AWM4

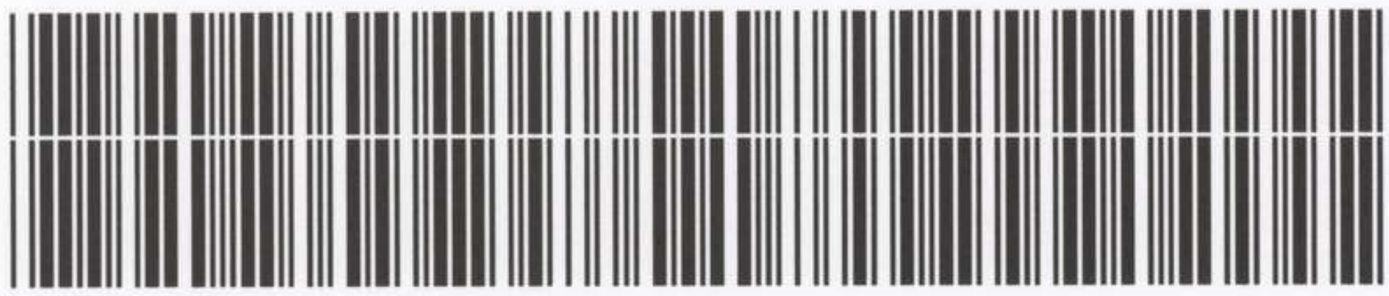
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/46/8 Part 1

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 3rd Australian Division

June 1917



AWM4-1/46/8PART1

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(*Erase heading not required.*)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Vol. 2 - 28.

Place	Date June	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STEEN-WERCK.	1st.		Intelligence Summary No. 188 attached.	Appx. 42.
	2nd		Intelligence Summary No. 189 attached.	Appx. 42.
	3rd		Intelligence Summary No. 190 attached.	Appx. 42.
	4th		Intelligence Summary No. 191 attached.	Appx. 42.
	5th		Intelligence Summary No. 192 attached.	Appx. 42.
	6th		Intelligence Summary No. 193 attached.	Appx. 42.
	7th to 13th		Division attacked MESSINES-WYTSCHAETE RIDGE, South of MESSINES. Divisional Orders Nos.40 to 45, Circulars, Maps. papers etc. in connection with "Magnum Opus" attached.	Appx. 43.
STEEN-WERCK BAILLEUL)	13th		Divisional Headquarters moved to 50, Rue de LILLE, BAILLEUL.	Appx. 43.

A5834 Wt. W4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.

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Vol. 2 - 29.

Place	Date June	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BAILLEUL.	14th to 22nd	)	Third Australian Division out of the Line Resting.No Summaries issued.	
(BAILLEUL (RAVELSBERG.	23nd		Intelligence Summary No. 194 attached.	Appx.42
			Divisional Headquarters moved to RAVELSBERG 23-6-17. G.48/185 attached.	Appx.44
			Divisional Order No.46 issued.	Appx.45
			" " No.47 "	Appx.46.
RAVELSBERG.			Supplement to Divisional Order No. 47 issued.	" 47.
	24th		Intelligence Summary No. 195 attached.	Appx.42
	25th		Intelligence Summary No. 196 attached.	Appx.42
	26th		Intelligence Summary No. 197 attached.	Appx.42
	27th		Intelligence Summary No. 198 attached.	Appx.42
	28th		Intelligence Summary No. 199 attached.	Appx.42
	29th		Intelligence Summary No. 200 attached.	Appx.42
	30th		Intelligence Summary No.201 attached.	Appx.42

J.H.Peck
Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.
for G.O.C. Third Australian Division.

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Appendix No. 42

CONFIDENTIAL.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 188.....1st June, 1917.

(from 6 a.m. 31st May to 6.0 a.m. 1st June, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

OUR OPERATIONS.

At noon one of our men went out into NO MAN'S LAND and brought in wounded one of the missing men who took part in the Raid on enemy trenches the previous night at U.9.c.10.33. This man, who was badly wounded, said that a bomb was thrown at him in the enemy trench during the raid. He lost consciousness and woke up at 10.0 a.m. in the enemy trench, finding that his rifle, respirator and bombs had been removed, and himself apparently left for dead. Shortly after this he was blown into NO MAN'S LAND by one of our own Medium Trench Mortar bombs. Some gas from the bombs affected his eyes. He got up to walk across to our own lines, but laid down in a shell hole about half way across. One of our men went out and brought him in.

Fighting patrols were sent out simultaneously along the Divisional front; one from Right Brigade, 2 from Centre Brigade and 2 from Left Brigade. The object was to endeavour to enter enemy trenches and secure identifications. Points chosen were - Right Brigade, U.28.c.8.8.- Centre Brigade, U.15.a.98.55. and U.15.a.78.66. - Left Brigade U.9.c.25.12 and U.8.d.88.70.

The Right Brigade patrol did not encounter heavy artillery retaliation from the enemy, but M.G. fire was fairly heavy from both flanks. Enemy barrage, when it did come, was placed on his front line. Enemy wire was found easily passable and very badly damaged. Raiding party entered the enemy trench, which they found to be so knocked about as to be almost unrecognisable. At one place the enemy appeared to be digging a new trench in front of the old one. One of the enemy was seen, who fled from machine gun emplacement firing a revolver as he went. Enemy machine gun fire was ineffective, due to the excellent smoke barrage put down by 4" Trench Mortars. The party returned with only 4 wounded in all. 2 steel helmets and some equipment were brought back but there were no identifications whatever on the articles.

The Right Patrol of the Centre Brigade met with thick wire, and only 4 men entered enemy trench. Remainder came under heavy rifle fire. The 4 who entered proceeded along trench to the left, found a sentry group who refused to surrender, and shots were exchanged. One of the enemy was killed, and another wounded escaped. The man killed had no shoulder straps, and his steel helmet, which was brought back had no identification on it. While searching the body for papers the 4 men were attacked from right flank by an enemy party. Further shots were exchanged, and as our men had not made touch with the left patrol they retired.

The Left Patrol of the Centre Brigade entered the trench, shot a sentry on the parapet, and came upon 2 or 3 of the enemy descending into a dugout. One of the men was afterwards found dead at the entrance. As they refused to surrender the dugout was bombed, and screams indicated that the enemy suffered casualties. A bomb thrown

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at our patrol killed the Officer leading them, and the party then retir bringing his body back. A cap was brought in from the dead man in the dugout entrance. It bears the Bavarian cockade, and an illegible stamp inside it - either 5 (or 8) Infantry Regiment Recruit Depot (probably 5 This would indicate 5th Bavarian Infantry Regiment (normal).

The Right Patrol of the Right Brigade at U.9.c.25.12. found enemy wire blown in, but lying loose and still making an obstacle. Enemy barraged his front line and wire and patrol withdrew to shell holes. None of the enemy appeared to be in his front line. VERY lights were fired from Support line. Patrol withdrew without being able to enter.

The Left patrol which steered for U.8.d.88.70.met an enemy party in NO MAN'S LAND which withdrew after an exchange of bombs. Enemy barrage opened on his front line, and lengthened on the firing of VERY lights breaking into green stars across NO MAN'S LAND and towards our own lines. Raiding party was obliged to withdraw

ARTILLERY. 4.5 hows. bombarded ULSTER SWITCH (U.15.b.), DOUVE River, ULRICA LANE (U.9.a), LA DOUVE Farm, ULRICA Avenue (U.9.c.) and ULTIMO ROW (U.16.a.).

18-pdrs bombarded numerous points and communicatior trenches on the Divisional front.

Heavy Trench Mortars bombarded ULSTER Support (U.9.c. and 15.a.).

WIRE. L8-pdrs. cut wire from U.8.b.20.15 to 50.10 (250 rounds), U.8.d.70.85 (250 rounds), U.9.a.55.20 to 50.25.

Medium Trench Mortars cut wire along ULSTER Trench, ULTIMO Trench and ULRICA Trench. Gaps were cut and wire thinned out at several places previously engaged. Gaps are reported at the following points:-

U.15.a.65.70.	10 yards Gap.
U.15.a.30.90.-35.80-25.95.	Between these points wire well cut and the earth thoroughly churned up
U.15.b.70.15.	30 yards.
U.15.d.80.59.	Badly damaged.
U.8.d.25.95.-50.98-70.80.-98.35.	Good gaps cut.

Progress report by Brigade Observer on Left Brigade front states,-"There is not a great lot of wire left now except along the DOUVE River which it would be advisable for artillery to engage. Trench Mortars are unable to observe these points from their positions". The localities thus described are from U.8. central to U.8.b.2.0., and about the small triangular wood at U.8.d.40.95 on each side of the River.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns fired on enemy communication routes and points in rear of his lines.

LEWIS GUNS. Lewis Guns fired on gaps in enemy wire.

PATROLS. Patrols, apart from the operations described above were hampered by the brightness of the night, and heavy enemy machine gun fire sweeping NO MAN'S LAND.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. On Right Brigade front enemy patrols, especially from direction of WARNETON, fired intermittently along the whole Brigad front, especially "D" Gap, LONG AVENUE and LOWNDES AVENUE.

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Between 8 and 9 p.m. about 500 rounds, chiefly 15 c.m. fell in ANTON'S FARM and PROWSE POINT vicinity (U.14.b. - 15.a.). From 11.30 p.m. to midnight enemy began an intense bombardment along the whole Divisional front with all calibres from 7.7 to 21 c.m. We had a few casualties, and our trenches were much damaged, especially ST. YVES trench and Communication trenches.

On the Left Brigade front enemy shelling with 7.7 and 10.5 c.m. was again heavy during the day between DONNINGTON HALL and ANTON'S Farm. From 1.30 p.m. to 4.0 p.m. a howitzer fired in this region. Between 1.30 and 3.15 p.m. 300 rounds of 15 and 10.5 c.m., and about 600 rounds 7.7 c.m. fell in U.14.a., in areas of ADVANCED ESTAMINET, ONLY WAY and ASH Trench.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY. Enemy front line from C.10.b.55.30 to C.10.b.40.90. appears to be badly damaged.

Between 3 and 10 p.m. a fire, apparently caused by our artillery, was burning in LA BASSE VILLE or WARNETON.

On the Right Brigade front commencement of the enemy bombardment at 11.30 p.m. was signalled by a green rocket bursting into 2 lights. The signal for ceasing fire was a red rocket bursting into 2 lights. On our barrage coming down at 1.30 p.m. he fired a red rocket which burst into red and white lights.

An Observer at the head of ST. YVES Trench at 9.30 p.m. saw 12 of the enemy walking along ULTIMO Avenue into the front line.

