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

Formation Headquarters

**Item number:** 1/42/40 Part 1

**Title:** General Staff, Headquarters 1st  
Australian Division

May 1918



AWM4-1/42/40PART1



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.

DUPLICATE.

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Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

"General Staff" 1st. Australian Division.

FOR

MAY

1918

Signature of Officer compiling

*Shueygan Lt. Col.,  
G.S. 1st Aust. Div.*

Signature of Officer Commanding



# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Square. P.28. Sheet 27. France. 1918.	May 1st.		<p>Cold day Strong winds from N.E. During the night three enemy posts were rushed and six prisoners were captured. By this means identifications of all enemy units opposite the Divisional Sector were secured, in all five regiments were located. For detail of operations see file of Daily Intelligence Summaries attached hereto. Appendix. I.</p> <p>Daily morning and evening situation reports are attached for the period 1st May - May 31st.</p>	<p>APPENDIX. I.</p> <p>APPENDIX. II.</p>
" "	May 2nd.		<p>Warm sunny day. Orders issued. 1st.Aust.Div.Order. No. 82. Appendix III. dealing with the relief of the 2nd.A.I.Brigade by the 3rd.A.I.Bde.</p>	<p>APPENDIX III.</p>
" "	May 3rd.		<p>Warm day - E winds. The air is full of dust and haze and visibility is bad. The 36th French Corps on our left are to advance their line early tomorrow morning. This Division is to co-operate vide 1st.Aust.Div.Order. No. 83. Appendix IV. Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 14, dealing with distribution of the garrison of defensive localities and system issued. Appendix V. A map is attached.</p>	<p>APPENDIX. IV.</p> <p>APPENDIX. V.</p>
" "	May 4th.		<p>Fine bright day. Visibility good. Some rain during last night. The French 133rd Division and other French Divisions to the left advanced their line at 4.30.a.m. The 1st Battalion co-operated by establishing platoon posts at approx X.17.A.0.6. and X.17.A.6.8. at the same hour. Later the French returned to their original line but the two platoons of the 1st Battalion remained in their new position. Tonight the situation will be improved by the 1st Brigade establishing a post at X.11.C.7.0. and the French are to establish one at X.11.C.9.3. These two posts will establish liaison between the two Divisions. An appreciation of the tactical situation on this front was issued vide S/8339 Appendix VI.</p> <p>First Amendment to Defence Organisation Series "B" No.9. was issued appendix VII.</p>	<p>APPENDIX. VI.</p> <p>APPENDIX. VII.</p>
" "	May 5th.		<p>Very still day, mild with some light rain in the morning, heavy rain and hail during the afternoon. The 3rd.A.I.Bde relieved the 2nd.A.I.Bde during the night in the right Bde sub-sector vide appendix. III. relief was complete at 1.10.a.m. without special incident.</p>	



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Square. P.28. Sheet 27. France.	May. 5th.		(Continued.) Owing to unfavourable wind the Gas Projector attacks prepared for tonight were postponed. The 29th Division on our right carried out a raid which resulted in the capture of two prisoners. The 4th Battalion (Right Battalion, Left Brigade) about dawn this morning rushed an enemy post near the METEREN BECQUE and captured 4 prisoners. Identifications of enemy units opposite the Corps front have thus been gained, vide annexe to Daily Intelligence Summaries attached hereto. Appendix. I.	
" "	May. 6th.		G.H.Q. Army and Corps Schools are re-opening and a limited number of students are being sent from this Division. Gas Projector attack was carried out by the No.2. Special Coy.R.E. against the enemy positions in the vicinity of MERRIS (Vide APPENDIX VIII.) at 10.30.p.m. No retaliation followed. A similar attack on METEREN could not take place as the METEREN BREWERY was on fire and so lighted the area that the garrison of our posts could not be withdrawn.	APPENDIX VIII. Shur
" "	May 7th.		Very heavy rain without ceasing for seven hours this morning. 1st.Aust.Div.Order No. 84 Appendix IX. issued warning Order for the relief of the 1st by the 2nd.A.I.Bde. on the night of May 10/11th. At 10.p.m. The gas projector attack postponed from last night was successfully carried out against METEREN vide Appendix VIII.	APPENDIX IX. Shur
" "	May 8th.		Fine bright day. The Corps Commander called and informed the G.S.O.I. that the left Brigade will be relieved tomorrow night and that this Divisions front would be reduced to a one Brigade front. Warning Order No. 85 issued Appendix X. reference this relief of the 1st.A.I.Bde tomorrow night by the 31st Division. Representatives of the 31st Division visited this H.Q. - details of relief have been arranged. Corps Order No. received reference this relief. 1st.Aust.Div.Order.No.86. appendix X issued at midnight.	APPENDIX X. Shur



