Main Dressing Stn
7th -do-	do.	do.
	I.1.c.6.6	Adv. Dressing Stn.
Div. Train H.Q.	H.21.c.	
D.A.D.O.S.	H.16.d.7.5	
Mobile Vet. Sec.	H.21.a.3.8	

C. G. Williams
for Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

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Appx. XIV
66

SECRET.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Divisional Headquarters,
20th April, 1917.

HEADQUARTERS,
2ND
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
(GENERAL STAFF.)
93/96

WEEKLY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FOR PERIOD
12 NOON 14TH APRIL TO 8 A.M. 20TH APRIL.

Reference - O.31 D.24; Ed.1
1/20,000.

1. GENERAL.

The 2nd Australian Division relieved the 4th Aust. Division in the left sector of the Corps front, relief being completed by night 13/14th April. Command of the sector was taken over by the G.O.C., 2nd Aust. Div. at 12 noon on 14th instant.

The enemy is holding the HINDENBURG line opposite our front.

Hostile artillery has not been unduly active, until the 18th inst., when it increased considerably, much attention being paid to counterbattery work, and shelling of NOREUIL and the valley in C.15 with H.E. and a sprinkling of poison gas and tear shell.

2. OPERATIONS.

On taking over from the 4th Aust. Division, the advanced line of resistance ran from right to left as follows: C.12.central, C.5.d. & a., C.4.b., U.28.d. & c., railway embankment. The 1st Aust. Division was on our right, with 62nd Division on our left.

The sector was held by two brigades, distributed in depth, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. on the right and 6th Aust. Inf. Bde. on the left, with the road running N.E. from NOREUIL through C.5.c. & a. and U.29.c. & a. as the inter-brigade boundary.

The right brigade sub-sector was held with two battalions in the advanced line, 17th Bn. on the right and 18th Bn. on the left. 19th Bn. was support battalion, with 20th Bn. in reserve at VAULX.

At 4.30 a.m. on 15th inst. hostile artillery put down a heavy barrage on LONGATTE, which severed artillery communications in that sector. At 4.55 a.m. 5th A.I. Bde. received word from their support battalion (19th Bn.), in position on NOREUIL-LAGNICOURT Rd., that men of 12th Bn., 1st Aust. Div. had come into their lines, stating that enemy had attacked and driven in their piquets. The 5th A.I. Bde. then stood to arms, and at 5.5 a.m. the support battalion pushed one company on to ridge in C.16.d. to form a defensible flank, and the reserve battalion established a strong post with two Lewis guns at C.22c.9.0.

At 5.10 a.m. Vickers guns of 5th A.M.G. Co. were sweeping NO MAN'S LAND in direction of QUEANT from C.12.central.

At this time the enemy attack had extended to the west and the 17th Bn. became engaged.

The right company of this battalion was forced to give ground, as the battalion of 1st Aust. Div. on its right had been pushed back, thus leaving our flank in the air, with some enemy in rear. At 5.15 a.m. this company withdrew to support line in C.11.a., and was reinforced at 5.30 a.m. with 2 additional Lewis guns.

/At

W. D. ...

At 5.45 a.m. the enemy had passed through LAGNICOURT, reaching a line approximately as follows: -

C.23.d.4.2, C.23.e.0.7, Crossroads C .22.b.2.0 and ridge C.16.d.2.0.

At 5.46 a.m. 20th Bn. took up a position facing E.N.E. on ridge N.E. of BOIS-de-VAULX. At 5.50 a.m. the 17th Bn. was prolonged to the right by the addition of 2 Coys. 2 Coys. of 20th Bn. were now pushed forward to the crest of the ridge N.E. of VAULX-VRAUCOURT, and one along VAULX - LAGNICOURT Road, to support their patrols.

At 6.20 a.m. 19th Bn. connected with 17th Bn. on their left and the 20th Bn. on their right.

At 6.30 a.m. our artillery placed a very effective barrage with 18-pdrs. and 4.5" Hows. on the valley of the HIRONDELLE, C.11.c. & d., and on the ridge in C.17. & 18.

Some of the guns were run up and open sights used.

At 6.33 a.m. the 20th Bn. received instructions to push the enemy out of his position and move round LAGNICOURT to outflank him.

The 20th Bn. attacked the enemy vigorously and, combined with concentrated Lewis gun fire, and assisted with an effective artillery barrage, were successful in driving him back.

At the commencement of this retirement, the barrage was placed W.N.W. of LAGNICOURT, about 200 yards in rear of the enemy, with the result that they surrendered freely.

By 8.45 a.m. the 20th Bn. had driven the enemy out of LAGNICOURT, mopped it up, and pushed forward to re-establish the original line of the 12th Bn. A delay occurred on the northern end of the village owing to the difficulty in getting the artillery barrage lifted. It appears that part of this artillery fire came from the division on our right.

At 1 p.m. the whole of the line had been re-established and the 20th Bn. were holding the line of posts vacated by the 12th Bn. in their retirement.

The enemy troops operating on our front were 15th & 77th R.I.R. of 2nd Guards Reserve Division. The enemy lost very heavily in this operation, his casualties including at least 800 dead left on our sector. In addition, we took 201 unwounded prisoners (including 4 officers), 44 wounded prisoners, 4 machine guns, 1 more since reported making a total of 5, and 2 Lewis guns.

During the enemy advance through LAGNICOURT, four 18-pdr. guns of 4th Bty. A.F.A. and one 4.5" How. of 102nd How. Bty. were destroyed by the enemy with explosives. Dial sights and breech blocks had already been removed by the gunners shortly after the alarm was given.

During the actual operations, 2 guns were damaged by direct hits from hostile artillery fire.

Our casualties during the operations were:-

<u>Killed</u>	-	Officers	49	O.R.'s.
<u>Wounded</u>	7	"	157	"
<u>Missing</u>	-	"	86	"

TOTAL 7 Officers: 292 O.R.'s.

3. MACHINE GUNS.

Before and after the 15th inst. our Vickers and Lewis guns were very active with direct and indirect fire on enemy trenches, crossroads, and known approaches.

During the operations on the 15th inst. the Vickers and Lewis guns (together with rapid rifle fire) were the means of repulsing the enemy's advance. They also rendered possible the successful counterattack on LAGNICOURT.

13
4. TRENCH MORTARS.

On the night 16/17th April, an enemy mortar fired a few rounds into the right battalion sub-sector of the right brigade. Its position could not be located.

There has been no other trench mortar activity during the period.

5. ARTILLERY.

(a) With the exception of the action on the 15th inst., the work of the artillery has been devoted mainly to wire-cutting on the HINDENBURG Line, in co-operation with the Corps Heavy Artillery.

They also keep the wire under fire at night to prevent repairs.

BANGALORE Torpedoes.

On the night 18/19th inst., nine BANGALORE Torpedoes were successfully discharged in enemy wire. Lanes 12 ft. to 15 ft. wide by 17 ft. to 19 ft. deep were blown.

(b) During the past week enemy artillery fire has been less than usual. Most of the shelling comes from the CAGNICOURT - RIENCOURT groups, and is chiefly 5.9" H.E., with a small amount of 77 mm. H.E. and shrapnel. His counter-battery work has been directed mainly against our batteries in the VAUX & NOREUIL Areas.

6. CHANGES OF DIVISIONAL FRONT.

On the 17th inst. the Divisional right boundary was re-adjusted to read as follows:-
From S.W. to I.4. central, thence along a line drawn through C.23.b.5.5 - C.18.c.8.3 - C.18.b.5.0 - D.7. central.

7. CASUALTIES to 8 A.M. - 20-4-17.

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>O.R.'s.</u>
Killed ...	2	84
Wounded ...	13	317
Missing ...	1	100
TOTAL ...	16	501

Wellington Capt
for Major-General,
Commanding 2nd Aust. Division.

No: 94.

21-4-17.

For Official Use Only.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 20th April -to- 6 a.m. 21st April, 1917.

NOTE: - Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our artillery was busy with wire cutting during the day. New earth work observed in U.23.c.7.3 was subjected to very accurate and effective fire, and a ten minutes' barrage was placed on rear of enemy wire from U.28.a.5.5 to U.28.c.5.8. A party observed at U.29.b.8.6 (strength 15) was fired on and dispersed.

Machine Guns. Our M.Gs fired on gaps in enemy wire throughout the night. At 9 a.m. anti-aircraft guns fired on two enemy planes and drove them off in a damaged condition.

Aircraft. Two of our planes flying over vicinity of NOREUIL and BULLECOURT were attacked by two hostile planes at 9 a.m. One of ours was driven down in C.11, only slightly damaged. The detachable instruments were salvaged, and the plane was later ignited by hostile shell fire. The pilot was slightly wounded.

Patrols. A party left C.5.a.5.2 and proceeded to the enemy wire in U.29.a. Here they heard a party at work on the wire and, on attempting to investigate further, were fired on by a machine gun, which proved to belong to a covering party. Upon return of patrol this locality was swept by our Lewis guns.

Another party met the enemy wire at U.29.a.85.50 and penetrated three sets of wire approximately 15 yards deep at this point. The inner set is 120 to 150 yds. in advance of enemy front line.

Flares were fired from enemy front line, but no movement seen. Wire is low, but very thick and dense: only about 2 ft. high. It is badly battered, and easily passable. From this point to U. 29.b.4.5 the wire is badly smashed, and considered passable at any point.

Other parties patrolled the front and kept touch with flanks, but were unable to examine the wire further.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery. At 10 a.m. an anti-aircraft gun was seen firing from 356° true bearing from C.4.c.5.0 on right of BULLECOURT.

The area between VRAUCOURT WOOD and NOREUIL was subjected to an intermittent shelling throughout the day. Gas shells were used frequently.

The remainder of the forward area was liberally shelled with gas shells during the night. All the shelling came from the direction of N.E. of RIENCOURT.

Machine Guns. Enemy M.Gs were active during the night, firing along the railway cutting from direction of QUEANT.

Aircraft. Enemy aircraft was active during the morning. At 5 p.m. a balloon was observed at 31° true bearing from C.4.c.3.0. On the approach of one of our planes it was lowered, but appeared again as soon as plane retired.

Movement. Small parties of enemy can be seen continually coming from U.17.b. and disappearing into sap in U.23.b.2.8. The activity here increases towards evening. Small parties were seen in rear of BULLECOURT carrying rations or ammunition.

Miscellaneous. At 5.10 p.m. two explosions were heard in BULLECOURT, but origin could not be determined.

A fire was seen at approximately ABBAY Pl. QUEANT at 10 a.m.

H. Wellington Capt
for Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

G.4cl.

Location of Units at 8 a.m. 21st April 1917.

Div Headquarters. THE MONUMENT. H.15.c.4.3.

Brigade Headquarters.
5th Aust Inf Bde. FAVREUIL. H.16.a.5.6.
6th -do- BEUGNATRE. H.12.central.
7th -do- NOREUIL. Line. C.10.c.9.1.

Advanced Line.
C.15.b.7.3. - C.6.c.3.2. - along railway to U.25.c.2.5.
25th Bn H.Q. - C.9.d.5.8. Line Left.
26th Bn " - C.16.a.4.3. Support.
27th Bn " - C.10.c.6.6. Line Centre.
28th Bn " - C.16.a.4.4. Line Right.

Support Line.
I.4.b.2.8. - C.20.c.4.6. - C.27.b.0.7. - C.27.b.0.6. - C.27.a.2.9
C.20.d.5.6. - C.20.a.9.2. - C.13.d.0.8. - C.13.c.0.0.
17th Bn.H.Q. - VAULX VRAUCOURT. C.26.c.2.5.
21st Bn " - do C.19.d.0.3

Corps Main Line.
I.8.c.central. - I.7.b.9.0. - I.7.b.0.2. - I.7.a.2.0. - H.12.b.
O.0. - H.6.c.0.4. - H.5.d.0.5. - H.4. central.
Held by 18th, 19th and 23rd Bns.

Div Reserve. - FAVREUIL - BEUGNATRE Area.
20th Bn. H.Q. - H.22.c.1.0.
22nd Bn " - H.10.d.
24th Bn " - FAVREUIL.