At 4.40 p.m. flashes of enemy 15 c.m. battery were observed 50 degrees T.B. from U.13.d.54.65.

At 9.0 p.m. an enemy aeroplane brought down NIEPPE balloon in flames. Observers made successful descents by parachute.

F.M. Cuttack
Lieut.-I.C.
for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.
Third Australian Division.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind S.W. or South 15 to 20 m.p.h. Perhaps changing to S.E. at night. Mainly fair, bright and warm, but a risk of showers. Good visibility but morning mist. Temperature day 70, night 50.

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 189.....2nd June, 1917.

(from 6 a.m. 1st June to 6 a.m. 2nd June, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

OUR OPERATIONS. At 2.0 a.m. a Raiding Party 22 strong, from Centre Brigade, entered enemy trenches without artillery assistance at U.15.b.60.20. The wire in front of enemy line here is in a much battered condition, but still forms an obstacle. The ground is very wet and churned up by shell fire. The party moved along enemy trench for a distance of about 40 yards, but found no signs of the enemy and procured no identifications. The enemy trench is in a bad state and fallen in over duckboards. Party returned without casualties.

ARTILLERY. 4.5" hows. bombarded ULSTER SWITCH (U.15.b.), LA DOUVE River (U.9.a. and b.), ULRICA LANE (U.9.a. and b), ULRICA Avenue (U.9.c.), ULTIMO ROW (U.16.a.).

18-pdrs. fired 6,000 rounds on targets previously bombarded, and roads and communications.

Heavy Trench Mortars fired 257 rounds on ULSTER Support, ULTIMO Trench and ULRICA ROW.

Light Trench Mortars fired 380 rounds on various communication trenches and targets on the Defensive front.

WIRE. Medium Trench Mortars cut wire at -

Location.	Rounds.	Effect.
U.15.d.85.80.- U.15.b.50.45.	60.	Wire thinned out.
U.15.a.91.60.-55.75.	134.	Little wire left.
U.8.d.32.91.	136.	Wire badly damaged.
U.8.d.68.90.	106.	-do-
U.8.d.72.80.-70.83.	58.	Good gaps.
U.15.a.60.75.	225.	Gap cut 30 yards.
U.9.c.0.6.-2.4.	360.	Wire badly damaged.
U.15.a.85.60.- U.15.b.20.55.	228.	-do-

Infantry Observers report that shoot of Trench Mortars on left Brigade front was very effective, and demolished most of the wire engaged.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns fired on communication routes in rear of enemy's lines.

LEWIS GUNS. Lewis Guns fired on gaps in enemy wire.

SNIPERS. Snipers destroyed 4 enemy periscopes opposite Right Brigade.

PATROLS. Reconnaissances in NO MAN'S LAND were confined to the establishment of listening posts, The Heavy Artillery activity during the night prevented the usual operation of Patrols.

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ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy shelled T.17 vicinity heavily with 15 c.m. and 10.5 c.m., which included some gas shell. During the night 210 rounds of 10.5 c.m. were fired at targets in T.23 and T.24. Small ammunition dump was exploded near a battery position.

Enemy Artillery was not very active against our front line and support trenches, and no damage was done except near NEW CUT and AYR Trench (U.27.b.) which were blown in in several places.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY. Some movement was observed on DEULEMONT -QUESNOY Road during the early morning.

At 5.45 a.m. a pigeon flew over PLOEGSTEERT WOOD towards WARNETON. At 12.30 p.m. a pigeon flew from a dugout at U.21.b.9.9. towards WARNETON.

What appeared to be a dump was blown up in rear of enemy lines behind MESSINES about 2.30 a.m.

MISCELLANEOUS. An explosion, which was the result of an accident, occurred amongst some Stokes Mortar shells on some trucks near HYDE PARK CORNER during the afternoon. Severe casualties were caused among personnel in the vicinity.

Lieut.-I.C.
for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.
Third Australian Division.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind West 10 to 15 m.p.h. changing to S.W. and probably becoming light and variable later. Mainly fair but risk of some passing showers. Probably bright and warm later. Fair visibility. Morning mist.

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 190.....3rd June, 1917.

(from 6 a.m. 2nd June to 6.0 a.m. 3rd June, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. 4.5" hows. and 18-pdrs. continued bombardment of enemy front and support lines, and communication routes generally, along the front. Heavy Trench Mortars also co-operated along enemy support lines.

During the afternoon intense bombardment with practice barrage was carried out on enemy lines. The enemy reply barrage came down from 5 to 8 minutes after our barrage opened. It was not heavy and was freely distributed over front and support lines.

WIRE. Wire in rear of enemy's front system was engaged by heavy artillery.

Medium Trench Mortars cut wire at -

Situation.	Rounds.	Result.
Banks of DOUVE River.	301.	Wire blown away.
U.8.d.88.72.	104.	70 yards gap.
ULSTER Trench (U.15.a.).	280.	Wire badly damaged.
U.15.b.60.20.-25.52.	413.	Good gaps cut.
U.8.d.66.98.-93.74.	270.	Gap cut between these points.
U.15.a.4.8.-8.7.	302.	Lanes cut.

Infantry report that hardly any damage is discernible after Trench Mortar shoot on wire each side of point U.15.d.83.65. Further to left Light Trench Mortars fired with good results.

Wire from U.8.d.62.92. to U.8.d.59.96. was found by patrols during night of 1st/2nd June to be much knocked about, and there were 2 gaps 5 yards wide between these points. There is only one system of wire here and it is about 30 yards from enemy front line. Wire here wants further cutting.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns fured on points in rear of enemy lines, and along communication routes.

LEWIS GUNS. Lewis Guns fired on gaps in enemy wire.

PATROLS. Patrols report no enemy seen in NO MAN'S LAND. Patrols chief occupation was preliminary reconnaissance of NO MAN'S LAND and enemy wire.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy batteries firing from direction of DEULEMONT, WARNETON and QUATRE ROIS engaged back areas in T.24, T.30., and U.25., with continuous fire almost throughout the day. Some damage was done to two 18-pdr. positions.

Enemy Artillery was not very active on front line trenches during the day except for his retaliation to our afternoon barrage as described above. About 50 7.7 c.m. H.E. and 20 10.5 c.m. fell along front line near ONLY WAY between 11.30 p.m. and midnight. Enemy Machine Gun fire was also active.

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Two Minenwerfer emplacements were observed near U.9.c.05.45.

At 6.50 p.m., 7.45 p.m., 10.10 p.m. and 10.20 p.m., enemy observation balloons were observed in U.24.c. and U.29.d.

The enemy fired 1,300 rounds, chiefly 15 c.m. and 10.5 c.m. against a dummy battery position which we erected for this purpose in T.30.

Several of the enemy were observed passing along ULRICA Trench in U.8.d. at 8.0 a.m.

Considerable movement of horse and motor transport, cyclists and pedestrians was noticed between 6 and 7 p.m. at V.1.a.75.10.

Extract from 2nd Army Summary June 2nd, 1917.

" On June 1st on the Army Front 42 hostile batteries were heavily engaged by our Artillery, 41 gun pits were hit, 6 explosions caused, and 2 fires. Enemy Batteries were neutralised on 213 occasions.

During night of June 1st/2nd night firing on dumps, communication trenches and back areas was continued.

On June 2nd 44 destructive shoots on enemy Batteries were carried out by our Artillery on the Army Front. 18 Batteries were hit and 5 explosions caused. Enemy Batteries weremneutralised on 85 occasions.

Examination of a Prisoner of the 104th I.R., 40th Division, captured North-West of MESSINES, states that it is common talk among the enemy in the trenches that a British attack is to be made on June 3rd."

F. M. Cutlack
Lieut-I.C.
for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.
Third Australian Division.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind West or S.W. 10 to 15 m.p.h. probably becoming light and variable at night. Fair but rather cloudy at first. Temperature rising. Visibility good but indifferent in early morning. Temperature today 60 to 65, to-night 50, to-morrow 65 to 70.

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 191.....4th June, 1917.

(from 6.0 a.m. 3rd June to 6.0 a.m. 4th June, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Our Artillery continued the bombardment of enemy front line system, and, supported by heavy artillery, of works in rear, and of his routes and communications. Trench Mortars continued wire cutting along front system. On Left Brigade front most of the wire is now demolished and in only one or two patches does some wire remain. On Right Brigade front wire still requires further cutting, especially on the right flank.

An Army bombardment was carried out, opening with the Heavy Artillery at 3.0 p.m. At 3.15 p.m. Divisional Artillery bombardment began with smoke shell along the enemy front line, which changed at 3.17 to shrapnel and H.E. The enemy did not appear to be misled into thinking bombardment preceded an attack.. His retaliation was for the most part light and directed against a few well defined localities behind the front line. Enemy fire opened about 6 minutes after our fire began. Very few hostile batteries appeared to come into action. No attempt was made at a regular barrage. The candle smoke barrage put down by the Division on our Left appeared to be very successful.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns fired on points in rear of the enemy lines.

LEWIS GUNS. Lewis Guns fired on gaps in enemy wire.

PATROLS. 14 Patrols were out during the night on the Left Brigade front. There was little hostile activity and nothing important to report.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Hostile Artillery fire was mainly directed against ANTON'S Farm, PLOEGSTEERT, and Wood north of the RED LODGE. Trenches were shelled intermittently. During our bombardment in the afternoon enemy shelled 18-pdrs. positions in T.17. with 15 c.m. and 10.5 c.m. Many direct hits were obtained and some guns were damaged.

At 11.0 p.m. a fairly heavy gas shell bombardment was begun on our back areas, especially the Western part of PLOEGSTEERT WOOD. Some of these Gas shells were fired as far as PONT NIEPPE. Some casualties were caused, but so far there does not seem to have been many very serious cases.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY. At 8.45 p.m. flashes of hostile guns were observed 16 deg. right of MESSINES RIDGE from U.13.b.15.16. Hostile Batteries were also observed 65 and 78 deg. T.B. from T.24.c.95.45. Between 2.30 p.m. and 3.15 p.m. a hostile 15 c.m. battery was firing from the direction of FME. DE LA CROIX; Area shelled, T.18.d. From 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. a 15 c.m. battery was firing from the direction of WAMBEKE - Area shelled, PLOEGSTEERT.

At 7.55 a.m. an enemy aeroplane was directing the

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Ga Sb J.M. Medly Lt J.P. D/O.

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fire of a 15 c.m. battery on target in T.17. 8 rounds were fired, 4 of which were observed by the hostile plane. Messages picked up by our wireless were as follows,- "Too much left". "More right" "K.H." (equals C.I.). The aeroplane was evidently registering a Headquarters.

