

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/50/25 Part 1

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 5th
Australian Division

March 1918



AWM4-1/50/25PART1

and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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|-----------|------|------|--|---|
| DRANOUTRE | 1st | | <p><u>MARCH 1918.</u></p> <p>The Division is in the HOLLEBEKE Sectdr, holding the centre Divisional front of the Australian Corps, with the 14th and 15th Australian Infantry Brigades in line; the 8th Australian Infantry Brigade is in Divisional Reserve.</p> <p>Location Lists are attached as Appendix 1.</p> <p>Daily summaries of Intelligence are attached as Appendix 2.</p> <p>The G.O.C. lectured in the KEMMEL School House at 3 p.m. this afternoon, to junior officers. The subject was "The duties and responsibilities of junior officers."</p> <p>At 9.54 p.m. a S.O.S. Signal was sent up on the right of the OOSTTAVERNE Group and the left of the MESSINES Group; our batteries opened fire before the rockets had reached the ground. The enemy put down a heavy minenwerfer barrage, isolating one strong point. Under cover of the darkness the wire had previously been cut. A party (reported to be 4 officers and 70 others) then attempted a raid. They were repulsed with Mills grenades, leaving 1 wounded prisoner, a light machine gun, two rifles, and some grenades. Artillery summary is attached as Appendix 3. (original only.)</p> <p>The day was a cold one; visibility fair.</p> | <p>App. 1.</p> <p>App. 2.</p> <p>App. 3</p> |
| | 2nd | | <p>Visibility poor.</p> <p>It was very quiet on the left sector during the day, but there was considerable artillery activity on the right brigade sector.</p> <p>The G.O.C. visited the 8th Infantry Brigade Headquarters, afterwards inspecting the 29th Battalion in billets in RAMILLES Camp, and 31st Battalion at ROSSIGNOL Camp.</p> <p>He also inspected the raiding platoon of the 29th Battalion. Visited 14th Infantry Brigade Headquarters at REGENTS DUGOUTS.</p> | |
| | 3rd | | <p>Visibility poor.</p> <p>Three raids were carried out, also a "Chinese" attack, ZERO hour for all four being 11.45 p.m. For full details see report and annexe attached to Intelligence Summary for period 6 a.m. 3rd March to 6 a.m. 4th March, in Appendix 2.</p> <p>File with reference to these raids is attached (original Diary only)</p> | <p>App. 2</p> <p>App. 4</p> |

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

General Staff,
5th AUST DIV.

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| DRANOUTRE | | | <u>MARCH 1918.</u> | |
| | 3rd (contd) | | During the morning the G.O.C. was present at the 31st Battalion Church Parade, and afterwards inspected ROSSIGNOL CAMP. In the afternoon the Corps Commander came to Divisional Headquarters to see the G.O.C. | |
| | 4th | | The G.O.C. went to 15th Infantry Brigade Headquarters to see General ELLIOTT. Afterwards inspected the raiding parties of the 57th and 58th Battalions. Then went on to the 14th Infantry Brigade Headquarters, and saw the G.O.C. Brigade and Lieut COLLESS. Lieut. COLLESS was the officer who led the 55th Battalion raiding party. The G.O.C. next inspected the 55th Battalion raiding team at Battalion Headquarters and thanked them for their very fine work. At night the Divisional Artillery co-operated in a raid by the 3rd Australian Division on our right. General Staff Memorandum No. 208, with reference to the Mental Care of the men, was issued. App. 5 | |
| | 5th | | Received a wire with reference to the withdrawal of the 6th Australian (Army) Field Artillery Brigade from the 3rd Australian Divisional front and being superimposed on the front of the 5th Australian Division. Relief to be complete by night 7th/8th. Visibility fair. | |
| | 6th | | G.O.C. (accompanied by G.O.C. 8th Australian Infantry Brigade (in Reserve)) inspected strong points and machine gun positions in the Second Zone (Corps Line) in the left sub-sector Visibility good. General Staff Memorandum No. 209, giving the new S.O.S. signal, was issued. App. 5 WARNETON TOWER was at last demolished by the Heavies today. This Tower had been used a great deal by the enemy for some time past. <i>as an O.P.</i> | |
| | 7th | | G.O.C. inspected the Divisional Sanitary School. Attended a conference of Brigade Commanders at 15th Infantry Brigade Headquarters, the matters discussed being:- (a) Raids to take place on the Divisional front during the next 10 days. (b) Other questions affecting defence policy of the Divisional sector. At 6 p.m. gas was reported as being in the ROOZEBEEK VALLEY. It was afterwards found that this was caused by a gas shoot by the 1st Aust Div. Art on the enemy's line. | |

