

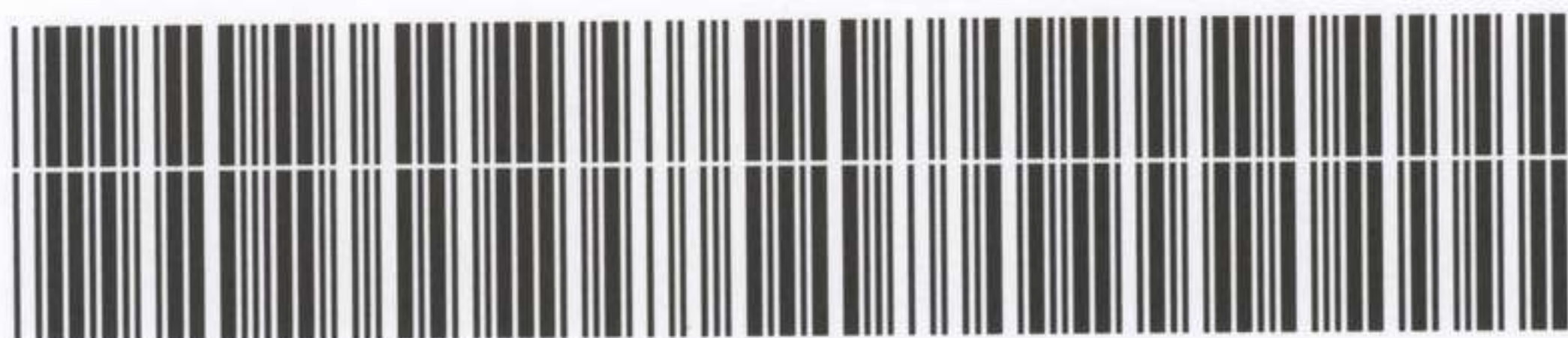
AWM4
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/46/9 Part 1

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 3rd
Australian Division

July 1917



AWM4-1/46/9PART1



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.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Vol. 2 - 30.

Place	Date July.	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RAVELS- BERG.	1st		Intelligence Summary No.202 attached. 3rd. Austln. Division Order No.48 issued.	Appx. 43 44
	2nd		Intelligence Summary No.203 attached.	Appx. 43
	3rd		Intelligence Summary No.204 attached.	Appx. 43
	4th		Intelligence Summary No.205 attached.	Appx. 43
	5th		Intelligence Summary No.206 attached.	Appx. 43
	6th		Intelligence Summary No.207 attached.	Appx. 43.
	7th		Intelligence Summary No.208 attached.	Appx. 43.
	8th.		Intelligence Summary No.209 attached.	Appx. 43.
	9th.		Intelligence Summary No.210 attached.	Appx 43.



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

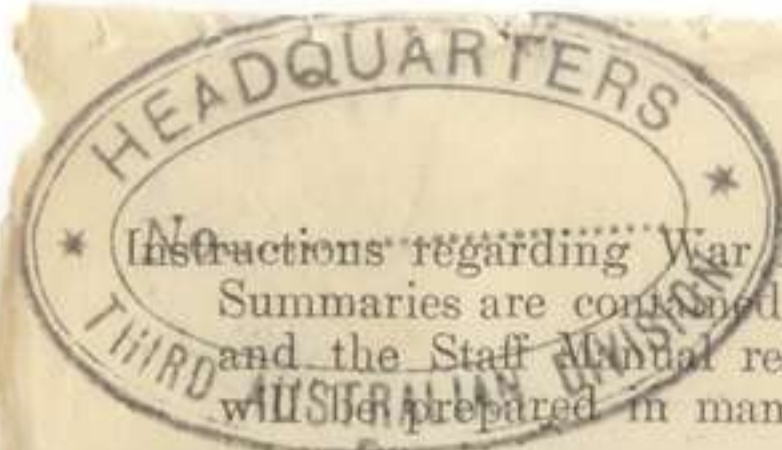
or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Vol. 2. - 31.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date July	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RAVELS- BERG.	10th.		Intelligence Summary No.211 attached.	Appx. 43.
	11th.		Intelligence Summary No.212 attached.	Appx. 43.
	12th.		Intelligence Summary No.213 attached.	Appx. 43.
			9th. Aust. Inf. Bde. relieved 11th. Aust. Inf. Bde. in the Line and 10th. Aust. Inf. Bde. took the place of 9th. Aust. Inf. Bde in Support, and 11th. Bde. came back in Reserve on night of 11th/12th. July. Divisional Order No.48 attached.	Appx. 44.
	13th		Intelligence Summary No. 214 attached.	Appx. 43.
	14th.		Intelligence Summary No.215 attached.	Appx. 43.
	15th		Intelligence Summary No.216 attached.	Appx. 43.
	16th		Intelligence Summary No.217 attached.	Appx. 43.



WAR DIARY

or

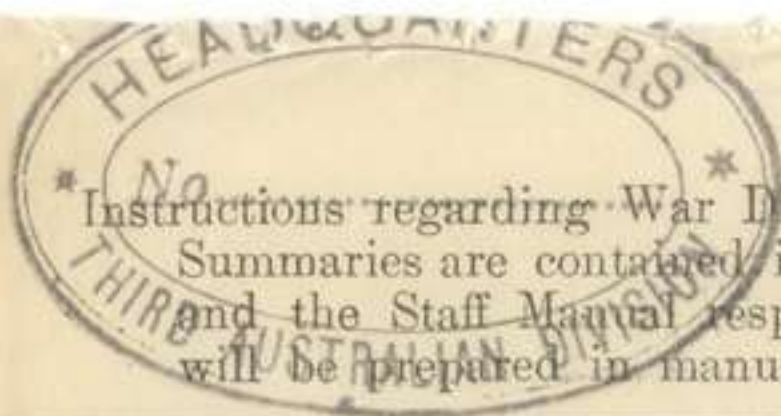
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

Vol. 2 - 32.

Place	Date July.	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RAVELS- BERG.	17th		Intelligence Summary No.218 attached.	Appx. 43.
	18th.		Intelligence Summary No.219 attached.	Appx. 43.
	19th.		Intelligence Summary No.220 attached.	Appx. 43.
	20th.		Intelligence Summary No.221 attached.	Appx. 43.
	21st.		Intelligence Summary No.222 attached.	Appx. 43.
	22nd		Intelligence Summary No.223 attached.	Appx. 43,
	23rd.		Intelligence Summary No.224 attached.	Appx. 43.
	24th		Intelligence Summary No.225 attached.	Appx. 43.



Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II.
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will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Vol. 2 - 34.

Place	Date July.	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RAVELS- BERG.	30th		Showery. 11.30 a.m. The 2nd. Army Commander and M.G.G.S. visited Divisional Headquarters and conferred with the Divisional Commander. Intelligence Summary No.231 attached.	Appx. 43. <i>Ady</i>
	31st		Conditions dull but not unfavourable for attack. The Corps Commander visited Divisional Headquarters. The Division attacked as laid down in Division Orders No.49 and 51. Full details of arrangements, orders issued and a report on the action are attached. Intelligence Summary No.232 attached.	App x. 46. Appx. 43. <i>Ady</i>

*Geo. E. Wright Esq
for Major General
Commanding 3rd Aust. Division*

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 202.....1st July, 1917.(from 6 a.m. 30th June to 6 a.m. 1st July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. New work at 0.36.a.20.20., North of GARDE DIEU, was bombarded with 28 rounds 4.5 how. Between 8.30 p.m. and midnight 150 rounds 4.5 how. were fired on to roads, tracks, etc., in enemy back areas. Enemy front line was engaged by 18-pdrs several times during the day, whilst Heavy Artillery fired on WARWICKTON.

MACHINE GUNS.

During the period our Machine Guns fired upon the following targets - KIWI FARM U.36.c.5.5., CINEMA ROAD 0.36.a., and CROSS ROADS at 0.36.b.22.56.

SNIPERS.

Right Battalion claim 4 hits early this morning.

PATROLS.

A patrol from the Right Battalion encountered 2 enemy parties at U.11.b.6.9., east of FME. DE LA CROIX. Bombs were exchanged and our patrol managed to drive the enemy off with Lewis Gun fire. No further trace of these enemy parties was seen.

10 patrols operated in front of the Left Battalion, and report that the enemy could be heard working near the house at 0.35.d.7.9. One of our patrols was fired upon east of STEIGNAST FARM by the machine gun which is probably situated in the Mill at U.5.b.8.1.

DEFENCES.

Our trenches are still in a bad state owing to the rain. Consolidation continues.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy Artillery activity was above normal for the period. During the day about 100 rounds of 10.5 cm. fell between U.5.a.50.60 and U.6.b.20.60. About 300 shells of all sizes fell in the Right Battalion area between FME. DE LA CROIX and STEIGNAST FARM.

Front line system near STEIGNAST FARM-GAPAARD was shelled intermittently during the day. At 5.30 p.m. a large number of 10.5 cm. fell in FME. DE LA CROIX, MESSINES, STEIGNAST FARM, GAPAARD, BETHLEHEM FME. back areas and mule tracks were shelled intermittently during the day and night.

Between 2 and 3.30 p.m. 50 rounds of 10.5 cm. from the direction of BAS-WARWICKTON fell in U.1.d. west of MESSINES. Between 5 and 6 p.m. 100 rounds of 10.5 cm. fell in Squares 0.31 and 0.32 on a T.B. 100 degrees from 0.31.c.5.9.

Between midnight and 5.15 a.m. 400 rounds 10.5 cm. fell in 0.31 and 0.32 from a direction 95 degrees T.B. from 0.31.c.5.9.

MACHINE GUNS.

More active than usual. Guns located at U.12.a.10.4 and 0.29.d.7.3. (North of BLAUWERPOORTBEEK).

DEFENCES.

The enemy appears to be working on a line of shell holes at about 0.35.b.5.5. North of MILITARY ROAD in vicinity of Willows.

P. T. O.

-2-

OBSERVATION OF
THE ENEMY.

Very little movement noticed in the enemy lines during the day. At 8.30 a.m. a party of 20 men was seen digging in a trench at U.12.a.9.4. North of WARWICKTON.

At 8 p.m. a fire broke out in the house on CINEMA ROAD 0.36.a. Cause unknown.



Major
General St.

FORECAST.

Moan to noon. Wind North or N.E. 15 to 25 m.p.h.

Decreasing and probably changing later to East.

Cloudy with perhaps light showers. Becoming fair and

bright. Fair visibility. Warner. Temperature

to-day 65, to-night 55, to-morrow 70.

T.C.

122

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 203.....2nd July, 1917.(from 6 a.m. 1st July to 6 a.m. 2nd July, 1917).NOTE.† NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.OUR OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Between 9.30 a.m. and 11 a.m. 164 rounds 18-pdr. were fired on enemy support trenches in reply to hostile artillery activity. Between 11.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Heavy Artillery carried out a shoot on enemy front line. WARNETON and back areas were also given attention during the period.

MACHINE GUNS.

Indirect fire was carried out during the night on farms, cross roads and tracks in rear of enemy front line; also on front and support lines.

SNIPERS.

2 hits are claimed by the Left Battalion.

PATROLS.

Our patrols discovered a hostile working party in the vicinity of house at O.35.d.8.9. protected by a covering party. The covering party was dispersed by Lewis Gun and rifle fire. No other enemy parties were seen during the night.

We established new listening post at O.35.a.20. 00.

AIRCRAFT.

Between 4 and 5 p.m. 2 of our 'planes flew well over the enemy lines.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Hostile Artillery was more active than usual during the period. Our front line system was shelled intermittently with 15 cm. 10.5 cm. and 77 mm. The usual targets in front line received attention. Mule tracks, roads, etc., were shelled as usual during the night.

There appear to be two Batteries of 7.7 cm. amongst the trees in P.22.c. These were silenced during the day by our Heavy Artillery.

Between 1 and 2 p.m. 20 77 mm. fell in O.27.centr from 100 degrees grid bearing from O.31.a.5.0.

U.7.b. between IRISH FARM and GOOSEBERRY FARM was shelled between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. with 600 rounds of 15 cm. and 10.5 cm.

At 6 p.m. 400 rounds 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. fell in O.31.b. grid bearing 100 degrees from O.31.a.5.0.

AIRCRAFT.

At 6 p.m. 4 hostile 'planes patrolled our support and subsidiary lines, but were driven off by Anti-Aircraft fire.

At 7.25 p.m. 5 'planes flew low over our front line system.

MACHINE GUNS.

Active throughout the night sweeping our front line system and searching for working parties.

A new position was located at O.35.d.5.2. whilst fire came from all positions previously reported.

P. T. O.

-2-

SNIPERS. Hostile Snipers were more active than usual.

DEFENCES. Work is being done in the vicinity of the house on
CINEMA ROAD at 0.35.a.8.9.

OBSERVATION. 3 fires which burned from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. were observed during the night North-East of COMINES.

A signal lamp with red shutter was observed at approximately 0.36.a.7.8.

During the day several small parties of the enemy were observed in UNCUT TRENCH U.18 North-West of WARNETON.

Between 4.25 and 4.30 p.m. gun flashes were seen in V.14.a.20.05 and 65.80.

J. J. Fair

Major.
General Staff.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind N.E. or East 15 to 20 m.p.h. Decreasing. Very light at night. Mainly fair bright and warm. Good visibility but some morning haze or mist. Temperature to-day 70, to-night 50, to-morrow 75.

NOTE.- Fair bright weather likely to continue. Barometer this morning at M.S.L. 30.10 inches. Falling slowly. At 100 metres 29.75 inches.

T.C.

CONFIDENTIAL.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONINTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 204..... 3rd July, 1917.(From 6 a.m. 2nd July, to 6 a.m. 3rd July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy front line system was bombarded intermittently during the day with 18-pdr. shrapnel. Counter-battery work was carried out several times during the day in reply to enemy bombardment of our forward system.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns carried out indirect fire on KINGSCLERE and KIWI FARM. Cross Roads, Tracks and approaches in rear of enemy lines were also fired upon.

SNIPERS.

Left Battalion claim one hit.

PATROLS.

The whole Divisional Front was actively patrolled during the night. An enemy patrol on CINEMA ROAD was encountered and retired under fire of a Lewis Gun carried by one of our own patrols.

The enemy post at U.11.b.73.93 was encountered and a bombing fight ensued. This post appears to be strongly held and our patrol retired under a shower of bombs and heavy rifle fire. We sustained 3 casualties (wounded)..

Patrols confirm the existence of several enemy posts along our front which were found occupied during the night.

DEFENCES.

Damage caused by hostile artillery fire was not extensive. We have occupied posts at O.35.d.35.85, U.5.b.29.77, U.5.b.35.44 and saps have been run out to these posts from our front line.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Throughout the night our front and support lines were bombarded with 77 mm., 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. Our counter-battery work several times silenced enemy artillery.

From sunrise until about 10 o'clock this morning enemy harried our second line. Usual targets in rear of the front line were given attention.

During the night 400 rounds 10.5 cm., 100 rounds of 15 cm. were fired on O.31.a and c. Grid bearing 100 degrees from O.31.c.3.0.

At 1.45 a.m. enemy put down a barrage on Right Battalion Sector, South of STEIGNAST FARM. This shoot lasted for about 30 minutes and covered the area as far back as SCHNITZEL FARM.

MACHINE GUNS.

As usual our overland routes were searched.

DEFENCES.

The enemy is reported to have consolidated shell holes at O.35.b.60.50 and O.35.d.70.80.

OBSERVATION OFTHE ENEMY.

At 10.30 a.m. an enemy dump south of HOUTHERM exploded. Cause unknown.

Small parties of the enemy were noticed during the day near WARWENTON at U.12.c. and South of the River LYS at the north end of UNCUT TRENCH in U.18.b.

At 8.30 a.m. dense clouds of smoke were seen issuing from a house in WARWENTON at U.12.b.35.37.

J. H. Pain
Major.

General staff.

T.C.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 205.....4th July, 1917.(from 6 a.m. 3rd July to 6 a.m. 4th July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Our Artillery engaged in counter-battery work and fired on enemy front line generally. Heavy Artillery bombarded Windmill Strong point (U.5.b.) during the afternoon.

Our Artillery fired at 1 a.m. in retaliation for enemy Artillery fire on our front line trenches.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns fired 4,000 rounds during the night on cross roads and tracks in rear of enemy's lines.

LEWIS GUNS. Lewis Guns fired on enemy Machine Guns and working parties during the night, and in co-operation with fighting patrols.

SNIPERS. Snipers claim 2 hits on Right Sector, and 2 on Left Sector.