At 7.0 p.m. a large explosion was observed in MESSINES. At 3.30 a.m. a fire was observed 3 deg left of LA POTTERIE FARM from LA HUTTE CHATEAU O.P. At 12.50 a.m. a fire was observed 9 deg. left of ANTON'S Farm from LA HUTTE CHATEAU O.P.

At 9.45 p.m. the enemy sent up 6 green rockets each bursting into 2 stars in the neighbourhood of ULMA BEAK. In reply to this similar rockets were sent up behind MESSINES RIDGE. Following this Golden Rain Rockets were observed and answered from this place. The enemy then immediately placed a barrage on our front line system in this vicinity (U.8.).

Lieut.-I.C.
for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.
Third Australian Division.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind S.E. or East 10 to 15 m.p.h. Probably increasing to 20 m.p.h. and then decreasing to 5 m.p.h. Fine and warm. Fair visibility but slight haze. Early morning mist. Temperature to-day 74, tonight 50 to 55, to-morrow 75 to 80. Fine warm weather likely for 2 or 3 days.

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 192.....5th June, 1917.

(from 6.0 a.m. 4th June to 6.0 a.m. 5th June, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

OUR OPERATIONS.

Following the Divisional Practice Barrage at 2.0 p.m. 2 parties of Infantry entered enemy trenches, one to the North and one to the South of ULRICA Sap at U.15.a.27.90, and U.15.a.66.71. 2 other parties were to have entered behind the party further South, but both arrived late owing to congestion of traffic. One party although a few minutes late decided to go over, but the barrage had lifted from the enemy front line, and the party met with heavy machine gun fire and could not reach the enemy trenches. There were several casualties, including the Officer in charge killed, and patrols later during the night brought in the bodies of the dead and wounded.

The two parties which entered the enemy trenches found no wire obstacle, and the enemy trenches much knocked about. The Southern party killed 10 of the enemy, wounded many more, and brought in one prisoner. They report the enemy front line unrecognisable and no emplacements of any kind were seen. The only concrete dugout seen was smashed. The Northern party brought back 3 Prisoners. They also report having inflicted casualties on the enemy. All 4 prisoners belong to 9th Bavarian I.R., 4th Bavarian Division (normal). The trenches entered by Northern party were in fairly good condition, with a number of good dugouts. A chorus of "Kamerad" went up as they entered the trenches, but the enemy went on fighting as long as they had a chance. The front line wire at their point of entry was only fairly well cut.

Enemy retaliation to our bombardment was slow in coming down but fairly heavy. It was distributed over our front and support lines, but was not very good, as there was a considerable gap between TORONTO Avenue and ST. YVES about U.15. central.

ARTILLERY. Our Artillery, together with the heavies, continued bombardment of enemy system generally throughout the period. Wire cutting was continued about ULRICA Sap. Considerable damage was caused in PONT ROUGE by the Heavy Artillery bombardment.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns fired on points in rear of enemy lines.

LEWIS GUNS. Lewis Guns fired on front parapet and prevented repair of wire.

PATROLS.

12 Patrols were out on the Left Brigade Front. They report none of the enemy seen except in the triangular wood near the DOUVE River where an enemy post detected them. Patrols brought in the bodies of dead and wounded left in NO MAN'S LAND during the raid in the afternoon.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy artillery was very active, and shells from 15 c.m. 10.5 c.m. and some heavier shell were fired against battery positions. Considerable damage was caused to gun pits. LE BIZET and vicinity were shelled throughout the day and night, and PONT NIEPPE was shelled intermittently from midnight to 4 a.m.

The firing on our front line trenches and the works immediately in rear of them was heavier than on the preceding day

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especially in the vicinity of SEAFORTH Farm, ONLY WAY and ADVANCED ESTAMINET. About 500 15 c.m. shell fell near the lastnamed place during the day. TORONTO Avenue, ST. YVES AVENUE, ONTARIO Avenue, ONLY WAY, ASH LANE and ST. ANDREW'S DRIVE were badly damaged in places.

AIRCRAFT. An enemy aeroplane flew backwards and forwards along NO MAN'S LAND on the Right Brigade front between 4.30 and 5.30 a.m. and was engaged by Lewis Guns.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY. The Left Brigade reports that enemy retaliation barrage was directed by the firing of VERY lights towards the raiding parties, and was heavy in the vicinity of these lights than elsewhere. Fire appear to come from WARNETON and from behind MESSINES RIDGE. Barrage was on NO MAN'S LAND, front line and support line; no firing was done on subsidiary line.

Large fires were seen behind enemy lines in U.30.b. and U.24.d.

Large fire was seen about 9.30 p.m., and burned for 2 hours, behind LE TOUQUET village. Distance could not be estimated.

EXTRACT FROM 2nd ARMY SUMMARY JUNE 4th, 1917.

"Our Artillery yesterday carried out 40 destructive shoots on hostile batteries, secured direct hits on 32 gun pits and caused 8 explosions.

On the Army front to-day 51 destructive shoots carried out, 42 gun pits hit and 20 explosions caused. Enemy batteries were neutralised on 263 occasions. 44 of our batteries were fired on by the enemy, resulting in 17 guns being damaged and 3 explosions."

F. W. Cuttack

Lieut.-I.C.
for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.
Third Australian Division.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind light mainly Easterly, probably increasing towards night and then decreasing again. Fine. Hot. Fair visibility but slight haze. Morning mist. Day temperature 80 to 85, night 55 to 60. Note.- Fair weather likely to continue, but risk of thunderstorms gradually developing.

T.C.

Appendix 3rd Aust. Div. Intelligence Summary,
5th June, 1917.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF PRISONERS OF 9 BAVARIAN I.R. CAPTURED ABOUT U.15.a.3.9.ON AFTERNOON OF 4TH JUNE,1917.

1. NAMES.

Cpl. WIEBER, Josef.
Pte. HOFMANN, Johann.
" BARTHEL, Theodor.
" HAMBURGER, --------

All belong to 6 Company (II Bn) 9 Bav. R.I.R. The Prisoner HAMBURGER is wounded, and in Casualty Clearing Station, and has not been examined. The information was supplied mainly by Cpl. WIEBER.

2. ORDER OF BATTLE.

(a) Divisions North to South:-

Saxons (probably 40th Division).
4 Bav. Division.
16 Bav. Division. (normal).

(b) REGIMENTS(North to South).

9 Bavarian R.R.)
5 Bavarian I.R.) 4 Bavarian Division.
21 Bavarian I.R. - 16 Bavarian Division.

5 Bavarian R.I.R. is in rest near QUESNOY.

(c) COMPANIES.

From DOUVE Southwards:-
7th Company.
6th "
8th "

5 Bavarian I.R. Sector begins at road at U.15.b.3.5. and extends to about road at U.22.c.35.50. (normal).

3. METHOD OF HOLDING LINE.

The 9th Bavarian I.R. Sector is held by 3 Companies in front line system, and one in support. Prisoner does not know where Support Company is, as he was marched with his Company into front line trenches on the night of 2nd/3rd June and has not been out of them since. 9th Bavarians have never before been in this Sector of their Divisional Front. The remaining two Battalions of his Regiment are relieving the remaining 2 Battalions of the 5th Bavarian R.I.R., which at the time of relief were one in support and one in rest billets.

4. BOMBARDMENT.

Prisoner states that the bombardment has been very severe and both wire and front trenches destroyed. He has not seen any deep dugouts, but says the men have strong shelters under the parapet, made of iron and concrete, which will stand even a direct hit fairly well. The bombardment shakes these dugouts and even moves them, but he does not think it has absolutely destroyed many of them. A direct hit last night wounded 3 of the 5 occupants severely, and

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the other 2 slightly, but the dugout was not broken in. Prisoner says rations came up morning of June 4th.

5. MACHINE GUNS.

Prisoner knows nothing except that there is one Machine Gun to his Company, and that was somewhere in support line (about 100 metres behind front line). He does not know the sector, and has not seen any M.G. in it at all.

6. MORAL.

Moral of the men seems good, but they state their Officers dread the coming attack greatly. They have orders to hold on to their position, and he considers the Germans will not give yp the MESSINES RIDGE without being forded to.

Prisoner states, so far as he knows, repairing damaged wire is not pramticable because they cannot get wire brought up to the front line.

7. BILLETS. Prisoner says his billets (one Battalion) when they want out to rest were in FORT DU VERT GALANT in D.29.b. Prisoners saw no troops while they were out at rest except some Prussians, which Regiments they did not know, who were marching through QUESNOY.

Other billets are at ST. ANDRE (2 Battalions),- one Battalion in factory about K.14.d. Central, one in houses of the town. Prisoner thinks the 5th Bavarian R.I.R. is resting North of QUESNOY, and indicates about LE PACAU on the Map (D.5.a.). This supports previous prisoners' statements.

T.C.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 193.....6th June, 1917.

(from 6 a.m. 5th June to 6 a.m. 6th June, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

OUR OPERATIONS. At 9.30 p.m. heavy barrage was opened on the enemy lines. 5 Raiding Parties were intended to enter the enemy trenches, 2 between the DOUVE and ULRICA SAP, 2 in U.15.a. South of ULRICA SAP, and 1 at U.15.b.48.48. Just before ZERO hour the enemy opened a heavy bombardment on the Left Brigade front, and the 2 patrols waiting there were unable to leave our trenches. The Right Patrol met with considerable rifle machine gun fire and found some difficulty in crossing wire, and were obliged to return without entering enemy lines. This patrol suffered casualties, 3 killed, 8 wounded. 2 Centre Patrols entered the enemy lines at U.15.a.50.75. and U.15.a.98.50. The latter party had a few rifle shots and bombs fired at them, but the enemy almost immediately threw down their rifles and fled overland towards their support line. It is estimated that at least 50 men were in this party; they were lightly equipped and appeared to have been surprised. 10 of them were killed by rifle fire and bayonet. The remainder were driven into our barrage and a number more were seen to fall. The raiding party believed that heavy casualties were inflicted on them. Some of the enemy killed were very young, and appeared to be not more than 17 years old. Shoulder straps brought in identified them as belonging to 9th Bavarian R.I.R. (normal).

Raiding party report enemy wire presented no difficulty, and trenches destroyed almost beyond recognition. Our casualty . 1 man slightly wounded. Enemy Artillery fire very feeble.

The Northern party which entered enemy line at U.15.a.30.75 entered without opposition, bombed 2 dugouts and killed 6 of the enemy. An enemy party on the left flank opened fire with a machine gun and bombs. An enemy party on the right flank fled down a ruined communication trench and were fired on by our men as they went. The raiding party took refuge in shell holes from enemy M.G. fire, and at the appointed time withdrew safely to our line. Casualty 1 man slightly wounded. Raiders reported that wire was [illegible] passable and trenches were badly wrecked.