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| | | | <u>MARCH 1918.</u> | |
| DRANOUTRE. | 8th | | <p>A beautiful bright day. Visibility fair. Enemy artillery activity slightly more greater than usual. The G.O.C. with G.O.C. 8th Infantry (Reserve) Brigade inspected portion of the Second Zone (Corps line) lying between and east of WYTSCHAETE - MESSINES. He also visited the Headquarters of the 59th and 60th Battalions (Left centre and left battalions of the right brigade sector.) G.O.C. opened the new Y.M.C.A. Cinema Hall at WULVERGHEM. G.S.O. I reconnoitred alternative assembly positions for the Reserve Brigade. The 15th Infantry Brigade Light Trench Mortars, with artillery co-operation, carried out destructive shoots and concentration bombardments at 9 p.m. and midnight, on enemy trench system, machine gun and minenwerfer positions. Letter G7/517 was sent to Corps Headquarters asking for approval to carry out raids (date afterwards fixed for night 11th/12th. "Z" Special Co. R.E. became attached to this Division to carry out a projector gas attack.</p> | App. 6 |
| | 9th | | <p>A particularly nice day, with good visibility. The G.O.C. accompanied by the G.O.C. 15th Infantry Brigade and O.C. 60th Battalion went round the support line of the centre sub-sector. It was noticed that the construction of strong points in many cases was unsatisfactory. Instructions were given to the CRE to have this altered as soon as working parties became available. Letter G7/602 was sent to Corps, giving the outline for the raids to be carried out by 57th and 59th Battalions on the night 11th/12th March 1918.</p> | App. 7 |
| | 10. | | <p>Visibility poor, owing to the mist. Another very fine day. The G.O.C. was present at the Church Parades of the 29th and 31st Battalions. He afterwards kept an appointment with the D.A.Q.M.G. Australian Corps, with reference to Administrative matters.</p> | |

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| DRANOUTRE | | | <u>MARCH 1918.</u> | |
| | 11th | | <p>G.O.C. with C.R.A. visited the 15th Infantry Brigade Headquarters to make sure that everything was in order for raids taking place tonight, also discussed arrangements for artillery support for raids on the night 13th/14th.</p> <p>G.O.C. inspected personnel, camps, wagon lines, and horses of the 53rd, 54th, 55th, and 114th Batteries.</p> <p>Two raids were carried out (ZERO hour being 10.30 p.m.) by the 57th and 59th Battalions (15th Infantry Brigade). As a result 6 prisoners (3 from each raid) were captured; one prisoner afterwards died. Full report is attached to the Intelligence Summary of the 12th March, also details of the examination of the prisoners.</p> <p>File with reference to this raid is attached as Appendix 8 (Original Diary only)</p> <p>Division Order No. 191, with reference to a gas discharge on this front, was issued.</p> | <p>App. 8</p> <p>App. 9</p> |
| | 12th | | <p>A fine day. Visibility fair.</p> <p>The G.O.C. inspected raiding parties of the 57th and 59th Battalions which carried out raids last night. He also visited General HOBKIRK with reference to forthcoming raids and gas attacks. Spoke to General ELLIOTT re raid to take place on the night 13th/14th March.</p> <p>Division Order No. 192, with reference to the relief of the 15th Infantry Brigade by the 8th Infantry Brigade, was issued.</p> <p>Corps General Staff Circular No. 12 was received, with reference to the re-organization of machine gun units. The formation of the 5th Australian Machine Gun Battalion has been put in hand, and Major A.H. WRIGHT (Acting D.M.G.O.) appointed to command temporarily.</p> <p><i>Report on raid 11/12 March attached</i></p> <p><i>Outline of raids for 13/14 March (922/986) attached</i></p> | <p>App. 9</p> <p><i>app. 19</i></p> <p><i>app. 20</i></p> |
| | 13th | | <p>Very fine day. Visibility fair.</p> <p>G.O.C. inspected personnel, camp, wagon lines, and horses of S.A.A. Section, and No. 1 Section of the Divisional Ammunition Column.</p> <p>Lieut. C. SCHIFFERS 164th Infantry Regiment U.S.A. reported here yesterday afternoon, and today went up to the 15th Infantry Brigade for one day's attachment to the 15th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery.</p> <p><i>Order of Battle is attached</i></p> | <p><i>Apr 18</i></p> |

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| DRANOUTRE | 14th | | <p><u>MARCH 1918.</u> <i>visited</i> The G.O.C. 15th Infantry Brigade Headquarters and inspected raiding parties of the 58th and 60th Battalions, who carried out raids very early this morning. ZERO hour was 3.30 a.m. A full report on these raids is attached to the Intelligence Summary of the 15th March. Details of the examination of prisoners captured in the raids are attached to Summary of the 14th March. File in connection with these raids is attached as Appendix 10 (Original only) App. 10. Captain H. WILLIAMS, Tank Corps arrived this afternoon for 10 days' attachment to the Divisional Gas Officer. Corps General Staff Circular No. 14 was received, with reference to the new establishment of an infantry battalion. The necessary alterations were commenced in this Division at once.</p> | |
| | 15 | | <p>A fine day; The G.O.C. inspected the 5th Australian Division Scouting and Patrolling School situated at ROSSIGNOL CAMP (near KEMMEL). Accompanied by the C.R.A. and G.S.O. I, he made a reconnaissance of the Second defensive zone, right brigade sector, and selected Brigade Battle command posts at SPANBROECKMOLIN and MIDLAND FARM for infantry brigades, and for Divisional Artillery on HILL 63. G.O.C. also visited 15th Infantry Brigade Headquarters. General Sir Herbert PLUMER G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., A.D.C. visited Divisional Headquarters at 12.30 today. No. 2 Special Co. (Mortar) R.E. was placed at the disposal of the G.O.C. from today, for a special operation.</p> | |
| | 16 | | <p><i>The G.O.C. Division</i> accompanied by the G.O.C. 14th Infantry Brigade made reconnaissance of the Second Defensive Zone, left brigade sector, and selected brigade battle command posts. Also visited Headquarters of the 53rd, 55th, and 56th Battalions, and 8th Infantry Brigade Headquarters.</p> | |
| | 17 | | <p>G.O.C. attended the church parade of the 15th Infantry Brigade at School house KEMMEL. He inspected the 59th Battalion at RAMILLES Camp. Later, accompanied by the Corps Commander at an inspection and presentation of medals to raiding parties of the 15th and 14th Infantry Brigades.</p> | |