PATROLS. Several large fighting patrols operated on the Divisional Front during the night. One patrol from the Left Sector endeavoured to capture enemy Machine Gun Post at O.35.b.5.3. but was obliged to return on encountering superior numbers and heavy machine gun fire. Numerous casualties, it is believed, were inflicted on the enemy.

Another fighting patrol in two parties endeavoured to capture enemy strong point at U.5.b.38.61. Enemy party of 8 was encountered near this place. Three were killed and the remainder fled. One party then rushed the post and captured it at 12.30 a.m. At 1 a.m. the enemy counter-attacked the post in two waves with strength of about 40 all told. The Lewis Gun with our party was put out of action and the Officer in Command was badly wounded. After our men had exhausted their bombs and inflicted considerable casualties on the enemy with rifle fire they retired to their original post.

A fighting patrol from the Right Sector attacked enemy strong point at U.5.b.46.52, but was forced to retire by heavy machine gun, rifle, grenade, and pineapple fire. The enemy also put up a bomb barrage about 20 yards from the post.

All our casualties in these encounters were brought in successfully.

The enemy made an attack during the night on our post at U.5.b.39.77 but was driven off.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy Artillery was very active throughout the day and night, especially on the Left Sector, with 15 cm. 10 cm. and 7.7 cm. GAPAARD AVENUE, PANNY AVENUE, HUN'S WALK, OWL TRENCH, and STEIGNAST FARM were especially bombarded. The fire on the Right Sector was not so heavy, and here also was directed mainly at communication trenches and approaches, especially the junction of PINE and CROSS AVENUES.

Between 10 p.m. and midnight our front line system was bombarded by 10 cm. and 7.7 cm. shells. The signal for this was a red rocket bursting into two red lights. Subsequently there were intermittent bursts of enemy artillery fire until about 5 a.m.

P. T. O.

-2-.

MINENWERFER.

During the night the Right Sector was bombarded with a few Pineapples which came from about U.5.b.45.62.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

There is a Sniper Post suspected at U.6.a.8.6. Movement was observed at Windmill strong point in

U.5.b.

In addition to the red light signal reported in the foregoing, during artillery bombardment at night several Green and Golden rockets were sent up during the bombardment. No special result of this could be observed.

A suspected enemy post at O.35.b.6.6. was bombarded by 18-pdrs. and seven of the enemy were observed to run away from this place. Four of them ran into MIW Farm.

Enemy movement was observed at O.36.a.50.95 and V.7.a.7.2., and near the mound at about O.36.b.40.30.

Fourteen enemy aeroplanes traversed the whole of our trenches at a low altitude between 8.45 and 9.15 p.m.

Air Photograph No. 42B1575 indicates that old enemy battery position along hedge between U.5.d.90.35 and U.6.c.10.10 is used by enemy outposts. There are tracks right along this hedge, and also proceeding towards our line from the north-western end of it.

M. L. Hutch
Lieut.-I.C.
for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.

FORECAST.

Noon to noon. Wind light mainly westerly. Probably changing later to North. Cool and dull with occasional rains or drizzle and perhaps further thunderstorms. Probably becoming fair and warm again later. Visibility indifferent becoming fair. Morning mist likely. Temperature to-day 65 to-morrow 75.

T.O.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 206.....5th July, 1917..(from 6.0 a.m. 4th July to 6.0 a.m. 5th July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Our Artillery registered during the day.

18-pdrs. and 4.5 hows. fired on the following targets:-

Track near hedge in O.35.b. 36 rounds.

Strong point O.35.b.5.5. 50 rounds.

Strong point U.5.b.8.1. 50 rounds.

At noon and at intervals during the afternoon howitzers engaged enemy batteries in retaliation to enemy artillery fire.

Bursts of shrapnel were fired over enemy front line and works at frequent intervals during the day.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired on CINEMA ROAD (O.36.a.), KINGSCLERE (U.6.b.) and Cross Roads and approaches in rear of enemy line.

LEWIS GUNS.

Lewis Guns swept NO MAN'S LAND throughout the night.

SNIPERS.

Right Sector.

Snipers claim 2 hits on the Left Sector and one on the

PATROLS.

the night.

NO MAN'S LAND was patrolled continuously throughout

A fighting patrol from Right Sector encountered enemy strong point at U.11.b.73.93. Our patrol threw bombs and the enemy retired hastily. Our patrol pursued them but no other signs of the enemy were seen. Telephone wire discovered by patrols in this vicinity on the previous was found to have been pulled in by the enemy.

At 1 a.m. strong enemy fighting patrol attacked our advanced posts on the Left Sector, but were repulsed with Lewis Gun fire. A similar attack was made at 3 a.m. on our post at U.5.b.29.77 which was also dispersed. Immediately prior to this attack a voice was heard in the enemy lines apparently urging the attack. The enemy, who numbered about 20, were easily repulsed, and subsequently to this latter operation one of our patrols went out and endeavoured to find some identification of the enemy but no bodies could be discovered.

An enemy party of about 20 attacked our post at U.5.b.35.45 but was beaten off with Lewis Gun fire.

Patrols from Left Sector report work still going on in O.35.b. on enemy posts.

DEFENCES.

Consolidation and improvement of defences was continued. Posts at U.5.b.29.77 and O.35.d.2.0 were connected up with communication trench dug from the last named to the front line.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Enemy Artillery was very active throughout the day. Between 7 and 11 a.m. heavy firing began on the front line and communication trenches on the Right Sector and spread northwards over the entire Divisional Front. During the afternoon this fire, chiefly of 15 cm. H.M.

P. 3. 1. 1.

became.....

-2-

H.E., became specially severe in the vicinity of STEIGNAST FARM (U.5.a.) Works near Right Battalion Headquarters were also shelled with all calibres. The enemy apparently registered the front line and advanced posts of the Left Sector with 15 cm. from aeroplane observation. Our advanced post at O.35.d.35.85 was shelled with 25 and 15 cm. shell and some damage was caused. Intermittent fire was maintained all day on CROIX FARM, STEIGNAST, GAPAARD, HUN'S WALK, MESSINES and DOUVE VALLEY.

Our Heavy Artillery engaged enemy Batteries several times, and in each case enemy fire slackened.

It is estimated that 10% of the enemy shells were blinds. 32 consecutive blinds were counted which fell in the region of POTTERIE FARM. Between 9 and 11.30 p.m. a Battery position in T.6.c. was shelled with 15 cm. and 7.7 cm. Throughout the night the enemy continuously shelled road in U.1.d.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns and Rifle fire was continuous last night against our advanced posts.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

Work was again reported on enemy line near CINEMA ROAD and South of the Road the wire appears to be thicker. Short screw pickets in front of the enemy line could be observed about 250 yards from the centre of the Right Sector.

Five enemy aeroplanes flew very low over our lines at 4.30 a.m., three at 1.15 p.m. and five at 7.40 p.m. They were engaged by machine guns, anti-aircraft and 18-pdrs.

A Red Rocket and several Green Rockets were fired from enemy lines during the night, but no apparent action followed. On a Yellow Rocket bursting into 3 stars being fired during enemy bombardment the shelling ceased. The signals were repeated from the rear at times. At 3.15 a.m. one Green and two Red Rockets were sent up opposite the Right Sector and were followed by heavy artillery fire on our front line.

At 8 a.m. a party of men were observed digging, and others were working in the field left of CINEMA ROAD at about U.36.d.2.3.

The house in WARINGTON at U.12.c.95.30 is apparently used as a billet.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

A report, believed to be from a reliable source, states that the German supply of alcohol is noticeably failing and that, for some time past, the production of munitions and explosives has diminished. (Corps Summary of Intelligence).

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

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind North or N.E. 10 to 15 m.p.h. Increasing temporarily and then becoming light and variable. Cool and cloudy. Slight drizzle. Brighter intervals later and gradual general improvement. Fair or good visibility. Cool becoming warm. Temperature to-day 60 to 65, to-morrow 70 to 75.

T.C.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 207.....6th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 5th July to 6.0 a.m. 6th July, 1917).NOTE.4 NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Our 18-pdrs. continued registration. Enemy front line and back areas were also shelled during the day, especially U.6.a. and c and roads in V.1 and O.36.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns fired on enemy tracks and approaches, on buildings along CINEMA ROAD (O.36), KIWI FARM, and cross roads in O.36.b.

LEWIS GUNS. Lewis Guns fired intermittently on enemy posts in NO MAN'S LAND throughout the night.

PATROLS. No signs of the enemy reported in NO MAN'S LAND on the Left Sector, but posts were found maintained in buildings on CINEMA ROAD (O.35.d.7.9.), The Willows North of MILITARY ROAD in O.35.b. and road junction at U.5.b.

On the Right Sector a patrol of ~~three~~ men encountered enemy patrol of 12 men in a shell hole at U.11.b.6.6. Bombs were thrown at our party inflicting casualties on two of them. They returned to our front line and a larger patrol was then sent out to engage the enemy. One was killed and the remainder fled. The body was brought into our line and identity disc, shoulder strap, and a paper showed the man belonged to 11th Coy. 68th I.R., 16th Division (new).

A skirmish between one of our patrols and an enemy patrol also took place at U.11.b.32.55. The enemy were dispersed after some bombs had been thrown, and apparently two of their number were wounded.

DEFENCES. Improvement and construction and repairing of trenches was continued.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy artillery activity on our back areas was very pronounced, chiefly in the vicinity of the enemy's old front line west of MESSINES. Between 11.45 a.m. and 4 p.m. 1,500 rounds of 15 cm. was distributed in this vicinity between O.35.d. and U.1.d.

Our front line system was also shelled intermittently with 15 cm. 10.5 cm. and 7.7 cm, though shelling diminished during the night. Chief targets were CROIX FARM, STEIGENAST FARM, GAPAARD and HUN'S WALK. The fire at night consisted chiefly of shrapnel and machine gun fire directed on approaches and vicinity of working parties.

OBSERVATION OF

THE ENEMY. During the day enemy movement was seen in buildings at U.6.c.45.55, U.13.b.30.05 and U.12.c.9.3. (the lastnamed building is shown in air photographs to have tracks leading to it).

Two hostile batteries were observed firing, and were judged to be 15 cm. batteries. They were located about P.22.c.2.6. and P.22.d.8.2. Another 15 cm. battery was firing from a direction 121

P. T. O. degrees.....

Isa *Self Made IS.* *Dunro. D.20*

degrees T.B. from 0.32.c.4.6. The direction was taken from sound bearing.
Gun flashes are reported to have been observed
at about the following places:-

U.6.b.2.3.
U.12.d.5.3.
U.12.d.2.2.
V.13.a.1.6.
v.13.a.1.7.
U.18.b.4.6.
U.33.c.6.1.
U.12.b.9.3.

V.14.a.0.1.
V.14.a.3.9.
U.23.b.1.6.
U.12.b.5.3.
U.12.d.3.7.
V.7.d.6.7.
U.12.b.6.3.
U.12.d.5.8.

During the night an enemy dump exploded in P.27.d. Enemy aeroplanes were active during the afternoon, and 5 machines crossed our line at 2.0 p.m. At 5.0 a.m. an enemy aeroplane flew leisurely up and down our line at a low altitude. At the same time 3 enemy balloons were up. None of our aircraft were visible at this hour.

Lamp signals were observed at 9 p.m. near KINGS-
CLERD (U.6.b.).

An enemy balloon was observed at 7 p.m. to be pulled down and a truck was pushed into a shed on a line 122 degrees T.B. from U.S.b.03.80. Gun flashes were observed from the same place at 117 degrees T.E.

At 8.30 a.m. 5 men were seen to disappear behind ruins at U.12.d.45.85.

Between 9.45 and 11.30 a.m. an engine was observed shunting trucks in P.34.d.

At 11.45 a.m. a large party of men were seen digging at V.7.b.4.2. Working parties were also seen at 1.30 and 2 p.m. at U.17.b.4.2. and U.18.d.45.70. respectively.

The Outlook

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

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind N.E. or East 10 to 15 m.p.h. Probably changing later to S.E. Light at night. Fair and bright with good visibility. Warmer. Temperature to-day 70, to-night 50, to-morrow 75.

T. C.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 208.....7th July, 1917.NOTE.- THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Our Artillery continued registering. 18-pdrs. fired 48 rounds on Windmill (U.5.b.8.1.), and during the night 203 rounds on road at O.36.b.2.5. and hutments O.36.d.72.92.

Counter battery work was continued during the period.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired on roads, tracks and farms in rear of enemy lines (5,000 rounds).

SNIPERS.

Snipers claim one hit on the Left Sector.

PATROLS.

No hostile patrols were encountered. Working parties and small patrols were observed in the distance and Lewis Gun fire was opened on them. The patrol from the Left Battalion found the dead body of one of the enemy belonging to the 98th Infantry Regiment. The body had evidently been lying there for 10 days or a fortnight.

AIRCRAFT.

During the day some of our aeroplanes were observed to drop bombs on WARNETON. At 11.30 a.m. an encounter took place between nine enemy machines and five of ours over the enemy lines. One enemy aeroplane was observed to be driven down and one of ours retired. The remaining enemy machines, after a few minutes, fled.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

At about 6 a.m. enemy artillery began bombarding our Right Sector with 7.7 and 10.5 cm. and continued an intermittent fire on this vicinity for about three hours. There was desultory shelling during the morning, particularly on STEIGNAST Farm. In the afternoon bursts of 15 cm. 10.5 cm. and 7.7 cm. were fired over the whole Brigade Sector, with special attention to GAPAARD, STEIGNAST FARM, CROIX FARM, CROSS AVENUE and HUN'S WALK. At 11.30 p.m. enemy bombarded Left Sector for about an hour with all classes of shell. At midnight about 40 gas shell fell behind CROIX FARM.

Throughout the day enemy again bombarded back areas in the vicinity of our old front line west of MESSINES with 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. and a few 8". During the night the enemy kept up a sweeping searching fire on roads running west from MESSINES.

OBSERVATION OFTHE ENEMY.

The enemy was heard working during the night in U.5.b., east of STEIGNAST Farm, in several places.

From 11 p.m. to midnight a great number of Green and Golden rain rockets were fired along the whole front. No particular object could be ascertained.

Searchlights were active east of MESSINES evidently endeavouring to locate night flying aircraft.

P. T. O.

At.....

-2-

At 6.15 a.m. an enemy balloon ascended about V.7.a.9.2.
At 12.15 p.m. another balloon ascended at V.13.c.4.6.

Much enemy movement was noticed from 6.30 a.m. onwards along CINEMA ROAD and in rear of KIWI Farm.

Gun flashes were observed about V.19.a.5.9., V.13.c.1.4., hedge U.18.b.6.2. and hedge U.12.b.6.4.

A hostile battery (15 cm. and 10.5 cm.) was located about P.34.d.10.75.

At 8.30 p.m. 12 enemy aeroplanes flew very low over one of our battery positions in U.1.d.

Fires were observed in rear of WERVICQ at 9.45 p.m. and in direction of COMINES at 3.30 a.m.

For Curtack

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

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind east 15 to 20 m.p.h. Probably changing to S.E. or S. Light at night. Fine and very warm. Some haze. Indifferent or fair visibility. Thunderstorms with squalls developing later. Temperature to-day 75, to-morrow 80.

T.C.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 209.....8th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 7th July to 6.0 a.m. 8th July, 1917).NOTE. - THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Our Artillery fired on the following targets:-

O.35.d.75.40. Suspected M.G. Emplacement (24 rounds).

O.35.d.70.15. Enemy movement dispersed (4 rounds).

18-pdrs. fired on enemy front line trench at

U.12.a.4.3. and on roads U.12.b. and V.1.a. (88 rounds). During the night 18-pdrs fired 170 rounds retaliation on enemy posts in U.5.b. and d.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired on enemy tracks and shell holes

throughout the night (5,000 rounds).

LEWIS GUNS.

Lewis Guns fired bursts over NO MAN'S LAND

during the night and dispersed several working parties.

PATROLS.

Only one enemy patrol was seen in NO MAN'S LAND

and that on CINEMA ROAD (O.35.d.). It dispersed almost immediately. Work was heard going on at house O.35.d.7.9. and also at O.35.d.7.5. where the enemy have a consolidating post.

AIRCRAFT.

Several encounters took place in the air on the

enemy side of the line. 2 aeroplanes were seen to come down in flames and one fell out of control, but whether they were ours or the enemy's could not be perceived.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Our front line was shelled at intervals during the

day with all calibres. 40 rounds of 15 cm. were fired at WELLINGTON Communication Trench. Between 10.30 and 11.30 p.m. and at 1 a.m. front line system was shelled with 15 cm. hows. and shrapnel. Retaliation in each case caused the enemy to slacken off considerably.