ARTILLERY. Our Artillery continued destructive combardment of enemy front, and wire cutting. At 3 p.m. there was a practice barrage to which the enemy reply was fairly heavy.

MACHINE & LEWIS GUNS. Fired on enemy wire and traffic routes.

PATROLS. Patrols covered cutting of our own wire on Right Brigade Front. None of the enemy seen in NO MAN'S LAND, and no special activity was noticed.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy artillery was very active throughout the day, especially on PLOEGSTEERT WOOD and roads entering it. Some of

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our battery positions were again heavily engaged, and several explosions of ammunition were caused. Most of the enemy fire on back areas seemed to come from a South-Easterly direction, but the batteries which bombarded our front line fired mainly from direction of WARNETON.

At 12.50 a.m. and 1.15 a.m. gas shells were fired on LA HUTTE Chateau and CATACOMBS. No casualties reported.

AIRCRAFT. Enemy aircraft were active both morning and evening. An enemy aeroplane, flying fairly low, at 9.20 p.m. fired a red light and enemy barrage came down on our front line where raiding parties were waiting.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY. Enemy machine guns were observed firing from ULCER RESERVE, slightly north of SCHNITZEL Farm. An M.G. at about DOUVE Farm was also very active.

Enemy "S.O.S." sent up in reply to our barrage at 9.30 p.m. was observed from Right Brigade front to be a shower of Golden Rain rockets.

At 11.30 p.m. a large fire broke out in rear of FRELINGHIEN, with 2 explosions.

EXTRACT FROM 2ND ARMY SUMMARY JUNE 5th, 1917.

"To-day 94 destructive shoots were carried out on hostile batteries, 38 gun pits were hit direct, and 8 explosions caused. Hostile batteries were neutralised 283 times."

J. McCustack
Lieut.-I.C.
for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.
Third Australian Division.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind E. 10 to 15 m.p.h. probably increasing towards night and then decreasing again. Fair bright and very warm. Hot in the South. Fair visibility but slight haze, denser in the morning. Risk of local thunderstorms. Temperature day 75 North, 85 South. Note. Mainly fair weather type with easterly or variable winds not unlikely to last a week.

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June 7th to 13th

No Summaries issued.
Attack on Messines
in progress

June 13th to 23rd

No Summaries issued.
Division Resting.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

June 16th, 1917.

Operations of Battalions of Third Australian Division night of June 6th/7th to night of June 12th/13th, in the Battle for MESSINES RIDGE.

The following account has been obtained from Battalions of their Operations, and Reference is to Map Sheet 28 S.W., PLOEGSTEERT, 1/10,000.

F.M. Cuttack

Lieut.-I.C.
for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.

T.C.

38th BATTALION.

The Battalion assembled between ASH Trench and the left of SEAFORTH FARM, with centre on MESSINES ROAD. About SEAFORTH FARM there was some crowding with the 40th Battalion.

The three waves were -

1st wave D Coy., and ½ of B Coy.
2nd wave A Coy., and ½ of B Coy.
3rd wave C Coy.

At ZERO plus 3 minutes the waves went over and the 40th Battalion having disposed of PETIT DOUVE resistance, the first wave reached ULCER RESERVE without difficulty. There was no Machine Gun fire from the Left Flank. At ULCER RESERVE the second wave went on, leapfrogging the first wave, and later were joined by half of D and half of B from the first wave, which left half of D in ULCER RESERVE. From UNGODLY Trench the second and third waves went on together and the BLACK LINE was reached with 12 Platoons and 12 Lewis Guns. Casualties were very small.

During the halts for about 10 minutes east of SCHNITZEL Farm, and about 1 hour 8 minutes before UNGODLY Trench, there was very little enemy shell fire. The enemy barrage, such as it was, remained on his old front line and No MAN'S LAND until well on into the forenoon. At about 10.30 a.m. near UNGODLY Trench one of our aeroplanes flew over the Battalion's lines and called for flares. Shortly after these had been given the enemy Batteries shortened their range, and from that time onwards they never lifted off the UNGODLY and BLACK LINE vicinity.

Battalion established the BLACK LINE and put in a block on UNGODLY AVENUE just east of the POTTERIES-MESSINES Road in U.3.d. By the morning of the 9th the BLACK LINE had been dug 7 ft. deep and fire-stepped in places. A strong point had also been established at U.3.d.8.9. with a good field of fire north, east and south (1 machine gun and 2 Lewis guns), and another strong point just North of the DOUVE behind the BLACK LINE with 2 Lewis Guns. Connection on right and left flanks was very good throughout.

On morning of June 8th 4 enemy aeroplanes flew low over the BLACK LINE and enemy barrage again came down heavily.

Mules came up as far as the old front line on the MESSINES Road. Hot food was brought up on the afternoon of June 8th.

Battalion Headquarters were on our old front line on MESSINES Raod, with Forward Report Station on ULCER Trench just north of ULNA Avenue.

Battalion was relieved early on the morning of June 9th by 42nd Battalion

37TH BATTALION.

The 37th Battalion assembled between LE ROSSIGNOL and ADVANCED ESTAMINET with Battalion Headquarters at the latter place. At ZERO plus 7 hours the Battalion moved forward in Artillery formation with A Coy. and D Coy. in the first wave, C Coy. and D Coy. of the 40th Battalion in the second wave, and B Coy. in reserve behind the second wave. There was heavy enemy barrage on the Subsidiary line. Two Platoons of 40th Battalion were carrying behind B Coy. After the Battalion had moved off an order was received saying that new ZERO was delayed two hours and instructions were sent out to the Battalion to halt for that period in any available cover in the vicinity of the BLACK LINE. The Battalion moved up to SCHNITZEL FARM across country and then advanced in extended order to the BLACK LINE. By the time they arrived at the BLACK LINE they had lost about 10% of their effectives. They lay down in open order about 150 yards behind the BLACK LINE for a little over 2 hours.

At 3.10 p.m. the waves having been reformed passed through the BLACK LINE behind our barrage and advanced towards the GREEN LINE. The Left Flank reached UNCANNY SUPPORT without difficulty, and joined up at HUN'S WALK with the 47th Battalion. There was some fighting with 3 machine guns and their crews in the 2 houses immediately North of WHITE SPOT COTTAGE Road by UNCANNY SUPPORT, but these were put out of action. The small wood in the angle of UNDULATING Trench and UNDULATING Support hid a nest of Snipers and Machine Guns which could not be overcome, and the line was bent back around that angle. The second wave on the Right entered and consolidated UNCANNY Trench. The leading wave arrived in UNCANNY Support with 43 other ranks, of whom 5 or 6 were N.C.Os. Their last Officer was wounded after bombing the machine guns in the houses already referred to. Along the whole of this GREEN LINE, which including the bend at UNDULATING CORNER was about 1200 yards long, the Battalion had only about 230 men. The 4th Division on their left seem to have fallen back at some time towards the end of the day on to the BLACK LINE; that is what the 37th Battalion understood, and in the evening they too fell back to the BLACK LINE. About 3.30 a.m. (June 8th) the 44th Battalion came up to their relief, found them not established on the GREEN LINE, and on completing the relief had no difficulty in making an advanced line which ran from SEPTIEME BARN south-west to the MESSINES Road about 200 yards North of the DOUVE Bridge.

On the following night (June 8th/9th) the 37th Battalion again came up to relieve the 44th Battalion, and did in fact relieve it for about 10 minutes. The order for this relief was then cancelled and the 44th Battalion took over again.

Headquarters of Battalion June 8th were triangular wood on the DOUVE in U.8.d. On the night of the 8th/9th it was established in a shell hole on ULCER RESERVE near ULNA AVENUE Junction.

There were no communication trenches at all during this period and enemy shell fire on the southern MESSINES Slope was heavy and consistent from DEULLEMONT and WARNETON. There was a telephone from Cable head at SEAFORTH FARM to Advanced Brigade H.Q. on ULCER RESERVE, and the Battalion made a connection up to BETLHEEM Farm. Nearly all Battalion Runners were put out of action.

A and C Companies had most of the fighting. D Coy. to the South had no trouble. Four of our M.Gs. were put out of action. The Battalion T.M. was blown up with its crew before it got to UNCANNY SUPPORT. Battalion had about 8 Lewis Guns between UNCANNY and the River, but only one on the left flank where the fighting was heaviest. Rations were got up on the evening of the 8th by mules as far as SEAFORTH, thence by hand. Water was scarce and men got some out of shell holes.

39th BATTALION.

The route up to the assembly trenches on the night of 6th/7th June lay from OOSTHOVE FARM via PLOEGSTEERT Corner and ANSCROFT AVENUE. The Battalion set out with A,B, and D Coys. less 1 Platoon (Battalion Reserve). C Coy. was Brigade Reserve. Considerable enemy shell fire hampered the progress of the Battalion almost from the beginning. At PLOEGSTEERT Corner one enemy shell burst in the middle of the leading Platoon, and this, with a heavy bombardment by gas shell in this vicinity, disorganised the Battalion. It was almost impossible for Officers and some of the N.C.Os. to wear their masks properly owing to the necessity for directing the men. As it was Officers and men were overcome at every few yards, and their track up through BUNHILL ROW and MUD LANE was strewn with men overcome by the gas. The Battalion leader was one of the casualties. A Senior Company Commander reached the R.A.P. in ANSCROFT AVENUE at about 2.20 a.m. with only about 12 men, though stragglers, much dazed, gradually dribbled in afterwards. This Officer procured all available Ammonia Napsules from the R.A.P. and distributed them amongst all the men whom he could collect along ANSCROFT AVENUE.

At about 20 minutes before ZERO there were about 120 men (out of 360) in the Battalion assembly trenches to the left of ANTON'S Farm. These men were reorganised and it was decided that they should go to the assault in one wave instead of two. At ZERO hour the enemy barrage opposite them came down on the enemy front line very heavily. It was a zig-zag barrage and the Battalion got through a gap successfully without a casualty. The Left Flank successfully bombed several dugouts south-west of DOUVE Farm. The enemy barrage was put on his front line while his men were in that line in dugouts. The two flanks joined up about the line of the track from the DOUVE down to ULRICA Avenue at about U.9.c.6.7. Flares were sent up to aeroplanes to show position at about 3.45 a.m. when the Battalion was advancing at about the situation of the hedge running from the DOUVE at U.9.b.2.5. to U.9.d.4.8. Almost immediately our barrage lifted from this point to beyond GREY FARM, thus leaving unharmed 2 Machine Guns to North of GREY GARM. One of them mounted on the roof of the dugout at U.9.b.6.3. temporarily held up the Battalion which took cover in the hedge already meantioneb and shell holes along it. The Officer in charge of the left flank shot the enemy Machine Gunner who was working the M.G. on the roof of the dugout, and his men then rushed the position. Two machine guns were captured here. The Battalion then linked up with the 34th Battalion on the right which had advanced across ULSTER RESERVE to the right of GREY FARM, and they consolidated together on the BLACK LINE.