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| DRANOUTRE | | | <u>MARCH 1918.</u> | |
| | 18 | | The G.O.C. inspected gun positions and reserve gun positions of the 49th, 50th and, 51st Batteries, and of the 114th Howitzer Battery (13th Field Artillery Brigade). Later he inspected gun and reserve gun positions of the 55th Battery (14th Field Artillery Brigade). The G.O.C. had a conference with General WHITE (B.G.G.S. Corps) with reference to the re-distribution of infantry brigades in the line. Precipis of the points raised and discussed is attached as Appendix.11. | App.11 |
| | 19. | | Captain P.D.W. DUNN (lancs. Fusiliers, Instructor at the Second Army Central School WISQUES) was attached to the 32nd Battalion, to regain touch with trench conditions. Reserve line strong points of Left Brigade were inspected by G.O.C. Left Brigade, Field Co. Condr. and G.S.O. II. A wet day. G.O.C. visited Headquarters of the 14th and 8th Infantry Brigades and discussed with Brigadiers: (a) Arrangements for raids; (b) Proposed re-arrangement ts x of the Brigade sectors. G.S.O. I visited the southern half of the front line system and half the northern half of support line system of Second Zone with Lieut-Colonel E.J.NICHOLSON, C.R.E. Australian Corps Troops, and also selected site for Right Battalion Headquarters at SCHNITZEL FARM. KEMMEL Area and the NEUVE-EGLISE Road were shelled intermittently throughout the day. Letter G22/1858 was sent out, with reference to a raid by the 14th Infantry Brigade on THE TWINS on the night 19th/20th March. (This raid was subsequently postponed by telegram, and later by letter G22/2107 of the 20th) General Staff Memorandum No. 211 "Anti-gas appliances" was issued. | App.12 App. 5. |
| | | | Gas was discharged by electrical projectors on this front by "Z" Special Co. R.E. at 10.30 p.m. tonight (See Order No.191 - Appendix 9) The time of the discharge was synchronised with that of the 2nd Australian Division. There was no enemy retaliation. | |

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| DRAN- OUTRE | 1918 March 19 | | G.O.C. visited 14th (Left) Brigade re/proposed raids. | |
| | 20th | | " " 15th (Reserve) Brigade re proposed redistribution of brigades in line and point of assembly. G.O.C. inspected camps of 57th and 58th Battalions at WULVERGHEM. Weather wet and visibility bad. Enemy H.V. guns active against back areas. At night enemy artillery activity normal. | |
| | | 10pm | 80 Gas projectors were fired on to FLY BUILDINGS. | |
| | 21st | | Foggy morning changing to bright day. Enemy artillery active in early morning. During night large amount of Gas and H.E. fired by enemy on to our front, support, and reserve positions. Marked increase in gas shelling. Between 6.30 and 6.45 a.m. enemy attempted to raid our forward posts in these places. All his attempts were unsuccessful. Many enemy were killed and 1 wounded prisoner of the 162nd I.R. was captured. Enemy H.V. guns were active against villages and back areas. No serious damage reported. Large amount enemy gas shelling at night. <i>Letter G22/2251 re proposed raids attached</i> | |
| | 22nd | | Fine bright day. Ground rapidly drying. Enemy H.V. guns still active against back areas. G.O.C. visited 8th (Right) Brigade with C.R.A. re forthcoming raids. G.O.C. visited 14th(Left) Brigade re proposed raids, and to ascertain that everything in order for handing over the command of Brigade from General HOBKIRK to temporary command of Lieut.-Colonel STEWART. | <i>Apr 21</i> |

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| DRANOUTRE | 23 | | <p><u>MARCH 1918.</u></p> <p>A fine day; foggy in the morning, but it cleared up later in the day. The Army Commander, General Sir Herbert PLUMER G.C.M.G. G.C.V.O. K.C.B. visited the Divisional Commander this morning. Later he spoke to the Infantry Brigadiers and the C.R.A. Verbal warning was received concerning the projected move of the Division and relief by the 26th instant by the 1st and 2nd Australian Divisions. H.V. German guns continued to be active against DRANOUTRE and KEMMEL. Order No. 194, with reference to the withdrawal from the line of the 5th Australian Division.</p> <p><i>Letter G13/2793, reference successes obtained in recent fighting by rapid and accurate rifle fire</i></p> | App. 9 App. 22 |
| | 24 | | <p>A fine day. G.O.C. attended a Church Parade (15th Infantry Brigade) at KEMMEL School. He inspected 59th and 60th Battalions at RAMILLES ^{and ROSSIGNOL} CAMPS. Together with G.O.C. 15th Infantry Brigade visited 14th Infantry Brigade Headquarters. "B" Divisional Defence Scheme was issued today to those concerned. Copy is attached as Appendix 13</p> <p>The warning telegram re move to ACHEUX Area was received. The Divisional Schools were disbanded and personnel instructed to return to their units. Personnel are being returned from all other Schools (G.H.Q., Army, and Corps). The relief of the right and right centre battalions of the right brigade and the relief of the 14th Infantry Brigade was carried out during the night 24th/25th. Reference Divisional Order No. 193 (Appendix 9), the Mortars installed by No. 2 Special Co. R.E. have not yet been discharged owing to unfavourable weather conditions. File in connection with "Z" Special Co's gas operations is attached as Appendix 14</p> <p>File in connection with the operation to be carried out by No. 2 Special Co. is attached as Appendix 15.</p> | App. 13 App. 14 App. 15 |