Artillery.
C.R.A.(4th D.A.) THE MONUMENT. H.15.c.4.3.
C.R.A.(2nd D.A.) THE DINGLE. A.27.d.3.7.
"Q" Group.H.Q. - I.1.d.7.7. (4th, 5th & 12th A.F.A.Bdes)
"P" do - C.14.b.1.7. (10th and 11th do)
"L" do - C.22.d.3.7. (1st and 2nd do)

Engineers.
C.R.E. - THE MONUMENT. H.15.c.4.3.
5th A.Field Coy. VAULX. C.26.c.9.3.
6th do - I.1.c.0.7. -
7th do - H.12.d.5.6.
2nd Aust Pioneer Bn H.32.a.7.3. (2 Coys with Corps Lt Rlys)
22nd A.M.G.Coy.(Div) C.15.b.9.5.

Mounted Troops.
"C" Sqn. 13th A.L.R. FAVREUIL.
Anzac Cyclist Bn do (1/2 Coy)

Field Ambulances.
A.D.H.S. - THE MONUMENT. H.15.c.4.3.
5th A.Field Arb- H.16.d.6.6. Main Dressing Str.
6th do - do do
7th do - I.1.a.6.6. Advanced Dressing Str.

Div Train.H.Q. - H.21.c.
D.A.D.O.S. - H.16.d.7.5.
Mobile Vet Sect. - H.21.c.3.2.
Field Cashier. - BAREUIL. H.26.d.3.0.

G. H. H. H. H. H.
for Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
2nd Aust Div.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 21st April -to- 6 a.m. 22nd April, 1917.
----- :: -----

NOTE:- Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OUR OPERATIONS.

The Artillery carried out the normal bombardment of enemy wire during the day. Our heavy guns shelled BULLECOURT consistently. HENDECOURT was lightly shelled with H.E. and shrapnel. A hostile battery was observed firing from U.22.b.0.7 (the factory) and our heavies fired on the building, completely wrecking it. Men were seen running from this building during the bombardment.

M.G.'s. & Sniping. Our Vickers guns fired at irregular intervals throughout the night, on gaps in enemy wire, while our anti-aircraft guns were busy with hostile planes whenever they came over.

Two snipers' posts per battalion front have been established, but movement on the part of the enemy was too far in rear of his lines for effective fire.

Patrols. Patrols were out all night, keeping in touch with units on flanks, and the following information regarding enemy wire was obtained. U.29.a.8.5 to U.29.a.2.5 wire is only partially cut and not passable to infantry. U.30.central to U.29.b.9.3 wire partially cut but impassable. An enemy M.G. is located in an old dugout in the bank of the sunken road at U.29.a.8.3. about 60 yds. in front of wire.

Listening Post. Listening post at C.12.b.00.25 reports enemy transport very busy in QUEANT during the night, particularly between midnight and 2 a.m. It appeared that transport came close to front line in vicinity of ABBAY FARM.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. A 77 mm. gun was seen firing at approx. U.24.c.7.0 and put 4 shots into C.5.b.0.3. A 4.2" How. battery was plainly seen in action firing on LONGATTE from U.12.b. This battery is very active and the guns are about 100 yds. apart. The following observations, taken from O.P. at C.4.b.55.85 -

Time	Locality Shelled	Calibre	Direction
8.0 to 8.35 a.m.	C.4.b.	4.2" & 77 mm.	46 1/2° T.B.
10.30am to 12.30 p.m.	C.4.a. to C.4.b.	do.	46 1/2° & 25° T.B.
Intermittently	NOREUIL	4.2"	U.18.b.
4.55am to 5.7am	Support Area	Gas	Rear of QUEANT

Machine guns. Located outside wire at U.29.a.8.3 and confirmed by patrol. The following positions are also reported as containing M.G.s.:-

The derelict tank at U.25.a.05.05. There is a suspected emplacement in the trench at U.23.b.8.3, also a post at C.12.b.9.7 1/2. It is reported that 2 guns were seen firing in daylight from approx. U.28.b.6.1 and U.29.a.4.4. This locality will be reconnoitred by patrols tonight.

Aircraft. Very active during the day and particularly between 4 p.m. and 6.30 p.m., but our AA. guns prevented the enemy penetrating far behind our lines. Between 3.45 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. 3 articles were dropped by hostile planes behind their own lines. Bearings on hostile balloons were taken from O.P. at C.4.b.55.85: 29°, 31°, 35°, 36°, 37°, and 47°.

P. T. O.

Movement. A limber moving S.W. along the road stopped at U.6.d.25.75. A small party emerged from what appeared to be a strong point at V.12.c.4.2 and disappeared on road at V.6.d.25.75. Considerable movement at crossroads in V.25.central throughout day also at V.26.central, where parties were seen unloading timber from tramway tracks and carrying same away in both easterly and westerly directions. At 2.45 p.m. a party of 20 men was seen apparently laying out wire from U.30.b.9.3 to U.30.a.5.6. Our heavies shelled it and prevented further work. A party was seen digging at V.25.c.2.9 and was dispersed by our artillery.

Miscellaneous. Explosions, followed by cloud of dense smoke, occurred at the following places :-

HENDECOURT	..	one explosion	..	5.15 p.m.
RIENCOURT	..	three "	..	4.15 p.m.
BULLECOURT	..	one "	..	5.30 p.m.
FONTAINE LES				
CROISILLES	..	one "	..	4.45 p.m.
Rear of QUEANT		two "	..	11.30 p.m.

for *W. Wellington Capt*
 Lieut.-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 2nd Aust. Div.

13

SECRET.
Copy No.....

24

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 123.

Divisional Headquarters,
22nd. April, 1917.

Reference: Sheet 57.c.N.W.
1/20,000

In the line

1. During the night 24/25th April, 1917 the right battalion of the 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. will be relieved by a battalion of the 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde., under arrangements to be made direct between the Brigadiers concerned. Completion of relief to be wired to this office. On completion of relief the G.O.C., 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. will take over command of this portion of the line.

2. On being relieved, the right battalion of the 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. will be disposed under arrangements made by the G.O.C., that Brigade.

3. The right boundary of the 2nd Australian Division will be changed to the following at 9 a.m. on the 25th April, 1917:-
H.23.d.5.0 - I.14.central - I.9.d.0.0 - I.10.central -
I.5.d.2.3 - C.30.central - D.19.b.5.0 - D.14.d.5.0 -
D.15.b.1.9.

4. At 9 a.m. 25th April 1917, the 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. will come under the command of the G.O.C., 2nd Aust. Div. and at that hour will be disposed as follows :-
Two Bns. in front line from road at D.20.a.5.2 to railway at C.6.c.5.3.
One Bn. in support South and South-East of LAGNICOURT.
One Bn. on the BEAUMETZ - MORCHIES - VAULX line.
The M.G.Co. will take over the M.G. defence of the whole of the 2nd A.I.Bde. Sector.
Brigade Headquarters - Crossroads C.29.a.3.2.

5. The 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. will also relieve the escort of two platoons of the 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. now allotted to the Artillery Group in C.23. and 22.
The O.C. relieving escort will report to the Artillery Group Commander at C.22.central.

6. Acknowledge.

W. Bridges

Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

Issued at 6 a.m.

DISTRIBUTION OVERLEAF.

W. Bridges

- 2 -

DISTRIBUTION - 2ND AUST. DIV. ORDER NO. 123.

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- 6 6th Aust. Inf. Bde.
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- 9 2nd Aust. Div. Train
- 10 22nd A. M.G. Co.
- 11 Detach. 1st Anzac Cyc. Bn.
- 12 "C" Squad. 13th A.L.H.
- 13 1st Anzac G.
- 14 " " Q.
- 15 1st Aust. Div.
- 16 4th -do-
- 17 5th -dc-
- 18 11th Division
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[Handwritten signature]

General Staff
2nd Aust. Div.

Issued at 6 a.m.

DISTRIBUTION OVERSEAS

No: 96.

23-4-17.

For Official Use Only.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 22nd April -to- 6 a.m. 23rd April, 1917.

NOTE:- Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. BULLECOURT was heavily shelled during the day and full advantage was taken of the high visibility to secure registration and cut wire.

During the bombardment of HENDECOURT a building was smashed and a body of infantry were seen to scatter.

Aircraft. Fairly active. At 3.55 p.m. four of our planes engaged seven hostile planes and one of the former was forced to descend in U.22.c., apparently owing to engine trouble.

M.G.'s. & Sniping. At irregular intervals, indirect fire was brought to bear on roads and communications in rear of the enemy lines, and fire was also directed on gaps in the enemy wire. Parties reported working on the wire at U.30.a. and U.30.d.6.0 were dispersed. Our A.A.guns were fully occupied with hostile aircraft throughout the day. At daybreak a party seen wiring was fired on by our snipers: two casualties were caused.

Patrols. Parties patrolled our front throughout the night, keeping touch with flanking units. No hostile patrols were encountered. One party, which examined the wire from U.30.a.4.3 to the right, reported that a belt of French wire runs in front of the main belt along this sector and leads to an enemy post at U.30.d.5.7. The party engaged this post after being challenged with the word "ORONEO". It is not known whether any casualties were inflicted on the enemy. The wire here is impassable for infantry.

From U.28.a.8.1 to U.28.c.0.9 the wire is well cut. From the sunken road at U.28.a.7.1 to O.O. the wire is passable.

The absence of flares during the night, and sounds heard by our patrols, seem to indicate that the enemy is endeavouring to repair his wire.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery. Normal until 12.55 p.m., when a heavy barrage was placed on line LONGATTE - S. of NOREUIL, which lasted until 1.20 p.m., when the barrage lifted to C.21 and C.27. The barrage, which mainly consisted of 5.9" HE. came from the direction of RIENCOURT.

Gas shells in small numbers were sent over into our support area intermittently during the day and night.

At 10.30 a.m. enemy registered on railway embankment with 5.9" from direction of RIENCOURT.

Following are particulars of hostile shelling taken from O.P. at C.10.b.5 1/2.6.

TIME	AREA SHELLED	CALIBRE	NO. of RDS.	DIRECTION.
8.43 -8.45am	Sunken Rd. at C.5.central	4.2HE	4	450 T.
do.	C.5.central to C.5.d.9.5	77 mm	33	400 T.
8.45-8.50am	C.26.d.	5.9HE		
9.15-9.30am	C.11a-C.5.c.	4.2HE	17	500 I.
9.35 am	C.5.d.5.7	4.2"	3	50° T.
9.40 am.	C.5.central	4.2HE	4	do.
9.15-10.50am	C.8.b.	5.9HE & Shrap.	20	600 T.
3 p.m.	C.5.a	4.2HE	8	450 T.
4 p.m.	C.10a & C.10.b.	77 mm.	12	510 T.
5 pm	C.4.b.	4.2HE	6	450 T.
5.20 pm.	C.4.a.	4.2HE	4	450 T.

P. T. O.

Batteries located. A 4.2" How. battery was seen in action at D.3.c.20.25 and smoke from the discharge of a battery is reported in LE PETIT BOIS.

M.Gs. Machine guns were seen firing from the following positions: U.23.d.05.70, U.23.b.25.35, mail at U.30.b.25.85.

Aircraft. Enemy planes were very active throughout the day. They were apparently busy observing for the artillery and carried out their task despite our A.A. fire.

Balloons were seen on the following Mag. bearings; taken from O.P. at C.10.b.55.60

300, 350, 440, 580.

Movement. The following working and carrying parties were observed:

A party working from U.12.c.0.1 - U.12.c.5.2.

A party of 60 in V.26 central, apparently shovelling away earth thrown up from trenches.

A party carrying timber at E.24.c.8.4 at 5.30 a.m. Later this place was shelled by us.

A party of 5, working on a strong point at U.22.d.3.0.

Parties moving from V.25.c.0.8 towards the cutting at V.25.c.5.5.

Several parties were seen moving north in rear of RIENCOURT and along road U.6.c. & d.

At 10.45 a.m. a body of about 100 infantry marching in column of fours, with intervals, followed by 6 loaded limbers, were seen proceeding in a N.W. direction along road at U.11.c.4.7. Owing to the telephone lines being cut at the time, our artillery could not be brought into action.

Considerable movement was seen all day around the chateau in U.12.c.. Parties go to and from this spot and smoke can be seen rising; there is every indication of dugouts in this locality.

Miscellaneous. At 7 a.m. 12 pineapple bombs were sent over in the vicinity of the right posts in our right battalion sector. Two explosions occurred, between 10.30 a.m. and 11 a.m., in HENDECOURT.

A dump is suspected at U.6.c.3.2.

R. T. ... Capt.
Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

No: 97.

24-4-17.