The portion of the Battalion when reorganised on the BLACK LINE at about 4.30 a.m. numbered 88 men.

The 34th Battalion was to have taken over from 39th Bn. at about 7 a.m. but was unable to do so until 11 a.m. During this time the 39th continued digging without much interference by enemy fire.

At 11 a.m. the 39th Battalion was ordered to stand by on the North side of the River below SCHNITZEL FARM. C Coy. (100 strong) came up to reinforce at about 8 p.m. on the evening of June 7th.

Mules came up to South of SCHNITZEL FARM on the night of June 7th and brought hot food.

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On the morning of June 8th the Battalion was collected in an abandoned enemy trench between ULNA AVENUE and DOUVE Farm - whether the ditch trench dug by the 40th Bn., or the drain shown just east of that is not clear. During the day of June 8th and the night of June 8th/9th the Battalion continued digging communication trench in vicinity of ULCER RESERVE towards SCHNITZEL and BETLHEEM FARMS. This trench ran parallel with ULNA AVENUE and just south of it.

Battalion was relieved early morning June 9th.

40TH BATTALION.

D Coy. of 40th Bn. made the assault with the 38th Battalion. One Platoon of A, and one Platoon of B, made the assault with the 37th Battalion. This left 40th Battalion for the assault with 10 Platoons, 5 of which (C Coy. and 1 Platoon of B) assembled North of the DOUVE, and 5 (3 Platoons of A and 2 of B) South of the River.

The 5 Northern Platoons went up to their assembly trenches by the BROWN route. There was much shelling on the way which caused some temporary disorganisation and delay. They arrived in their assembly trenches about 10 minutes before ZERO and 50 strong. The Company Commander re-allotted objectives - he and his Batman, for example, took one, and the others were distributed in similar proportions. They reached ULNA Support 27 strong. The right hand Platoon of the Northern Party laid bridges across the DOUVE between MESSINES Road and the enemy old front line and maintained them.

The Southern 5 Platoons assembled between SEAFORTH Farm and the MESSINES Road. They crossed NO MAN'S LAND and reached ULNA SWITCH without difficulty a t about 3.30 a.m. The 10 Platoons having joined up then advanced and dug in along a ditch between ULNA AVENUE and DOUVE FARM running almost due North of the Farm. Their total casualties between assembly trenches and this point were about 100. By 10.0 a.m. the ditch trench was dug and some beginning made with a communication trench running forward to ULCER RESERVE.

Some casualties were caused by enemy machine guns - one on the tip of ULNA BEAK on the MESSINES Road, and one in ULNA SUPPORT near ULNA SWITCH Junction. Another Machine Gun was captured in ULNA SWITCH. Most of our casualties, however, were due to the eagerness of the men who ran into our own barrage, especially one Platoon of B Coy. This was due to inexperience, as was also the fact that in advancing across NO MAN'S LAND some of the men of the Southern 5 Platoons put on gas masks, believing that fumes from the shell holes were asphyxiating gas fumes. There was not much fighting, and the enemy surrendered rather than ran.

After digging the ditch line the 40th Battalion went up to the BLACK LINE to reinforce. There was no enemy barrage short of his old front line until about 10.30 a.m. although there was occasional shooting along ULNA AVENUE and the DOUVE.

Some of the men went on through our barrage as far as UNGODLY Trench and came back through it. Most of them were re-collected in the ditch trench by about 5 a.m.

The 10 Platoons were re-organised at about 3 p.m. and at about 9 p.m. went up to BLACK LINE to reinforce. They had to get through enemy barrage, but reached the BLACK LINE without heavy loss, and were then about 100 strong. The BLACK LINE was then a good trench. At 3.0 a.m. Battalion retired to the ditch trench in U.8.b. and remained there until relieved (early morning June 9th). The 10 Platoons came out of the fight 70 or 80 strong.

44TH BATTALION.

The 44th Battalion was on the night of June 7th attached to 10th Brigade for operations and at 11 p.m. on the night of June 7th/8th they were ordered to proceed from Reserve in CATACOMBS and retake the GREEN LINE North of the DOUVE. The Battalion marched up HEATH Trench and ONLY WAY, crossed NO MAN'S LANE and entered old front line about PETIT DOUVE Farm. They proceeded across country south of ULNA Avenue, and deployed at SCHNITZEL Farm, taking their line by the trees of BETLHEEM. The order was - C Coy. to take UNCANNY Trench; B Coy. to leapfrog them and take UNCANNY Support, and the trench junctions at UNCANNY CORNER; A Coy. to take the GREEN LINE on the right, and link up with a Company of the 40th Bn. which was supposed to be on the GREEN LINE just North of the DOUVE. D Coy. was in reserve, but half of D Coy. was detailed to swing in to the right of A in case the Company of the 40th should not be in the position North of the DOUVE where they were expected.

At 3.30 a.m. C Coy. went forward and reached UNCANNY Trench. They began digging in on a line almost due South of SEPTIEME BARN from about U.4.a.5.5. to U.4.a.4.1. At this time the 48th Battalion on their left had not made touch and as the left flank of C Coy. was in the air, B Coy. was ordered to form a defensive flank which bent back from C Coy's left almost due west towards the BLACK LINE. Meanwhile A Coy. made good the line on the right from C Coy's right flank from a distance of about 500 yards south. The half of D Coy. already detailed came out from BETLHEEM FARM (the reserve position) and established on A Coy's right flank down to DOUVE Bridge. This position was maintained till about 1 p.m. on June 8th, when patrols reported that the 48th Bn. had got up to OWL Trench. B Coy. then swung round from their defensive flank and connected with the 48th near SEPTIEME BARN.

During the night of June 8th/9th the 48th on the left apparently went forward into OWL Support, Patrols of the 44th reported their situation there with right flank in the air at about 10 a.m. on June 9th. At noon B Coy. were ordered to advance to UNCANNY Support and connect up with the 48th, and C Coy. to swing round half right and join up with B. This position was successfully established by 4.30 p.m. Patrols put a block forward in UNDULATING Trench where the track crosses it at about U.4.c.8.7. During the night June 9th/10th a Patrol worked down UNDULATING Trench to about U.4.d.00.35 and reported Southern end strongly held by the enemy. A patrol from the right flank which went out south of UNGODLY AVENUE were driven back by rifle and machine gun fire. The original GREEN LINE, however, was established during June 10th, and on the night of June 10th/11th the Battalion was relieved on it by the 43rd, in small parties under heavy enemy bombardment.

On the afternoon of June 8th at about 4 p.m. considerable numbers of the enemy were seen massing for counter-attack between GAPAARD and STEIGNAST Farm, but they were smashed by our barrage. On the following afternoon there were evidences of enemy massing in the little copse in U.11.a. but these also were dispersed.

At about 5 p.m. on June 9th B Coy. was pbliged temporarily to withdraw from the GREEN LINE by our own barrage which was short. An hour later however on our Artillery lengthening they returned to it. On the evening of June 10th at about 7 p.m. the Coys. on the right flank had similarly to retire for about 150 yards because our Heavy Artillery was falling short. After they had retired some of our heavy rounds fell still shorter and they retired again almost to the BLACK LINE. They returned however to the GREEN LINE about an hour later.

42ND BATTALION.

At 1 a.m. on night of June 8th/9th the Battalion received orders to take over BLACK LINE from the 10th Brigade and clear up the situation between BLACK and GREEN LINES. The Battalion marched from CATACOMBS up the MESSINES Road to the enemy old front line. A and C Companies moved overland south of SCHNITZEL Farm, B Coy. North of SCHNITZEL Farm and D Coy. into Reserve in the ditch between ULNA Avenue and the DOUVE previously consolidated by 39th and 40th Battalions.

A Coy. took over from the River DOUVE to the SUNKEN Road U.3.d.65.10.

B Coy. took over the line left of A up to hedge corner U.3.d.8.6.

C Coy. took over remainder up to boundary with Left Division just South of WHITE SPOT COTTAGE. This was about 3.30 a.m. June 8th/9th. There was a slow fire of 15cm. shell going on at the time, which ceased about an hour later. The fire was directed principally on SCHNITZEL and BETLHEEM Farms.

The Battalion continued organising the BLACK LINE which was completed to 6 ft.deep, fire-stepped and revetted all along. There were good fire-bays. Strong points were established at

U.3.b.75.00.
U.3.d.65.50.
U.3.d.65.30.
U.9.b.5.9.

These were in good order by the afternoon of June 9th.

From 4.30 to 8 a.m. June 9th enemy fire was very quiet. There was some intermittent shelling up to early afternoon. At 3 p.m. a very heavy enemy fire opened and lasted until about 4 a.m. June 10th. UNGODLY Trench and BETLHEEM Farm, also the DOUVE VALLEY, were especially bombarded.

By 5 p.m. June 9th wire had been put out in front of BLACK LINE to a depth of about 12 ft. with tracks through it.

A captured enemy Machine Gun with 2,000 rounds of ammunition was installed at U.9.b.45.95. and used against the enemy. 8 Vickers guns were set up along the BLACK LINE.

Enemy bombardment continued all day on June 10th and during the night of June 10th/11th. The morning of June 11th was quiet, but at noon bombardment was resumed and lasted with short intervals throughout the night.

Battalion was relieved on the night of June 11th/12th by the 4th Australian Division. Casualties during the three days were about 200.

During the night of June 10th/11th patrols were sent out along the middle line from SEPTIEME BARN to the DOUVE Bridge.

Each morning and evening (about 4 a.m. and 8.30 p.m.) enemy aeroplanes flew at about 300 feet over the BLACK LINE spotting for Artillery fire and on at least one occasion firing into our trenches with his machine gun. There was no interference with this by our aeroplanes. The Battalion directed heavy fire on these aeroplanes with machine guns and Lewis guns and it could be seen that his wings were riddled with bullets but otherwise the fire appeared to have no effect.

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43RD BATTALION.

The 43rd Battalion relieved 44th at about 10 p.m. June 10th/11th.