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| DRANOUTRE | | | <u>MARCH 1918.</u> | |
| | 25 | | The relief of the Division continued. G.S.O. II and G.S.O. III (accompanied by a draughtsman) went down to the new area and established an advance Divisional Headquarters at ACHEUX. It was found specially valuable to have the draughtsman with duplicating apparatus with the advance party officers, to make maps to give to units on detraining. Division Order No. 195 with reference to the move of the Division (less artillery) to ACHEUX (Third Army) Area, was issued. <i>Letter by Div. Com to his troops, with reference to coming operations, attached</i> | App. 9 app. 23 |
| | 26 | | The relief of the Division by the 1st and 2nd Australian Divisions was completed at 10 a.m. this morning, at which hour the command of the sector passed to Generals WALKER and SMYTHE. The Corps Commander visited the G.O.C. The G.O.C. made the following visits during the day: To G.O.C. 8th Infantry Brigade at CODEWAERSVELDE To G.O.C. 14th Infantry Brigade at RENINGHELST To G.O.C. 15th Infantry Brigade at METEREN. The new Divisional Area (ACHEUX AREA) was re-allotted to Brigades and Divisional units for billeting purposes (See Map attached) <i>Map showing defences, Centre Division (Wytschaete Sector) attached</i> <i>Map showing route of communications - Wytschaete Sector - attached</i> <i>Also visited G.O.C. 1st Aust. Div. at Scherpenberg with reference to the relief of 5th by 1st Aust. Div.</i> | App. 16 app. 21 app. 25 |
| VAUCHELLES | 27 | | Entraining for Third Army commenced at 7 a.m. at the following stations: 8th Infantry Brigade Group. CODEWAERSVELDE 14th Infantry Brigade Group. HOPOUTRE 15th Infantry Brigade Group. CAESTRE. Divisional Headquarters moved from DRANOUTRE (principally by road) to VAUCHELLES. G.O.C. and G.S.O. I called in at X Corps and Third Army Headquarters en route at HAUTECLOCQUE and BEANQUESNE respectively. The advance party moved back from ACHEUX to VAUCHELLES, Headquarters being established at VAUCHELLES at 4 p.m. Trains began to arrive at about 4 p.m., and continued to arrive thereafter at approximately 6 intervals of one hour. | |

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| VAUCHELLES (off ALBERT- DOULLENS Road) | 27th (Contd) | | <p><u>MARCH 1918.</u></p> <p>Staff Officers were at the detraining stations to assist in the detraining of troops:</p> <p>8th Infantry Brigade Group detrained at DOULLENS</p> <p>14th Infantry Brigade Group detrained at MONDICOURT</p> <p>15th Infantry Brigade Group detrained at DOULLENS.</p> <p>Australian Corps Order No. 34 with reference to the move of the Divisional Artillery (less 13th Field Artillery Brigade) to the Third Army Area on 29th instant, was received.</p> | |
| | 28 | | <p>Morning fine and cold. Heavy rain fell in the afternoon.</p> <p>Concentration of the Division in the ACHEUX Area continued. Outposts were established by Infantry Brigades. A Divisional out-post line was put out on the line (Reference Sheet 57D) V.18.a - V.8.a - P.33.a - P.22 - BEAUSSART - J.29 - J.15. The outpost line was provided by the 15th Infantry Brigade on the South, and by the 8th Infantry Brigade on the North; the point of junction of the brigades being the road running from first A of BEAUSSART to P.17.central.</p> | |
| | | Noon | At midday notification was received that BUS LES ARTOIS and BERTANCOURT were no longer available to the 5th Australian Division, but AUTHIE was made available in exchange. This necessitated a re-adjustment of unit areas. 8th Infantry Brigade Headquarters, 31st and 32nd Battalions moved to VAUCHELLES, the 31st and 32nd Battalions being sent to this new area direct from detraining station. | |
| | | 3 p.m. | At 3 p.m. instructions were received from X Corps to get into touch with 31st Division (Headquarters at HUMBERCAMP). G.S.O. II visited 31st Divisional Headquarters at 5 p.m. and obtained 31st Division dispositions. | |
| | | 11.30 | <p>At 11.30 p.m. instructions were received from 10th Corps that the 5th Australian Division was to be ready to move at one hour's notice, and that one Infantry Brigade with one Machine Gun Co. and Trench Mortar Battery was to move to the FORCEVILLE - HEDAUVILLE area by 8 a.m. 29th inst., and thereafter was to be ready to move at an hour's notice; the new area to be cleared of other troops under arrangements to be made with 5th Corps "Q".</p> <p>The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade was detailed in accordance with these instructions.</p> <p>General Staff Memorandum No. 213, with reference to the enemy attempting to push patrols into our lines at night time, was issued.</p> | App. 5. |