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Square. P.28. Sheet 27. France.	May. 9th.		<p>After roads had been reconnoitred by the Divisional Staff. 1st.Aust.Div.Order. No. 87. Appendix X. was issued dealing with the move by bus of the 1st.Brigade to the Reserve Brigade area tonight.</p> <p>Fine bright day light variable winds. Trees and hedges are rapidly reaching full leaf and now offer good cover from observation.</p> <p>1st.Aust.Div.Order.No. 88. Appendix XI. issued dealing with the transfer from the Division of attached Pioneer and Labour units.</p> <p>Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 15 issued appendix XII.</p> <p>General Staff Memorandum No. 44 issued dealing with the training of the reserve Brigade</p>	<p>APPENDIX XI</p> <p>APPENDIX XII</p> <p>APPENDIX XIII.</p>
" "	May 10th.		<p>Cold day. Cloudy but no rain - Wind N.W.</p> <p>Reliefs in accordance with Div Order 86 were carried out without special incident. Relief of the 1st Brigade by the 31st Division was complete at 3.a.m. but owing to delay in the Signal Office Command did not pass till 4.10.a.m.</p> <p>The relief of 1 Battalion 29th Division on the right and the consequent re-adjustment of the 3rd Brigade front vide 3rd.A.I.Bde Order No. 103 was complete at 4.30.a.m.</p> <p>Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 16. issued Appendix XIV.</p>	<p>APPENDIX XIV.</p>
" "	May 11th.		<p>Warm sunny day. A Sea fog developed towards evening.</p> <p>1st.Aust.Div.Order 89 dealing with the relief of the 3rd by the 2nd A.I.Brigade issued.</p>	APPENDIX XV.
" "	May 12th.		<p>Cold morning. S.W. winds, later fine, visibility during afternoon was better than during any day during the last mont. Many kite balloons up on both sides.</p> <p>3rd.A.I.Brigade captured 14 prisoners last night vide Daily Intelligence Summary Appendix II.</p>	
" "	May 13th.		<p>S.W. winds, light rain at intervals.</p> <p>1st.A.I.Brigade has commenced training and is training each man in the use of the Lewis Gun.</p>	
" "	May 14th.		<p>Sunny bright day.</p> <p>The relief of the 3rd.A.I.Brigade by the 2nd.A.I.Brigade was completed without incident by 12.50.a.m. Authority has been issued to raise the number of Lewis Guns with each Infantry battalion of this Division to 24 exclusive of the A.A. guns.</p>	