For Official Use Only.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 23rd April -to- 6 a.m. 24th April, 1917.

----- :: -----
NOTE:- Not to be taken into front line trenches.OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our 16 pdre. and heavies continued wire-cutting operations and bombardment of BULLECOURT, RIENCOURT & HENDECOURT. Visibility was very good and our aircraft were active spotting for our artillery.

Wire-Cutting. Operations with BANGALORE Torpedoes was again carried out on enemy wire from U.29.a.85.40 to U.29.a.0.6 and U.28.b.6.7 to U.28.b.05.55 at 2.30 a.m. Six torpedoes were successfully exploded in the former sector and seven in the latter. Two failed to reach the wire. No opposition was met with, except in the locality of U.29.a.3.6 when a party was bombed on reaching the wire.

Machine Guns. Indirect fire was brought to bear on enemy communication trench D.1.c.6.1 to D.1.c.9.3. Both Lewis & Vickers guns were engaged sweeping enemy wire whenever practicable, to prevent repairs being effected.

Snipers. Our snipers accounted for four of the enemy.

Patrols. Our front was patrolled throughout the night. No hostile patrols were encountered.

Examination of the wire from U.30.a.2.2 to U.30.a.7.3 showed that enemy had attempted to repair same by throwing loose wire into the gaps and by placing a row of French wire in front of the permanent wire. The only gap still existing is at U.30.a.3.2.

Aircraft. Very active during the day carrying out reconnaissances and directing our artillery fire.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery. Above normal during the night, shelling NO MAN'S LAND with 77 mm & 4.2" H.E. The following observations were taken at O.P. C.10.b.5 $\frac{1}{2}$.6 :

Time	Area Shelled	Calibre	Rds.	Direction	Remarks
8.15 am	C.11.a	4.2HE & S.	8	450 T.	High Bursts
11.10am	C.3.a	4.2HE	6	do.	
11.40am	C.3.a.	do.	11	do.	
12.30pm	C4b&C5a.	4.2Shrap.	5	600 T.	
12.32pm	C.11.a	4.2HE	3	450 T.	High Bursts
1.20pm	C.5cent.& C.5a.5.2	77mm	12	600 T	
1.20-1.23pm	C.4.b.5.9	77mm	10	do.	
1-1.20pm	C.10d1.9 $\frac{1}{2}$	4.2HE.S.	5	450 T.	
5.30-6pm	C.10.b.	4.2 HE	30	do.	
5.20-5.22pm	do.	77 mm	10	350 T.	
5.20pm	C.5.a.	do.	12	do.	

Aircraft. Active during the day but did not penetrate very far over our lines owing to the activity of our own planes. Hostile balloons were observed on the following mag. bearings from C.10.b.5 $\frac{1}{2}$.6 - 620, 680, 1000, 290, 310, 360.

P. T. O.

SITUATION WIRES.

Machine Guns. M.G. positions are suspected at U.23.b.4.1 and U.28. b.1.6. Hostile guns were very active during the night, sweeping NO MAN'S LAND

Movement. Between 5 p.m. & 7 p.m. large parties were seen carrying material from suspected dump at U.6.b.5.0 to the wood at U.5.a.6.9. Waggons were seen at the former place on several occasions. Transport waggons were also seen proceeding along track from U.6.d.2.8 to the wood in U.12.a., where they disappeared. Considerable movement noticed throughout the day around wood at the chateau in U.12.c.

Transport was seen between 4 & 6 p.m. moving in rear of HENDECOURT and along road in U.6.c., d., & b.

Miscellaneous. An explosion followed the bursting of one of our shells in RIENCOURT and for 5 minutes afterwards several minor explosions occurred at this place.

At U.12.a.1.3 two positions can be seen covered with tarpaulins and men moving about in the vicinity.

Transport can be distinctly heard in QUEANT between the hours of 9 p.m. and 2 a.m. intermittently.

At 2.45 p.m. the smoke of a train moving westward was seen in V.26.d. Enemy was using a heliograph in V.8.b. during the afternoon but could not be read from our O.P.

for M. Wellington Capt.
Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

Position	Remarks	Time	Observer
U.12.a.1.3	Two positions covered with tarpaulins	10.15	W. J. ...
U.12.c.	Considerable movement noticed	11.30	W. J. ...
U.6.c., d., & b.	Transport seen moving	4.00 - 6.00	W. J. ...
U.5.a.6.9	Material being carried	5.00 - 7.00	W. J. ...
U.6.d.2.8	Transport waggons seen	...	W. J. ...
U.23.b.4.1	M.G. position suspected	...	W. J. ...
U.28. b.1.6.	M.G. position suspected	...	W. J. ...

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War Diary

Appx. XVII

79

To be destroyed on receipt
of a later issue.

SECRET

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

G.49.

Location of Units at 8 a.m. 24th April 1917.

Div Headquarters,	-	THE MONUMENT.	H.15.c.4.3.
<u>Brigade Headquarters.</u>			
5th Aust Inf Bde.	-	FAVREUIL.	H.16.a.5.6.
6th	-do-	BEUGNATRE.	H.12.central.
7th	-do-	NOREUIL.	<u>InLine.</u> C.10.c.9.1.
<u>Advanced Line.</u>			
C.18.b.7.8.	-	C.6.c.3.2.	- along Railway to U.28.c.2.5.
25th Bn. H.q.	-	C.9.d.5.8.	- Line Left.
26th Bn. "	-	C.16.a.4.8.	- Support.
27th Bn. "	-	C.10.c.6.8.	- Line Centre.
28th Bn. "	-	C.23.b.5.8.	- Line Right.
<u>Support Line.</u>			
I.4.b.2.8.	-	C.28.c.4.6.	- C.27.b.8.7. - C.27.b.0.6. - C.27.a.3.9.
C.20.d.5.6.	-	C.20.a.9.2.	- C.13.d.8.8. - C.13.c.0.0.
17th Bn. H.q.	-	VAULX VRAUCOURT.	C.26.c.2.5.
21st Bn. "	-	do	C.19.d.0.8.
<u>Corps Main Line.</u>			
I.8.c.central.	-	I.7.b.9.0.	- I.7.b.0.2. - I.7.a.2.0. - H.12.b.0.8
H.6.c.0.4.	-	H.5.d.0.5.	- H.4.central.
Held by 16th, 19th and 33rd Bns.			
<u>Div Reserve.</u>			
20th Bn H.q.	-	FAVREUIL - BEUGNATRE AREA.	
22nd Bn. "	-	H.22.c.1.8	
24th Bn. "	-	H.10.d.	
	-	FAVREUIL.	
<u>Artillery.</u>			
C.R.A.	-	THE MONUMENT.	H.15.c.4.3.
"q" Group H.q.	-	I.1.d.7.7.	{ 4th, 5th & 12th A.F.A.Bdes }
"p" do	-	C.14.b.1.7.	{ 10th and 11th do }
"M" do	-	C.22.d.5.7.	{ 1st and 2nd do }
<u>Engineers.</u>			
C.R.E.	-	THE MONUMENT.	H.15.c.4.3.
5th A.Field Coy.	-	VAULX.	C.26.c.9.3.
6th do	-	I.1.c.0.7	
7th do	-	H.12.d.5.6.	
2nd Aust Pioneer Bn.	-	H.6.a.4.5.	
22nd A.M.G.Coy. (Div)	-	C.15.b.9.5.	
<u>Mounted Troops.</u>			
"C" Sqn. 13th A.L.H.	-	FAVREUIL.	
Anzac Cyclist Bn.	-	do	1/2 Coy.
<u>Medical.</u>			
A.D.L.S.	-	THE MONUMENT.	H.15.c.4.3.
5th A.Field Amb.	-	H.16.d.6.6.	Main Dressing Stn.
6th do	-	do	do
7th do	-	I.1.c.6.6.	Advanced Dressing Stn.
Div Train.H.q.	-	H.21.c.	
D.A.D.O.S.	-	H.16.d.7.5.	
Mobile Vet Sect.	-	H.21.a.3.8.	
Field Cashier.	-	BAPAUME.	H.26.d.3.0.
Div Gas Officer.	-	BAPAUME.	H.26.d.3.0.
Div Bomb Officer.	-	THE MONUMENT.	H.15.c.4.3.

C. G. Williams
for

Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
2nd Aust Div.

No. 98

25-4-17.

For Official Use Only

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 24th April -to- 6 a.m. 25th April, 1917.

NOTE:- Not to be taken into front line trenches.OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. The HINDENBURG line and the wire in U.28, 29 & 30 were heavily shelled during the day and the fire of our heavies was observed to be accurate and effective. The villages of BULLECOURT, RIENCOURT & HENDECOURT were shelled and at 4.50 a.m. some gas shells were fired into the last named village. Trench entanglements in U.17.c. & U.23.a. & b. were also shelled and direct hits observed.

Aircraft. Our planes were very active throughout the day, effectively keeping hostile planes from flying over our lines.

Machine Guns. Vickers and Lewis guns kept a constant fire on gaps in enemy wire during the night, preventing repairs being effected. At U.29.a.95.80 a wiring party was dispersed and 6 casualties inflicted. Another wiring party was dispersed at U.30.d.

Sniping. Our snipers were busy with small parties in the vicinity of RIENCOURT. A party attempting to lay wire at U.29.b.1.4 was dispersed at 5.30 a.m. Six of the enemy were accounted for during the day.

Patrols. Patrols were at work throughout the night patrolling and examining wire, and their reports confirm the result of daylight observation taken yesterday. Following is a summary of their reports: Between the sunken road at U.29.a.8.5 and U.29.a.2.7 there is a series of gaps passable for infantry and the wire between these gaps is still an obstacle. U.28.a. is not passable while at U.28.b. the wire is well cut and is passable for infantry.

One patrol was fired on with rifle grenades from approx. U.29.a.9.7 but no casualties resulted.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery. Considerably below normal during the day. At night the vicinity of our front line was subjected to bursts of 77 mm.H.E. & 5.9" H.E. from general direction of U.18.b. At 6.15 a.m. some shells were seen to fall short and burst in enemy's own wire, and just immediately in front of same, in vicinity of U.29.a.7.7. A battery was seen firing on a true bearing 30° from C.10.b.55.60 and is suspected of being a 1.2" How. in the vicinity of U.11.b.

Aircraft. Hostile aircraft not unduly active during day. Two enemy planes were reported to be brought down E.M.E. of LAGNICOURT at about 4 p.m.

Machine Guns. Kept a brisk fire on our planes hovering over enemy lines. M.Gs. were seen firing from positions between U.22.d.1.1 and U.22.d.9.1 and from a position at U.29.a.8.7.

Trench Mortars. 9 Light T.K.Bombs were thrown over into our line at U.28.c.5.3 at 6 p.m. from BULLECOURT.

Balloons. True bearings were taken on hostile balloons from C.10.b.55.60 as follows:- 610, 690, 730, 480, 440, 360, 340, 280, 230.

Movement. The following parties were seen:- Groups of 2 & 3 men constantly around trench in U.17.c - U.23.a. & b. (There is every indication that the trench is garrisoned). Party laying wire at U.23.b.0.5½. This place was shelled by our artillery at 6 p.m. Considerable movement throughout the day at U.12.c.5.2 and along road at U.6.b. Earthwork is plainly visible between U.5.b.2.5 & U.5.b.9.7 where movement is observed. At 5 a.m. 2 limbers were seen at U.11.d.9.1½ and several more at 4.30 p.m. A train was seen to leave QUEMANT in an E. direction at 9 a.m. Small parties seen entering and emerging from dugouts in D.2.a.2.3

An overhead wire can be seen running from U.12.c.5.3 towards CAGNICOURT and the movement round this place suggests a headquarters.

Miscellaneous. Relief: During the night of 24/25th inst. the 28th

P. T. O.

Miscellaneous (Ctd.)

Bn. and two companies of the 17th Bn. were relieved by the 8th Bn. of the 2nd A.I. Bde., in the right sector of the 2nd Aust. Div. front, relief being completed by 1 a.m.

At 4 a.m. the 5th Bde. battle dump was shelled, with the result that 8,000 No. 5 Mills bombs were destroyed.

At 5 a.m. enemy was observed signalling with a flash lamp in the rear of QUEANT. The following group of letters was read:
GUEMARPE BITTE.

R. C. Wertheim
for
Lieut. Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

To be destroyed on receipt
of a later issue.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Location of Units at 8 a.m. 25th April 1917.