While A and C Coys. were relieving the 44th, D and B Coys. were ordered at 11 p.m. to the attack on UNDULATING Trench. One Platoon of D on the left was detailed to take the collection of houses at U.4.b.2.3. The other 3 Platoons and the whole of B Coy. were to assault UNDULATING Trench and establish Lewis Gun posts beyond. There was a strong communication trench not shown on the map running from about U.4.d.5.7. to about U.4.c.95.30. UNDULATING Trench was taken without much difficulty by 12.30 a.m. and blocks were made forward of it in the communication trench just mentioned, in another communication trench parallel with it about 200 yards to the North, and in UNDULATING Support at about U.4.b.0.1. Lewis Gun posts were established at U.4.c.9.8. and U.4.d.2.1. The Platoon of D Coy. on the left was unable to take the houses for which it was detailed owing to the fact that both our barrage and the enemy's was on this spot. On the next day (June 11th) a patrol from A Coy. found a large number of our dead belonging to 37th and 38th Battalions in these ruins. These men must have got out beyond our barrage on the first day of the battle and been unable to return.

Communication trenches were dug on June 11th from about U.4.c.9.4. to U.4.c.4.4., and from about U.4.c.8.7. to U.4.c.75.55. By the morning of June 11th UNDULATING Trench was cleared to 6 ft. deep, traversed, and fire-stepped, down to the DOUVE, where touch was made with the 9th Brigade. 2 Lewis Guns were captured from the enemy in this trench during the night and a 7.7 cm. gun was found on the DOUVE at U.10.b.10.95. A Battery of abandoned guns of the same calibre could be seen in STEIGNAST Farm, but were not firing. The enemy however was still in this place, for several machine guns opened fire during the morning from the Farm upon one of our aeroplanes.

The Artillery barrage during the night's operation was excellent.

On the morning of June 11th patrols reported UNDULATING Support as far as U.4.d.7.4. to be unoccupied by the enemy.

41ST BATTALION.

41st Battalion was in reserve throughout the battle in our old lines.

All the Battalions of the 9th Brigade on their way up to the assembly trenches suffered severely through enemy gas shelling. Only one Battalion reached its assembly trenches with good time to spare before the attack — the 35th. This Battalion, which wore its gas masks throughout, got through the approach march without any casualties at all, and attribute this to the valuable reconnaissance work done on the practice approach march on "Y" night, when all four Companies marched up through an enemy gas shell bombardment, but only one Company succeeded in reaching the assembly trenches.

35TH BATTALION.

The 35th Battalion assembled between ONTARIO and TORONTO Avenues, and were drawn up for the assault in the order B Coy. C Coy. D Coy. from right to left. A Coy. was carrying. During the approach march they had considerable difficulty under enemy fire from DELENNELLE Farm onwards. They had assembled, however, at 2 a.m. without casualties. The Battalion was intended to go over in two waves but assaulted acutally in only one. The men were rather over-eager and some of them ran into our own barrage. D Coy. on the left went over NO MAN'S LAND in gas masks. The enemy barrage was on our old front line and did not come down until the Battalion was well across. The enemy did not put up any severe resistance in his front line system, and heavy casualties were caused to him by the bombing of dugouts found there.

The Battalion reached its objective on the site of the BLACK DOTTED LINE and dug in on it. They also dug communication trench from ULSTER AVENUE back towards the enemy old front line at about U.5.a.7.7.

The Battalion remained on the BLACK DOTTED LINE digging until relieved on the night of June 9th/10th by the 36th Battalion. From the afternoon of June 7th onwards enemy shell fire was especially heavy along the BLACK DOTTED LINE and in rear of it, and the Battalion suffered rather heavy casualties.

By 4 a.m. on the morning of June 10th the Battalion was back in BUNHILL ROW and at 2.30 a.m. on June 10th/11th it relieved the 33rd Battalion in the sector immediately south. At daybreak on June 11th the Battalion had established a post at FUZE COTTAGE, but later the post was withdrawn from this point to about 200 yards further back along the same road at U.10.d.15.30 During the following night (June 11th/12th) a patrol established a post at U.16.b.7.9. The enemy were in occupation of KNOLL 30 with machine guns.

The Battalion was relieved by New Zealand Division during the night of June 12th/13th.

P. T. O.

34TH BATTALION.

The 34th Battalion had 40 casualties on the approach march owing to gas and the last Company reached the assembly trenches just in time to take part in the assault. The order of the assault was from right to left, C Coy. B Coy. A Coy.— with A Coy. on ANTON'S FARM. Half of D Coy. was on the right of C, and half was kept in reserve for the assault on the GREEN LINE. The Battalion got over NO MAN'S LAND ahead of the enemy barrage and met with very little resistance in the enemy front line system. All enemy dugouts were bombed and their occupants killed or wounded. During the advance towards GREY FARM system there was some distant machine gun fire from the front, probably from GREY FARM, but damage caused was slight. The BLACK LINE was reached by 4.35 a.m. There was practically no resistance in GREY FARM and ULSTER RESERVE, as our men got into the works there smartly behind our barrage. Four machine guns were captured in this position.

The BLACK LINE was consolidated without interference by enemy shell fire, which seemed to be directed mainly on GREY FARM, the BLACK DOTTED LINE, and on carrying parties in the rear.

By 7.20 a.m. the BLACK LINE was about two-thirds complete, and by the morning of June 8th was a continuous trench sandbagged, and fire-stepped. At 7.45 a.m. June 7th the enemy could be seen assembling in POTTERIE FARM and also just east of the MESSINES Road in U.10.a. Stokes Mortars, however, dispersed them. They looked like new troops as their uniforms were bright and clean.

The attack on the GREEN LINE by D Coy. was timed originally for 1.10 p.m. The order depaying the new ZERO did not reach these troops until late. The Officer in charge of the operation waited until 1.30 p.m. and then failing our Artillery barrage which he expected, he moved out without it to the site of the GREEN LINE and commenced digging in along it. The Company continued organising this line while the delayed attack for the GREEN LINE on their Left continued shortly afterwards.

During the night of June 7th/8th an enemy party attempted to advance towards GREY FARM from POTTERIE direction but were dispersed by rifle and machine gun fire.

Shelling on the BLACK LINE was not heavy until the afternoon of June 8th. During the morning of June 8th an enemy aeroplane reconnoitred the line flying very low. Enemy bombardment of the BLACK LINE was very heavy throughout the day of June 9th.

At intervals on June 7th/8th some of our 6" howitzers were firing short and caused a number of casualties. One gun that was particularly short seemed to be directing its fire on TILLEUL FARM.

The Battalion was relieved on night of June 9th/10th by the 36th Battalion.

36TH BATTALION.

The 36th Battalion relieved the 34th and 35th Battalions in the sector immediately South of the DOUVE on the night of June 9th/10th. The Battalion took over the line with C, D, and A Companies from Right to Left, and B Coy. in reserve. During the same night forward posts were established on the MESSINES road at U.10.a.3.1. and U.10.c.4.7.

At 11 p.m. on the night of June 10th/11th under a heavy 18-pdr barrage 200 men left the GREEN LINE to the assault of POTTERIE FARM Trenches. Their objective was the line from the DOUVE down to about U.10.c.9.9. Just prior to the hour when our men left the trenches a heavy enemy barrage came down on our parapet in response to red light signals which began at a point on the DOUVE and followed along the whole POTTERIE System. The assaulting party was disorganised for a moment, but quickly recovered and got forward up to our barrage. The POTTERIE LINE, North of POTTERIE FARM, was held by Bavarians (elements of the 9th Bavarian I.R. principally), but POTTERIE FARM itself was held by a Company of the 1st Guard R.I.R. The Bavarians put up a poor fight, and what was left of them fled after the first encounter back towards CROIX FARM. The Garrison of POTTERIE FARM itself came out from the North evidently to offer resistance but were caught under our Lewis Gun fire from the parapet of UNCERTAIN Trench and practically annihilated. The Battalion established four strong posts forward of UNCERTAIN Support at U.10.a.85.78,U.10.a.90.50. U.10.b.05.10.,U.10.d.15.90. The Officer in charge reconnoitred UNCERTAIN Support as far down as U.10.d.0.7., where, not finding connection with assaulting troops from the right, he put in a block.

A half-hearted counter-attack was attempted on these POTTERIE FARM posts by the enemy shortly before dawn, but was dispersed by Lewis Gun Fire. Enemy shelling on POTTERIE FARM was heavy throughout the day of June 11th. On the afternoon enemy aeroplanes flew over POTTERIE FARM and the BLACK LINE at a height of about 1,000 ft. The men had orders for this emergency to conceal themselves, and it is considered that owing to this precaution the enemy aeroplanes did not detect the location of our advanced posts, which afterwards remained practically immune from bombardment. During June 12th enemy shelling was severe especially in the afternoon, but enemy Batteries did not appear to have the range of the Farm.

Prior to the attack on POTTERIE FARM at about 6 p.m. June 10th, while our Heavy Artillery was bombarding the Farm, one gun appeared to be shooting very short, and shells

P.T.O.

began falling on our own trenches in the BLACK LINE. The Heavy Artillery lengthened on request but one gun was still short and a shell from it completely knocked out a Lewis Gun Team in the Northern post on the MESSINES Road.

The Battalion was relieved on the night of June 12th/13th.

P.T.O.

33RD BATTALION.

The 33rd Battalion assembled between ST. YVES and the North of LONE HOUSE AVENUE. Two Companies were in position by 2.50 a.m. (20 minutes prior to ZERO hour); but one Company did not get into the assembly trenches until just as the mines went up, and another Company, which arrived just in time to join the assault, was never in the assembly trenches at all. The delay on the march up was due to Gas-Shelling by the enemy and the bad state of the trenches, particularly HAYMARKET. The assault went over in some confusion but the Companies quickly righted themselves on reaching the enemy front line. The order of the assault from right to left was D, C, and B Coys. with A Coy. in reserve. Ten minutes after ZERO the right Company was digging in on the BLACK LINE, and a little later the whole of the BLACK LINE was established. By noon the trench was about 4 ft. deep in localities. The Battalion had some opportunity of bayonet work in the enemy front and support lines but the enemy generally surrendered readily. The only disturbance on the right flank was from one machine gun a little to the south-east of ULTIMO LANE, but this was put out of action by bombing. There was no enemy shelling on the BLACK LINE until about 4 hours after ZERO. An enemy aeroplane at about 6 a.m. flying at 500 ft. up evidently detected the Battalion's location.

Enemy shell fire during the day of June 7th was limited almost entirely to a 15 cm. Battery firing from near DEULEMONT. A heavy bombardment, however, began at about 7 p.m. and lasted with intervals throughout the ensuing 48 hours. By the end of the second day the trench here was dug to 6 ft. deep, linked up, and fire-stepped. A support line was dug to connect with LONE HOUSE AVENUE from a point in the old enemy support trench about U.15.b.65.60. At 2p.m. on June 9th a post was established of 25 men in THATCHED COTTAGE. At 11 p.m. on the same night another post 15 strong was installed in the house on ASH AVENUE, U.10.c.5.3. A field gun was captured in the ASH AVENUE house.