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Square P.28. Sheet 27. France.	May. 14th.	(continued.)	It is intended to eventually raise the number to 36 per battalion. An instructor in the use of the New Cup Discharger for the No. 36 Rifle Grenade has been sent to the 29th Div for four days. S/8475. Congratulatory message from the Corps Commander issued Appendix XVI.	APPENDIX XVI.
" "	May 15th.		Bright sunny day. Light S to S.E. winds. G.S.O.I. Colonel. T.A. BLAMEY. CMG. DSO. left the Division for duty at Aust.Corps.H.Q. Pending his return or the appointment of his successor. G.S.O.II. is acting. Major. E.F. HARRISON psc. reported here for duty from attached 1st.F.A.Bde and will be attached to General Staff.	
	11.a.m.		The G.O.C. attended Conference of Divisional Commanders called by XV Corps Commander at HONDEGHEM.	
	12.00.		G.O.C. accompanied by certain Staff Officers attended a Ceremonial parade of the 4th Guards Brigade near HONDEGHEM. The Army Commander was present.	
	10.00.p.m.		E.A. active in Divisional Area. Enemy gas shelling in STRAZEELE.	
" "	May 16th.		Hot calm day. Wind light Easterly. Hazy at night. Major. G.F. WIECK from General Staff 3rd.Aust.Division reported for duty on General Staff 1st.Aust.Division. Enemy Artillery is shewing increased activity after dark. STRAZEELE and PRADELLES areas were especially shelled. 1st.Aust.Div.Order No. 90. Appendix XVII. dealing with the following moves was issued. APPENDIX XVII. (a) 3rd.Brigade from Support to Reserve. 1st.Brigade from Reserve to Support. (b) Relief of 2nd Brigade in the line by 1st Brigade on night 19/20th.	
" "	May 17th. Noon,		Hot Sunny day - almost calm - slight haze in morning and evening. 5th Battalion rushed a post in Square X.20.C. and killed five men. 12 others escaped. Our casualties 2 O.Rs wounded. Identification normal.	



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Square. P.28. Sheet 27. France.	May. 18th.	1.a.m. 6.45.p.m.	5th Battalion raided enemy trench X.26.A.2.5. - X.26.A.6.9. and found it unoccupied. One prisoner captured at X.20.D.4.7. identified 6.K. 2nd Bn. 62. I.R. Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 17. Appendix XVIII. issued dealing with transport. APPENDIX XVIII. moves. This cancels No.9. of the same series. The moves of the 1st and 3rd Infantry Brigades were carried out in accordance with 1st.Aust.Div.Order.No. 90. moves of all units were completed by 6.p.m.	
" "	May. 19th.		S/8552. Amended instructions for the action of the Support and Reserve Brigades issued. APPENDIX XIX. This cancels S/8494 dated 14th May.	
" "	May. 20th.		Very hot calm day. temp 75 to 80. <i>Shur</i> The relief of the 2nd. by the 1st.A.I.Bde was completed without special incident by 12.30.a.m. in accordance with 1st.Aust.Div.Order.90. XV Corps asked for a report on the operations carried out by this Division between April 14th and April 20th. This was forwarded today A copy is attached hereto	APPENDIX XX.
" "	May 21st.		Hot sunny day. First Amendment to Defence Organisation Circular No. 16. issued Appendix XXI.	APPENDIX XXI.
" "	May 22nd.		Corps Commander called at 10.50.a.m. prisoners captured by three separate divisions all say that an enemy attack will be delivered on the 25th inst. Precautions have been taken Our position is now fairly strong and a frontal attack would be welcomed. Plans are now in course of preparation in this Division for an operation having for its object the capture of MONT de MERRIS. General Staff Memorandum 45 Appendix XXVII. dealing with the employment and training of Intelligence personnel was issued.	APPENDIX XXVII.
" "	May 23rd.		1st.Aust.Div.Order 91 Appendix XXII. dealing with the forthcoming inter-brigade relief. Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 18 Appendix XXIII. dealing with roads bridges prepared for demolition. Strong West Winds.	APPENDIX XXII. APPENDIX XXIII.