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| AUCHELLES | 29 | | <p><u>MARCH 1918.</u></p> <p>A fine day with very good visibility. Consequent on final instructions received, the 15th Infantry Brigade and 15th Machine Gun Co. moved to position at HEDAUVILLE and VARENNES by 8 a.m. Headquarters of the 15th Infantry Brigade was established at HEDAUVILLE School.</p> <p>At 12.15 a.m. the Division was ordered to be ready to move at one hour's notice; at 4.30 p.m. this was altered to three hours' notice.</p> <p>Moves of units in accordance with alterations to the Divisional area were continued. The 29th and 30th Battalions and 8th Machine Gun Co. moved to AUTHIE and the 8th L.T.M. Battery to VAUCHELLES. 32nd Battalion moved at 10.30 a.m. from VAUCHELLES Camp to LOUVENCOURT and 54th Battalion moved from VAUCHELLES Camp to LOUVENCOURT to ACHEUX. Nucleuses of battalions ordered to concentrate at VAUCHELLES. All concentrated during the day.</p> <p>5th Machine Gun Battalion Headquarters was established at VAUCHELLES.</p> <p>Concentration of the 5th Australian Division in the VAUCHELLES Area was completed at 5.40 a.m.</p> <p>At 7.30 p.m. instructions were received to detail one infantry brigade and machine gun company to march immediately to CORBIE to guard the right flank of THIRD ARMY. 15th Infantry Brigade and 15th Machine Gun Company were detailed for this duty. 15th Infantry Brigade and M.G.Co. will be under the orders of and attached to 3rd Australian Division. The route laid down for the move of the 15th Brigade was as follows:- HEDAUVILLE - TOUTENCOURT - CONTAY - FRANVILLERS.</p> <p>15th Field Ambulance was detailed to accompany the 15th Infantry Brigade - to be in CORBIE by 9 a.m. 30th March 1918.</p> <p><i>G.O.C. visited Louvencourt and saw O.C. 14th Inf Bde. He then went on to Achoux and Forceville, and then visited G.O.C. 15th Inf Bde at Hedauville. Brig-Gen. Cameron, B.G.S. x corps called to see if they could assist us.</i></p> | |

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| VAUCHELLES | 30 | | <p><u>MARCH 1918.</u></p> <p>A wet and windy day, and continued throughout the night. 5th Australian Divisional Artillery (less 1 brigade) being transferred from Second to Third Army is moving by train, entraining at GODEWAERSVELDE and CAESTRE, detraining at MONDICOURT PAS and FREVENT. 15th Field Ambulance and 29th Co. A.A.S.C. moved to FRANVILLERS and CORBIE respectively, to join the 15th Australian Infantry Brigade group, and were in position by 9 a.m. The 5th Australian Divisional Artillery is to be located at AUTHIE. In consequence, 8th Australian Infantry Brigade units (29th and 30th Battalions, 8th M.G.Co., 8th L.T.M.Batt., and 18th Co. A.A.S.C.) Billeted in AUTHIE vacated that village and moved to VAUCHELLES Camp and village. Nucleuses of each battalion of the 5th Australian Division left VAUCHELLES at 9.30 a.m. to proceed by march route for LIGNY SUR CINCHE under command of Lieut-Colonel J.W.CLARK D.S.O. (30th Bn.). 53rd Battalion proceeded at 9 a.m. to HARPONVILLE from LOUVENCOURT and 31st Bn. moved from VAUCHELLES to LOUVENCOURT. 8th Field Ambulance moved from VAUCHELLES Chateau to ARQUEVES. Preliminary Instructions Nos. 1 and 2 were issued.</p> <p><i>Gen. Morland (commanding X Corps) visited G.O.C. to see if he could do anything for us.</i></p> | App. 9. |

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Army Form C. 2118.

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------|---|---------|---------------------------|-----------|--|
| VAUCHELLES | 31 | | <p>MARCH 1918.</p> <p>Rained at intervals throughout the day, and was fine and bright between showers. The concentration of the 5th Australian Divisional Artillery (less 13th Field Artillery Brigade and Trench Mortar Batteries) was complete by noon - being disposed as follows:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Divisional Artillery Headquarters</td><td>VAUCHELLES Camp</td></tr> <tr> <td>14th Field Artillery Brigade</td><td>AMPLIER</td></tr> <tr> <td>5th Australian Divisional Ammunition Column</td><td>AMPLIER</td></tr> <tr> <td>S.A.A. Section 5th D.A.C.</td><td>ARQUEVES.</td></tr> </table> <p><i>Orders were issued by Divisional Commander, that looting was to be prevented, and strict discipline preserved.</i></p> <p><i>Summaries of Correspondence for month are attached.</i></p> | Divisional Artillery Headquarters | VAUCHELLES Camp | 14th Field Artillery Brigade | AMPLIER | 5th Australian Divisional Ammunition Column | AMPLIER | S.A.A. Section 5th D.A.C. | ARQUEVES. | |
| Divisional Artillery Headquarters | VAUCHELLES Camp | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14th Field Artillery Brigade | AMPLIER | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5th Australian Divisional Ammunition Column | AMPLIER | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S.A.A. Section 5th D.A.C. | ARQUEVES. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | <p><i>MAJOR, General Staff, 5th Australian Division.</i></p> | | | | | | | | | |