At 11 p.m. under Artillery barrage an organised attack was made on the trenches south of POTTERIE FARM in conformity with the operations of the 36th Battalion on POTTERIE FARM, North trenches. The attack on the front of the 33rd Battalion met with little opposition, and posts were established in UNCERTAIN Support at U.10.d.1.6. and at FUZE COTTAGE. The latter post was afterwards withdrawn about 150 yards in rear.

T.C.

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.194.....23rd June, 1917.

(from 6 a.m. 22nd June to 6 a.m. 23rd June, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. During the day harassing fire was carried out on enemy's trenches and back areas. At 1.0 a.m. barrage covering raiding operations of New Zealand Brigade was opened, to which the enemy replied with showers of White, Red, and Green Rockets, some of which were sent up as far back as COMINES.

PATROLS. The work of our Patrols was mainly confined to preliminary reconnaissances. 3 strong patrols which operated along the Divisional Front did not encounter any of the enemy.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. In reply to our bombardment at 1 a.m. enemy lightly barraged our front and support line with 4.2 and 5.9, H.E. and shrapnel. A few gas shell were fired into our forward area during the night, whilst HUN'S WALK, MESSINES and BETHLEEM FARM were lightly shelled. WULVERGHEM-MESSINES Road was shelled with 20 rounds of 10 cm. between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. U.7 and U.8 were shelled with 10 cm. and 15 cm. during the period. Between 5 p.m. and 1 a.m. 800 rounds of 10 cm. and 15 cm. fell in U.31.a. and b. and L'ENFER WOOD coming from a direction E. and S.S.E.

During the day flashes were observed at the following T.B. from U.13.a.3.2.:-

93½ deg. 103½ deg. 111½ deg. 101½ deg. 45 deg. 50½ deg. 55½ deg. 57½ deg. 62 deg. 66 deg. 69 deg. 80 deg. 84½ deg. 86½ deg. 90½ deg. 97½ deg.

MACHINE GUNS. Enemy Machine Guns were active during operations carried out by New Zealand Division, but were not located.

AIRCRAFT. At 8 p.m. 6 hostile 'planes flew low over MESSINES RIDGE, and were engaged by anti-aircraft machine guns.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY. The windmill at P.20.d.55.40 was working all day.

Major.
General Staff.
Third Aust. Division.

.C.

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 195. ..... 24th. June, 1917.

(from 6 a.m. 23rd. June to 6 a.m. 24th. June, 1917).

NOTE. - NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. The usual harassing fire was carried out during the day on enemy trenches and back areas. At 5 p.m. 30 rounds 4.5" howitzer were fired on two batteries at V.1.c.35.70. and V.7.a.50.40.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine guns fired bursts at intervals during the night to cover working parties engaged on construction of new front line. Several hostile aeroplanes were engaged during the day.

PATROLS. .... Patrols of 1 Officer and 20 other ranks located strong enemy patrol, strength about 60, on road U.5.b.4.5., and machine gun at U.5.b.7.4. Shots were exchanged, results unknown. A second enemy patrol of same strength was observed a little to the North of this point. Patrols from Fme. de la CROIX reconnoitred River DOUVE at U.11.b.65.62., then moved Northwards about 250 yards from our line and encountered an enemy patrol of about 30 men at U.5.d.8.0. A strong hostile patrol was repulsed at U.5.d.57.68., and enemy are believed to have suffered casualties. Several shell holes were discovered between the head of CROSS AVENUE and L'HIRONDELLE CABARET fire-stepped and prepared for defence, facing our lines.

OUR DEFENCES. Work on our trenches was continued throughout the period.

AIRCRAFT. .... Our aircraft was active over the enemy lines.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. At 6 a.m. 50 rounds 10 cm. and 15 cm. fell in U.2.a. & c.

Between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. O.31.c. and vicinity was shelled continuously with 10 cm. and 15 cm.

One of our batteries was shelled between 3.30 p.m. and 5 p.m. with 40 rounds of 15 cm.

Throughout the period U.1.a. was shelled with 77 mm. and 10 cm.

Between 3 p.m. and 5.30 p.m. about 50 rounds 21 cm. fell in O.31.c. & d.

A 13 cm. gun in the direction of COMINES put 90 rounds into O.25.d.

The forward area was shelled during the night with lachrymatory and gas shells.

Gun flames were observed from U.13.a.8.2. as follows.- $55\frac{10}{2}$, $59\frac{10}{2}$, $60\frac{10}{2}$, $64\frac{10}{2}$, $66\frac{10}{2}$, $89\frac{10}{2}$, $94\frac{10}{2}$, $96\frac{10}{2}$, - suspected 15 cm. battery. $110\frac{10}{2}$, - suspected gas shell battery - $113\frac{10}{2}$, $114\frac{10}{2}$, $115\frac{10}{2}$ - suspected 10 cm. or 15 cm. guns.

MACHINE GUNS. Hostile machine guns have been located at U.5.b.7.4., U.5.b.83.11., U.11.b.90.35. These guns appear to be brought forward at night by strong enemy patrols.

P.T.O.

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(2).

ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy's wire in front of OTIRA TRENCH in 0.36.a. appears to be strong and continuous.

Major.-
General Staff.

FORECAST.- Noon to Noon. Wind S.W. or West 15 to 20 m.p.h. but light at night. Probably becoming Easterly later. Cloudy. Some showers or drizzle likely. Visibility good becoming fair. Temperature day 65 to 70 night 50.

ADDENDA.

PATROLS. Patrol of 1 Officer 17 other ranks encountered strong enemy patrols at 0.35.b.central. Our patrol, after lying in wait, found enemy too strong to be attacked and retired before daybreak. The enemy appear to constantly occupy line of shell holes from about 0.35.b.5.5. to 0.35.b.9.3.

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 196. .... 25th. June, 1917.

(from 6 a.m. 24th. June to 6 a.m. 25th. June, '17).

NOTE. - NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. At 6.30 p.m. a 77 mm gun at O.36.b.5.5. was shelled with 60 rounds 4.5" how. - At 11.45 p.m. the Divisional Artillery also engaged a battery at V.7.a.40.36.

The usual harassing fire was carried out during the day on enemy trenches and back areas.

MACHINE GUNS. Our machine guns fired on "S.O.S" lines between 10.30 p.m. and midnight.

PATROLS. ... The Divisional front was actively patrolled, both by day and night. - An Officer and N.C.O located an enemy post at U.5.b.3.6. on the GAPAARD-WARNETON road at 9.45 a.m. The N.C.O. was wounded, but both returned safely after being heavily bombed and fired at with rifles. This post was dislodged during the afternoon by a strong patrol, which moved out covered by Lewis gun and rifle fire. Our fire inflicted many casualties on the enemy, who ran on the approach of our patrol. Our casualties, 6 O.R. wounded. - No identification was obtained.

Our night patrolling was hindered by enemy gas shell bombardment and display of Very lights.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy artillery was active throughout the period, special attention being paid to STEIGNAST FARM, SEPTIEME BARN, HUN'S WALK and MESSINES, which were bombarded with 5.9, 4.2, 77 mm., H.E. and shrapnel. The western slopes of MESSINES RIDGE were also given attention. The whole forward area was bombarded with gas shell between 10.20 p.m. and 4 a.m. Between 10 p.m. and 11 p.m. the enemy barraged our first, second and third line trenches, and communication trenches.

MACHINE GUNS. During the bombardment of our lines between 10 p.m. and 11 p.m., hostile machine guns were very active, one of which has been located at U.11.d.65.58.

GENERAL. .. Enemy patrols were inactive and none were encountered. The enemy appear to have connected up shell holes between O.35.b.90.05. and O.35.b.7.4. Two sentry groups were seen in this vicinity during the day.

MISCELLANEOUS. Our aircraft and the enemy aircraft both active throughout the day.

During the day large fires were observed in the vicinity of COMINES and WERVICQ.

J. Fair

Major. -
General Staff.

FORECAST.- Noon to Noon. Wind S.W. or W. 10 to 15 m.p.h. falling light at night. Cloudy at first and perhaps showers. Then fair and bright. Good visibility. Morning mist. Warmer. Temperature day 75, night 50 to 55. Note. Fair weather probably lasting 2 or 3 days. Barometer this morning at MSL 30.11 inches. Rising slowly. At 100 metres 29.76 inches.

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 197.....26th June, 1917.

(from 6 a.m. 25th June to 6 a.m. 26th June, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Our Artillery employed harassing fire against the enemy's front line system and back areas. At 2.30 p.m. 75 rounds 18-pdr. and 4.5 hows. were fired on mechanical transport at P.32.a.9,6. in response to aeroplane call.

PATROLS. Patrols from the Right Battalion came under enemy machine gun fire several times from U.5.b.92.45 and U.5.b.70.38.

A low system of small screens was observed at U.5.d.65.90.

Patrol activity was hampered by weather conditions.

LEWIS GUNS. Lewis Guns fired bursts during the night to cover our Patrols. 2 enemy Patrols were fired on.

SNIPERS. During the day several of the enemy were fired upon by our Snipers.

OUR DEFENCES. Consolidation was continued during the period.

Right Coy., Left Battalion has advanced to a line between O.35.d.2.4. and U.5.b.2.5. which is being consolidated, and which is in touch both right and left with remainder of our front line.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy Artillery was fairly active during the period.

Intermittent shelling with 15 c.m. 10 cm. 7.7 cm. and shrapnel was carried out on front line system, communication trenches HUN'S WALK and MESSINES. Mule tracks and roads were engaged during the hours of darkness with H.E. and shrapnel

Between 7 a.m. and 12 noon 800 rounds 15 cm. and 10 cm. fell in U.2.c., U.8.a. and U.1.b. and d. from South of WARNETON.

During the day STELNEECQUE VALLEY was shelled continuously with 15 cm. and 10 cm.

Between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. a battery in U.2.c. was shelled with about 400 rounds of 15 c.m. from the direction of BAS-WARNETON.

At 10.30 a.m. 20 rounds 15 cm. fell in O.31.d.7.5. from WARNETON direction.

ENEMY DEFENCES. New earthworks can be seen in P.26.c.

AIRCRAFT. Very active on both sides. Enemy aeroplanes flew low over our front line system during the early morning and again last night at about 9.10.

MISCELLANEOUS. Fires were seen burning in rear of the enemy lines during the night at the following T.B. from U.13.a.8.3.:-

10.25 p.m.	59 degrees.
10.15 p.m.	60 "
4.5 a.m.	115 "

J. H. J. Paine.

Major.
General Staff.

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No.198..... 27th June, 1917.