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Square. P.28. Sheet 27 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> France.	May. 24th.		At 11.p.m. last night No.2. Special Coy.R.E. carried out a Gas projector operation against the MONT de MERRIS position. 1250 projectors were discharged successfully. No retaliation followed until 25 minutes later when the enemy put down a barrage.	<i>Shur</i>
" "	May 25th.		Warm day. West winds. 6 miles per hour. Wire received from Aust Corps (T.3019. dated 25th inst) for the G.S.O.III. Capt.J.D. ROGERS MC to report for duty at Corps H.Q. Capt. A. LAUGHLIN MC. now Staff Trainee to perform duties of G.S.O.III. pending G.H.Q. approval. Corps Commander visited Divisional H.Q. and stated that G.H.Q. and Army and the French concur in thinking that the next German offensive North of the Scarpe will be directed against MONT NOIR and MONT des CATS. This Corps may therefore reasonably expect to be attacked within the next few days. 9th Division has relieved the 31st Division on our left. Command of the Sector passed to the G.O.C. 9th Division at 9.a.m. this morning. A provisional Defence Scheme for the Division was issued Appendix. The Scheme is not yet complete and will be added to.	APPENDIX XXIX <i>Shur</i>
" "	May 26th.		The Corps Commander called a conference of Divisional Commanders and G.S.Os II. at 3.30.p.m. at Corps H.Q. BLARINGHEM to discuss training matters. Agenda paper is attached hereto. The 3rd.A.I.Brigade moved into Support Area by 1.p.m. and the 2nd.A.I.Brigade moved to the Reserve Area by 6.p.m. in accord with Div.Order.No.91. The Divisional Commander inspected the 3rd.A.I.Brigade on the march. The route laid down was altered to avoid LA HAUT LOGE as the enemy was shelling that locality. Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 19. issued Appendix XXV.	APPENDIX XXIV.  APPENDIX XXV. <i>Shur</i>
" "	May 27th.		This morning the enemy attacked the front of the French Corps on our left and gained some ground. The situation has been re-established and all ground lost has been regained. News has been received of a German attack on the REIMS-SOISSONS front where he has advanced some miles. No details are yet to hand.	<i>Shur</i>
" "	May 28th.		The relief of the 1st.A.I.Brigade by the 3rd.A.I.Brigade in the line was completed by 1.p.m. Prior to relief the 3rd Battalion secured two prisoners and established the <del>post</del> fact that the 13th Res Div relieved 81st Res Div opposite our right front.	<i>Shur</i> 5



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Square P.28. Sheet 27. France.	May. 28th.	(Continued.)	<p>The hostile attack which was expected by Army H.Q. to develop about dawn this morning against this Corps front did not take place. All precautions <del>had</del> been taken and one Battalion plus two Coys of the 1st. Brigade remained in the forward area until daylight. Acting on instructions from XV Corps the normal harassing fire by our Divisional Artillery was increased 50%.</p> <p>Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 20. dealing with the cutting of crops in front of defensive lines issued Appendix XXVI.</p> <p>Each Brigade in turn while in Reserve has sent one Officer and one other rank as instructors in the use of the No.36 Rifle Grenade Cup Discharger to the corresponding Brigade of the 29th Division.</p>	APPENDIX XXVI.
" "	May 29th.		<p>Fine day moderate N. N.E. winds.</p> <p>The Corps Commander visited Divisional H.Q. with further news of the German attack on the REIMS-SOISSONS front. In order to keep us employed it is anticipated that the enemy may make a small attack on this front.</p>	
" "	May 30th.		<p>At 11.30.p.m. last night the 10th Battalion (Centre Section) advanced their front line by 200 yards. See Daily Intelligence Summary Appendix I.</p> <p>A practice demonstration in the use of the new POPHAM (T) Signalling Panel for use between Infantry and Aeroplanes was carried out successfully this morning by the Brigade in the line vide Appendix XXVIII.</p>	APPENDIX XXVIII.
" "	May 31st.		<p>The 2nd.A.I.Brigade held a ceremonial parade at SERCUS at 9.a.m. and were reviewed by the Divisional Commander.</p>	
	10.a.m.		<p>The 2nd.Aust.Light.Trench Mortar Battery gave a demonstration of the use of the Stokes mortar in the advance, firing using the sling and dispensing with the tripod.</p> <p>Command of the Aust Corps passed from General Sir W.R. BIRDWOOD KCB. KCSI. KCMG. CIE. DSO.ADC. to Major-General.Sir. J. MONASH. KCB. VD. at 11.a.m.</p>	