Div Headquarters. - THE MONUMENT. H.15.c.4.3.

Brigade Headquarters.

5th Aust Inf Bde. FAVREUIL. H.16.a.5.6.

6th -do- BEUGNATRE. H.12.central.

7th -do- MOREUIL. C.10.c.9.1. Line Left.

2nd -do- (Attached from 1st Aust Div) C.29.a.4.2. Line Right.

Front Line. D.20.a.5.2. - D.14.c.7.4. - D.13.d.05.35 - D.7.c.6.2 -
C.6.c.5.3 - along railway to U.28.c.2.5.

Right Bde. Sector. - 5th Bn. H.Q. C.24.d.9.5 - Line right
8th Bn. H.Q. C.23.b.5.8 - Line left
7th Bn. H.Q. C.30.d.1.9 - Support
6th Bn. Support.

Left Bde. Sector. - 27th Bn. H.Q. C.10.c.6.8 - Line right
25th Bn. H.Q. C. 9.d.5.8 - Line left
28th Bn. H.Q. C.16.a.5.5 - Support
26th Bn. H.Q. C.16.a.3.9 - Support

BEAUMETZ - MORCHIES - VAULX line - 18th and 21st Bns.

BEUGNY - YTRES line - 17th, 19th and 23rd Bns.

Div. Reserve. - FAVREUIL - BEUGNATRE Area. - 20th, 22nd and 24th Bns.

ARTILLERY. -

C.R.A. .. - The MONUMENT H.15.c.4.3

"Q" Group H.Q. - I.1.d.7.7 (4th, 5th, 12th A.F.A.Bdes.)

"P" -do- - C.14.b.1.7 (10th and 11th -do-)

"M" -do- - C.22.d.3.7 (1st and 2nd -do-)

"R" -do- - I.22.a.7.4 (14th A.F.A.Bde.)

ENGINEERS.

C.R.E. .. - The MONUMENT H.15.c.4.3

5th A.Field Co.- VAULX C.26.c.9.3

6th -do- - I.1.c.0.7

7th -do- - H.12.d.5.6

2nd Aus.Pioneers H.6.a.4.5

22nd A.M.G.Co. (Div)- C.15.b.9.5

Mounted Troops.

C.Sqdn.13th A.L.H. - FAVREUIL

Anzac Cyclist Bn. - -do- 1/2 Coy.

MEDICAL.

A.D.M.S. - The MONUMENT H.15.c.4.3

5th A.Field Amb.- H.16.d.6.6 Main Dressing Stn.

6th -do- - -do- -do-

7th -do- - I.1.c.6.6 Adv. Dressing Stn.

Div. Train H.Q. - H.21.c.

D.A.D.O.S. .. - H.16.d.7.5

Mobile Vet. Sec. - H.21.a.3.8

Field Cashier - BAPAUME H.26.d.3.0

Div. Gas Officer - BAPAUME H.26.d.3.0

Div. Bomb. Officer - The MONUMENT H.15.c.4.3

C. G. ...
for Lieut Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

No: 99.

26-4-17.

For Official Use Only.SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.From 6 a.m. 25th Apr. - to - 6 a.m. 26th Apr., 1917.
----- :: -----

NOTE:- Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our artillery resumed wire-cutting operations throughout the day. During the night the usual light shelling of roads, tracks, communication trenches and gaps in the enemy's wire was carried out. The shooting of our heavies was accurate and effective, and enemy works in U.23.b. were shelled with good results. Hostile battery at D.2.b.9.1. was engaged during the morning, and throughout the day working parties and targets in rear were shelled.

Patrols. Patrols from right brigade reconnoitred NO MAN'S LAND to a depth of from 200 to 600 yds. over the whole brigade front. No enemy patrols were seen. Two parties left the crossroads at C.5.b. and worked along the road until within 50 yds. of enemy wire at U.29.b.7.3. From here one party worked to the left for 120 yds. and the other party 200 yds. to the right. The wire was seen to be smashed and heaped up by our shellfire, but, owing to our artillery activity, patrols could not get close enough to ascertain whether the wire was passable for infantry.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Hostile shelling was slightly below normal throughout the period. ECOUST & LONGATTE were shelled and crossroads C.20.a. were searched. LAGNICOURT was shelled at intervals during the day and night. A 4.2" battery was seen firing from vicinity of U.11.b.95.60. Four flashes from a 77mm battery were observed in vicinity of U.24.b.0.5 at 2 p.m.

Trench Mortars. A small number of light T.M. bombs fell in right brigade front line sector from rear of BULLECOURT during the night. About 20 rounds of pineapple bombs fell in left company sector of left battalion of right brigade. Small Minenwerfer bombs were thrown into NO MAN'S LAND in C.4.b. and C.5.a. These were fitted with time fuzes and burst high. They appeared to come from the direction of U.23.cent.

Machine Guns. M.Gs. were seen firing from U.29.b.5.9 - U.29.a.35.95. A M.G. position is suspected at V.25.c.7.1. left

Enemy movement. The following parties were seen by our Bde. -
6.40 a.m. - About 50 men working on main road in U.6.c.& b. A light railway is suspected here as on several occasions men were seen to jump on trolleys and disappear from view in the vicinity of U.6.b.
7.45 a.m. - 15 men were apparently laying a cable in U.30.b. Party digging a trench in vicinity of U.10.d.central was dispersed by our artillery fire. 5 stretcher bearers were seen leaving a strong point at U.17.b.1.3, carrying a wounded man, and entered wood in U.11.d. About 200 men started working on wire in V.25.central but dispersed before our artillery could be brought into action. Signs of trench being improved seen at U.29.b. Excavating at D.1.c.6.8. Dugout timber was being carried to this place. 50 men working on wire between C.5.b. 6.5 and D.1.c.2.2 were dispersed by our M.G. fire.

Our right brigade saw party of 12 moving to the rear from strong point in D.14.c. Party was dispersed by our snipers.

H. C. Weathering
Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

Notes on Conference of Brigadiers & C.O's. 26-4-17 at D.H.Q.

- (a) G.O.C. instructed that greater care must be given to sanitation. - Latrines to be made and used.
- (b) That small posts manned by a few men were to be avoided and that larger posts, manned by complete units (platoons under an officer) used.

Agenda Paper G.I./527.

- 1. Instructions given as in agenda.
- 2. Intelligence being obtained on this point.
- 3. Instructions given that special Vickers guns be detailed for this till daylight, or Lewis guns could "hose" the Searchlight.
- 4. Signalling discs and periscopes to be taken by attacking troops.
- 5. Brigade Commanders to work with their liaison Engineer officers regarding the tapes, and to issue instructions regarding action of patrols on their own frontages.
- 6. Brigade Commanders to decide what shall go forward: the time and method.
- 7. Instructions given as in agenda.
- 8. " " " " "
- 9. All commanders to make notes during the progress of an action. Then after a day or two to make these basis of a short report. Only essential facts and lessons are required in these reports.
- 10. When any change has taken place in the condition of the wire, Copies of reports will be furnished daily to Bdes. & Bns.
- 11. 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. will make and garrison :

<u>Post.</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Garrison</u>
No: 1	Approx. U.30.c.25.00.	1 Lewis gun, with 50% strength crew and 9 O.Rs.
No: 2	Approx. U.30.c.35.30.	-do-
No: 3	Approx. U.30.c.4.5.	-do-
No: 4	C.6.c.0.4 (now being made)	As decided by G.O.C. 7th Bde. crew
5th Aust. Inf. Bde. will dig after zero -		
No: 5	Approx. U.30.c.4.9.	1 Vickers gun, with 50% and 9 O.Rs.

- 12. 1 Bn. along railway from C.4.b. to U.23.c.
1 Bn. about C.4.c.
1 Bn. LONGATTE - NOREUIL Road
1 Bn. along railway in C.5.a.& d. on right flank for protection. Distributed in depth.
- 13. 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. is holding our right sector.
1st -do- has 1 Bn. in VAULA line, 2 Bns. in BEUGNY - YERES line and 1 Bn. about F.VREUIL.
- 14. Explanatory maps will be issued.
- 15. The general opinion is that greatcoats should not be carried, the blanket being better. It was left to Bde. Comdrs. to decide whether to take blankets.
- 16. Bring concentrated fire, Lewis and rifle, to bear from an arc. Bombs and rifle bombs to be employed if possible from a flank.
- 17. C.R.E. is preparing engineering scheme. Bdes. to be given copies.
- 18. Pointed out by brigadiers that, as the waves do not go beyond their objectives, the need for an additional organisation outside the platoon does not exist.
- 19. This will be done by each command, Div., Bde., Bn., etc.

D.H.Q.,
27-4-17.

W. Higgins

Lieut.-Colonel,
2nd Aust. Div.

Ward

SECRET

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SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
-----Divisional Headquarters,
26th April 1917.

13

Spare

C.R.A.
C.R.E.
5th Aust Inf Bde.
6th -do-
8th A.M.G. Coy.
14th -do-
8th A.L.T.M. Battery.
15th -do-

HEADQUARTERS,
2ND
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
(GENERAL STAFF.)

7th A.I. Bde.

A.S.

Conference of Brigadiers and C.Os - 2.30.p.m. 26/4/17
at Div H.Qs. (Vide para 4 of G1/525 of 25/4/17)

A G E N D A .

1. To cross wire 2 men throw mats. Mats thrown with batters on top to grasp with hands.
2. Are there M.Gs in front of our zero barrage.? If so dig in Lewis guns and L.T.Ms to deal with them
3. Special Vickers M.Gs to deal with searchlights.
4. Signalling discs and periscopes to read them by and discs emplaced near, but not at forward report centres.
5. Who will peg out the tapes, and what patrols will lie down along the tape as markers. What patrols will be in front till the last moment. When and where will they rejoin.?
6. What carriers and what M.Gs and M.T.Ms will go forward after first objective is taken, and by which route.?
7. The word "Retire" not to be used, but "Pull out" or "Get", preceded by "from ----", giving officer's name who issues the order and the unit it is intended for. All ranks to be cautioned against English speaking enemy, and that the safest place is close up to the barrage of bursting shells.
8. 2nd Objective for 6th A.I.Bde will be the tram line from U.23.d. 0.8 to U.23.a.6.3. to U.23.a.0.3., and along the road to U.22.b 8.5.
9. Reports on recent actions have been made. After every, even small, action, an officer of Divisional Staff, who may be aided or relieved by a Corps Staff Officer, will endeavour to ascertain briefly the essential facts of the action, and the lessons to be learnt. A record will thus be maintained which will be useful hereafter. The Staff Diaries do not always answer this purpose and have become so full of other matter that they require much sifting. It should be cut down to 1 or 2 pages of foolscap and rough diagrams.
10. Wirecutting. Reports to be furnished to all Battalions daily.
11. 7th A.I.Bde Order No 96.
12. Proposed employment and disposal of 7th A.I.Bde.
13. The role of 2nd and 1st A.I.Bdes.
14. Artillery blue and red lines - explain what they are.

-2-

15. For the attack greatcoats left behind?
16. Method proposed for dealing with M.Gs not at present located.
17. Use of M.E., and what material to go with them. (for carrying parties they have 300 men)
18. Messengers up organisation for dealing with dugouts and putting sentries over them.
19. Any modification in the attack orders will be communicated at once, and be later embodied in an order.

M. J. Hutton Capt

for Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
2nd Aust Div.

Appendix No 19

No: 100.

27-4-17.

For Official Use Only.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 26th April -to- 6 a.m. 27th April, 1917.

NOTE: - Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our heavies and 18-pdrs. were engaged in cutting enemy wire, and at irregular intervals throughout the day, BULLECOURT, HENDECOURT, RIENCOURT and strong points were shelled. Special attention was paid to the strong post at D.14.c, and a working party at D.16.a.5.7 was dispersed.

Machine Guns. Fire was directed on gaps in the enemy wire in order to prevent repairs being effected. The following were searched by indirect fire: Roads in U.22.c. and U.23.b. and the main road through RIENCOURT.

Patrols. Patrol advanced to the edge of the wood in D.14.central but hearing nothing of the enemy, returned to reconnoitre the road running through D.14.a. & c.; it got within 100 yds. of the strong post at D.14.c. Unoccupied shelters were found, cut into the side of the road, at this point.

Another patrol left our lines at D.13.a.9.6 and advanced towards the enemy wire to the right, and in front of, QUEANT. The wire was closely observed and was reported to be fairly thin. No enemy posts were encountered, but working parties were heard behind the wire.