WAR DIARY

OF

General Staff,

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

FOR

M A R C H

1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

| No. | Subject. |
|-----|---|
| 1. | Disposition Lists |
| 2 | Summaries of Intelligence for month of March. |
| 3 | Artillery operations diary - night 1st/2nd March. (Attached original only). |
| 4 | File re raid - night 3rd/4th March 1918 (Original diary only) |
| 5 | General Staff Memoranda issued during the month. |
| 6 | Letter G7/517 re raids proposed - night 11th/12th |
| 7 | Letter G7/602 " " " " |
| 8 | File re raid - night 11th March 1918. (original diary only) |
| 9 | File of operation orders issued during the month. |
| 10. | File re raid - night 13th/14th March 1918. (Original only) |
| 11 | Table giving suggested trench strength of battalions. |
| 12 | Letter G22/1858 re raids proposed to be carried out on night 19th/20th March. |
| 13 | Defence Scheme WYTSCHAETE Sector. |
| 14 | File re Gas Discharge by "Z" Special Co. R.E. (Attached Original diary only) |
| 15 | File re proposed gas discharge by No. 2 Special Co. R.E. |
| 16 | Map shewing billeting areas - ACHEUX Area. |
| 17 | Summaries of important correspondence. |
| 18 | Order of battle - 5th Australian Division. |
| 19 | Report on raid - 11th/12th March. |
| 20 | Letter G22/986 - giving outline of raids to be carried out on night 13th/14th March. |
| 21 | Letter G22/2251 re raids proposed to be carried out by 8th Infantry Brigade on nights 24th/25th and 27th/28th March 1918. |
| 22 | Letter G13/2793. Success in operations further south (SOMME) due to accurate and rapid rifle fire. |
| 23 | Letter by Divisional Commander to his troops. |
| 24 | Map shewing defences, Centre Division (WYTSCHAETE Sector) |
| 25 | (attached original diary only) |
| 25 | Map shewing route of communications - WYTSCHAETE Sector (attached original diary only). |

26 Messages for 16 months.

SECRET.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

DISPOSITION REPORT as at 8 a.m. 16th March 1918.

NOTE: ALL PREVIOUS LISTS SHOULD BE DESTROYED.

Reference Sheet 28.
1/40,000

DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS

8th AUST. INF. BDE. HQRS.

29th Battalion

30th "

31st "

32nd "

8th L.T.M. Battery

14th AUST. INF. BDE. HQRS. (Line left)

53rd Battalion

54th "

55th "

56th "

14th L.T.M. Battery

15th AUST. INF. BDE. HQRS.

57th Battalion

58th "

59th "

60th "

15th L.T.M. Battery

5th AUST. M.G. BATTALION HQRS.

8th Machine Gun Co.

14th " " "

15th " " "

25th " " "

DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY HQRS.

13th A.F.A. Brigade

14th " "

5th D.A.C.

D.T.M.O.

ULSTER CAMP

DRANCUTRE.

NORTH MIDLAND FM. T.6.c.6.6.

TORREKEN FARM 0.20.d.20.30.

U.4.c.25.25.

LURN FARM 0.26.d.10.70.

0.32.d.4.6.

U.3.a.1.1.

REGENTS DUGOUTS N.29.c.4.4.

0.14.a.20.10.

SCOTT FARM 0.25.a.45.65.

0.20.b.20.30.

WYTSCAETE 0.19.d.20.80.

0.20.c.00.85.

RAMILLES CAMP N.27.b.3.8.

T.6.d.4.5.

T.5.a.1.5.

ROSSIGNOL CAMP N.21.b.4.5.

RAMILLES CAMP N.27.b.3.8.

N.21.b.4.5.

ULSTER CAMP

DRANOUTRE

U.3.a.1.1.

0.14.a.05.85.

DERRY HOUSE 0.27.a.3.6.

0.20.b.6.5.

ULSTER CAMP

DRANOUTRE

T.6.c.15.75.

N.29.c.50.80.

S.5.b.central

PARMA DUMP N.18.b.20.70.



APPENDIX.

-2-

No.5 Ammunition Sub Park
3rd Army F.A. Brigade
6th " " "
3rd Army " Ammunition Column
No.25 Workshops
No.5 Gun Park

DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS HEADQUARTERS

8th Field Co.
14th " "
15th " "
5th Pioneer Battalion
No.2 Special Co. R.E.
Z Special Co. R.E.

D.M.S.