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			<p>In addition to the Appendices shown in the text the following are attached;-</p> <p>APPENDIX. XXX Strength at Beginning of month.  APPENDIX. XXXI. Strength at end of month.  APPENDIX. XXXII. Casualties for month - Number of Officers and Other Ranks joined for month - Sick Wastage for month.  APPENDIX. XXXIII. Div Gas Officers report for month.  APPENDIX. XXXIV. Number of Officers and Other Ranks sent to Schools during the month.  APPENDIX. XXXV. Daily Wire "In" and "Out" for period 1-5-18 to 31-5-18.  APPENDIX. XXXVI. Div. Order 88.  APPENDIX. XXXVII. Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 16.  APPENDIX. XXXVIII. Memo. S/8555.  APPENDIX. XXXIX. Map shewing XV Corps Area.</p> <p><i>Shucroft Lt Col. S. 1st Aust. Div.</i></p>	



# WAR DIARY

OF

"General Staff" 1st. Australian Division.

FOR

May

1918

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
✓ APPENDIX. I.	Daily Intelligence Summaries.
✓ APPENDIX. II.	Daily Morning and Evening Situation Reports.
✓ APPENDIX. III.	1st. Aust. Div. Order. 82.
✓ APPENDIX. IV.	1st. Aust. Div. Order. 84.3
✓ APPENDIX. V.	Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 14.
✓ APPENDIX. VI.	S/8339.
✓ APPENDIX. VII.	Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 9.
✓ APPENDIX. VIII.	Gas Projector Attack vicinity of MERRIS.
✓ APPENDIX. IX.	1st. Aust. Div. Order. 84.
✓ APPENDIX. X.	1st. Aust. Div. Order. 85. 96154
✓ APPENDIX. XI.	1st. Aust. Div. Order. 88.
✓ APPENDIX. XII.	Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 15.
✓ APPENDIX. XIII.	General Staff Memorandum 44.
✓ APPENDIX. XIV.	Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 16. 21. 58
✓ APPENDIX. XV.	1st. Aust. Div. Order. 89.
✓ APPENDIX. XVI.	S/8475.
✓ APPENDIX. XVII.	1st. Aust. Div. Order. 90.
✓ APPENDIX. XVIII.	Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 17.
✓ APPENDIX. XIX.	S/8552.
✓ APPENDIX. XX.	Report on Operations carried out by 1st. Aust. Div. between April 14th and April 20th.
✓ APPENDIX. XXI.	Amendment to Defence Organisation Circular 16.
✓ APPENDIX. XXVII.	General Staff Memorandum 45.
✓ APPENDIX. XXII.	1st. Aust. Div. Order. 91.
✓ APPENDIX. XXIII.	Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 18:
✓ APPENDIX. XXIX.	Provisional Defence Scheme for the Division.
✓ APPENDIX. XXIV.	Conference of Divisional Commanders and G.S. OsII.
✓ APPENDIX. XXV.	Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 19.
✓ APPENDIX. XXVI.	Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 20:
✓ APPENDIX. XXVIII.	Demonstration in use of new POPHAM (T) Signalling Panel for use between Infantry and Aeroplanes.
✓ APPENDIX. XXX.	Strength at beginning of Month.
✓ APPENDIX. XXXI.	Strength at end of Month.
✓ APPENDIX. XXXII.	Casualties for Month - Number of Officers and Other Ranks joined for Month - Sick Wastage -
✓ APPENDIX. XXXIII.	Div Gas Officer report for Month.
✓ APPENDIX. XXXIV.	Number of Officers and O.Rs sent to Schools
✓ APPENDIX. XXXV.	Daily Wires "In" and "Out" for Month.
✓ APPENDIX. XXXVI.	Div. Order. 88. S/8604
✓ APPENDIX. XXXVII.	Defence Organisation Series "B" No. 16.
✓ APPENDIX. XXXVIII.	Memo. S/8555.
✓ APPENDIX. XXXIX.	Map shewing XV Corps Area.



FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECRET.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 17.

From 5.a.m. 30-4-18. to 6.a.m. 1-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry. During the night the following minor enterprises were carried out and identifications obtained in each case. Our casualties were - 1 N.C.O. slightly wounded.