Enemy fire on area West of MESSINES RIDGE was less

marked during the day, but between 10.30 p.m. and 3.30 a.m. about 1,000 rounds 15 cm. fell in O.31.a. and c.

OBSERVATION OFTHE ENEMY.

Pineapples were fired from position about O.35.d.65.8

A machine gun was located just north-west of that point at O.35.d.60.85.

The enemy is evidently constructing a Fort in the ruins on the road at this point. A working party was seen at the same place during the night.

During the night 2 explosions, throwing up large

quantities of earth, took place at about O.35.d.4.7. which is 100 yards South-West on CINEMA ROAD. The explosion may have been caused by charges fired to facilitate digging.

At 9 p.m. 5 enemy aeroplanes flew low over MESSINES

RIDGE in O.32. Half an hour later 3 more enemy machines reconnoitred our trenches in U.5.

Flashes of hostile battery which was shelling a point

in O.27.c. were observed 72 degrees T.B. from O.32.b.60.65. Flashes of a 15 cm. battery were observed 103 degrees T.B. from same point.

P. T. O. A wiring.....

A wiring party was located opposite PINE AVENUE in U.S.b. and was dispersed by machine gun fire.

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

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind between South and West 10 to 15 m.p.h. 20 m.p.h. at times. Probably also occasional calms. Unsettled with rain at times and brighter intervals. Visibility good. Warm. Temperature day 70 to 75, night 60.

8.0.

Several encounters took place in the air on the enemy side of the line. 2 aeroplanes were seen to come down in flames and one fell out of control, but whether they were ours or the enemy's could not be perceived.

Our front line was shelled at intervals during the day with all calibre. 40 rounds of 18 cm. were fired at WILLINGTON Communication Trench. Between 10.30 and 11.30 p.m. and at 1 a.m. front line system was shelled with 10 cm. hows. and shrapnel. Retaliation in each case caused the enemy to discontinue offensively.

Many fire on over west of MESSINES RIDGE was seen marked during the day, but between 10.30 p.m. and 3.30 a.m. about 1,000 rounds 18 cm. fell in 0.31.2. and c.

Flashes of earth, too place at about 0.33.4.4.7. which is 100 yards from 3rd or 4th ROAD. The explosion may have been caused by charges in the mine. A working party was seen at the same place during the night. The enemy is evidently constructing a fort in the mine on the road. A machine gun was located just north-west of that point at 0.33.4.40.33. Timexes were fired from position about 0.33.4.43.8

At 9 p.m. 2 enemy aeroplanes flew low over MESSINES RIDGE in 0.33. Half an hour later 3 more enemy machines reconnoitred our trenches in U.S.

Flashes of hostile battery which was shelling a point in 0.37.0. were observed 72 degrees T.B. from 0.32.5.50.33. Flashes of 18 cm. battery were observed 103 degrees T.B. from same point.

P. T. O. A wiring party

CONFIDENTIAL.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 210.....9th July, 1917.

(from 6.0 a.m. 8th July to 6.0 a.m. 9th July, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Howitzers fired 30 rounds on enemy dump and hutments at P.27.a.0.5. 18-pdrs. fired 162 rounds on enemy trenches U.6.a. and c. retaliation.

During the night 32 rounds were fired on KINGSCLERE (U.6.b.2.3.) and 72 rounds on billets O.36.d.80.96, at both of which places enemy movement had been observed.

TRENCH MORTARS. Trench Mortars fired 20 rounds at strong point O.35.d.8.8 and 24 rounds at O.35.b.50.45. Direct hits were obtained.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns fired on tracks and ruins behind enemy lines (5,500 rounds).

LEWIS GUNS. Lewis Guns fired intermittently across NO MAN'S LAND and at enemy working parties.

SNIFERS. Snipers claim 2 hits on the Left Sector.

PATROLS. Patrols from Right Battalion encountered an enemy patrol South of WARNETON in U.5.b. and were held up there for a time by enemy bombs, machine gun fire and some shelling with 7.7 cm. Our patrol eventually brought Lewis Gun fire to bear, and with that and bombing dispersed the hostile patrol. An enemy working party near the DOUVE VALLEY was dispersed by Lewis Gun fire.

The crater reported yesterday at O.35.d.4.7. is believed to be occupied by enemy machine gun. Patrols from Left Battalion met an enemy patrol of about 12 which dispersed almost immediately. Some bombs were thrown at the patrol from enemy posts.

DEFENCES. Consolidation and repairing of trenches continued. Trenches were in a bad state owing to rain.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy Artillery shelled our front line system and subsidiary line in a desultory fashion with all calibres throughout the day. At 1.15 a.m. Right Sector was bombarded for about an hour. Back areas and mule tracks were shelled at intervals throughout the night.

Shelling during the morning, chiefly 10.5 cm., seemed to come from the direction of COMINES. During the afternoon a 10.5 cm. Battery was firing from the direction of WARNETON. 7 rounds fired from a high velocity gun fell during the day in HUN'S WALK in O.33.c. Flash direction COMINES Church.

A 15 cm. Battery was firing from direction 85 degrees T.B. observed from O.32.b.60.65.

P. T. O.

Observation.....

AQ #
A 4mm
Q

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

Enemy working parties were heard during the night at KIWI Farm and opposite CROIX Farm.

Sounds of work proceeding were also located at Windmill (U.5.b.), and the northern edge of the hedge at the Windmill has been screened.

Two enemy aeroplanes flew over our lines at 8.30 p.m. A large fire was observed in BAS WARETON at 11 p.m. At 7 p.m. gun flashes were observed in hedge

U.18.b.35.10.

The enemy is using a great variety of lights, and during the night Red, Green, Orange, Pink and Golden Rain Rockets were noticed.

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

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind West or S.W. 10 to 15 m.p.h. probably changing later to North. Unsettled with further rain. Risk of thunderstorms. Cool. Fair visibility. Temperature to-day 65, to-night 50, to-morrow 65 to 70. Barometer this morning at M.S.L. 29-81 inches. Steady. At 100 metres 29-45 inches.

T.C.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 211.....10th July, 1917.(from 6 a.m. 9th July, to 6.0 a.m. 10th July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Our 18-pdrs. fired in retaliation on enemy's support lines (U.6.a. and c.) 90 rounds; KIWI Farm (O.36.c.), enemy front line U.6.a., and O.36.a. and c. (244 rounds). 18-pdrs. also fired 110 rounds on houses at junction of CINEMA Road and MILITARY Road in O.36, and 20 rounds on trenches in U.6.c. and d.

4.5 hows. demolished enemy strong point at O.35.b.30.25. Heavies continued counter-battery work.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired throughout the night on enemy cross roads and tracks (6,000 rounds).

LEWIS GUNS.

Lewis Guns fired bursts across NO MAN'S LAND and dispersed enemy patrols.

SNIPERS.

Our Snipers have now gained supremacy over the enemy Snipers on the Divisional Front. In the first days of the Division's taking over this Sector enemy Snipers were very active and caused much damage, but at present very little hostile sniping is observed, while our marksmen claim hits every day.

PATROLS.

Right Battalion Patrols encountered 3 patrols of the enemy, one on the WARNETON-GAPAARD Road near Windmill (U.5.b.) and two near SUNKEN Road at U.5.d.3.4. All these patrols were dispersed by rifle and Lewis Gun fire.

Left Battalion patrols report having seen two enemy parties of about 20 each in vicinity of CINEMA Road houses (O.35.d.). These parties were dispersed by rifle fire. Several casualties were observed to be inflicted on the enemy, and four definite hits are claimed.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

During the day our front line system was shelled intermittently by batteries firing all calibres of shell. STEIGNAST Farm was again a favourite objective. A large number of blind 7.7 cm. were noticed. 15 cm. shells fired in vicinity of subsidiary line lately have had instantaneous fuses. They appear to be fired at no definite target as the shooting is most erratic. About 8.10 p.m. 70 gas shells fell near CROIX FARM. At 12.50 p.m. about 40 7.7 cm. shell and 30 pineapples fell in the same vicinity. Some 15 cm. shells fell near GAPAARD at about 4.15 a.m.

During progress of Operations on our left the whole Divisional Sector was shelled with all calibres. Throughout the day about 300 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. shell fell west of MESSINES RIDGE, between L'ENFER WOOD and old enemy front line.

P. T. O.

-2-

OBSERVATION OF
THE ENEMY.

Gun flashes were observed from the following points:-

SEPTIME BARN	70 $\frac{1}{2}$ degrees T.B.
U.3.a.60.88.	131 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "
O.33.a.72.10	128 $\frac{1}{2}$ degrees T.B. (2 p.m.), 118 degrees T.B. (2.30 p.m.), 113 $\frac{1}{2}$ degrees T.B. (4 p.m.)
O.32.b.60.65.	24 degrees left of WERVICQ Church (9.30 a.m.), 32 degrees left of WERVICQ Church (1 p.m.)

The lastnamed was a heavy battery.

During the night flashes of hostile guns were observed from U.3.a.1.1 at T.B. of 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ degrees, 73 $\frac{1}{2}$ degrees, 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ degrees, 70 degrees, 37 $\frac{3}{4}$ degrees, 40 degrees and 60 $\frac{3}{4}$ degrees.

During the night a working party at U.11.b.9.9. was dispersed by 18-pdrs. At this point the enemy is endeavouring to consolidate.

At 10.30 a.m. small parties of the enemy were observed at U.12.b.8.5.

During enemy shelling of our front yesterday, on a few shells dropping short, Golden Rain Rockets were sent up from enemy strong point in vicinity, and hostile fire immediately lengthened. During the progress of Operations on our left last night Green Rockets were fired from the enemy lines, and apparently indicated flanks of our attack.

W. L. Clark
Lieut.-I.C.

for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.

FORECAST.

Noon to noon. Wind N.W. 10 to 15 m.p.h. probably changing to North and temporarily to N.E. Cool and cloudy with occasional slight rain or drizzle. Probably fairer and brighter later. Fair or good visibility. Temperature to-day 65, to-night 50, to-morrow 70.

T.O.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 212.....11th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 10th July, to 6.0 a.m. 11th July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.R OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

18-pdrs. fired on the following targets -

Windmill (U.5.b.8.1.) 48 rounds, 5 direct hits.

Enemy movement P.31.b.40.45, 30 rounds.

Support trenches U.6.a. and c., 87 rounds.

Houses in rear of WARWETON, 30 rounds 4.5 hews.

several working parties were observed during the day
NO MAN'S LAND just in front of enemy front line between U.6.a.0.0. and
U.12.a.0.0. 93 rounds were fired at movement in this area at various inter-
vals.MACHINE GUNS.

5,000 rounds).

Machine Guns fired on enemy roads and approaches

LEWIS GUNS.

6 working parties and patrols.

Lewis Guns fired intermittently across NO MAN'S LAND and

RIFLES.

2 hits claimed by Left Battalion.

PATROLS.

Party on the River DOUVE South-East of CROIX FARM.

Left Battalion Patrols report enemy patrol observed in

vicinity of O.35.b.6.4. This was evidently a covering party for another

party working in rear. Both parties were dispersed by rifle and machine gun

fire.

AIRCRAFT.

.40 p.m., 1.15 a.m. and at about dawn.

Our aeroplanes patrolled enemy lines between 7 and

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

During the day, mainly with 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. Gas shells were fired during

the evening North of GAPAARD and along MILITARY Road; also near the DOUVE

River. Most of the shelling came from a north-easterly direction, but

during the afternoon some batteries were firing from BAS WARWETON direction.

Between 10.30 a.m. and 6 p.m. 200 rounds 15 cm. and 10.5

cm. and a number of rounds from a 13 cm.H.V. gun fell on the WULVERGHEM

Road just west of MIDLAND Farm (T.6.c.).

OBSERVATION OFTHE ENEMY.

at O.35.b.6.4.

Enemy was heard working opposite CROIX FARM and also

Six enemy aeroplanes came over our line about 9 p.m.

P. T. O.

-2-

A large fire was burning all night outside DEUILLEMONT. Working parties were seen shortly before 7 a.m. at U.18.c.90.95 and U.18.b.10.45. At 4.10 p.m. small working party was observed at U.18.b.1.3. These points are all on the WARNETON Trench Line South of the LYS. A great deal of enemy movement was noticed passing by the point U.12.d.2.4; between 2 and 5 p.m. parties of from 5 to 40 were seen here. Apparently a communication trench begins at this point as the parties all disappeared at it.

Windmill at U.5.b.8.1. appears to be a very strong point and reinforced with concrete. Five direct hits with 4.5 how. shells made practically no impression on this target.

HOSTILE BATTERIES.

Gun flashes were observed from O.33.d.13.12 on the following lines T.B. - 120 degrees (2.35 p.m.), 118 degrees (2.38 p.m.), 123 degrees (4.15 p.m.), 128 degrees (5.30 p.m.), and 112 degrees (7.30 p.m.). Gun flashes were also observed from U.3.a.k.1. 95 degrees 40 minutes T.B.

At 2.30 p.m. a 5.9 How. was observed firing from O.30.b.75.40. Area shelled, front line trench between O.35.d.5 U.5.b. Time from flash to report - 8½ seconds. Heavy Artillery Group were informed, and subsequently engaged this target with very good effect.

At 3.30 p.m. a 15 cm. How. was observed firing from direction of V.7.b.8.9. - located by flashes.

Flashes of a 10.5 cm. gun were observed at 4.30 p.m. at V.7.a.8.9. - approx.

At 5 p.m. spume from an active 10.5 cm. Battery was observed at P.31.b.4.5. approx.

A 13 cm. H.V. gun was firing during the day from a direction 80 deg. T.B. from O.32.c.30.55.

For Liaison

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

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind N.W. 10 to 15 m.p.h. changing later to light S. or S.E. Mainly fair and bright. Visibility good to-day but morning mist and day haze to-morrow. Temperature to-day 70, to-night 50, to-morrow 70 to 75.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 213.....12th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 11th July, to 6.0 a.m. 12th July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. 18-pdrs. fired 33 rounds at enemy outpost positions along hedge from O.35.b.88.20 to O.29.d.5.0. 4.5 hows. fired 30 rounds on enemy works at P.31.b.40.45, and 10 rounds at hedge P.26.c.3.8.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns fired on enemy roads and tracks intermittently throughout the night (5,000 rounds).

LEWIS GUNS. Lewis Guns fired bursts of fire across NO MAN'S LAND

PATROLS. Patrols were not out later than 1.30 a.m. owing to Relief. U. to that hour none of the enemy were encountered in NO MAN'S LAND.

AIRCRAFT. Several air fights occurred during the afternoon over enemy lines, during which three machines were brought down altogether. One of these was observed to be an enemy machine. The other two could not be placed.

About 1.30 p.m. two German aeroplanes brought down three of our Observation Balloons west of WYTSCHAETE-MESSINES RIDGE.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy shelling of front line system was quieter than on previous days. About mid-day 320 rounds 10.5 cm. were fired into vicinity of STEIGNAST FARM, and at 5 p.m. there was further shelling of this region. Enemy shelling was very active against back areas, particularly during the night. Road running just South of MESSINES was shelled incessantly with 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. from 11 p.m. to 2.30 a.m. Gas shells were also used.

From 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. 600 rounds 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. fell in O.32.a, b and c. During the same period about 200 rounds fell in U.1.d.

FRENCH MORTARS. Pineapples were fired into our front line from South of CINEMA ROAD in direction of KIWI Farm.

ACTIVE HOSTILE BATTERIES.

Flashes were observed as follows:-

8.30 a.m. 100 deg. T.B. from U.3.a.1.1. Area shelled - STEIGNAST FME. and vicinity (10.5 cm.)
Flashes were also observed 113 and 135 deg. T.B. from U.3.a.1.1 (10.5 cm.)

4.0 p.m. Flashes of a Battery were observed on a line from O.32.b.83.82 to the right edge of HOUTHEM Church.
Gun flashes were also observed 1 deg. 20 minutes and 4 degrees 15 minutes left of WERVICQ Church Spire from O.32.b.83.82. Area shelled O.31.d. and O.32.c.

P. T. O.

-2-

During the morning gun flashes were observed from U.33.d.13.12 on the following lines T.B.- 118 degrees, 119 degrees and 131 degrees.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

At 9.30 a.m. small party was seen at U.12.d.3.8. At 3.45 p.m. a working party was seen at U.12.e.75.40 (this working party was on the site of the former Battalion Headquarters.)

Several times during the morning a train was observed shunting trucks at P.34.d. near COMINES Church. A train was also seen in V.5.b.

J.M. Lintack

Lieut.-I.C.

for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.

FORECAST.

Noon to noon. Wind light between East and South increasing to 10 or 15 m.p.h. Fine and very warm. Fair visibility but slight haze. Morning mist. Temperature day 75 to 80, night 65.