8th Field Ambulance (D.R.S.)
15th " " (M.D.S.)
14th " " "
15th " " (A.D.S. Left)
15th " " (A.D.S. Right)
15th " " (Medical Inspection Room)
No.2 Dental Unit
No.23 " "
No.32 " "
5th Aust.Div. Sanitary Section

DIVISIONAL TRAIN HEADQUARTERS

10th Co. A.A.S.O.
18th Co. "
28th Co. "
29th Co. "

Divisional Salvage Co.
Corps Camouflage Officer
A.P.M.
D.A.D.O.S.
D.A.D.V.S.
French Mission
Belgian Mission
Divisional Paymaster
5th Mobile Vet. Section

ULSTER CAMP

SPY FARM
SHOVEL CAMP
FUSILIER CAMP

ULSTER CAMP
HOSPICE LOCRE
YONGE STREET

BROKENLAMP
KANDAHAR FARM
HOSPICE LOCRE
YONGE STREET

LINDENHOEK

REDVERS CAMP
BULLERS CAMP

ULSTER CAMP
" "
" "
" "
LINDENHOEK

S.29.a.30.20.
N.18.b.90.25.
N.17.d.2.2.
N.32.central
T.14.b.90.90.
GODEWAERSWELDE

DRANOUTRE
T.6.c.0.4.
O.13.a.2.0.
N.28.c.8.6.
N.28.c.80.60.
T.13.d.1.4.
T.3.d.c.8.

DRANOUTRE
M.29.b.2.9.
N.29.a.2.6.

DRANOUTRE
O.13.d.2.8.
T.10.b.8.7.
N.27.c.9.6.
M.29.b.2.9.
N.29.a.2.6.
DRANOUTRE
N.27.c.9.6.

DRANOUTRE
N.19.c.90.00
M.24.b.20.10.

DRANOUTRE
M.30.b.5.7.
DRANOUTRE

N.27.c.90.60.

Emerkel Cape!
Lieut. Colonel, G.S.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

NOTE: Any error or omission will be notified immediately to D.H.Q.



APPENDIX.

SECRET.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

14

AMENDMENT TO DISPOSITION REPORT ISSUED 16th MARCH 1918.

Ref. Sheet 28
1/40,000.

5th Aust. Mobile Veterinary Section

M.35.a.60.30.

*Frankie Goff*Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff.

5th Australian Division.

17th March 1918.

SECRET

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Herewith provisional DISPOSITION REPORT as at 6 a.m. 29/5/18.
Amendment and alterations should be made at once and notified
to Divisional Headquarters per the D.R. who brings the Report.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS | | VAUCHELLES (V Corps School) |
| 8th AUST. INF. BDE. HQRS. | (From 11 a.m.) | VAUCHELLES Camp |
| 29th Battalion | " | AUTHIE |
| 30th " | " | AUTHIE |
| 31st " | " | VAUCHELLES VILLAGE |
| 32nd " | " | VAUCHELLES CAMP |
| 8th L.T.M. Battery | | - |
| 8th Machine Gun Co. | (from 11 a.m.) | AUTHIE |
| 14th AUST. INF. BDE. HQRS | | LOUVENCOURT CHATEAU |
| 53rd Battalion | | LOUVENCOURT |
| 54th " | | LOUVENCOURT |
| 55th " | | LOUVENCOURT |
| 56th " | | LOUVENCOURT |
| 14th L.T.M. Battery | | LOUVENCOURT. On arrival |
| 14th Machine Gun Co. | | " |
| 15th AUST. INF. BDE. HQRS. | | LEALVILLERS |
| 57th Battalion | | ACHEUX |
| 58th " | | ACHEUX 2 Coys |
| | | CLAIRFAIX 2 Coys. |
| 59th " | | HARPOVILLE |
| 60th " | | VARENNES On arrival. |
| 15th L.T.M. Battery | | LEALVILLERS |
| 15th Machine Gun Co. | | ACHEUX |
| 5th AUST. M.G. BATTALION H.Q. | | VAUCHELLES On arrival |
| 25th Machine Gun Co. | | " |
| DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY H.Q. | | ULSTER CAMP DRANOUTRE |
| 13th A.F.A. Brigade | Sheet 28 | T.6.c.15.75 |
| 14th A.F.A. " | " | N.29.c.50.80 |
| 5th D.A.C. (Less S.A.A. Section) | " | S.5.b.central |
| D.T.M.O. | " | N.18.b.20.70 |

P.T.O.

-2-

DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS H.Q.

8th Field Co.

14th " "

15th " "

VAUCHELLES V Corps School

VAUCHELLES School

" "

" "

A.D.M.S.

8th Field Ambulance

14th " "

15th " "

Sanitary Section

VAUCHELLES Camp

VAUCHELLES Chateau

LCUVENCOURT On arrival

ARQUEVES " "

" "

DIVISIONAL TRAIN H.Q.

18th Co. A.A.S.C.

28th Co. "

29th Co. "

VAUCHELLES

VAUCHELLES On arrival

VAUCHELLES

AGHEUX Area On arrival

Divisional Salvage Co.

A.P.M.

D.A.D.O.S.

D.A.D.V.S.

French Mission

Divisional Paymaster

5th Mobile Vet. Section

5th Pioneer Battalion

D Area On arrival

VAUCHELLES School

VAUCHELLES School

VAUCHELLES Corps School

" " "

" " "

VAUCHELLES

ARQUEVES.

*F. W. Robinson*Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff.
5th Australian Division.

SECRET

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

DISPOSITION REPORT as at 6 p.m. 29/3/18. Amendments and alterations should be notified at once to Divisional Headquarters per the D.R. who brings the Report.

DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS

8th AUST. INF. BDE. HQRS.

29th Battalion

30th "

31st "

32nd "

8th L.T.M. Battery

8th Machine Gun Co.

14th AUST. INF. BDE. HQRS.

53rd Battalion

54th "

55th "

56th "

14th L.T.M. Battery

14th Machine Gun Co.

15th AUST. INF. BDE. HQRS.

57th Battalion

58th "

59th "

60th "

15th L.T.M. Battery

15th Machine Gun Co.

5th AUST. M.G. BATTALION

25th Machine Gun Co.

DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

VAUCHELLES (V. Corps School)

VAUCHELLES Camp

AUTHIE

AUTHIE

VAUCHELLES VILLAGE

LOUVENCOURT

VAUCHELLES

AUTHIE

LOUVENCOURT CHATEAU

LOUVENCOURT

ACHEUX

LOUVENCOURT

LOUVENCOURT

LOUVENCOURT

LEALVILLERS

HEDAUVILLE SCHOOL

HEDAUVILLE

HEDAUVILLE

VARENNES

VARENNES

HEDAUVILLE

HEDAUVILLE

VAUCHELLES (With D.H.Q.)

LEALVILLERS

Moving to VAUCHELLES

-2-

DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS HQRS.
8th Field Co.
14th " "
15th " "
5th Pioneer Battalion

A.D.M.S..
8th Field Ambulance
14th " "
15th " "
Sanitary Section

DIVISIONAL TRAIN HQRS.
18th Co. A.A.S.C.
28th Co. "
29th Co.

5th M.T. Co.
S.A.A. Section of 5th D.A.C.
Divisional Salvage Co.
A.P.M.
D.A.D.O.S.
D.A.D.V.S.
French Mission
Divisional Paymaster
5th Mobile Vet. Section
5th Div. Nucleus Camp

VAUCHELLES (V CORPS School)
VAUCHELLES School
" "
" "

ARQUEVES

VAUCHELLES Camp
VAUCHELLES Chateau
LOUVENCOURT
ARQUEVES
"

VAUCHELLES
AUMERIE
LOUVENCOURT
VAUCHELLES

.. POMMERA
ARQUEVES
LEALVILLERS
VAUCHELLES School
VAUCHELLES School
VAUCHELLES V Corps School
" " "
" " "

VAUCHELLES
VAUCHELLES

W. Robinson

Capl for t-0-
Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET

APPENDIX

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APPENDIX /

SECRET.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

DISPOSITION REPORT as at 10 a.m. 30/3/18. Amendments and alterations should be notified at once to Divisional Headquarters per the D.R. who brings the Report.

DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS

5th AUST. M.G. BN. HQRS.

8th AUST. INF. BDE. HQRS.

29th Battalion

30th "

31st "

32nd "

8th L.T.M. Battery

8th Machine Gun Co.

14th AUST. INF. BDE. HQRS.

53rd Battalion

54th "

55th "

56th "

14th L.T.M. Battery

14th Machine Gun Co.

15th AUST. INF. BDE. HQRS. }

57th Battalion

58th "

59th "

60th "

15th L.T.M. Battery

15th Machine Gun Co.

25th Aust. Machine Gun Co.

DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

VAUCHELLES (V Corps School)

VAUCHELLES " "

VAUCHELLES

VAUCHELLES

VAUCHELLES

LOUVENCOURT

LOUVENCOURT

VAUCHELLES

VAUCHELLES

LOUVENCOURT CHATEAU

HARPOVILLE

ACHEUX

LOUVENCOURT

LOUVENCOURT

LOUVENCOURT

LEALVILLERS

CORBIE AREA.

Under orders of

3rd Aust. Div.

LEALVILLERS

To detrain at MONDICOURT
BOUCQUEMANSON and FOEVERT
for AMPLIER. No detraining
taken place at 10 a.m.
(Progress Report later)

DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS HQRS.

8th Field Co.)
14th " ")
15th " ")
5th Pioneer Battalion

A.D.H.S.

8th Field Ambulance
14th " "
15th " "
Sanitary Section

DIVISIONAL TRAIN HQRS.

18th Co. A.A.S.C.
28th Co. "
29th Co. "

5th M.T.Co.

S.A.A. Section of 5th D.A.C.

Divisional Salvage Co.

A.P.M.

D.A.D.O.S.

D.A.D.V.S.

French Mission

Divisional Paymaster

5th Mobile Vet. Section

5th Div. Nucleus Camp

VAUCHELLES

CLAIRFAYE

ARQUEVES

VAUCHELLES (V. Corps School)

ARQUEVES

LOUVENCOURT

FRANVILLERS (With 15th Inf.

ARQUEVES Bde.)

VAUCHELLES (V. Corps School)

VAUCHELLES

LOUVENCOURT

CORBIE AREA (With 15th Inf. Bde)

POITIERS

ARQUEVES

LEALVILLERS

VAUCHELLES (V Corps School)

VAUCHELLES " "

VAUCHELLES " "

VAUCHELLES " "

VAUCHELLES " "

VAUCHELLES

Marching to LIGNY SUR CANCHE.
and vicinity.

K.A. Goodland Capt.

for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

APPENDIX /