(from 6 a.m. 26th June, to 6 a.m. 27th June, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Usual harassing fire was carried out during the period, both enemy's front line system and back areas being engaged.

Heavy Artillery fired into KIWI Farm and GARDE DIEU.

Stokes Mortars obtained several direct hits on enemy post at U.5.b.40.60.

PATROLS. Several strong patrols were sent out along the Divisional Front during the night. One patrol moved out from U.11.b.50.70. to about U.11.b.80.30 whence flares had previously been fired. Near this point an enemy patrol was seen and followed up, but managed to elude our patrol.

Another patrol in this vicinity was fired upon by machine guns and rifles. At the same time the enemy fired one red and two green rockets, upon which his artillery immediately opened a heavy barrage on our front line system.

A patrol which had moved out from U.5.d.30.40 was challenged and fired upon by enemy post near U.5.d.80.50. A machine gun at U.5.b.80.20. also engaged this patrol.

An enemy post was encountered at O.35.d.50.55 from which the enemy fled on our approach. Consolidated shell holes were located at U.5.b.3.7. and O.35.d.85.70. Machine guns appear to be emplaced at these two points. A line of shell holes was found consolidated and connected up at O.35.d.50.35, in which a large number of stick bombs were stored. The patrol which carried out this reconnaissance was fired upon heavily by machine guns

DEFENCES. The work of consolidation is progressing. A new communication trench has been pushed through from first to second lines in O.35.a. Hostile bombardment hindered work.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy artillery was quiet during the day but active at night particularly so in response to rockets sent up by enemy posts when our patrols were seen. MESSINES-HUN'S WALK was shelled at intervals. During the night a few gas shell fell in the vicinity of FME.DE LA CROIX. 6 8" shells were fired into BETHLEHEM FARM. From 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon 100 rds. of 15 cm. fell in O.32.d. and O.33.c. from direction of COMINES.

MACHINE GUNS. Enemy machine guns were very active during his artillery bombardment.

AIRCRAFT. At 5.30 p.m. and again at 7.20 p.m. several hostile 'planes flew over our lines but were driven back by anti-aircraft fire.

GENERAL. Several fires were observed at WARNETON and enemy back areas.

Major.
General Staff.

T.C.

GOC 27/6/17

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No.199.....28th June, 1917.

(from 6 a.m. 27th June, to 6 a.m. 28th June, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

UR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy front line, roads and back areas were intermittent- bombarded during the period.

ACHINE GUNS. During the night Machine Guns fired upon A L'HIRONDELLE ABT., KINGSCLERE, KIWI FARM and L'ESPERANCE CABT.

IRCRAFT. Our aircraft active all day. At 11 p.m. 4 of our 'planes lew over the enemy's lines and appeared to drop bombs North of WARNETON. Our planes were engaged by enemy anti-aircraft guns and searchlights.

ATROLS. Patrols report a few of the enemy appear to occupy shell oles in O.35.b. continuously. No hostile platrols were encountered during he night.

EFENCES. The work of consolidation and improvement of trenches ontinues.

NEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Hostile artillery activity was not so pronounced during he day, but livened up at night. 4.2,H.E. and shrapnel were fired on to our ront line system at intervals during the day, whilst FME. DE LA CROIX,GAPAARD, ETLHEEM FARM, HUN'S WALK and MESSINES received the usual attention. Mule racks and dumps were intermittently shelled during the hours of darkness.

Between 8 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. 100 15 cm. fell in U.2.c. rom direction of HOUTHEM and TENBRIELEN.

Hostile shelling appears to diminish considerably when ur observation balloons go up.

RENCH MORTARS. A few pineapple bombs were fired by the enemy from the icinity of U.5.b.5.5.

ACHINE GUNS. Hostile machine guns were active during the night, weeping approaches and traversing our front line.

NEMY DEFENCES. The enemy appears to be doing a lot of trench excavation t O.36.a.2.2. near CINEMA Road. A camouflage screen has been erected screenin he newly turned up earth.

IRCRAFT. From 8.30 a.m. 8 'planes flew over our lines for half n hour.

At 3.30 p.m. 2 enemy 'planes flew over and destroyed on f our balloons.

At 9 p.m. about 20 enemy 'planes hovered over our forwa ystem.

On the approach of one of our aeroplanes the enemy bserver jumped out of an observation balloon in the direction of COMINES.

P. J. Pain
Major.
General Staff.

ORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind between South and East 10 to 15 m.p.h. and probably becoming N.E. or N.later. Unsettled. Some rain or thunder-storm. Good visibility. Warm. Temperature day 75, night 55.
NOTE.- Indications are slightly in favour of generally fair weather developing here.

G.

GOC. 28/6/17

D. M. G. O.

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THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 200.....29th June, 1917.

(from 6 a.m. 28th June to 6 a.m. 29th June, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. At 1.30 p.m. 100 rounds of 4.5 how. were fired on KIWI FARM, O.36.c. A large number of direct hits resulted. At 3 p.m. L'HIRONDELLE CABT., T.6.c., was bombarded with 100 rounds 4.5 how. From 2 to 2.30 a.m. 100 rounds 4.5 how. were fired on roads, communication trenches, dugouts and huts opposite our front.

PATROLS. Our Patrols observed enemy patrol moving south about 200 yards from our line in U.35.d. This party was dispersed with Lewis Gun fire. Patrols discovered enemy still consolidating shell holes in U.35.b. about 250 yards from our line. A Snipers post was discovered at U.5.d.80.50.

DEFENCES. Work was hampered by heavy storm during the night. Left Battalion have occupied a post in U.5.b.4.5.

Consolidation of trench system continues. Extension of CROSS AVENUE westward from U.4.d.5.8. begun.

SNIPERS. One hit claimed.

AIRCRAFT. Our aircraft patrolled out forward system during the day.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Hostile artillery activity a little more pronounced than during the past few days. FM. DE LA CROIX shelled with 10 cm. intermittently throughout the day and night. During the morning the enemy was busy ranging on our front line system with 77 mm. and 10 cm. Particular attention was paid to MESSINES during the period with 77 mm. and 10 cm.

Right Battalion was troubled during the day by Batteries firing from the direction of BAS WARNETON which fired on our front line U.5.d. and U.11.b.

Mule tracks, roads and battery areas were shelled during the hours of darkness.

At 11.30 a.m. and again between 2.30 and 4.30 p.m. U.1 central was shelled with about 150 rounds 77 mm. and 10 cm. from the direction of WARNETON. Between 5.30 and 7.30 p.m. ridge and forward slope in N.36, T.6. and U.1. were shelled with 200 rounds of 77 mm.

Between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. 700 rounds 5.9 hows. fell in U.31.b., U.1.c., and O.32.b.

PATROLS. Only 2 hostile patrols were observed during the night. They retired on the approach of our patrols and were followed up by rifle and Lewis gun fire.

AIRCRAFT. Hostile 'planes employed machine gun fire against the garrison our front line trenches several times during the early morning.

MISCELLANEOUS. Gun flashes were observed at T.B. 155 degrees from O.33.d.12.10.

Major.
General Staff.

T.C.

Appx 42

CONFIDENTIAL.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.201.....30th June, 1917.

(from 6 a.m. 29th June to 6 a.m. 30th June, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

UR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. At 2.30 p.m. 119 rounds 18-pdr. were fired at .36.d.0.5. for calibration of guns. Between 12.30 p.m. and 1 p.m. 58 rounds 8-pdr. were fired on KIWI FM. 0.36.c.5.5, and KINGSCLERE,U.6.b.2.3.

In response to rockets similar to our S.O.S. sent p by the enemy at 1.10 a.m. and 1.20 a.m. 320 rounds were fired.

At 6.30 p.m. 20 rounds 18-pdr. were fired at enemy lanes. Counter battery work was indulged in during morning of 29th instant.

ACHINE GUNS. Indirect fire was employed during the night against IWI FM. 0.36.c., CINEMA ROAD 0.36.a. and CROSS ROADS at 0.36.b.22.58.

NIPERS. Our Snipers claim 2 hits. opposite Left Battalion ub-Section.

ATROLS. The Divisional Front was actively patrolled throughut the night. No enemy patrols were encountered opposite the Left Battalion at 12 of the enemy were seen crossing MILITARY ROAD in 0.36.a. A carrying arty was also noticed on CINEMA ROAD. Both parties were dispersed by achine gun and Lewis gun fire.

One of our patrols consolidated shell holes in .35.b. but found none of the enemy in occupation. Several shell holes hich showed signs of recent occupation were found.

EFENCES. Our trenches are very wet as result of recent downpou

IRCRAFT. At 4.30 p.m. 5 hostile 'planes attacked one of our eroplanes which drove them off. One hostile 'plane apparently badly hit.

NEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Hostile Artillery was active at intervals during the ay on WULVERGHEM-MESSINES ROAD with 4.2 and 5.9. Our front line system was ombarded intermittently throughout the day with 5.9, 4.2 and 77 mm. The econd line and back areas, dugouts,etc., were also bombarded, FME. DE LA ROIX, STEIGNAST FM., GAPAARD, HUN'S WALK, WHITE SPOT COTTAGE, DOUVE VALLEY nd MESSINES receiving special attention.

As usual mule tracks and roads were fired on during he hours of darkness.

ACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns active traversing our forward system, ads and communication trenches during the night.

EFENCES. No signs of enemy work during the period. Machine Gu nd Trench Mortar suspected in Mill at U.5.b.8.1.

IRCRAFT. At 8.30 p.m. 2 hostile 'planes flew at a low altitud ver our forward system, but were driven back by our 18-pdr. gun fire.

BSERVATION OF THE ENEMY. Several small enemy parties were observed during th y in the vicinity of the SUGAR REFINERY U.17.d.

P.T.O.

At 6.30 p.m. 5 men were noticed improving enemy trench at U.18.b.20.37 South of the River LYS.

Close observation of enemy in shell holes at O.35.b. revealed practically no movement at all. Only 6 men were seen altogether.

Large volumes of smoke were observed all day north-west of COMINES at about P.34.central.

A fire broke out in DEULEMONT at 8 p.m.

Early this morning enemy put up a smoke barrage in i vicinity of his front line opposite GAPAARD.

COMMUNICATIONS. Enemy signal for Artillery fire appears to be an orange coloured rocket bursting into stars.

ENEMY ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Between 2 and 3 p.m. 100 rounds 4.2 cm. fell in T.6.b fired from the direction of HOUTHEM.

Major.
General Staff.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind N.E. or N. 20 to 30 m.p.h. decreasing. Overcast with some rain or drizzle at first. Probably becoming brighter towards night. Afterwards continuing fair. Visibility indifferent becoming good. Temperature to-day 60, to-night 50, to-morrow 65 to 70.

T.C.