T.C.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 214.....13th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 12th July to 6.0 a.m. 13th July, 1917).NOTE. - NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Our Artillery fired on the following targets-
 U.6.a.8.0 - Enemy strong point - 5 rounds retaliation.
 O.36.c.3.3. and O.36.d.10.52. - Dugouts - 10 rounds
 Retaliation.
 O.36.d.91.54 - Traffic Centre - 5 rounds retaliation.
 U.6. central - Support line - 50 rounds.
 V.1.a.35.80 - Hutments - 50 rounds retaliation.

A fire was apparently caused by shelling from our Heavy Artillery in direction of COMINES about 1.45 p.m.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired on enemy roads and traffic centres during the night.

LEWIS GUNS.

Lewis Guns fired on enemy parties in NO MAN'S LAND; also at enemy aeroplanes.

SNIPERS.

Snipers claim 2 hits during the day.

PATROLS.

Patrols report enemy appears to have machine guns sited in advance of his front line for covering working parties. They were located at the following positions - U.11.b.80.85 - U.5.d.75.62 - U.5.b.43.49 - U.5.b.44.63. Enemy is not using patrols as we use them but sends out strong parties to cover his working parties. On the approach of our patrols these parties fire VERY lights and retire throwing bombs and firing rifles as they do so.

Enemy appears to be linking up points mentioned above. The strong point U.5.b.43.49 is very strongly held, and two Machine Guns were fired from here during the night. Enemy was using a Medium Trench Mortar from about U.5.b.70.35 constantly during the night.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Enemy artillery again very active throughout the period, especially on the Centre and Right of the Sector. His fire began at about 9.30 a.m. near the BLAUWEP OORTBEEK and FANNY'S FM. and was desultory during the morning. Throughout the day about 350 rounds of 10.5 cm. and nearly the same number of 15 cm. shell fell between GAPAARD and the DOUVE about our front and Support lines, principally around QUATRE TROIS Cross Roads and STEIGHEAST FM. The majority of this fire appeared to come from WARNETON. Some also came from direction of COMINES.

Enemy fired nearly 400 rounds of all calibres of shell during the night on areas West of MESSINES. This included 10 rounds from a H.V. gun firing from COMINES against the road just North of SWAYNE'S Farm (O.32.b.) and 40 rounds of 7.7 cm. fired into U.3.a. and b. The remainder were 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. howitzer shells.

It is reported that the damage done by this fire to our lines during the day was not very great.

P. T. O.

-2-

ACTIVE HOSTILE BATTERIES.

Flashes of Hostile Batteries were observed from U.4.a.5.7. at T.B. of :-

123 deg. 30 minutes, 109 deg. 30 minutes, 111 deg. 30 minutes,
124 deg. 30 minutes, 114 deg. 30 minutes, 117 deg. 30 mins.,
61 deg., 70 deg., 139 deg., 126 deg., 127 deg.

From U.3.a.1. at T.B. of :-

46 deg., 87 deg., 77 deg., 145 deg., 147 deg., 148 deg., 149 deg.,
130 deg., 104 deg., 80 deg., 94 deg., 132 deg., 67 deg., 118 deg.

and from O.32.b.60.65 at T.B. of :-

138 deg., 138 deg., 108 deg., 134 deg., 83 deg., 54 deg., 79 deg
and on line 20 degrees left of COMINES Church.

OBSERVATION OF

THE ENEMY. There was very little trench mortar fire from enemy lines. Pineapples, however, are being fired along whole front during the night.

At 1.30 p.m. an enemy dump was observed burning in O.30.b. and two hours later large columns of smoke arose from a point in COMINES.

AIRCRAFT. Two of our aeroplanes drove down an enemy machine near FLORESCERT about 3 p.m.

Enemy aeroplanes flew low over our lines at 5 a.m., 12 noon 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. In the evening an engagement in the air took place between 10 of our machines and 15 enemy "Albatross" machines over enemy lines. Two enemy aeroplanes were driven down.

The Cutlack

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

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind between East and South 10 to 15 m.p.h. 20 m.p.h. at times. Light at night. Fair bright and very warm. Slight haze. Fair visibility. Tendency to thunderstorms later to-morrow. Temperature day 75 to 80, night 55.

T.C.

CONFIDENTIAL.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 215.....14th July, 1917.

(from 6.0 a.m. 13th July, to 6.0 a.m. 14th July, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY.

Our Artillery fired on the following targets:-
Enemy Posts in U.5.b., O.35.d. and b.-60 rounds retaliatory fire.

P.26.c.30.80. Enemy Battery, -24 rounds. Neutralised.
Enemy wire U.6.a.45.50 to U.6.a.50.22.-240 rounds. Well damaged.

Enemy trenches O.36.a.-60 rounds.

During the night 80 rounds were fired on enemy trenches in U.6.a., and at 12.15 a.m. 53 rounds on S.O.S. lines.

4.5 hows. registered Windmill, obtaining direct hits, Our Heavy Artillery bombarded enemy's rear lines from 4.30 to 10.30 p.m.

TRENCH MORTARS.

Stokes Mortars on Left Battalion fired 76 rounds on S.O.S. lines during the night

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired on enemy roads and tracks during the night.

LEWIS GUNS.

Lewis Guns fired on enemy aeroplanes during the day and on enemy parties and posts in NO MAN'S LAND during the night.

SNIPERS.

Snipers claim 3 hits, one at the forward house on CINEMA ROAD, and 2 on an enemy party at O.35.b.6.4.

PATROLS.

Right Battalion Patrols reported Machine Guns during the night at U.5.b.35.70 (confirmed), U.5.b.44.47 (confirmed), U.11.b.80.45 (confirmed) and U.11.b.88.73 (confirmed).

Left Battalion Patrols report there is no enemy post at O.35.b.1.5. as suspected. Several shell holes in this vicinity show signs of recent occupation, and enemy post was located at O.35.b.7.5. in what appears to be an old dugout. VERY lights and a Machine Gun were fired from this point (It was previously reported that enemy was consolidating post near here). Enemy posts were also located at O.35.d.5.3. (confirmed) and U.5.b.40.60 (confirmed). From talking and noise heard at these places it is estimated garrison at each about 12 men. A machine gun was again active from the post at U.5.b.5.5 and occasional bombs were thrown from this point.

Another Machine Gun was located at approximately 0.36.a.2.4,

An enemy machine gun post at O.35.d.7.8. was occupied during the night.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY.

Enemy Artillery was again active and 1,100 rounds of all calibres were fired in the Right Battalion area during the period, particularly about the centre of the Divisional Sector. The Left Battalion Sector was also shelled continually. In the afternoon WELLINGTON AVENUE

P. T. O.

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and OWL Trench seemed to be special targets of enemy fire. Mule tracks near Brigade Headquarters were shelled with H.E. and shrapnel intermittently during the night.

At midnight the enemy put down a heavy barrage of 15 cm. 10.5 cm. and shrapnel in the form of a box barrage running along OWL Trench, WELLINGTON AVENUE and STEIGNAST Farm. Simultaneously the whole of the Left Battalion area was sprinkled with shrapnel. The Right Company Commander sent up an S.O.S. Signal owing to the proximity of hostile posts immediately in front. Our Artillery, Trench Mortars and Machine Guns replied, and at 12.21 a.m. the S.O.S. action was called off. None of the enemy Infantry were seen. All was quiet again at 12.30 a.m.

The usual heavy shelling of the area west of MESSINES was again reported, and included 100 rounds of 8" shell directed against a Battery in U.I.d.

MINENWERFER. The enemy is bringing his Minenwerfer into action. During the period 80 medium and 50 light Minenwerfer were fired into the Right Battalion Sector.

ENEMY DEFENCES. The enemy appears to be digging a line through U.5.b.43.48, in front of WINDMILL, U.5.b.8.1, U.5.d.85.90, U.11.b.88.72, and U.11.d.80.55. Parties were busy digging at these points last night particularly the garrisons in U.5.d. and U.11.b. (This information is confirmed by photograph No. 42 B 1639).

There are three dugouts at U.11.b.63.50. These dugouts appear to be occupied by the enemy as a large number of VERY lights were fired from there during the night.

AIRCRAFT. At 8.15 a.m., after an engagement over enemy lines, our aeroplanes drove down one of the enemy machines.

An enemy aeroplane dropped 2 bombs about 3 a.m. near DE LA PORTE Farm, and a large number in fields off the BAILLEUL-NEUVE EGLISE Road.

OBSERVATION OF
THE ENEMY.

A Minenwerfer was located at U.5.b.70.35. Flashes of enemy Batteries were observed from U.3.a.1.1 at T.B. of 121 degrees, 90 degrees, 111 degrees and 114 degrees. The flashes of a 15 cm. Battery were observed from O.32.d.0.5 at T.B. of 100 degrees.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.
GERMAN INFANTRY ORGANIZATION.

Consequent on the reduction in strength of Infantry Battalions, the following change in regimental organization appears from a captured document to have taken place:-

(a) The number of "Korporalschaft" (Sections) in a platoon has been reduced from 4 to 3.

(b) The strength of the "Korporalschaft" remains the same, viz, 1 "Unteroffizier" (Corporal) and 18 men.

(c) The name "Korporalschaft" has, in certain cases, been changed to "Abteilung".

The Company ration strength is thus reduced by one quarter, from about 240 to 180.

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

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind variable but mainly from South or West. Generally light but squally at times. Some rain or drizzle and further thunderstorms likely. Probably becoming bright and very warm again. Indifferent visibility becoming good. Temperature changeable 60 to 75.

T.C.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 216.....15th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 14th July, to 6.0 a.m. 15th July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

4.5 hows. cut wire at the following places:-

U.6.a.45.50 to U.6.a.50.22 - 200 rounds - Observation difficult, shoot apparently effective.

O.36.a.22.40 to O.36.a.12.02 - 134 rounds - Good Gaps made in wire.

0.35.b.9.3. A large concrete dugout at this point was smashed. A party of the enemy escaping from the ruins were fired at by our Trench Mortars and several of them were killed. Snipers shot 2 more, and these were seen to be dragged away by others in the party. 4.5 hows. also fired 42 rounds on hutments in P.20.d.35.25.

18-pdrs. fired 134 rounds during the day on enemy's support lines in U.6.c (retaliation), and during the night 226 rounds in the same vicinity (retaliation).

U.5.b. and obtained several direct hits. Much debris was thrown up, but some shots appeared to glance off without doing any damage.

MACHINE GUNS.

during the night.

Machine Guns fired on enemy tracks and approaches

LEWIS GUNS.

Lewis Guns fired on hostile aeroplanes flying low over our line at 6.30 a.m., 9 a.m., 12 noon, and 7 p.m. Two enemy working parties were dispersed during the night.

PATROLS.

Right Battalion Patrols were bombed from enemy posts. Work could be heard going on at WINDMILL and many bombs came from this spot. Hedge round WINDMILL is heavily wired. The enemy have dug a trench about 5 feet deep running from WINDMILL to road at U.5.b.4.5. The trench is practically straight and goes on South from the mill through U.5.d.80.55 to about U.11.b.8.7. The trench South from the Mill is not so far advanced as the Northern part.

Left Battalion Patrols report no enemy patrols encountered, but enemy was heard working on CINEMA ROAD. Machine Guns and VERY lights were fired from strong point at O.35.b.7.5. Two Machine Guns were active from U.5.b.5.5. and some work was going on at this point.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Enemy shelled the whole of front line system heavily throughout the period. Fire was mostly in bursts which worked up to heavy bombardments at 8.30 p.m., 11.30 p.m., and 3.15 a.m. About 4,000 rounds of all calibres fell on the two Battalion Sectors during the period. The enemy appeared to choose no special target but fired indiscriminately on front and support trenches and communication trenches. His fire was rather heavy than accurate and not much

P. T. O.

-2-.

damage to works is reported.

MESSINES and the area west of MESSINES RIDGE were also shelled continually as usual, mostly with 15 cm.

HOSTILE BATTERIES. Flashes of hostile guns were observed from U.3.a.2.1. at T.B. of 123 degrees, 124½ degrees; from 0.32.b.85.55 at T.B. of 119½ degrees; and from U.4.a.48.71 at T.B. of 61 degrees, 70 degrees, 109½ degrees, 114½ degrees, 117½ degrees, 118½ degrees, 124½ degrees, 126 degrees, and 129½ degrees.

AIRCRAFT.

Enemy aeroplanes flew low over our trenches several times during the day in spite of Lewis Gun fire. They fired into our trenches several times.

At 9.30 p.m. an enemy machine, flying low, fired 200 to 300 rounds at our transport on road about U.3.a.1.1.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

points:-

Enemy Machine Guns fired from the following

U.6.a.05.50, U.5.b.37.63 (confirmed), U.5.b.82.53., U.5.d.80.54, U.11.b.30.45 (confirmed) and U.11.b.74.30.

Post at U.11.b.78.82 is not occupied, but post at U.11.b.88.70 is very strong and has a large garrison. Parties were heard working at U.11.b.9.6. and U.6.c.4.2.

Jim Antack

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

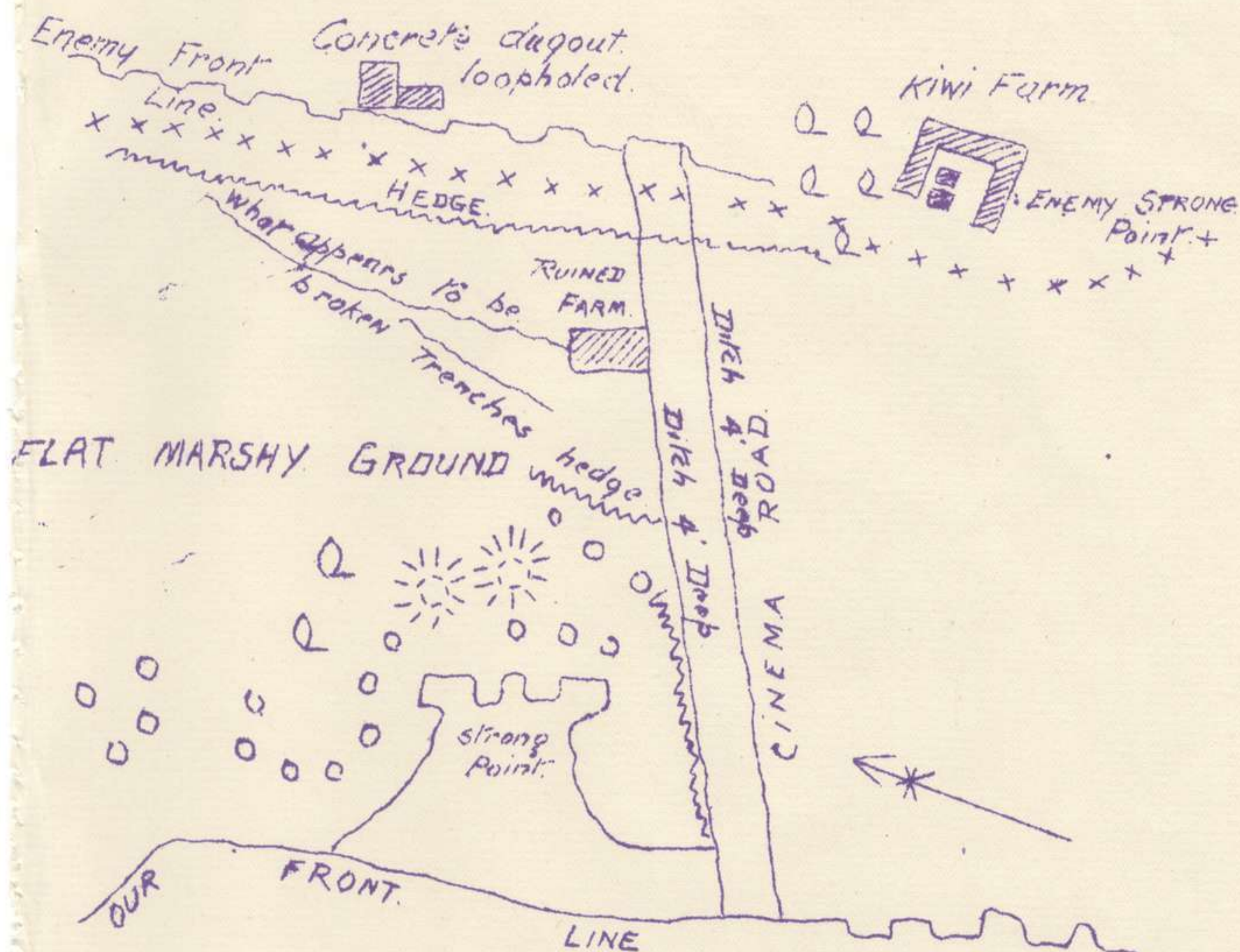
FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind West or S.W. 15 to 25 m.p.h. but less at night. Cloudy with occasional showers and finer intervals. Good visibility. Temperature to-day 70, to-night 55.