A third patrol left our line at C.12.central and pushed forward towards QUEANT for some 250 yds., then along the front of our out-post line, and returned along the QUEANT-LAGNICOURT Road. No enemy were seen.

Another party visited the enemy wire in D.7.a. The wire was found to be very thick and wide. An enemy strong post at D.1.c.2.3 greatly hampered the activity of this patrol.

Further parties were sent out between U.30.a.45.20 and U.29.b.85.50 to cover the wire-cutting operations which were being carried out under the direction of the 7th Aust. Field Co. No hostile patrols were encountered but working party was observed at work between the last-mentioned co-ordinates and was dispersed by our M.G. fire.

Wire-Cutting. Six BANGELORE Torpedoes were successfully exploded in the enemy wire between U.30.a.45.20 and U.29.b.85.50, The extent of the damage has not yet been ascertained.

Sniping. Our men were active whenever targets presented themselves. One hit is claimed in D.7.b.6.2.

Aircraft. Our planes were active throughout the day, patrolling our own and enemy lines.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. The enemy heavily shelled C.23.central, and the crossroads in C.29.a.; each of these places receiving 100-130 shells during the day.

Time	Rds.	Calibre	Location	Direction
1005-1230	60	5.9 H.E.	C.28.a.4.2	-
1030	40	5.9 H.E.	LAGNICOURT	N.E.
1030	10	4.2 H.E.	Posts D.13	E.
1200-1230	20	4.2, 5.9HE.	C.24.a & c. & C.30.b.	N.E.
1255	17	4.2HE.Shrap	C.24.d.	-
1400-1630	100	5.9HE&Shrap	LAGNICOURT	N.E.
1500-1530	24	5.9HE	C.28.a.4.2	

P. T. O.

Time	Rds.	Calibre	Location	Direction
1600-1700	12	5.9 H.F.	C.28.a.4.2	
1740	15	4.2PE & Shrap.	D.13.c.	PRONVILLE
2030	25	4.2PE	Posts. D.13.	
0950	15	77 mm.	C.10.a.	600 } T.B.
1250	20	77 mm.	C.4.c. & d.	450 } from
1320	37	4.2 & 5.9 H.F.	C.10.b.	560 } O.P. at
1550	26	4.2 & 5.9 H.F.	C.10.b.	500 } C.10.b.
1545	17	do.	do.	500 } 5½.6.

Machine Guns. The enemy repeatedly fired at our planes. Gun was seen at U.29.a.1½.7, and 2 positions are suspected just to the right of this point.

Trench Mortars. At 5.30 a.m. 4 light bombs were fired into our lines from the rear of BULLECOURT.

Movement. At 5.15 a.m. and 8.40 a.m. parties working in U.30.a. repairing wire and improving trenches, were dispersed by our I.G. fire. A party of about 40 was observed carrying timber along road near the dump in U.6.b. At 10.47 a.m. 2 waggons, each drawn by 6 horses, were seen on the main road in U.6.b. & c. and afterwards on the HENDECOURT - RIENCOURT Road. They were shelled by our artillery and one waggon was destroyed. Large parties and transport are frequently visible in the vicinity of the chateau and the road just in rear in U.11.d. and U.12.c. A headquarters is suspected at U.23.b.80.05. At 8.15 p.m. enemy was seen running strong posts at D.1.c.5.1 and D.1.c.7.5 and appeared to be garrisoning them by 18-20 men each. At 5 a.m. a working party of 50 was seen in D.1.a. At 5 p.m. an enemy periscope was seen in the strong post at D.14.c. At 6 a.m. our snipers dispersed a party of 18, working on the wire in front of QUEANT, approx. location D.7.b.6.2. Men have been observed carrying material away from QUEANT, over ridge in rear.

Signals. At 10 p.m. two red stars brought down a light barrage of T.1's., 77 mm. H.F. & shrapnel, just ahead of our front line. At 10.40 p.m. 2 sets of ten stars each were sent up from RIENCOURT, whereon two searchlights well in rear of this village, searched the sky for our planes. At 3.15 p.m. 15 pigeons were seen flying over our left brigade line in the direction of the enemy.

Miscellaneous. An enemy battery was observed in action in the vicinity of IECHY.

Aircraft. Enemy aerial activity was much below normal yesterday. 4 hostile balloons were observed on the following Mag. bearings, taken from C.25.a.9.1: 1020, 140, 530, & 650 respectively.

W. L. ...
Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

To be destroyed on receipt
of a later issue.

Ward diary Appx. XX
SECRET

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

G. 92.

13

Location of Units at 8 a.m. 27th April 1917.

Div Headquarters. - THE MONUMENT. H.15.c.4.3.

Brigade Headquarters.

5th Aust Inf Bde. FAVREUIL. - H.16.a.5.6.
6th -do- BEUGNATRE. - H.12.central.
7th -do- MOREUIL. - C.10.c.9.1. Line Left.
2nd -do- (Attached from 1st Aust Div) C.29.a.4.2. Line Right.

Front Line. D.20.a.5.8. - D.14.c.7.4. - D.13.d.05.35. - D.7.c.6.2. -
C.6.c.5.3. - along Railway to U.26.c.2.5.

Right Edge Sector.

5th Bn. H.Q. C.24.d.9.5. - Line right.
8th Bn. " C.23.b.5.8. - Line left.
7th Bn. " C.30.a.7.1. - Support.
6th Bn. " I.4.d.8.8. - Support.

Left Edge Sector.

27th Bn. H.Q. C.10.c.6.8. - Line right.
26th Bn. " C.9.d.5.8. - Line left.
28th Bn. " C.16.a.5.5. - Support.
25th Bn. " C.16.a.3.9. - Support.

BEAUMETZ - ORCHIES - VAULX Line. 3rd and 4th Bns.

BLUGNY - YPRES Line. - 1st and 2nd Bns.

Div Reserve. - FAVREUIL - BEUGNATRE Area.
17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st 22nd, 23rd and 24th Bns

ARTILLERY.

C.R.A. - - THE MONUMENT. - H.15.c.4.3.
"q" Group H.Q. - I.1.d.7.7. (4th, 5th, 12th A.F.A.Bdes)
"p" -do- - C.14.b.1.7. (10th and 11th -do-)
"l" -do- - C.22.d.3.7. (1st and 2nd -do-)
"a" -do- - I.21.b.central. (14th -do-)

ENGINEERS.

C.R.A. - - THE MONUMENT. - H.15.c.4.3.
5th A. Field Coy. VAULX. - I.2.c.1.9.
6th -do- - I.1.e.0.7.
7th -do- - H.12.d.5.6.
2nd A. Pioneer Bn. H.6.a.4.5.
22nd A. L. G. Coy. (Div) C.15.b.9.5.

Mounted Troops.

"C" Sqn, 13th A.L.H. FAVREUIL.
Anzac Cyclist Bn. -do- - half Coy.

A.A. Co.

A.D.F.S. - THE MONUMENT. - H.15.c.4.3.
5th A. Field Amb. I.1.c.5.5. - Main Dressing Stn. (Walking)
6th -do- - H.16-d.6.6. -do- (Stretcher)
7th -do- - I.1.e.6.6. - Advanced Dressing Stn.

Div Train H.Q. - H.21.c.
D.M.D.O.S. - H.16.d.7.5.
Mobile Vet Sect. - H.21.a.3.c.
Field Cashier. - BEAUMETZ. - H.26.d.3.0.
Div Gas Officer. - BEAUMETZ. - do
Div Bomb Officer. - H.11.d.5.7.

Ward
for Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
2nd Aust Div.

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Appx. 7

SECRET.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

HEADQUARTERS,
2ND
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
(GENERAL STAFF.)
90
43/98

Divisional Headquarters,
27th April, 1917.

WEEKLY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FOR PERIOD ENDING
8 A.M., 27-4-17.

1. GENERAL.

On the night 24th/25th instant the right flank of the Divisional Boundary was extended to D.15.b.1.9.

2. OPERATIONS.

No offensive operations have been undertaken during the week, but preparations for the attack on the HUNTERING line were continued throughout the period. ~~Work has been steadily proceeding on a selected piece of ground, with the objectives carefully noted out to scale.~~

3. MACHINE GUNS.

(a) Our Vickers and Lewis guns have been very active with direct and indirect fire on enemy trenches, crossroads, and all known approaches. A large number of enemy working and wiring parties have been successfully dispersed during the period by our gunners.

(b) Enemy machine gun fire has been normal during the week. Several new positions have been located and systematically dealt with by our artillery. It has been observed that a large number of guns come into action immediately our aircraft go over on patrol duty. A good deal of this fire comes from BULLECOURT.

Very little fire, other than anti-aircraft, has been noticed during daylight.

4. TRENCH MORTARS.

There has been a little enemy trench mortar activity during the period. It commenced night 23rd/24th inst. when a few rounds of "pineapple" bombs were thrown into our right Coy. sector on the extreme right flank.

On 24th inst. bombs were thrown into our left Bn. sector of left brigade from U.28.c.5.3 and on 25th inst. from rear of BULLECOURT.

Very little damage was done in each instance.

5. ARTILLERY.

(a) The general policy has been to harass the enemy at every possible opportunity. All enemy roads, communication trenches and approaches have been systematically shelled during the night.

Cutting of enemy wire has been continued during the week and a light fire kept on gaps and destroyed portions to prevent repairs being effected.

(b) The organization of the left sector 1st Anzac Artillery consisting of three groups, "P", "Q" and "M", was altered on 25th

/inst.

W. H. Dwyer

- 2 -

inst. at 9 a.m., when the 14th A.F.A. Brigade was attached and formed a separate group known as "R" Group.

(c) Hostile Artillery.

Normal fire was maintained during the greater part of the week but towards the latter portion a slight decrease was noticeable.

There has been a considerable increase in counter-battery work, assisted by aeroplane observation. Several direct hits were obtained on our field guns, two being destroyed and three put out of action temporarily.

Mixed barrages, consisting of gas shell (poison and lachrymatory), H.E. and shrapnel of various calibres, were placed on several occasions during the night-time in the valleys between LONGATTE and LAGNICOURT.

6. BANGALORE TORPEDOES.

Since last report twenty BANGALORE Torpedoes have been successfully exploded in enemy wire.

7. CHANGES OF DIVISIONAL FRONT.

On the night 24th/25th inst. one battalion, 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. relieved 28th Bn. and 2 Coys. 17th Bn.

The 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. frontage now extends from road at D.20.a.5.2 to railway at C.6.c.5.3

8. BURIED CABLE.

The buried cable system has been extended North-East of NOREUIL, along the valley to C.5.a.65.85.

Total completed since last report - 2600 yards.

9. CASUALTIES.

Casualties to 8 a.m. 27-4-17: -

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>O.R's.</u>
Killed ...	-	53
Wounded ...	10	170
Missing ...	-	2
	<hr/>	
TOTAL	10	225
	<hr/>	

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters
27th April, 1917.

HEADQUARTERS,
2ND
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
(GENERAL STAFF.)
G/1540

13
1st ANZAC Corps.

1. In compliance with your telegram No G. 173 dated 25/4/17 I forward herewith the scheme of engineer and other defence work to be carried out when the attack on RIENCOURT takes place.

In map "A" is shown

- (a) The work to be done by Infantry Brigades in the front line. Shown in Red. To assist Brigade Commanders an Engineer liaison officer and a section of Engineers are attached to each Infantry Brigade. The garrisons of each post will find the labour.
- (b) The work to be done under the C. R. E's. supervision in the support line. Shown in Blue.

2. The exact location of each work must necessarily be decided by the officers in command in each locality as regards the front line, and by the Engineer officer in charge of each work in support line.

3. Preparations in respect to tools, material and parties for work are being made accordingly.

- 4. At the disposal of the C. R. E. will be:-
 - 3 Field Companies (less two sections attached to Brigades.)
 - 1 Pioneer Battalion.
 - 300 Infantry (100 attached to each Field Company).

5. The G. C. C. each Brigade sector will decide at what time the Engineer parties may go forward to their work. The principle will be that these parties will go forward when the objective next in front of the locality where they are to work has been consolidated by the assaulting and mopping up troops.

6. It is not anticipated that the wiring of front line posts can be carried out till the night after the attack. The proposed wiring is shown in C. R. E's scheme but each post in front line should be wired as soon as this is feasible.

Major General,
Commanding 2nd Aust. Division.