(i) 2/Lt. R. DOWLING - 7 men, surrounded enemy post at E.5.D.7.4. The garrison of 1 Off and 4 men refused to come out and a fight ensued. The Officer and 1 man were killed and the other three at once surrendered.

(ii) Sgt. CHARVILLE and 7 men located an occupied enemy post at X.25.C.7.0. Bombs were thrown and the post rushed. Enemy refused to come out and called for assistance to a post behind them. A short fight took place in which three of the enemy were killed. The remaining man who was severely wounded was brought back in a stretcher found at the post.

(iii) Sgt. G.H. BUCKLEY, and two men located an enemy listening post at X.20.D.0.3. They entered the post and found it occupied by a Corporal who was brought back to our lines.

Other patrols sent out by line battalions, are shown on the attached map (to Corps.) A number of enemy posts and H.Gs were located. These are included in "Enemy Defences" (below).

Snipers. of the right brigade claim 6 hits.

Rifle bombers. were active, subjecting enemy forward positions to continuous fire during the night.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars. Intermittent harassing fire was carried out by our artillery, this being increased throughout the night. 4.5. Hows effectively shelled forward defences in X.15.C. and houses in X.21.B. and X.21.C.

6" Newton Mortars engaged targets in X.15. and X.16. on several occasions dislodging parties of enemy.

Stokes Mortars fired on known targets in X.15.D. X.21.C. E.6.A.8.C. and on enemy posts between F.1.A.1.3. and F.1.A.3.3.

3. Aerial. Our planes were very active during the period. At 2.20.p.m. one plane fired several bursts of fire into enemy forward positions from a low altitude.

At 6.30.p.m. 2 of our scouts collided and crashed to the ground in W.21.C.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE

a. Infantry. Enemy remains quiet and is not patrolling.

b. Artillery. Activity has again been slight. An increase in 77s fire is again reported by the right brigade. Practically all the shelling on that front comes from the direction of OUTTERSTEENE.

The following were the chief areas subjected to harassing fire; - W.24.2.30. X.19. between NORD HELF and MOOLNACKER; X.10; X.14; STRAZELLE and its approaches.

56 Gas shells fell in W.30.C. The Divisional O.P. at W.23.B.7.5. was subjected to a burst of fire at 3.40.a.m. The house was ignited and destroyed.

c. Movement. Low visibility and hedges prevented much movement being seen throughout the day.

Individual movement was observed in X.16.D. at X.16.C.1.9. X.23.A.6.5. X.17.B.2.4. and at the buildings at X.16.A.4.1. and X.15.D.4.9. At 5.p.m. 12 men moved along the road to house at X.21.D.2.8.

d. Defences. On the right brigade front. - Posts located at E.6.B.2.7., E.6.B.4.7., E.5.D.8.4., E.6.A.5.4., X.20.C.8.5. and X.26.A.2.7. (reported strongly garrisoned and faces 3 ways.)

Listening Post. X.20.C.6.8. Snipers. - At E.6.B.6.5., E.6.A.7.4. and F.1.A.8.5. Work. Work along hedge from X.20.C.8.4. to X.20.C.9.1., also at F.1.A.8.8. Wire. Wire at X.20.C.8.4.

Machine Guns. X.25.D.9.2. in vicinity of F.1.A.8.3.

Trench Mortars. - 5 Granatwerfer bombs were fired from approx X.20.C.8.4.



# Appendix. 1

( 2 )

On the left brigade front. - Posts were located as follows;-  
X.16.B.3.3. X.16.A.4.1. X.15.D.90.95. X.15.B.95.15. M.Gs at  
X.16.C.7.7. M.Gs in trench at X.16.C.8.2. Enemy still appears  
to be consolidating in X.15.C. and at X.21.B.2.3.

e. Aerial. Enemy planes were less active than usual.

At 2.p.m. an enemy plane fired several bursts of M.G. fire on to  
our forward positions.

f. Miscellaneous. Gun flashes were observed as follows;-

9.55.a.m. 1030 grid from W.23.A.8.5.  
12.40.p.m. 1030 grid from W.23.A.8.5.  
8.40.p.m. 780 grid from W.23.B.9.5.  
9.p.m. 920 grid from W.23.B.9.5.

g. Identifications.