T.C.

Left Battalion reports no enemy activity. The enemy was heard working on CINEMA ROAD. Machine guns and V.C. lights were fired from strong point at 0.32.b.7.5. The enemy were active from U.3.b.3.3. and some work was going on at this point.

Enemy shelled the whole of front line system during the night. The enemy were heard working on CINEMA ROAD. Machine guns and V.C. lights were fired from strong point at 0.32.b.7.5. The enemy were active from U.3.b.3.3. and some work was going on at this point.

Supplement to 3rd Aust. Div. Int. Summary 15.7.17.



SKETCH OF NO MAN'S LAND, CINEMA RD (O 35.d). SCALE ABOUT 3.500

The above sketch of NO MAN'S LAND in vicinity of CINEMA ROAD (O.35.d) was made by an N.C.O. Scout of one of the Battalions of the Brigade in the line, together with the following report:-

"The enemy's front line appears to be about 20 yards behind a bridge which is about 400 yards from our front line. The enemy's line is strongly wired, and is intersected with ruined buildings which he has made into strong points and machine gun emplacements. NO MAN'S LAND is flat and grassy, broken by numerous shell holes, and two small mine craters in front of the left bay of our strong point on CINEMA ROAD. The road which runs through, and at right angles to, our front line, is a good road, having on either side a ditch four feet deep. The enemy uses this ditch as an approach for his parties.

"The enemy appears to be building a new front line in front of the long hedge taking in a small ruined farm on the left of CINEMA ROAD. This new line would be about 200 to 250 yards from our front line. Enemy working parties file out at dusk from strong point on right of CINEMA ROAD, where they have their tool dump, and also a pineapple battery on the right of our strong point (facing CINEMA ROAD) down to our front line."

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CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 217.....16th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 15th July to 6.0 a.m. 16th July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINES TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

4.5 hows. cut wire at the following places:-

U.6.a.32.40 to 41.64 - 200 rounds - wire damaged.

0.36.a.22.40 to 0.36.a.12.02 - 300 rounds - wire damaged.

0.36.a.5.9. to 0.30.c.62.15 - 39 rounds - wire damaged.

18-pdrs. fired 116 rounds on enemy trenches in U.6.c., U.6.d., and U.6.a. and b; also on the tramway in V.1.a. Considerable damage done. 30 rounds were fired at a working party at U.12.a.05.50.

During the night 18-pdrs. fired 450 rounds on enemy supports in U.6.c., and tracks in V.1.b. and V.2.a.

Six direct hits were obtained on buildings on CINEMA ROAD (0.35.d.6.8).

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired on enemy cross roads and approaches during the night.

LEWIS GUNS.

Lewis Guns fired at enemy aeroplanes at 6 a.m., 11 a.m., 4 p.m., and 8 p.m.

SNIPERS.

Snipers fired at six of the enemy seen to leave a dugout at 0.35.b.45.18. One of the enemy was hit.

PATROLS.

Right Battalion patrols report enemy Machine Guns fired during the night from following points - WINDMILL (U.5.b.), U.11.b.80.45. (confirmed), U.5.d.8.5. (confirmed), U.5.d.9.9. (new), and U.5.d.70.25 (new). VERY lights were fired from shell holes in rear of these strong points. Bombs were thrown from the WINDMILL and Pineapples were fired from point about 50 yards South-West of WINDMILL. There was some noise and rifle fire from point U.5.d.9.9., and the Machine Gun here fired down NO MAN'S LAND towards the South. One patrol penetrated the line of enemy posts, and behind Post 16 (U.11.b.84.85. they report one dugout practically destroyed. Hedge North-East of this Post is wired but not strongly.

Left Battalion Patrols report Post was established during the night at 0.35.a.85.65. Minenwerfer was located in thick hedge about 0.36.a.3.0. A Sniper's Post was found at 0.35.b.05.20. A party of about 15 of the enemy were observed in hedge at 0.35.d.65.85. The following posts were active during the night, - 0.35.b.7.5. and 0.35.d.5.3.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Enemy Artillery was quieter during the period. About 900 shells of all calibres fell in Right Battalion forward area, and about 1,100 on Left Battalion forward area. Communication trenches and support line again received most of this fire. No serious damage reported.

MESSINES and the area West of the RIDGE was fired on as usual intermittently by 15 cm. 10.5 cm. and occasionally an H.V. gun. Batteries firing were in the direction of COMINES and VARNISTON. Most of the firing took place in the morning and evening. The afternoon was comparatively quiet.

B. T. O.

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OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

THE ENEMY. The H.V. gun mentioned above is a 13 cm. and is believed to be firing from behind HOUTHAM Church.

A hostile Battery was located in hedge at P.26.b.2.5. and was silenced by Heavy Artillery.

Flashes of hostile guns were observed from
O.32.b.60.65 at T.B. of 75 degrees, 87½ degrees and 120 degrees, and
from U.3.a.2.1. at T.B. of 105 degrees, 107 degrees, 110 degrees, 67
degrees, 70 degrees, 95 degrees, 115 degrees and 130 degrees.

Considerable movement of the enemy was noticed around the house at P.31.d.2.5.

At 6 p.m. a large enemy dump was observed burning
93 degrees T.B. from U.S.a.2.1.

Enemy searchlights were active, probably searching for our aeroplanes, at the following T.B. from U.3.a.2.1. - 69 degrees, 85 deg., 87 deg., 93 deg., and 95 deg.

At 11 p.m. enemy fired three White lights which burst into Green stars. Later Golden Rain Rockets were fired from the same place. No apparent action followed.

Some difference in the behaviour of the enemy is noticeable. He appears to be showing greater keenness, and his machine gun and rifle fire is much heavier than formerly.

Hydractinia

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

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind S.W. 10 to 15 m.p.h. Probably light and variable at night. Perhaps changing to east later. Mainly fair. Good visibility. Warm. Temperature day 75, night 55. Barometer this morning at MSL 30.05 inches. Steady. At 100 metres 29.70 inches.

T. C.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 218.....17th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 16th July to 6.0 a.m. 17th July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.

A minor attack was attempted on enemy posts in U.5.b. at 10 p.m. but our parties were unable to approach posts which were found to be strongly held.

ARTILLERY.

4.5 hows. cut wire at the following places:-

U.6.c.38.62 to U.6.c.59.77 - 200 rounds - wire damaged.

Q.36.a.5.9. to O.30.c.62.15 - 150 rounds- wire well gapped.

Our Artillery fired on the following targets:-

Enemy's support trenches in U.6.a. - 175 rounds retaliation.

Enemy trenches U.6.c. and U.6.d. - 60 rounds.

Hostile Batteries P.26.a.55.15 and P.26.c.3.8. - 30 rounds. Both Batteries silenced and an enemy dump blown up.

10.5 cm. Battery P.26.b.2.5. engaged by Heavy Artillery. Several direct hits.

BUSSCHE Farm V.1.b. - 25 rounds.

18-pdrs. fired over 1,000 rounds on enemy roads and communications during the period.

Our Heavy Artillery bombarded GARDE DIEU CABT. (O.36.b.) and L'HIRONDELLE CABT. (U.6.c.).

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired on enemy tracks, approaches and cross roads. Left Battalion reports "A prompt and efficient barrage was put down at 10.58 p.m. in reply to S.O.S. by Right Company".

PATROLS.

Right Battalion patrols were unable to operate owing to enemy artillery fire.

Left Battalion patrols report no enemy patrols seen.

Enemy post at O.35.b.7.5. was found to be manned. Enemy working party was heard at O 35.d.5.3.

WORK ON DEFENCES.

New trench on Left Flank of the Sector is now dug to within 2 or 3 yards of MILITARY ROAD (O.35.a.) and is about 3 ft. 9 in. deep, 3 ft. wide at the top and 2 ft. wide at the bottom.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Enemy Artillery was very active all day from 7 a.m. onwards. STEIGNAST Farm and old Battalion Headquarters at U.4.b.12.20. were bombarded with heavy armour piercing shells for about 2½ hours.

WELLINGTON and GAPAARD AVENUES and OWL TRENCH were also shelled.

Right Battalion report that at 10.10 a.m. a heavy barrage was put down on front and support trenches, probably a trial barrage. At about 10 p.m. the enemy opened a lively bombardment on front and support lines which in a quarter of an hour increased to a heavy harrage. Fire seemed to increase in reply to his rocket signals. The barrage quietened down at 11.15 p.m. but some shelling was kept up till daylight. Mule tracks were intermittently shelled. Right Battalion estimated that about 5,000 shells fell in their area.

P. T. O.

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Left Battalion report that their area was intermittently bombarded all day, and many pineapples were also fired along the front line. They estimated that about 2,000 shells of all calibres fell in their area.

The enemy also shelled back areas heavily and about 1,500 rounds fell during the day in T.6 and 12. This included 10.5 cm. 15 cm. and 21 cm. howitzer. Number of rounds from H.V. 13 cm. gun were also fired at Artillery Headquarters in this vicinity.

At 1.45 p.m. 70 rounds of 7.7 cm. fell in U.3.a. A large percentage of these were blinds.

MACHINE GUNS.

Enemy Machine Guns were very active, especially during the night.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

The hedge in front of WINDMILL makes observation difficult.

Flashes of hostile batteries were observed from 0.32.b.60.65 at T.B. of 75 degrees, 120 deg., 87½ deg., 84½ deg., and 83 deg.

During the afternoon a large enemy dump exploded to left of COMINES Church in P.34.d., and an explosion was caused at a Battery position at T.B. of 80 degrees from 0.32.b.60.65. Fires were seen left of COMINES Church, HOUTHEN (a large fire lasting about an hour), and at a spot on a T.B. of 66 degrees from U.3.a.2.1.

Enemy S.O.S. appears to be a double red rocket. His barrage ceased when Golden Rain rocket was fired.

Three enemy dugouts previously reported at U.11.b.63.50 are now stated to be situated at U.11.b.8.8.

AIRCRAFT.

At 11.30 a.m. 14 balloons could be seen on the enemy front.

Enemy aeroplanes were very active between 4.30 and 5 a.m., and at 11.30 a.m. flying low over our line and firing on the garrison.

During the evening one of our aeroplane squadrons came in contact with an enemy flight and drove down 3 hostile machines, one of which fell in pieces.

For Lieutenant

Lieut.-I.C.

for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind light and variable or S.E. probably becoming West or S.W. 5 to 10 m.p.h. again later. Unsettled probably with thunderstorms. Changeable Temperature. Fair visibility. Temperature 60 to 75.

T.C.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 219.....18th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 17th July, to 6.0 a.m. 18th July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.
ARTILLERY.

4.5 hows. cut wire at the following places:-
 U.12.a.35.36 to 30.31 - 200 rounds + apparently effective.

O.36.a.10.52 to 15.33 - 100 rounds - observation difficult. Seemed to be effective.

During the latter shoot KIWI Farm was set on fire, and burned for about an hour

18-pdrs. fired 75 rounds on enemy roads and approaches in P.31, V.1 and V.7. During the night 18-pdrs. fired 1513 rounds on roads and approaches in the same localities.

During the night 4.5 hows. fired at intervals 60 rounds on buildings at V.1.central, and railway in V.1.d.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired on enemy strong points and approaches throughout the night.

LEWIS GUNS.

Lewis Guns fired on enemy aircraft at 2 a.m. and 9 a.m.

PATROLS.

Owing to Battalion reliefs little patrolling was done.

An enemy patrol was dispersed at 1 a.m. at U.5.b.4.4. It is believed some casualties were caused as groans could be heard. Some of the enemy were heard talking on MILITARY ROAD about O.35.b. central.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Enemy artillery was quieter than it has been recently. Our front and support lines were shelled intermittently throughout the period, especially STEIGNAST FARM during the night. At 9.51 p.m. light barrage was put down for half an hour on support and communication trenches on the Left Sector, and vicinity of GAPPAARD was also bombarded.

A few pineapples were fired on our front line on the right of the sector, and some light Minenwerfer near STEIGNAST ROW.

MESSINES was bombarded during the afternoon, and a 15 cm. Battery registered the Church. There was some desultory fire of 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. shell in the area west of MESSINES and during the night some Gas shell fell both here and near BETHLEHEM Farm.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

Flashes of hostile Batteries were observed from O.32.b.50.65 at T.B. of 102 degrees and 98 degrees. Flashes were also observed from O.32.b.98.73 at T.B. of 67½ deg., 54½ deg., and 101½ deg.

P. T. O.

-2-

At 2.30 p.m. a fire was seen in COMINES, apparently an ammunition dump.

At 9.40 p.m. the enemy sent up numerous double Red flares along his front followed by one Green flare. This was apparently the signal for a light barrage to be placed on our Right Sector.

MACHINE GUNS.

Enemy Machine Guns fired along HUN' WALK and between 2 and 3 a.m. fired over the whole of our front. Rifle fire was moderate throughout the night.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

The latest aeroplane photographs show indications that enemy intends to link up shell holes from Post 1 Southwards across MILITARY ROAD at about 0.35.b.4.5., thence towards small post near track at 0.35.b.5.3. The new trench in front of his wire near KIWI Farm, running South-west, has reached point 0.35.d.70.35. In the vicinity of Posts 5 and 6 the trend seems to link up shell holes from this point to hedge corner at U.5.b.60.92, thence along hedge to Post 8. These holes are, however, not yet definitely connected. (Aeroplane Photographs Nos. 42 B 1649, 1651).

Sp. Contact
Lieut.-I.O.
For Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.

FORECAST.

Noon to noon. Wind S.S.W. 15 to 20 m.p.h. becoming S.W. or W.S.W. 20 to 30 m.p.h. Squally at times. Warmer and mild. Bright intervals later. Visibility indifferent becoming good. Temperature day 70 to 75, night 60.

T.C.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 220.....19th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 18th July to 6 a.m. 19th July, 1917).NOTE.- Not to be taken into front line trenches.OUR OPERATIONS.-ARTILLERY.-

4.5" Hows. cut wire at the following places.-

O.36.a.15.40 to 10.05. - 110 rds. - Satisfactory

O.36.a.5.9. to O.36.c.62.15. - 100 rds. - Satisfactory.

U.6.c.38.58. to 35.40. - 200 rds. - Light bad. Shoot apparently effective.

About 710 rounds were fired on enemy roads and approaches in P.25, P.31., and U.6. during the day, and 1514 rounds during the night, on tracks and approaches in rear of enemy's lines generally. 50 rounds were fired at Infantry request on road from V.7.d.6.7. to V.8.b.2.4. 4.5" Hows. fired 70 rounds on cross roads V.7.a.80.88. and V.1.d.42.30. In addition 300 rounds were fired at tram lines running through P.32., P.25, and V.1.

In reply to S.O.S. signal on Right Bde. front, 4.5" Hows. fired 15 rounds, and 12-pdrs 221 rounds, and it was then discovered that the signal sent up was sent up by the enemy.

Several direct hits were obtained on WINDMILL by 4.5" Hows. and seven direct hits on machine gun post at O.35.b.7.5.

MACHINE GUNS. - Machine guns fired on enemy tracks and approaches throughout the night.

LEWIS GUNS. - Lewis Guns dispersed enemy party at U.5.b.35.65. causing casualties.

SNIPERS Snipers claim 6 hits on left Battalion front.

PATROLS.- Right Bn. patrols report no sign of enemy patrol. It is believed enemy moves his machine gun posts into alternative positions and that they are not fixed always at the points recorded on the map.

Left Bn. patrols report enemy working party was heard at O.29.d.4.5. north of BLAUWEPORTEBEEK.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY.- Enemy Artillery was fairly quiet and whelling where recorded was not particularly heavy. Enemy's fire did not appear to be directed against any particular target. This was especially noticeable with his Time H.E., which he uses chiefly between sundown and dark.

STEIGNAST FARM was bombarded for an hour in the morning and another hour in the afternoon. PINE AVENUE was considerably damaged by 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. shells. Our front line was damaged by 2 short bombardments at 9.40 p.m. and 4.a.m. The former bombardment was opened by firing of Golden Rain Rockets, and the latter bombardment by 2 Red rockets.

The area north of MESSINES was shelled during the morning by 15 cm., 10.5 cm, and 7.7.cm. Mule Track in U.3.a. was intermittently shelled from 10 p.m. till midnight.

MACHINE GUNS - It was noticeable that no machine gun fire came from WINDMILL during the night, although enemy's M.G's were very active from other places.

P.T.O.