Copies to:-

- C. R. E. }
5th Aust. Inf. Bde. } for compliance please.
6th " " " " }
- C. R. A. }
7th Aust. Inf. Bde. } for information.

AWM *W. D. ...*

ENGINEER
XXXXXXXXXXXXX ORDER NO. 14.

SECRET

-by-

Lieut. Colonel E.J.H. NICHOLSON, D.S.O., Commanding Divisional Engineers, Second Australian Division April 27th 1917.

Operations against enemy front will take place in accordance with Divisional orders issued. Field Companies and Second Australian Pioneer Battalion will carry out works as under :-

FIRST OBJECTIVE.

Strongpoint U.23.c.0.5.

Working party - 2 platoons 2nd Pioneer Bn. = 60.

Tools - 12 picks & 48 shovels.

Time of starting - when 1st phase 3rd objective reached.

Strongpoint U.23.c.8.2.

Working party - 2 platoons 2nd Pioneer Bn. = 60.

Tools - 12 picks 48 shovels.

Time of starting - when 1st phase 3rd objective reached.

Strongpoint U.23.d.9.3.

Working party - 10 sappers 5th Field Company.

40 infantry attached 5th Field Company.

Tools - 10 picks 40 shovels.

Time of starting - when 2nd phase 3rd objective started.

RIGHT FLANK.

Remake Communication trench from U.23.d.10.05. to U.23.b.7.5. (800 yds.)

Working party - 1 Company, 2nd Pioneer Bn. = 120.

Time of starting - when 2nd phase 3rd objective reached.

First as a communication trench, secondly as a support line to Right Flank front trench.

RIENCOURT.

Form strongpoints at :-

(i) U.24.a.8.4. (ii) U.24.a.8.8. (iii) U.18.c.9.0.

(i) Working party - 10 sappers 5th Field Company.

40 infantry attached 5th Field Company.

Tools - 10 picks 40 shovels.

Time of starting - when 3rd objective gained.

(ii) Working party - 2 platoons, 2nd Pioneer Bn. = 60.

(iii) Tools - 12 picks 48 shovels.

Time of starting - when 3rd objective gained.

SUPPORT LINE.

Utilize RIENCOURT - HENDECOURT - 8 to 10 ft. steep road, from U.18.c.2.2. to U.17.c. forming firing trench with communication trench, from bank where steep, and constructing trench across gap in cutting.

Working party - 1 Company, Pioneers = 120.

Tools - 20 picks 100 shovels.

Commence when 3rd objective occupied.

Strongpoint U.23.b. central.

Working party - 10 sappers 5th Field Company.

40 infantry attached 5th Field Company.

Tools - 10 picks 40 shovels.

Time of starting - when 3rd objective gained.

SUPPORTING POINTS TO FRONT LINE.

(i) U.17.b.9.9. (ii) U.18.a.1.3. (iii) U.18.c.4.5.

Working party (i) 15 sappers 6th Field Company.
25 infantry attached 6th Field Company.

" " (ii) Same as - (i).

" " (iii) Same as - (i).

assisted by such infantry as can be spared by 6th Infantry Brigade.

Tools - for each post: 10 picks & 40 shovels.
(extra shovels for infantry.)

Time of starting - when infantry posts are under construction.

R.E. STORES & ROUTES.

(1) Forward dumps are being formed by 5th and 6th Field Companies, - by the former at C.10.c.2.0. & C.5.c.9.9. and by the latter at C.5.a.3.4. These stores will be carried by road running due North to U.23.d.1.8.

(2) An alternative route will be via LONGATTE & BULLECOURT, - this road is now ready for use to C.2.d.6.6., and forward dump to U.27.d.2.5. will be made giving a less exposed carry than No. 1 route.

7th Field Company will be in reserve and attend to dump and cut lanes in HINDENBURG wire, after 1st phase of 3rd objective gained; to facilitate passage through the wire for troops such gaps to be distinctively marked.

All posts are to be wired as soon as possible, and on completion of posts and local wiring, the wiring will be continued along the whole front.

5th & 6th Field Companies will prepare direction boards, and place same in positions, in their respective Brigade areas.

7th Field Company will detail requisite sappers to search RIENCOURT for Wells, Dugouts, Dumps, and especially for Mines, Traps and hidden wires.

One section from the 5th Field Company will be placed at the disposal of the G.O.C., 5th Infantry Brigade.

One section from the 6th Field Company will be placed at the disposal of the G.O.C., 6th Infantry Brigade; in addition to the liaison officer attached to these Brigades by the Field Companies.

G.S. Field Companies and the C.O. 2nd Pioneer Bn. will arrange points of assembly for their units, and state the time each party will move forward to its work.

G.C. 7th Field Company will detail forty men from its attached infantry party to the 5th Field Company, and forty to the 6th Field Company, to assist in digging strongpoints and carrying.

G.O. 2nd Pioneer Bn. will draw R.E. stores from advanced dump, and arrange carrying parties from his own battalion.

J. Logan for Lt. Colonel
C.R.E. 2nd Australian Division.

OVER

AADDENDUM TO DIVISIONAL ENGINEER ORDER NO. 14.TOOLS.

All the above tools will be drawn on this occasion, by the units themselves, from the R.E. dump at Waterpoint, VAULX. The O.C. 5th Field Company will ensure that an ample supply of tools is available to equip the above details. Entrenching parties going forward from VAULX must not depend on drawing tools from forward battle dumps, but must obtain their tools before proceeding forward.

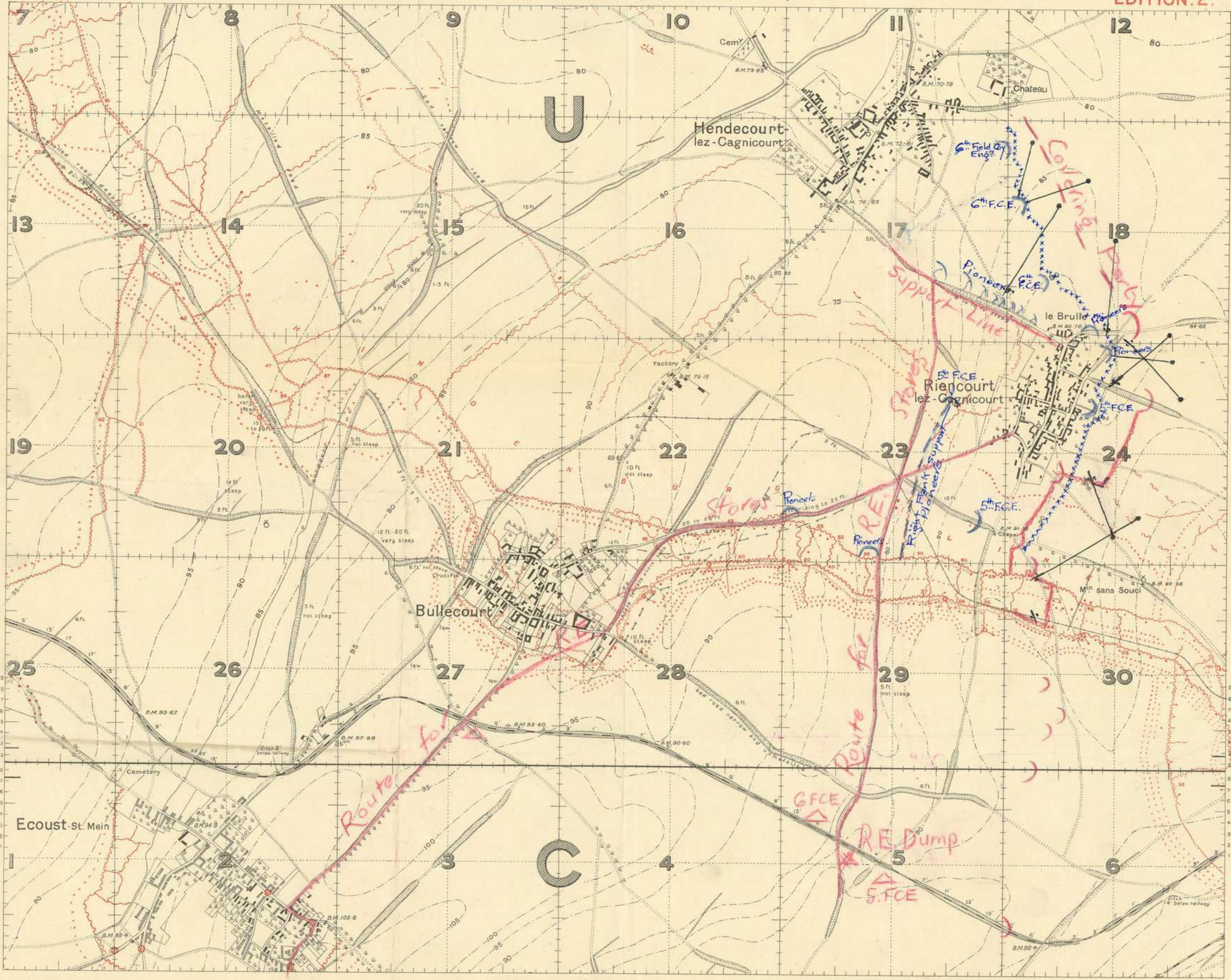
*J. Costigan Capt
for CRE*

SECRET
Ecoust-St. Mein

Work to be done by Inf Bdes shown in red.
Do do by C.R.E. do blue
Proposed wire thus: - xxxxxxxx

EDITION 2.

1:10,000



5th Field Survey Coy C.R.E. (859) 7-4-17.

SCALE - 1:10,000

TRENCHES CORRECTED FROM INFORMATION RECEIVED UP TO 6-4-17.

1359

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. 97From 6 a.m. 27th April -to- 6 a.m. 28th April, 1917.
----- :: -----NOTE: - Not to be taken into front line trenches.OUR OPERATIONS.Artillery. At 11.30 a.m. three smoke "curtains" in succession were placed on enemy trenches in U.29.b. and U.30.a. Each "curtain" was followed by shrapnel fire.

Wire-cutting was continued during the day. Registration was also carried out, and several machine gun positions shelled systematically. The usual night fire was maintained on hostile trenches and gaps in wire.

At 1 a.m. gas was discharged from D.13.c. by mortars. Observers report that the projectiles landed in QUEANT. Enemy replied with numerous flares and light machine gun fire. In addition a few "pineapple" bombs were thrown into our right battalion sector.

Patrols. Right Bde. sent out two special patrols. One left our lines at D.13.a.9.5 and reached enemy wire at D.7.d.5.6. Wire is reported to be strong. A T.M. was seen firing from D.7.b.4.5 (approx.)

No.2 patrol left from D.14.c.2.1 and reached a point 100 yards from the S.W. corner of the copse in D.14.cent. A party of enemy about 40 strong was seen lying in the grass. Patrol returned to our lines. 2 small patrols were immediately sent out to keep enemy under observation. Enemy retired before dawn. Protective patrols were pushed out as usual for some 100 yds. from our advanced posts at 0300 and remained out till dawn. A patrol went out to enemy wire to try and ascertain the result of our gas bombardment, but nothing was seen.

Left Bde. sent out 3 patrols - One proceeded to examine wire at U.29.a.5.7. Here they observed a party of between 30 & 40 men working on a 300 yds. front, covered by M.Gs., and a light T.M. barrage. All along this sector the wire was badly smashed about, and the enemy could be seen driving in fresh stakes. There appeared to be places freshly wired. M.Gs. have been kept busy on this point. In our left sector one party arrived at the wire at U.29.a.8.5, where gaps could be plainly seen.

A second party arrived at the wire at U.29.a.0.8. Gaps could be distinctly seen here from 10 to 20 yds. wide.

A third party worked along from U.28.a.8.3 to U.28.c.2.8: the first 150 yds. was well cut; and the remaining 150 yds. fairly intact.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.Artillery. Hostile artillery was active throughout the period. Ammunition dump in C.2.c.2.1 was destroyed by shellfire at 3.5 p.m. Details of shelling are shown in Appendix "A" attached.

Enemy guns firing in direction of MORCHIES were located at D.12.c.2.2 and D.12.a.8.4. A 77 mm. battery was seen firing from immediately in rear of N.W. corner of QUEANT.