ACTIVE HOSTILE BATTERIES. - The 10.5 cm. battery firing on I ENTER WOOD, appears to be situated at P.32.a.6.5.

Gun Flashes were observed from U.4.a.48.71. at T.B. of 76 deg., 127 deg., 132 deg., 136 deg., 68 deg., 69 deg., 70 deg., 73 deg., 83 deg., and 135 deg.; from O.32.b.60.65 at T.B. of 89 deg. and 94 deg.

At 5.45 p.m. flashes of a 4 gun battery believed to be an 8" Battery, were observed at T.B. of 121 deg. from U.3.a.2.1. The observer reports that this battery is in a position very close to enemy's front line.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY. - The enemy appears to be working on the crater on MILITARY ROAD at O.35.b.20.55.

At 5 p.m., 4 of the enemy were seen to pass along road at V.1.b.8.0. in northerly direction and 10 more followed at a short interval.

Some of the new Mustard Oil Gas Shells were noticed during the night and caused much sneezing, but no other bad effects so far reported.

As reported in yesterday's Intelligence Summary, the 4.5" Hows. while wire cutting, set fire to KIWI FARM. Later, several explosions took place in the burning building.

At 12.40 a.m. an enemy searchlight was observed active for about 5 minutes at T.B. of 106 deg. from U.3.a.2.1.

For C. attack

Lieut. I.C.

for Lieut-Colonel, General Staff.

FORECAST. - Forecast Noon to Noon. Wind West, 15 to 25 m.p.h. Gradually decreasing. Probably changing later to S.W. Cloudy with some showers or slight drizzle. Probably brighter towards night, and temporarily fair afterwards. Fair visibility. Temperature, day 70, night 60.

G.B.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.221.....20th July, 1917.(From 6.0 a.m. 19th July to 6.0 a.m. 20th July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. 4.5 hows. fired 100 rounds at wire between O.36.c.10.62 to O.36.c.15.33- Wire damaged. Harassing fire was carried out on enemy tracks and approaches in P.25.c. and d., O.31.a. and b., P.32.a., P.1., and V.7. Our Artillery fired 200 rounds on strong points, and trench on the WARNETON Road, U.5.b. Four direct hits were observed on the WINDMILL.

TRENCH MORTARS.

Trench Mortars bombarded enemy posts 5, 6 and 15.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired on enemy tracks and approaches throughout the night.

SNIPERS.

Snipers shot an enemy Sniper who had climbed up a tree.

PATROLS.

Strength of Patrol.	Time of Departure.	Time of Returning.	Route.	Remarks.
8 men.	11.45 p.m.	3.45 a.m.	Reconnoitred enemy post at U.11.b.81.80 and U.11.b.90.72.	Were constantly fired at by M.G. from U.11.b.90.72. An enemy patrol was observed (14 strong) which moved in front of the posts, and was acting as a covering party for enemy working in the posts.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy Artillery was very active, probably in retaliation to our own fire. Fire was distributed over the front and support line system and some damage was caused to trenches in Right Battalion Sector. PINE AVENUE, STEIGNAST Farm, and the old Battalion Headquarters were heavily shelled. On the Left Sector fire was especially heavy between 3.30 and 4.30 a.m. and 11.30 p.m. and 2.30 a.m. The principal places bombarded were BOWEN AVENUE, OWL Trench and Left Battalion Headquarters. Shells fired consisted of 15 cm. 10.5 cm. and 7.7 cm..

There was considerable shelling of area West of MESSINES from the afternoon onwards. Batteries firing were in the direction of WARNETON and COMINES. The fire was directed particularly against Batteries in U.1 and two guns were put out of action. About 10.30 p.m. 500 rounds of 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. fell in O.31. and about the same number of Gas shell in O.32.c. HUN'S WALK, MESSINES, and the MESSINES-WYTSCHAETE Road near MIDDLE Farm were also bombarded. A High Velocity gun, firing from left of MERVICQ, fired 40 rounds into MESSINES.

P. T. O.

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MACHINE GUNS.

Enemy machine guns were very active between 3.30 and 4.30 a.m. especially on Right Battalion front and HUN'S WALK which were fired on intermittently all night.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

At 7.50 a.m. a fire was observed burning 90 degrees T.B. from 0.32.b.60.65.

A considerable number of Golden Rain Rockets were fired opposite our Sector during the night. At 3.10 a.m., immediately prior to enemy bombardment, two Red rockets were fired from his support lines.

The shell crater at 0.35.b.7.5. where machine gun has been reported appears to have had work done on it during the night as sandbags can be seen.

Between 6.50 and 9.0 a.m. trains were observed shunting in V.2.b.

Two enemy aeroplanes flew low and fired on our trenches with machine guns during the morning.

FM Cutlack

Lieut.-I.C.

For Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.

FORECAST.

Noon to noon. Wind West 10 to 15 m.p.h. Probably becoming light and variable. Mainly fair and bright. Good visibility becoming indifferent. Morning mist. Warmer. Temperature day 70 to 75, night 60.

T.C.

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CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 222.....21st July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 20th July to 6.0 a.m. 21st July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.

About 10 p.m. our Artillery carried out preliminary bombardment of enemy posts 8, 9, and 10 on Eastern side of WARNETON-GAPAARD Road in U.5.b. At 12.32 a.m. without further Artillery assistance an Infantry attack was made on these posts in three parties. The left party had to fight their way over to the left of the line of posts, but reached their objective after being reinforced, threw out cover and started to consolidate. The ^{Centre} party after a hard fight also gained their objective, and then began to drive the enemy farther off. The enemy, reinforced, drove in the left of this party, however, and under superior numbers the post had to be evacuated.

The Right party met with great resistance and were forced back after a stiff fight with superior numbers of the enemy without reaching their objective. The retirement of the right and centre parties left no option to the left party, which also withdrew. The enemy were in heavy force and were standing shoulder to shoulder in the posts and under cover of the road.

The preliminary bombardment at 10 p.m. brought down very little retaliation.

ARTILLERY - 4.5" Hows. engaged enemy wire at the following points:-
 0.36.o.10.62 to 15.33 - 200 rds. - Wire damaged.
 0.36.a.15.40 to 10.05 - 100 rounds - Wire damaged.

Our artillery fired 2,390 rds. on enemy tracks and communications and also on hutments in V.1.b. near BUSSCHE Farm.

During the night 18-pdrs. fired 120 rounds retaliation on enemy support trenches in U.6.

TRENCH MORTARS.

Trench Mortars fired 275 rounds on enemy Posts 3, 5, 6, 6a, and 18; also during the Operation at midnight in rear of Posts 8, 9, 10.

MACHINE GUNS

Machine guns fired on enemy aircraft at 9.30 a.m. and on enemy tracks and approaches during the night (10,000 rounds.)

PATROLS.

Right Bn. patrols were not sent out owing to heavy artillery fire on both sides.

Left Bn. sent out patrols from "K" Gap at 11 p.m. which reconnoitred GAPAARD Locality (0.35.a.). No signs of the enemy were seen.

ENEMY OPERATIONS. - Artillery.

Enemy artillery was very active at intervals throughout the period, and the front line system was heavily shelled by all calibres, including about 100 gas shells on left Bn. Sector between 12.30 and 3.30 a.m. At 7.20 p.m. heavy fire was opened on our right sector and lasted for about an hour, but was continued at intervals until 4 a.m. During the period it is estimated about 5,000 shells were fired into this sector. MESSINES, MESSINES RIDGE, and HUNS WALK, were constantly shelled by 15 cm and 10.5 cm batteries; also the vicinity of L'ENFER WOOD. The bombardment of the western side of the MESSINES RIDGE in 0.32. especially was kept up throughout the night, and many gas shells fell in this locality.

P.T.O.

21/7/17.

At 7 p.m. about 50 light ~~minewarrior~~ shells fell immediately behind our front line in U.5.d.

MACHINE GUNS Enemy machine guns swept our lines and HUNS WALK throughout the night.

AIRCRAFT. - Two enemy aeroplanes which flew low over our lines at 9.30 a.m. were driven off by our machines. Lewis guns also fired on them.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY - At 3.30 p.m. a train was seen going towards LILLE in V.10.d.

Several small fires were burning some distance behind the enemy's lines during the night. At 4 p.m. a dump was exploded near HOUTHEN Church.

Many coloured lights were used during the night by the enemy. A few minutes after our Infantry moved out to attack the enemy posts mentioned above, the enemy fired three single and six double red lights, and after a short interval, two Red and ~~Three Green~~ were fired towards the posts attacked.

A pigeon flew from enemy lines across our lines near CROSS AVENUE at 9.5 a.m.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS Air photograph No. 42 B 1661 shows the house at V.1.c.4.4. to be occupied.

Photograph 42 B 1657 shows that the patrol report of night 14/15th July, stating that a trench had been dug by the enemy south from the WINDMILL in U.5.b. through U.5.d. and U.11.b., is incorrect. A short section of trench, apparently a strong point, has been dug immediately south of the windmill, but beyond that, no trench actually exists in front of the WARMELTON Line between the WINDMILL and the DOUVE. The enemy is making use of shell-holes which, up to the present, have not been connected up, and the line of them remains about the same as that shown on photographs taken on July 12th.

Photograph No. 42 B 1561 shows a cluster of consolidated points at the end of the new trench jutting out into O.35.d. from just north of KIVI FARM (the vicinity of posts 5 and 6)

Field C. C. C. R.
Lieut. I.C.,
for Lieut-Colonel, G.S.

FORECAST - Forecast noon to noon. Wind light and variable. Mainly west and north. Generally bright and fair. Morning mist. Day visibility fair. Very warm. Temp. day 75, night 60. Note. Fair quiet weather probably over tomorrow.

G.B.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 223.....22nd July, 1917.

(from 6.0 a.m. 21st July to 6.0 a.m. 22nd July, 1917).

NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY.

4.5" hows. cut wire at the following places:-

0.36.a.15.40 to 10.06 - 100 rounds - Gaps widened.

0.36.c.10.62 to 15.33 - 100 rounds - wire much damaged.

From observation it is thought that wire from 0.36.a.5.9. to 0.30.c.62.15 would not now be an obstacle to Infantry.

Our Artillery during the day bombarded enemy's front and support ~~line~~ trenches in U.6, V.1, V.2, and fired about 1,600 rounds on enemy roads and communications during the day and night.

Counter-Battery work during the day quietened enemy artillery considerably.

MACHINE GUNS.

and approaches.

Machine guns fired 1,000 rounds on enemy's roads

PATROLS.

Strength of Patrol.	Time of Departure.	Time of Returning.	Route.	Remarks.
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Right Bn. Patrol.

-	11.30 p.m.	-	WINDMILL, locality U.5.b.	Enemy working party busy in and around WINDMILL.
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-	-	-	DOUVE VALLEY	Posts 15 and 16 reconnoitred. Enemy working party in front of posts seen. Patrol returned & reported this. Lewis guns were turned on the party & dispersed it.
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Left Bn. Patrol.

11 p.m.	2.15 a.m.	"K" Gap Locality 0.35.a.	Patrol reported enemy party of about 25 was moving along our front. Our patrol returned at 11.45 pm, was increased, & went out again. The enemy party was protected by a covering Party.
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ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY.

Enemy Artillery was again very active on front and support lines along the whole sector; also on MESSINES and the western side of MESSINES Ridge. Early in the afternoon, front and support lines in the right sector (U.5.) were bombarded for half an hour with 500 rds.

P.T.O.

of all calibres. Retaliation from heavy and Field Artillery caused enemy fire to slacken considerably. At 10 p.m. and 2 a.m., brief heavy bombardment again broke out. Some gas shells were fired over the sector during the night.

During the day nearly 1,600 rounds of 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. shell fell in O.31., O.32, U.1, and U.2.

AIRCRAFT - At 4.50 a.m. seven enemy aeroplanes flew over the sector. Several of them dropped smoke bombs.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY. - A machine gun is suspected to be firing from U.11.b.60.45.

A fire was seen in direction of COMINES at 2.30 p.m. and was burning for at least an hour. At 6 p.m. a large volume of black smoke, apparently caused by an explosion was observed in direction of HOUTHEN.

For Liaison

Lieut. I.C.

for Lieut-Colonel, G.S.

FORECAST. Forecast noon to noon. Wind light at first between north and east. probably becoming east 10 m.p.h. Nearly calm at night. fine and warm. Good visibility but slight haze. temperature day 75, night 50 to 55. Note. Fair weather continuing two or three days.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 224.....23rd July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 22nd July to 6.0 a.m. 23rd July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

4.5 hows. fired 100 rounds on wire between O.36.c.10.62 and O.36.c.15.33, where gaps had previously been made.

18-pdrs. fired 372 rounds by day and 1,500 rounds by night on enemy tracks, communications and traffic centres.

4.5 hows. fired 450 rounds at hutments and farm houses.

120 rounds were fired against enemy trenches and strong points in O.36.a. and c., and U.6.a. Retaliation for hostile fire.

Heavy Artillery bombarded enemy posts in NO MAN'S LAND with 6", 8", and 12" howitzers. The programme was interfered with by hostile shelling of our Batteries.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired on enemy tracks and communications.

PATROLS.

Three enemy patrols were reported. One was heard in vicinity of U.5.b.50.35, where wiring was being done; another in O.35.d was driven off by Lewis Gun fire; the third enemy patrol of 8 men in O.35.a. was dispersed by Machine Gun fire.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

The enemy again shelled our front and support lines frequently throughout the day, especially between 1.0 and 3 p.m. with 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. shell.

Several Battery positions on the Western side of MESSINES RIDGE were heavily bombarded by the enemy; also WULVERGHEM-NEUVE EGLISE, and WULVERGHEM-MESSINES Roads. Over 2,000 rounds fell during the daytime in this locality, all 15 cm. or 10.5 cm. Batteries firing were in the direction of WARNETON and COMINES. This fire was maintained throughout the night at a slow rate and included a number of gas shell.

The absence of 7.7 cm. gun fire is still most pronounced.

SNIPERS.

Enemy Snipers were active in front of Left Battalion Sector.

AIRCRAFT.

Enemy's aeroplanes crossed our lines frequently during the day, flying low and dropping bombs in back areas during the night. 13 enemy machines circled over our front line system at 6.30 a.m. and several crossed our lines again at 9 a.m.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY. Machine guns were active during the night from the WINDMILL (U.5.b.) and on the WARNETON Road, just North of the WINDMILL. These guns also fired on our aeroplanes during the day.

Enemy O.P. was observed at O.36.c.2.4., steel tree. Flashes from the periscope were clearly visible.

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

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind mainly S. 5 to 10 m.p.h. but rather variable. Nearly calm at night. Fine and Warm. Fair visibility but some haze. Morning mist. Temp. day 75, night 50 to 55.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 225..... 24th July, 1917.

(From 6 a.m. 23rd July to 6 a.m. 24th July, 1917.)

NOTE.- Not to be taken into Front Line Trenches.

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY - 4.5" Hows. cut wire at the following points:-

0.36.a.5.9. to 0.30.c.62.15. - 100 rds.

0.36.a.15.40. to 0.36.a.10.05. - 100 rds.

Gaps were further enlarged at these places and where there are no gaps, the wire is very thin.

Our Artillery continued shelling of enemy roads and communications, and 1600 rds. were fired during the day on these targets; also on BUSSCHE FARM and houses in V.l.b. During the night 2200 rds. were fired on Communication tracks and hutments.

At 7 a.m. our 18-pdrs. placed a smoke barrage on points on our left flank in support of an enterprise by the Division on our left.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine guns fired on tracks and points in rear of the enemy lines.

PATROLS. - Owing to Battalion reliefs, patrols confined their activities to acting as covering parties during relief.

Enemy party was heard working between 0.35.b.3.9. and 0.35.b.4.8.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY - Enemy artillery was active throughout the period especially against STEIGNAST FARM, PINE AVENUE, WELLINGTON AV. HUN'S WALK, and points in vicinity of the subsidiary line. Most of the shelling was 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. A few 7.7 cm. were fired against left Battalion at intervals throughout the day.

At 2.30 p.m. about 200 mustard gas shells fell around support line in left Battalion sector. During the night, gas shells were also fired into the right Battalion area and around Brigade Headquarters.

During the night 600 rds. of 21 cm. and 15 cm. fell in 0.31.d. and 0.32.a. including 300 near a battery position in 0.31.a. Some of these appeared to be coming from south of COMINES. Two of our guns were slightly damaged. Enemy 10.5 cm. batteries were again active on the WULVERGHEM - MESSINES Road.

MACHINE GUNS - Enemy machine guns were active throughout the night. One gun swept the parapet of OWL TRENCH every few minutes. Fire was also directed on to our overland routes and the vicinity of working parties in the right Bn. area.