Machine guns. A M.G. position is suspected at U.22.b.6.1.Trench Mortars. Six "pineapple" bombs fell in left battalion sector of left brigade from direction of U.22.c.Movement. Enemy were seen manning strong posts at D.1.a.5.1 & D.1.c.7.5 by right Bde. at 8.15 p.m. Between 8.10 am. and 12 noon left Bde. observers saw considerable movement in vicinity of dump on road at U.6.b.5.0. At 8.30 am. 4 men in pairs were seen laying wires between dugouts at U.17.c.6.4 & U.23.b.4.6. Both of these places are suspected of being headquarters.Miscellaneous. At 9.30 pm. 2 searchlights were working well in rear of enemy lines on a true bearing of 5° and 50° respectively from C.9.d.7.7.

At 3.30 am. 27-4-17 when hostile artillery placed a light barrage on left sector of left Bde., observers report that enemy sent up 2 red cluster flares, and barrage immediately switched off this sector to West of BILLECOURT.

At 3 pm. a carrier pigeon crossed left Bde. sector in direction of enemy lines.

N. Wellington Capt.
for Lieut.-Colonel, G.S.,
2nd Aust. Division.

APPENDIX "A".

Details of Hostile Shelling for 24 Hours ending 6 a.m. 28-4-17

TIME	ROUNDS	CALIBRE &c.	LOCALITY SHELLED	Direction
<u>Right Brigade.</u>				
0830-0900	45	H.E.	C.25.b. & d.	
1115	8	H.E.	C.18.c. & d.	
1135	4	77 mm. H.E.	C.24.b.	
1215	22	5.9 H.E.	D. 13.a. & b.	
1230	6	77 mm.H.E.	C.29.b.	
1250	9	5.9 H.E.	C.24.b.	
1300-1330	26	H.E.	C.23.d.	
1425	7	5.9 H.E.	C.24.b.	
1500	10	H.E.	Posts in D.13.	
2000	15	77 mm.Shrap.	C.23.b. & c.	
2000	8	77 mm. H.E.	C.23.b. & c.	
2000	6	5.9 H.E.	C.29.a.4.2	
2145	21	77mm.Shrap.	Posts in D.13.	
2230	6	4.2 H.E.	C.30.a.4.6	
2230-2300	14	H.E. & Shrap.	C.24.a. & b.	
<u>Left Brigade.</u>				
0820	12	4.2 H.E.	C.4.b.	Taken from C.10.b.5 1/2. 450 T.B.
0850	16	4.2HE & 77mm	C.10.b.	600
0900	9	4.2 H.E.	C.10.b.	600
0925	10	5.9 H.E.	C.2.d.	150
1000	16	5.9 H.E.	C.2.d.	150
1035	11	5.9 H.E.	C.2.d.	150
1120	12	4.2 H.E.	C.4.b. to C.5.a.	500
1215	10	4.2HE & Shrap.	C.10.b.	600
1330	20	4.2 H.E.	C.5.a. & C.4.b.	450
1350	10	4.2HE 77mm.	C.5.a.	400
1410	32	4.2 H.E.	C.10.b. & C.10.c.	600
1528	8	4.2HE & 77mm	C.5.a. & C.5.b.	400
1538	10	4.2HE & 77mm	C.4.a.	500
1628	12	77mmHE & Shrap.	C.5.a. & C.5.b.	400
High bursts over our lines				
16.30	8	4.2 H.E.	C.9.a.	500
Burst near main road				
1630	14	77 mm.	U.28.c.	400
1700	10	4.2 H.E.	C.10.b.	600
Burst near tank				
1700	6	77 mm.	C.5.d.	400
1740	8	5.9 H.E.	C.10.b.	600

To be destroyed on receipt of a later issue.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Location of Units at 8 a.m. 28th April, 1917.

D. H. Q. The MONUMENT H.15.c.4.3.

Brigade Headquarters:
 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. FAVREUIL H.16.a.5.6.
 6th -do- BEUGNATRE H.12.central
 7th -do- NOREUIL C.10.c.9.1. Line left
 2nd -do- (attached from 1st Aust. Div.) G.29.a.4.2. Line right.

Front Line. D.20.a.5.8. - D.14.c.7.4. - D.13.d.05.35. - D.7.c.6.2. -
 C.6.c.5.3. -along railway to U.28.c.2.5.

Right Brigade Sector.
 5th Bn. H.Q. C.24.d.9.5. Line right
 8th -do- C.23.b.5.8. Line left
 7th -do- C.30.a.7.1. Support
 6th -do- I.4.d.8.8. -do-

Left Brigade Sector.
 27th Bn H.Q. C.10.e.6.8. Line right
 26th -do- C.9.d.5.8. Line left
 28th -do- C.16.a.5.5. Support
 25th -do- C.16.a.3.9. -do-

BEAUMETZ - MORCHIES - VAULX line 18th & 21st Battalions.
BEUGNY - YTRES line 17th, 19th & 23rd Battalions
Div. Reserve - FAVREUIL - BEUGNATRE Area. 20th, 22nd & 24th Battalions

ARTILLERY
 C. R. A. The MONUMENT H.15.c.4.3.
 "Q" Group H.Q. I.1.d.7.7. (4th, 5th & 12th A.F.A. Brigades)
 "P" -do- C.14.b.1.7. (10th & 11th -do-
 "M" -do- C.22.d.3.7. (1st & 2nd -do-
 "R" -do- I.21.b.central (14th -do-)

ENGINEERS
 C. R. E. The MONUMENT H.15.c.4.3.
 5th A. Fld. Coy. VAULX I,2.c.4.3.
 6th -do- I.1.c.0.7.
 7th -do- I.1.b.3.3.
 2nd Aust. Pnr. Bn. H.6.a.4.5.
 22nd A.M.G.Co.(Div.) C.15.b.9.5.

MOUNTED TROOPS. (Attached)
 "C" Sqn. 13th A.L.H. FAVREUIL
 Anzac Cyclist Bn. -do- Half Company.

A. A. M. C.
 A. D. M. S. The MONUMENT H.15.c.4.3.
 5th A. Field Amb. I.1.c.5.5. Main Dressing Stn. (Walking)
 6th -do- H.16.d.6.6. -do- (Stretcher)
 7th -do- I.1.c.6.6. Advanced Dressing Station.

Div. Train H. Q. H.21.c.
 D.A.D.O.S. H.16.d.7.5.
 Mobile Vet. Section H.21.a.3.8.
 Field Cashier BAPAUME H.26.d.3.0.
 Div. Gas Officer -do- -do-
 Div. Bomb Officer H.11.d.5.7.

W. Bridges Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

13

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

APPROX. XXIV
SECRET
G.I./555
100

Divisional Headquarters,
28th April, 1917.

C. R. A.
C. R. E.
2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.
5th Aust. Inf. Bde.
6th -do-
8th Aust. M.G. Coy.
14th -do-
8th Aust. L.T.M. Batt.
15th -do-

"O" Sqdn., 13th A.L.H.
7th Aust. Inf. Bde.
1st -do-
2nd -do-
1st Aust. Division
A. D. M. S.
A. Q.

} for information.

1. There will be a further practice for the operation against the HINDENBURG LINE on the 30th inst. Zero hour will be 4 a.m.

2. It is the Divisional Commander's intention that not only the Infantry, M.G. Companies, and L.T.M. Batteries who are to be engaged should take part, but also
(a) all the Engineers and Pioneers to whom tasks have been allotted whether under the G.O.C. 5th and 6th A.I. Brigades or under the C.R.E. (vide G.I./540 dated 27 inst.)
(b) the Signal personnel from Brigade Headquarters forward. Practice in communication and sending messages and reports is of great importance for the officers who will have to send these in the real attack, and for the Signal personnel.

3. The 1st A.I. Brigade will again take over the VAULX and BEUGNY - YTRES line. They will take over on 29th inst by 12 noon and remain till 2nd May.

The Engineers and Pioneers required for the practice will be withdrawn by the C.R.E. from the work on which they are now engaged.

The Signal sections of the 5th and 6th A.I. Brigades will be withdrawn under arrangements to be made by the C.O. Divisional Signal Company and will be relieved by the Signal section of the 7th A.I. Brigade.

Artillery barrage will be provided by "O" Squadron, 13th A.L.H. as before.

C. G. Miles
for Lieut. Colonel,
General Staff,
Second Australian Division.

No:102.

29-4-17.

For Official Use Only.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 28th April -to- 6 a.m. 29th April, 1917.

-----, :: -----
NOTE:- Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. Our "heavies" shelled enemy strong points in U.23.b., C.6.b. and D.1.c.& a. and effectively bombarded BULLECOURT, HENDECOURT & RIENCOURT. Direct hits were observed on the strong points mentioned above. At noon a heavy smoke barrage was placed along enemy front line between U.22.d. & U.23.d. for several minutes. At 11.15 am. our artillery set fire to a building in RIENCOURT and 10 minutes later an explosion occurred which completely demolished the building. Another shell caused an explosion close to this spot.

Patrols. Right Bde. sent out 2 patrols. One patrol left our lines at D.13.a.9.5 and, reaching enemy wire at D.7.d.2.6, worked along it to the left to sunken road. Wire was reported as good and about 10' wide. No.2 patrol left our lines at D.14.c.1.2 and proceeded to road through D.14.c. in which unoccupied shelters were found. Crossing over road a wheeled tracks were met, apparently leading round copse. Sounds as of a large working party were heard from within the copse and a large enemy patrol, acting as a covering party, was sighted. Our patrol returned: artillery was advised and fired on target.

The left Bn. of this Bde. sent out patrols to examine wire in D.7.c.& d. and found it to be good and of double concertina type (See footnote)

Machine Guns. Our M.Gs. carried out indirect fire at irregular intervals during the night, on enemy crossroads, approaches and communication trenches. Direct fire was maintained on all gaps in enemy wire. Patrols report that the latter fire was effective as no enemy wiring parties were seen during the night.

Gas. At 1 am. gas bombs were fired into U.22.c. by the Bde. on our left. At 10 p.m. our artillery shelled RIENCOURT with asphyxiating gas shells.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Artillery. Hostile artillery activity was below normal during the day. At 2 a.m. enemy placed a barrage on our front line in retaliation for our gas shelling early in the evening. At 3 am. a heavy shrapnel barrage was placed on our front line and NO MAN'S LAND.

-- Hostile Shelling Table --

TIME	ROUNDS	CALIBRE &c.	LOCATION	DIRECTION
0856	15	4.2 Shrap.	C.24.a.	
0930	23	77 mm H.E.	C.24.d.& C.30.a.	North
1000	10	4.2HE & Shrap.	LAGNICOURT	
1700-1720	38	5.9 H.E.	C.24.b.	"
1325	12	4.2 H.E.	C.30.a.4.6	
2045	19	5.9 H.E.	C.29.a.4.2	
2100-2400	Steady Shelling	5.9 H.E.	C.23.d.95.20	
1345	16	5.9 & 77mm	E.10.b.	300TB from C10.b
1750	12	5.9HE, 4.2HE	C.2.a.	150 " 55.60
1759	20	5.9 H.E.	C.2.d.	150 "

P. T. O.

Batteries. A 4.2 gun was seen firing on 250 T.B. from C.10.b.5 $\frac{1}{2}$.6. The shells burst on main road to LONGATTE in C.9.a.

Several guns were observed in action on a Mag. bearing of 3500 from C.10.a.6.4.

Aircraft. Balloons were observed on the following true bearings from C.10.b.5 $\frac{1}{2}$.6:- 590, 680, 420, 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ 0, 360.

Machine Guns. Active on anti-aircraft work - otherwise quiet.

Movement. At 8.45 a.m. a party about 100 strong was seen working on a road running through U.6.c. & d.

At 12.10 pm. considerable movement was noticed round chateau in U.12.c. 1.2. At this point a small house or large dump, covered with green camouflage can be seen.

At 2 pm. a party of 9 men carrying wire were seen to dump their loads at U.30.b.2.1.

At 4.30 am. small parties were seen leaving the front line in U.28.a. & b., U.29.a. & b. They proceeded in the direction of HENDECOURT.

There is occasional movement on the road at U.22.d.4.3 between 6 and 7 am.

Object which resembles a water tank on supports is visible at D.3. a.8.3. Considerable movement is observed about this part.

Strong Point. A strong point appears to be under construction at U.29.a.6.7.

Pigeons. At 3.30 p.m. two were seen hovering over the chateau in U.12.c. and a little later another one crossed BULLECOURT, flying in the same direction. Owing to the dull weather, further particulars of the flight are not forthcoming.