AIRCRAFT. - Lewis Guns engaged enemy aeroplanes which were flying very low over our lines between 9.45 and 10.15 a.m. and again at 3 and 5 a.m.

Early in the morning enemy machines reconnoitred our battery positions, apparently observing effects of their counter-battery firing. They flew at a height of about 500 feet.

At 10 a.m. one of our machines was shot down by several hostile planes and fell in 0.32.a.

P.T.O.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY - An enemy dump was blown up a considerable distance away on a bearing of 82 deg. T.B. from 0.32.b.60.65.

About 1 p.m. a party of the enemy were observed in 0.29.b. making for their rear lines. Our 18-pdrs. shelled them with shrapnel, and dispersed them.

At 10.30 p.m. three strings of about a dozen white lights on each were sent up opposite the right sector of our front. No apparent action followed.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS. - Latest aeroplane photographs Nos. 42 B. 1695 to 1703 show that the enemy has dug out the ditch on the south-western side of the WARNETON ROAD between the WINDMILL in U.5.b. and his main line in U.6.c. This provides him with a second route to the WINDMILL.

The trench from the south-western corner of the WINDMILL enclosure now extends half way south-wards towards track in U.5.d. There is also some sign of digging in a southerly direction from U.5.b.82.90. The earthworks at U.6.a.30.35. have been amplified into a cluster of strong points, from which it appears that the proper location of Post 12 is about U.6.a.20.45. Post 11 is probably at the western end of the trench running from this cluster at about U.5.b.92.42.

Dugouts are indicated at U.6.a.55.35, U.6.a.60.25, U.6.a.65.10, U.6.a.65.00, U.6.c.20.75, U.6.c.40.00, U.12.a.80.86, and U.12.a.40.50.

The old enemy battery position along a hedge, the centre of which is about U.6.c.28.00, is plainly occupied by garrisons of enemy advanced posts. The houses at U.6.c.central and U.6.d.2.2. also show considerable signs of enemy occupation and traffic. Machine guns are probably firing from the houses in U.6.c.central.

For Contact

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

FORECAST. - Moon to noon. Wind light and variable mainly east and south. Calm at night. Fine very warm day with fair visibility but some haze. Morning fog. A slight risk of local thunderstorms developing. Temperature day 75 to 80, night 55 to 60.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 226.....25th July, 1917.(from 6 a.m. 24th July, to 6 a.m. 25th July, 1917).NOTE. - NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

4.5 hows. fired 300 rounds on wire in places where gaps had already been cut. Bursts good, and existing gaps widened. 4.5 hows. also fired 598 rounds on enemy strong points.

18-pdrs. fired 236 rounds during the day against enemy tracks and approaches in V.1 and 2. By night 1,500 rounds were fired on roads behind enemy lines in U.5.b., U.6., U.11.b., and O.29.

Heavy Artillery bombarded enemy strong points in NO MAN'S LAND. 11 direct hits from 12" hows. were made on the WINDMILL and one or two small enemy dumps were exploded.

At 4.15 a.m. our artillery carried out a practice barrage. Enemy made no reply to this.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired 5,000 rounds during the night on WINGSCLERE (U.6.b) and tracks adjacent.

LEWIS GUNS.

Lewis Guns fired intermittently across NO MAN'S LAND during the night and also at enemy aircraft at 6.30 a.m., 8 a.m., 10.0 a.m. and 3 p.m.

SNIPERS.

Snipers claim 2 hits on Right Battalion front.

During shelling by 4.5 hows. at 5 p.m. one of the enemy who was seen running from a shell hole in O.35.d. towards the ruined buildings on CINEMA ROAD, was hit by a sniper of the Left Battalion.

PATROLS.

Right Battalion. Five patrols worked on this front during the night, and report lights were not used as much as usual. Enemy Machine Guns were active and one firing from U.11.b.80.85 (Post 16) shelled NO MAN'S LAND. Another Machine Gun was fired from the vicinity of the same point but was evidently being moved about between bursts. No enemy patrols were encountered. Enemy working party could be heard working in front of Post 10 (U.5.b.45.50). One of our shells evidently burst among working party at about U.5.b.8.4. as shouts could be heard after the explosion. Working parties were also heard in the WINDMILL and about 100 yards South from it.

Left Battalion.

Strength of Party.	Time of Departure.	Time of Return.	Route.	Remarks.
Right Co. Patrol.	10.30 p.m.	-	From O.35.d.10.45. towards Posts 8, 9 and 10.	Talking and laughing heard at these points. Enemy M.G. very active apparently at Post 8. No enemy patrols encountered.
Centre Coy. Patrol.	10.30 p.m.	2.45 a.m.	From O.35.d.32.88. towards houses on CINEMA ROAD.	None of the enemy observed. Considerable talking and laughing heard from vicinity of the ruins.

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Strength of Party.	Time of Departure.	Time of Return.	Route.	Remarks.
Left Co. Patrol.	10.30 p.m.	2.30 a.m.	From MILITARY ROAD towards Right front.	None of the enemy observed or heard.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Enemy's Artillery was less active generally, but his shelling was more concentrated on definite points. In the front line system his shelling during the morning was chiefly on STEIGNAST Farm with 10.5 and 15 cm. Early in the afternoon our front line and support trenches in U.11 were heavily bombarded for an hour with 15 cm. shell. During the day there were some bursts of fire on the Left Battalion Sector, especially GAPAARD AVENUE and OWL Trench.

There was intermittent shelling throughout the day on our Battery positions in O.31 and O.32. A large number of the enemy shells were blinds. Batteries firing included 21, 15 and 10.5 cm. A high velocity gun fired a few rounds at Wagon lines and killed 2 horses.

AIRCRAFT.

Enemy machines are making an increasing practice, especially during early morning and late evening, reconnoitring our front line system in flights of 3 or 4 machines. On the approach of our machines these aeroplanes retire behind their own lines but return again immediately our aeroplanes disappear, and continue their reconnaissance. They make a thorough examination of our lines and generally fire into our trenches with their machine guns. Apparently our Lewis Gun fire on them has no effect. Their record of activity during the period was as follows:-

6 a.m. to 7 a.m.	4 aeroplanes flew low over front line
7 a.m. to 10 a.m.	3 aeroplanes low over front & support lines.
11 a.m. to noon.	4 aeroplanes front & support lines.
Evening till 9 p.m.	3 aeroplanes front & support lines.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

Flashes of hostile Batteries were observed from O.32.b.60.65 at 87 degrees T.B. (2.15 p.m.), and during the night at T.B. of 56 deg., 65 deg., 53 deg., and 78 deg.

At 3.15 a farmhouse in the enemy's lines in the direction of COMINE3 was set on fire by our Artillery.

At 1.23 p.m. a small fire was caused in WANNETON about U.12.d.4.3.

At 7.12 p.m. a small party of the enemy was seen working along CINEMA ROAD going East about O.36.b.40.64.

Enemy rifle fire was on the whole quiet, and practically silent during daylight. It seems probable that many of his Posts, especially the WINDMILL, are not occupied by day. No shots are fired from the WINDMILL till after dark.

For Lieut. Col.

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

FORECAST.

Noon, to noon. Wind calm or light westerly. Cloudy with drizzle or occasional rain. Fair bright intervals. Visibility indifferent becoming fair. Morning mist. Temperature day 70, night 55 to 60.

T.C.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 227.....26th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 25th July to 6.0 a.m. 26th July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. A successful barrage was carried out by 18-pdrs. early in the morning on July 25th, and during this barrage about 40 of the enemy were seen to leave the WINDMILL, Post 13, (U.5.b.8.1). This party was caught in the barrage as it went back and a number of them were seen to fall.

Shelling by our Artillery of enemy tracks and communications in P.25, P.31, P.32, V.1, a, and 7, was continued, and about 3,000 rounds were fired in all during the period by 18-pdrs. and 4.5" hows. on these targets.

4.5" hows. obtained 3 direct hits on Post 3 at 0.35.d.8.9.

During the shelling of the afternoon 3 enemy dumps were all apparently blown up behind the WARNETON line.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired throughout the night on enemy tracks and trenches (1,200 rounds).

LEWIS GUNS.

Lewis Guns fired on enemy aeroplanes over front and support lines at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

PATROLS.

Right Battalion. Six Patrols worked on this Battalion front during the night. They report enemy Machine Guns were not very active, and were probably put down by our Artillery fire. Lights and Machine Guns were fired from each side of the WINDMILL but nothing from the WINDMILL itself. Machine Guns were fired from U.5.b.40.45 (Post 10), U.5.b.65.30 (confirmed) and U.11.b.80.65 (probably Machine Gun Post 16). A Sniper who was located in the tree above the machine gun in U.5.b.65.30 was fired on and did not fire again.

Batrols were unable to approach very close to the WINDMILL owing to the fact that the enemy has a Listening Post about 20 yards East of it which gave the alarm.

A working party could be heard near the track between CROIX Farm and WARNETON, at about U.12.a.10.65, and another party was heard digging about 40 yards South of the WINDMILL..

Strings of white lights were occasionally fired from enemy's Support line North of the DOUVE, and the result seemed to be that enemy anti-aircraft guns opened fire.

Left Battalion. Three Patrols reconnoitred Left Battalion front during the night. A Post was observed at about 0.35.b.34.12 from which several lights were fired.

At 11.30 p.m. the Officer of the watch of the Left Company went out to inspect the BROWN Post on the MILITARY Road. When close to the Post he was halted by a man whom he took to be one of our working party. He gave his name in answer to the challenge, and was ordered to put his hands up. He then made towards the man when a bomb exploded close beside him. A VERY light was fired from the BROWN Post and the stranger could be seen running down MILITARY Road towards the enemy lines. He was fired on but without visible effect.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Enemy Artillery shelled the front line system of the Right Battalion intermittently during the day; also STEIGNAST Farm.

P. T. O.

-2-

Between 10 and 11 p.m. STEIGNAST Farm and Centre Sector were lightly shelled. Enemy re-commenced this shelling at 2.30 a.m. and continued till 4 a.m. but his fire ceased on the opening of our barrage at 4.15 a.m. About 2,000 rounds of all calibres were fired on to Left Battalion Sector during the period. At 11.30 p.m. enemy barraged GAPAARD Farm and communication trench, and Company Headquarters at GAPAARD was hit seven times.

The usual occasional shelling of WULVERGHEM-MESSINES Road with 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. shells took place, and about 300 rounds of the same calibres were directed against Battery positions in O.31 and O.32. Direction of fire principally COMINES and WARNETON.

MACHINE GUNS. Enemy Machine Guns swept O.W. Trench and our over-land routes with bursts of fire as usual.

AIRCRAFT. Four of our aeroplanes reconnoitred enemy front line between 6 and 8 a.m., and 3 aeroplanes between 4 and 5 p.m. On the second occasion enemy directed heavy anti-aircraft fire against them.

Enemy aeroplanes were engaged by our anti-aircraft machine guns at 6.30 a.m., 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Enemy machines flew over our front line system at the following hours:-

5.30 p.m. 7 machines low over front line.
7 to 8.45 p.m. 2 machines low over front line.
9.30 p.m. 2 machines crossed front line flying West

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

Visibility was poor during the period.

Flashes of hostile guns were observed from O.32.b.60. at T.B. of 56 deg., 65 deg., 53 deg., 78 deg., and 80 degrees, and from U.3.a.2.1. at T.B. of 115 deg., 118 deg., 94½ deg., 85 deg., 136 deg., and 96 deg.

An O.P. is suspected at corner of house O.36.a.30.25. The window opening at this point is partly screened by bramble.

At 8.53 p.m. an enemy dump was blown up in direction between COMINES and HOUTHEM.

At 9.12 a.m. a train was observed in V.10.b. travelling away from COMINES.

A fire broke out at O.36.b.03.50 at about 8 p.m. Probably caused by our Artillery.

An enemy Machine Gun has been located in hedge at O.35.b.62.54, and another in the hole in the road at O.35.b.22.55. The latter is connected up by a small trench with No.2 Post at O.35.b.10.60.

From the study of photographs, and the perusal of the dispositions of enemy in NO MAN'S LAND on the front of the Division on our Left, it seems likely that Company Headquarters of the enemy, similarly disposed in NO MAN'S LAND opposite us, may be at:-

O.35.b.63.47. Dugout under road.

O.35.d.80.90.

Post No.3.

U.5.b.86.95.

U.6.a.28.36.

U.5.b.98.02.

U.6.c.38.63.

Dugout under road.

Dugout beside road where trench crosses it.

(Works E.N.E. of WINDMILL).

Dugout under WARNETON Road.

Dugout under WARNETON Road.

M. Curran

Lieut.-I.C.

for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind W. or S.W. 5 to 10 m.p.h. increasing later to 15 or 20 m.p.h. Cloudy at first, then clearing and becoming bright. Afterwards probably overcast again with some showers. Visibility fair. Temperature to-day 70 to 75, night 60.

T.C.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 228.....27th July, 1917.(from 6 a.m. 26th July to 6 a.m. 27th July, 1917a).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. The practice barrage carried out by our 18-pdrs. early on morning of 27th came down well, and fire remained even throughout. Shrapnel bursts were good. Enemy made no retaliation.

4.5 hows. fired 165 rounds on WARNETON Line wire near existing gaps.

Our Artillery (18-pdrs. and 4.5 hows) fired 2,700 rounds at tracks and communications behind the WARNETON line along the whole Divisional front.

4.5 hows. fired 100 rounds at ruins around No.3 Post.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired on tracks and communications behind enemy lines. (10,500 rounds).

PATROLS.

Right Battalion. Patrols were employed as covering parties on Company fronts during reliefs. A patrol which went out from Centre Company at 1.10 a.m. encountered none of the enemy., but there was some activity at the WINDMILL and VERY lights were frequently fired from this locality.

Left Battalion. There were no reconnoitring Patrols owing to Battalion relief.

An enemy patrol of 6 men was seen about 50 yards in front of our line in O.35.d. North of CINEMA ROAD. Fire was opened on them and they ran away in direction of No. 3 Post. Another enemy patrol was seen opposite the Left Company Sector and was dispersed by Lewis Gun fire.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

The front line system in the centre of the sector was shelled fairly heavily between 10 and 11 a.m. and 2 and 2.30 p.m. Apparently in retaliation for our activity on enemy traffic routes. Communication trenches generally were shelled, and in the enemy's fire there were 15 cm. and more 7.7 cm. than have been noticed recently. This fire came principally from South of COMINES. Some damage was done to our communication trenches, especially GAPAARD and WELLINGTON AVENUES. Fire on these targets was continued during the night.

Between 3 a.m. and 4.15 a.m. the Support line in Right Battalion area was heavily shelled, and fire in this locality did not cease till 6 a.m. The MESSINES-WULVERGHEM Road and WULVERGHEM Village were bombarded, and 16 rounds of 8" fell in O.32.c.

MACHINE GUNS.

Enemy Machine Guns were active in the vicinity of the WINDMILL and Posts 17 and 18.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

Flashes of hostile Batteries were observed from U.3.a.2.1 at T.B. of 70 deg., 73 deg., 105 deg., 113 deg., 89½ deg., and 182 deg., and from O.32.b.60,65 at T.B. of 109 deg. and 110 deg.

At 5.50 p.m. a working party was observed at O.30.c.95.30.

(O.35.d.6.8.). A Pineapple gun was located at house of No.3 Post

At 2.15 p.m. lamp signal flashes for 3 minutes were seen from ruins near GARDE DIEU at O.36.b.22.49.

P. T.O.

A loophole about 2ft. 6in. long by 6in wide can be seen in the ruins at 0.36.a.30.24.

A train going towards COMINES was seen on the LILLE Railway (V.10.b.) at 8.13 p.m.

At 3.0 a.m. enemy Artillery fire on our Right Battalion front commenced after the firing of double red rockets.

It is noted by the Division on our Left that Golden Rail Rockets sent up at daylight are suspected to be the signal that enemy advanced night Posts have been withdrawn.

AIRCRAFT. Enemy aeroplanes flew over our lines low down at 10 a.m. and a flight of 8 to 10 machines again patrolled our front and support lines between 7 and 10 p.m. without interruption from our aircraft. From 7 p.m. onwards large formations of hostile aeroplanes were observed in the distance behind enemy lines.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind S.W. or W 5 to 10 m.p.h. Probably becoming light and variable later. Fair becoming bright and very warm. Morning mist. Fair visibility but slight haze in the day. Temperature day 75 to 80, night 60. Fair weather probably lasting at least over to-morrow.

T.C.