At 9.15 am. a pigeon rose from the ground at C.10.c. and flew across our lines, apparently in the same direction, but its flight was too erratic to be able to give definite direction.

W. H. Murray
Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

Patrols. Left Bde. patrols examined wire on their front and found that 6 torpedoes had been successfully blown in wire between road at C.29.b.7.3 and U.29.a.5.2 at intervals as follows from the latter point:- 50 yds., 90 yds., 280 yds., 290 yds., 305 yds., 330 yds. Wire has been well cut where torpedoes exploded to a depth of 20 ft. Small parties could easily go through these gaps. Generally speaking the wire has been fairly well cut in the right sector of the left brigade by the artillery, but troops could not pass through in a line. Men would have to pick their way through it.

War Diary

G123

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Appx. XXV

DISPOSITION REPORT AS AT 8 a.m. 29-4-1917.

The following changes have taken place -

RIGHT BRIGADE SECTOR.

6th Bn.
8th Bn.

C.23.b.5.8.
I.4.d.8.8.

Line Left.
Support.

Otherwise no change.

C. G. Williams

for Lieut. Colonel.
General Staff.

Second Australian Division.

D.H.4.
28-4-1917.

Appendix No. 25.

103

13

Appx. XXVI

SECRET 104

Copy No.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 124.

Divisional Headquarters,
29th April, 1917.

Reference: Sheets -ECOUST-ST-MEIN,
Ed. 2, Sheets 51.b.SW. & SE, and
----- 57.c.NW & NE.

1. In connection with the operations against the HINDENBURG line detailed in 2nd Aust. Div. Order No. 121, the following moves and reliefs will take place:

(a) On "W/X" night:

(i) Two battalions 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. to front system to relieve right support battalion of 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. (NOTE: Right line Bn. of 7th A.I. Bde. is remaining in front system - portion in the posts in C.5.b. & d. and C.11.b., and the remainder in the NOREUIL-LONGATTE road, and will come under the command of the G.O.C., 5th A.I. Bde.).

Two battalions 6th Aust. Inf. Bde. to front system to relieve left line and left support battalions of the 7th Aust. Inf. Bde.

5th & 6th Aust. M.G. Coys. to relieve 7th & 22nd Aust. M.G. Coys. in their own brigade sectors (except 4 guns of 22nd Aust. M.G. Coy. on A.A. duty).

5th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. to C.10.c.9.1.

6th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. to C.9.d.9.3.

(ii) On completion of relief G.O.'s.C., 5th & 6th Aust. Inf. Bdes. will take over command of their own sectors.

The right battalion in the MORCHIES-VAULX line will come under the tactical control of the G.O.C., 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. and the left battalion under the tactical control of the G.O.C., 6th Aust. Inf. Bde.

(iii) On being relieved the 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. will move to C.16.a.4.8. The battalions of the 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. (less right line battalion) and the 7th Aust. M.G. Coy. will move to the camps vacated by the relieving units of the 5th & 6th Aust. Inf. Bdes. The 22nd Aust. M.G. Coy. (less 4 guns on A.A. duty) will move to VAULX

(b) On "Y" day and "Y/Z" night:

Necessary moves for troops to be disposed in accordance with 2nd Aust. Div. Order No. 121 and amendments and additions thereto to be issued tomorrow.

2. At Zero on "Y/Z" night the G.O.C. 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. will take over command and responsibility for the defence of the left brigade sector of the present front line from the 5th & 6th Aust. Inf. Bdes.

3. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued at 8 p.m.

DISTRIBUTION OVERLEAF.

Ambridge

Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff,
2nd Aust. Div.

W. Stary

Distribution - 2nd Aust. Div. Order No. 121.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 C. R. A. | For Information - |
| 2 C. R. E. | 19 1st Anzac G. |
| 3 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. | 20 -do- Q. |
| 4 6th -do- | 21 1st Aust. Div. |
| 5 7th -do- | 22 4th -do- |
| 6 1st -do- | 23 5th -do- |
| 7 8th M.G. Co. | 24 11th Div. |
| 8 13th -do- | 25 62nd Div. |
| 9 22nd A.M.G. Co. | 26 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. |
| 10 8th L.T.M. Bty. | 27 Anzac Heavy Art. |
| 11 15th -do- | 28 3rd Squadron R.F.C. |
| 12 2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Co. | 29 O.C., Special Co. R.E. |
| 13 C. Squad. 13th A.I.H. | 30 G.O.C. |
| 14 O.C., Detach. Anzac Cyc. Bn. | 31 D.G.O. |
| 15 A.D.M.S. | 32 } War Diary |
| 16 A.Q. | 33 } |
| 17 D.B.O. | 34 } File |
| 18 A.P.M. | 35 } |
| | 36 } |
| | 37 } Spare |
| | 38 } |

Handwritten initials 'M'

(11) On completion of relief O.C.'s, 2nd & 3rd Aust. Inf. Bdes. will take over command of their own sectors. The right battalion in the MORCHES-VALUX line will come under the tactical control of the O.C., 2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. and the left battalion under the tactical control of the O.C., 3rd Aust. Inf. Bde.

(12) On being relieved the 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. will move to C.14.4.8. The battalions of the 7th Aust. Inf. Bde. (less right line battalion) and the 7th Aust. M.G. Coy. will move to the same sector as the relieving units of the 2nd & 3rd Aust. Inf. Bdes. The 2nd Aust. M.G. Coy. (less 4 guns on A.A. duty) will move to VALUX.

Lieut.-Colonel
General Staff
2nd Aust. Div.

ACKNOWLEDGED
Issued at 8 p.m.
DISTRIBUTION OVERSEAS

13

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY..

From 6 a.m. 29th April - to- 6 a.m. 30th April 1917.

NOTE. Not to be taken into the front line trenches.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Artillery. The chateau in U.12.c. and strong points in U.23.b & d. were shelled with good effect. In addition, in U.6.b., a working party of 12 was scattered. Wire cutting was continued

Aircraft. Our planes were very active throughout the day, carrying out reconnaissances and directing our artillery fire. At 3.50 p.m. 3 of our planes were attacked by three of the enemy red-body planes. Our planes were forced to descend and one was driven down in flames in NO MAN'S LAND in the vicinity of QUEANT.

Patrols. The wire was examined from U.29.b.7.3 to U.29.a.9.4 and, though cut in places, troops could only get through with difficulty. From U.29.b.7.3 to 5.5, the wire was found to be almost intact. From U.23.c.2.8 to U.27.d.9.9 patrol report that the wire is easily passable for infantry. When at U.28.c.2.8 the patrol attempted to get a closer view of what was thought to be uncut wire, when suddenly, from a suspected strong point, bombs were thrown and rifle fire was opened. Our party then retired and awaited developments. Shortly a party of 3, followed by a party of 6, advanced from behind this strong point. They were immediately bombed by our men and forced to retire. One of the enemy party was hit.

Another patrol examined the enemy wire at D.7.c.1.7. At this point it was strong and the enemy were putting out fresh wire. Patrol then moved some 300 yds. to the E., where the officer and 2 other ranks worked up to within 3 yds. of the wire. They were fired on by the enemy. At the latter position the wire was about 30 ft. thick, laid out in belts, with intervals of a few yards between them. The method of laying was the apron style and the wire was 2 ft.6 ins. in height.

Another party examined the wire in D.7.central and worked along the wire to D.7.a.central. The wire is reported as being poor. The first and second rows consist of one thickness of concertina, with a little added barbed. No enemy were encountered. Patrol heard sounds of working and hammering in the direction of QUEANT in D.8a.

Another patrol left our lines at C.12.a.8.0 and proceeded for 250 yds. in a N.W. direction, thence moving in a N. direction. At 3 am. enemy transport was heard in the gully at D.1.a. & b. Coughing and talking was heard at C.12.b.9.9, which is a suspected listening post.

Machine Guns. 2 guns of the 2nd A.M.G.Co. relieved the 1st A.M.G.Co. at C.27.d.6.4 and C.29.d.5.5. The relief was completed by 10 p.m.

The gaps in the enemy wire were fired on at irregular intervals throughout the night. A working party of 12 was dispersed at U.30.b.2.9. Indirect fire was brought to bear on the following points :- V.25.c.4.0 to & V.25.b.6.0: D.1.b.25.30 to D.1.d.75.20.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

Artillery. (See Hostile Shelling Table.)

Aircraft. At 2.5 a.m. heavy hostile shelling of our front line in U.28. & U.29. At 2.55 a.m. this bombardment was repeated. Otherwise hostile fire has been slightly below normal.

Aircraft. Enemy planes were active throughout the day. From 5.30 am. to 7 am. an enemy plane hovered over our lines in C.29 & C.30 without being fired on other than by M.Gs. The enemy red-body planes which attacked our planes at 3.50 pm. were very fast. 4 balloons were observed at the following Mag. bearings from C.25. a.5.1 - 50o, 54o, 101o & 109o.

P. T. O.

Aircraft (Contd.)

At 5 am. an enemy plane crossed out lines and dropped red and white signals. At 5.30 7 white signals were dropped. No action followed in either case.

Movement. At 4 pm. about 40 of the enemy were seen on the parapet of trench at D.8.d.3.0 (approx.) They disappeared quickly and our artillery registered on the spot for future action. At 8.30 am. a party of 30 was seen moving along the road in U.6.c. & d. At 5 pm. a G.S.waggon, drawn by 4 horses, was observed in the vicinity of U.6.b.5.0, and later 15 men were seen to unload timber therefrom. Hereafter the waggon proceeded in a N.E. direction. Occasional movement was seen in the building at U.28.a.2.8; this is a suspected T.M.position. At 2 am. 20 enemy were seen laying wire in the vicinity of U.12.c.35.70. At 3 pm. our artillery scattered a party of infantry in D.1.d. At 7.15 am. 14 men were seen working on trench in the vicinity of D.8.c.30.65. A T.M. was seen firing from this point, and 1 man got over the parapet and put up a red flag in front of it.

Patrols. A hostile patrol was dispersed at U.29.d.6.3 by our M.G.fire. An enemy patrol approached one of our right Coy.posts (Right Bde.) at 2.30 am. They were fired on and withdrew after throwing some bombs.

Miscellaneous. At 8 pm. a large cloud of smoke was seen rising in the direction of RIENCOURT.

An enemy battery of unknown calibre was observed firing from D.12.central.

Throughout the night the enemy swept our territory with searchlights at half-hourly intervals, from the rear of BULLECOURT & RIENCOURT.

HOSTILE SHELLING TABLE.

Area Shelled	TIME	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	RDS.	REMARKS.
I.4.d.	5.30-7.30am	INCHY	21 cm.	50.	
U,27.d.	8.15-8.20am	CAGNICOURT	15 cm.	10	
C.9.b.	8-8.10 am.	do.	77 mm.	10	
C5.a.RlyEmbankmt.	8.40-9am	REMY	10.5cm.	12.	
C.9.	9am-12noon	Unknown	77 mm.	50	
LAGNICOURT	12noon-1230pm	CAGNICOURT	10.5cm.	30	
Sunken Rd.C22.d.	12noon-1 pm.	QUEANT	77 mm.	20	
LAGNICOURT	2.10-2.25pm.	CAGNICOURT	10.5cm.	20	
crossroads C29a.	5-6 pm.	PRONVILLE	15 cm.	50	
C.23.b.& d. were shelled at irregular intervals during the night with 60 rounds of 10.5 cm. from the direction of QUEANT.					

R.C. Westheim Capt.
for
Lieut.-Colonel,
General Staff
2nd Aust. Div.

S E C R E T .

G. 147.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
-----Location of Units at 8 a.m. 30th April 1917.

The following changes have taken place since last report : -

Brigade Headquarters.

6th Aust Inf Bde.	-	H.9.d.	
1st -do-	-	H.12.central.	{ Attached from 1st } { Aust Div }

MORCHIES-VAULX Line.

- 3rd and 4th Bns.

BEUGNE - YTRNE Line.

- 1st and 2nd Bns.

Div Reserve.FAVREUIL - BEUGNAIRE Area.17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd,
and 24th Battalions.Engineers.

7th Aust Field Coy. - H.12.d.5.6.

A.A.M.C.6th Aust Field Amb. - I.1.c.3.3. Main Dressing Stn
(Stretcher Cases)

OTHERWISE NO CHANGE.

*W. H. Miles*for Lieut Colonel.
General Staff.
2nd Aust Div.