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

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 229.....28th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 27th July to 6.0 a.m. 28th July, 1917).NOTE.-INTO TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. About 3,000 rounds were fired during the period by 18-pdrs. and 4.5" hows. on enemy tracks and communications behind the WARNETON Line. Digouts in the WARNETON line also bombarded.

4.5" hows. fired 225 rounds on wire around WINDMILL in U.5.b., and no wire is now visible in front of this point. 4.5" hows. also carried out a bombardment on Posts 11, 13, 14, 15 and 12.

The shooting by the Heavy Artillery on the WINDMILL between 2 and 3 p.m. was observed to be very accurate. Heavy Artillery shoot between 3.30 and 6 p.m. on Posts 5, 6, and 7 was also excellent.

At 3.45 a.m. a practice barrage was put down by 18-pdrs. for 5 minutes.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns fired on enemy tracks and traffic centres intermittently throughout the night (9,250 rounds).

PATROLS. Right Battalion. Left Company Patrols discovered an enemy working party to the left of the WINDMILL, and this was dispersed by machine gun fire. Another enemy party which was wiring on the right of the WINDMILL was dispersed by Lewis Gun fire. Patrols report that enemy is endeavouring to get out a belt of wire in front of his strong points.

Left Battalion. Enemy working parties were heard near No.1 Post and a few shots were fired from this place. These working parties appeared to be wiring.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. The front line system of the Right Battalion area was shelled between 7 a.m. and noon, and on the Left Battalion area between 10 a.m. and noon. Enemy shell fire over the whole front area during the night was heavy. Battalion Headquarters and Brigade Headquarters were selected targets. Brigade Headquarters were shelled with 200 rounds of 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. at noon and again from 10.30 p.m. till midnight. Some damage was done to our trenches in the Support line and 2 small dumps were blown up.

The WULVERGHEM Area was shelled throughout the day. About 1,500 rounds fell near here altogether, of 10.5 cm., 15 cm., and 21 cm., and a number of rounds from a H.V.gun. The fire on the MESSINES-WULVERGHEM-NEUVE EGLISE Road at times reached an intensity of 12 rounds a minute.

The Batteries shelling the Northern part of the Divisional Area appeared to fire almost entirely from COMINES.

AIRCRAFT. Enemy aeroplanes flew low over our lines at 5.50 p.m. and 4.30 a.m.

An enemy aeroplane directed the bombardment of WULVERGHEM during the early part of the day.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

At 10.43 a.m. a small engine drawing 4 trucks was seen beyond COMINES.

At 2.20 p.m. 3 men leading horses were seen opposite the point V.7.b.73.62 going towards BAS WARNETON. An hour later 2 more men with horses were seen at the same place going in the same direction. There appears to be some amount of traffic on this road and

P. T. O.

various small parties of the enemy were seen on it during the day.

During the evening small parties of the enemy were walking near the Cross Roads by BOND HOUSE (V.1.d.6.3.).

At 7.30 a.m. 3 of the enemy walked from trench at 0.30.c.9.4 towards house at 0.30.d.50.05. Movement has previously been noticed along this track which possibly leads back to billets.

A pineapple gun was again firing from outer edge of Post 3 (0.35.d.6.8.).

At 7.15 p.m. an enemy dump exploded near HOUTHEM.

Several fires were seen during the day between COMINES and WERVICQ. At 6.15 p.m. a fire was observed in WARNETON.

Flashes of hostile guns were observed from U.3.a.2.1 at T.B. of 120 deg., 129 deg., 127 deg., 127½ deg., 128 deg., and 112½ deg.

W. Lintack
Lieut.-I.C.
for Major.-G.S.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind light and variable but mainly westerly. Fair. Hot. Probably becoming cloudy and cooler. A slight risk of thunderstorms. Visibility fair. Morning mist or fog. Temperature 80 decreasing to 72.

Right Battalion. Left Battalion. Left Company. Patrols discovered an enemy working party to the left of the WINDMILL, and this was dispersed by machine gun fire. Another enemy party which was wiring on the right of the WINDMILL was dispersed by Lewis Gun fire. Patrols report that enemy is endeavouring to get out a belt of wire in front of his strong points.

Left Battalion. Enemy working parties were heard near Houtem and a few shots were fired from this place. These working parties appeared to be wiring.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.
ARTILLERY.
The front line system of the Right Battalion was shelled between 7 a.m. and noon, and on the left Battalion area between 10 a.m. and noon. Enemy shell fire over the whole front area during the night was heavy. Battalion Headquarters and Brigade Headquarters were shelled with 200 rounds of 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. at noon and again from 10.30 p.m. till midnight. Some damage was done to our trenches in the support line and 2 small dumps were blown up.

The WULVERHEM Area was shelled throughout the day. About 1,500 rounds fell near here altogether, of 10.5 cm., 15 cm. and 21 cm., and a number of rounds from a H.V. gun. The fire on the WULVERHEM-WULVERHEM-NEWBOLD Road at times reached an intensity of 15 rounds a minute.

The Batteries shelling the Northern part of the Divisional Area appeared to fire almost entirely from COMINES.

AIRCRAFT. Enemy aeroplanes flew low over our lines at 5.30 p.m. and 4.30 a.m.

An enemy aeroplane directed the bombardment of WULVERHEM during the early part of the day.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.
At 10.45 a.m. a small engine drawing a truck was seen beyond COMINES.

At 3.30 p.m. 3 men leading horses were seen opposite the point V.V.3.32 going towards BAS WARNETON. An hour later 4 more men with horses were seen at the same place going in the same direction. There appears to be some amount of traffic on this road and

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 230.....29th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 28th July to 6.0 a.m. 29th July, 1917).NOTE. - NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. 4.5" hows. fired 200 rounds on wire in front of the WARNETON line and increased existing gaps; also 150 rounds on WINDMILL, 75 rounds at dug-outs in the WARNETON line in O.36.c. and U.6.a., and 10 rounds on KIWI Farm. 40 rounds of smoke and gas shell were fired in vicinity of road in V.1 and caused effective large clouds of white smoke.

During the day and night our Artillery fired 2,100 rounds on enemy tracks and communications behind the WARNETON line.

During the attempted enemy raid (see below) 18-pdrs. fired 4,170 rounds and 4.5" hows. 1,324 rounds. Our barrage was prompt and heavy. Heavy Artillery assisted with counter-battery work.

At 4 a.m. our Artillery put down a successful barrage as arranged.

MACHINE GUNS. Machine Guns fired 2,550 rounds during the night on enemy tracks and traffic centres, and 49,000 rounds during the enemy minor attack. One of our Machine Gun positions (U.5.d.52.10) was destroyed by enemy fire during the afternoon.

PATROLS. Patrols from the Left Battalion again reported enemy working party near enemy Post 1, and also that enemy were heard driving pickets apparently wiring in NO MAN'S LAND opposite the centre of the Left Battalion. A considerable number of the enemy appeared to be engaged on this work.

Right Battalion patrols were interfered with by enemy bombardment.

ENEMY OPERATIONS. At 9.40 p.m. the enemy opened a heavy bombardment on the whole of the Right Battalion front, which extended to the front of the Division on our Right, and also to part of our Left Battalion front. On our Right Battalion front there was a considerable amount of Minenwerfer fire mingled with the shell fire. Our front line sent up the S.O.S. signal at 9.43 p.m. on the left of the bombardment, and at 9.45 p.m. on the centre Right. Our Artillery and Vickers gun barrage came down promptly and most effectively. Shortly after the enemy barrage opened about 100 of the enemy were seen advancing towards our line on the Right, and about 40 on the Left. Several lines of the enemy also said to have been seen kneeling behind this first wave in NO MAN'S LAND. The enemy nowhere reached our line and his attack was completely broken by our barrage and by heavy Lewis Gun and Rifle fire, and bombing.

Our casualties were very slight and the damage to our trenches was not extensive except on the right near the DOUVE where the bombardment was most intense. Enemy shelling ceased at about 10.45 p.m.

Enemy casualties are believed to have been severe.

The enemy assaulting parties against the Division on our Right are said to have used Flamenwerfer.

ARTILLERY. Enemy shelling was especially severe on the Right Battalion front during the day particularly on front and support lines. His

P. T. C.

-2-

Artillery was fairly quiet against the Left Battalion front up till 2 p.m. when some shelling began with 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. against the support line, HUN'S WALK and STEIGNAST Farm. Subsequent to the attempted Raid enemy shelled our roads and communication trenches intermittently until daybreak. Enemy shelled our back areas intermittently throughout the period as usual. 525 rounds (100 Gas) of 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. shell fell in O.31.a and O.32.c.; 250 rounds were fired from direction of COMINES on WELLINGTON AVENUE, and 150 rounds on the tramline in N.36.b. The greater part of the enemy's fire during the day came from WARNETON direction.

Between 7.25 and 8.30 p.m. the enemy put up a thick smoke barrage which started on the Left of the Sector and blew across towards the Division on our Right, forming a heavy cloud of white smoke. There was no gas noticed with it, and no apparent action followed.

AIRCRAFT. Enemy aeroplanes again flew low over our front line at daybreak, and during the course of the day 26 enemy machines in all were seen over our Left Battalion front. Two aeroplanes, flying low, directed enemy Artillery fire during the afternoon, and 7 aeroplanes were over during the passage of the smoke cloud.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

Flashes of hostile guns were observed from O.32.b.60.6 at T.B. of 98½ deg., and 101 deg.; from O.32.c.4.6. at T.B. of 75 deg., and 102 deg., and from U.3.a.2.1 at T.B. of 95 degrees.

Flashes, apparently from a periscope or a heliograph, were observed at intervals immediately to the right of COMINES Church.

Much movement was seen during the day at about V.7.b.73.62. Parties of the enemy of from 2 to 7 were walking along the road in the direction of BAS WARNETON. Movement was also noticed about V.1.d.3.3.

Large volumes of smoke were seen during the day rising from near COMINES Church. During the night several large fires were observed in the enemy back areas.

Two searchlights were observed from U.3.a.2.1 at T.B. of 78 deg., and 81 deg.

Attack
Lieut.-I.C.
for Major.-G.S.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind variable. Mainly light but gusty at times. Further thunderstorms likely. Fair bright intervals. Changeable temperature. Visibility becoming good, but morning mist. Temperature variable 60 to 80.

T.O.

CONFIDENTIALTHIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 231,.....30th July, 1917.(from 6.0 a.m. 29th July, to 6.0 a.m. 30th July, 1917).NOTE.- NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.OUR OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Our Artillery fired over 4,000 rounds on tracks and communications behind WARNETON line.

4.5" hows. carried out a destructive shoot on enemy trench between Posts 9 and 13, on Posts 14 and 15, and on communication trenches leading from WARNETON line in U.6.a. to HIRONDELLIE Road. During the night Posts 11, 12 and 13 were also bombarded. Results appeared to be satisfactory.

4.5" hows. fired 150 rounds on wire in the hedges around Post 3.

At 3 a.m. 18-pdrs. put down a practice barrage on enemy Posts. Results satisfactory.

MACHINE GUNS.

Machine Guns fired 8,000 rounds during the night on tracks and traffic centres.

LEWIS GUNS.
LAND.

Lewis Guns fired intermittent bursts across NO MAN'S

PATROLS.

Covering patrols were along the front throughout the night. No hostile parties were encountered.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.ARTILLERY.

Enemy Artillery was comparatively quiet. There was some intermittent shelling of the Support line and communication trenches with 15 cm. 10.5 cm. and 7.7 cm. shell. Some gas shells were reported near STEIGMAST Farm and roads South-West of MESSINES. About mid-day and during the afternoon occasional rounds were fired into the Valley West of MESSINES.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

Flashes of hostile guns were observed from O.32.b.60.65 at T.B. of 71 deg., 90 deg., 91½ deg., and 103 ½ deg; from O.32.c.4.6. at T.B. of 95 degrees, and from U.3.a.2.1. at T.B. of 80 deg., 82 deg., and 97 deg.

At noon dense clouds of smoke were seen rising from behind enemy lines in several directions, and appeared to be small dumps burning.

An enemy aeroplane reconnoitred our front line flying low during the early morning.

AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

No. 42 B 1717. Much movement in V.3.c. and house at V.3.c.5.6. is occupied.

1730. Tracks North of KIWI Farm to just North of COORONG huts in O.36.c. and d. much used. Trench here is considerably knocked about and the enemy goes mainly over the open.

1728. Apparently several ammunition stores on the railway line in V.1.d. central.

1721. Houses at U.6.d.2.2 much used and not much shelled.

1722. At house V.7.b.7.8 a trench has been dug running South-Westerly about 300 yards.

T.C.

ADC
95

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

CONFIDENTIAL

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 232..... 12 noon 31st July.

NOTE. - NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE TRENCHES.

At 3.50 a.m. in conformity with operations on a wider scale further North, the Division attacked enemy positions in O.35. and U.5.

Divisional Artillery opened up a barrage on enemy posts and works between O.35.central and U.5.d.5.4. After three minutes the barrage crept forward at a slow rate till it ultimately came to rest on the enemy's WARNETON Line, where it remained about 2 hours, thus forming a protective barrage while our Infantry mopped up enemy posts in NO MAN'S LAND and consolidated their newly captured positions.

Between 10 p.m. and 12 midnight, prior to the attack, the enemy commenced heavy shelling of our front line and vicinity of MESSINES, and there was intermittent fire from midnight till 3.30 a.m. The enemy replied to our barrage at 3.50 a.m. with 15, 10.5 and 7.7 cm., His S.O.S. signals were Green rockets followed by Green and Red rockets in pairs.

The Infantry encountered most resistance in NO MAN'S LAND on the HIRONDELLE Road north of the WINDMILL, and about the WINDMILL in U.5.b. Here, the enemy was in considerable strength with a number of Machine Guns.

The objectives were reached without loss of time, and consolidated. The Red Dotted Line runs from about O.35.d.2.1. through U.5.b.5.5. to U.5.d.38.78. Posts were established and consolidated in advance of this line at O.35.d.42.40., O.35.d.48.15., U.5.b.60.80., U.5.b.68.38., U.5.b.85.10., and U.5.d.70.80.

Up till 11 a.m., 19 unwounded prisoners, including one officer passed through Divisional Cage., and about 10 wounded prisoners including one officer through Advanced Dressing Station at KANDAHAR FARM. The enemy order of battle was established from North to South as follows.- Northern boundary about GARDE DIEU 28th I.R. down to vicinity of WINDMILL, thence 68th I.R. to vicinity of (but excluding) WARNETON, then 29th I.R.; 18th Res Div. on the North of the 28th I.R. The 28th and 68th Inf. Regiments each had one Bn. in WARNETON front line and NO MAN'S LAND, one Battalion in vicinity of WARNETON Support Line, and a few hundred metres in rear. Cycle of reliefs in each case was 5 days in front line, 5 days in rest, and 5 days in Support. The 1st Battalion 28th I.R. had been in the line 2 days, and the 1st Bn. of the 68th I.R. would have completed its tour in the line tonight, July 31st, when it would normally be relieved by the 3rd Battalion of that regiment.

It is believed the enemy's casualties in NO MAN'S LAND were severe. The enemy made three small counter-attacks between 5.30 a.m. and 9 a.m. and all were beaten off.

H. L. L. L. L.

Lieut. I.C.
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff.

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SCALE: 1:100,000

NORTH SEA

MIDDELKERKE

GLEFFINGHE

SLYPE

LOMBARTZYDE

ZEVELOTE

NIEUPOORT

ST PIERRE CAPPELLE

LYSER RIVER

LEKE

COUCKELAERE

KEYEM

OBERST

VLADSLOO

DIXMUDE

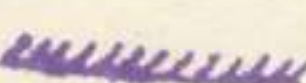
WERCKEND

ZARREN

CLERCKEN

HOUTHULST

BRITISH FRONT LINE

SHOWN THUS: 

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., PLOEG-
STEERT, 1/10,000.

T.C.

F. M. Lenthack
Lieut.-I.C.
for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.

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 $\frac{1}{2}$ of B Coy.
2nd wave A Coy., and $\frac{1}{2}$ 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 Road, 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 SEPTIEMME 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.S.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 BETHLEEM 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 Epsules 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 FARM. 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 mentioned 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.

P. T. O.

On the morning of June 8th the Battalion was collected in an abandoned enemy trench between ULINA 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 ULINA 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 UNLA 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 at 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.S.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 LAND 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 obliged 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 SOTTAGE. 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.

P.T.O.

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.

9.

41ST BATTALION.

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

10.

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.

11.

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 DELFENBELLE Farm onwards. They had assembled, however, at 2 a.m. without casualties. The Battalion was intended to go over in two waves but assaulted actually 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.

12.

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 on 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.

13.

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

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.

P.T.O.

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

P.T.O.

14.

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 HAMMARKET. 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 2 p.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.