The following prisoners were captured.

X.25.C. 3.komp 25. I.R. 12th Division. 1 wounded.  
E.5.D. 4.komp 63. I.R. 12th Division. 3 unwounded.  
X.20.D. 5.komp. 156.I.R. 11th.Res.Div. 1 N.C.O. unwounded.

Preliminary interrogation of prisoners and Enemy's Order-  
of Battle is given in the Annex attached.

*John Rogers*  
Colonel.  
General Staff.

1st Australian Division.

## Information from other sources.

(i) From later information it appears that the hostile attack on  
the 29th April extended over a front of about 9 miles from E  
of ST JANS CAPPEL to ZILLEBEKE LAKE. The initial objectives  
were MONT ROUGE, SCHERPENBERG, LA CLYFFE, and possibly the  
City of YPRES. Guns were during that day pushed up to within  
1,000 yards of the front line in order that the attack might  
be carried on, on the following day. Practically all of the  
attacks were unsuccessful and casualties were extremely heavy,  
and the situation just North of LOCRE is already almost  
restored.

(ii) On the 26th April an attack was launched by us in the neigh-  
bourhood of VILLERS BRETONNEUX. Severe fighting took place  
as a result the gap which existed in our line East of VILLERS  
BRETONNEUX was joined up and our line S of HANGARD WOOD to the  
MONUMENT has been advanced from 500 - 1,000 yards.

On two occasions on the 27th enemy troops massing East  
of the above towns were caught by our artillery and very heavy  
casualties inflicted.

(iii) During the night 30th April/1st May, the French carried out  
a very successful attack on the LOCRE-SCHERPENBERG front.  
BUTTERFLY Fm. (N.19.A.) BRULOOZE Cross Roads (N.24.A.),  
LOCRE, HOSPICE, and the Wood between ROUDIMOT and LOCK E  
were all retaken. No details of prisoners are yet to hand.



FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION OF PRISONER  
TAKEN LAST NIGHT BY 1st. Aust. Inf. Brigade  
at X.20.D.8.4.

Identification. Corporal C Resploscho - 5 Company 2nd Battalion 156.  
I.R. 11th. Res. Division.

Category of Prisoner. On the 1st of April 1913 prisoner joined a military school, as a "one year volunteer" with the hopes of being exempt from further military service on the 1st of October 1914 (and posted as an Officer of the reserve). War broke out, upset his hopes, and he had, serving as a regular to join up as a private. Prisoner had at the time of capture, through illness and wounds, only risen to the rank of corporal. (His sergeant's strips being due on the 1st of May (today). He was wounded on the 5th of July at CLERY on the SOMME and returned to his unit on the 1st Feb 1917.

Prisoner who is 28 years is by profession a school master in a board school, and appeared very reliable in his statements.  
Method of Capture. Prisoner was on his own in an advanced post, and according to his own statements, heard 3 rifle grenades pass over his head, giving him the shudders. He was about to put on his coat, when lo and behold three staunch Australians stood before him and conducted him safely to our lines.

Reliefs. The 81st. Res. Division were apparently relieved by the 11th Res. Division on the night 28/29th the 10th Res. Inf. Regt relieving the 267 R.I.R. 81st. Res. Division, the 156 I.R. coming in between the 10th R.I.R. and the 22. I.R. (both of the latter regiments belonging to the 11th Res. Div.) on the night 29/30th at about 11 p.m.

The inter-company reliefs take place every 3 or 4 nights, and in prisoners opinion they were to be relieved on the night 3/4th May.

Dispositions. Prisoner was on the extreme left (our right) of the company's sector at X.20.D.8.4.

The front line posts, all of which were echeloned were within a few yards of each other.

These posts, garrisoned from prisoners company, were manned by P.M.G. groups, 1 infantry group and 3 N.C.Os making a total of about 25 men with two .08 pattern machine guns.

The remainder of the company were in rapidly constructed shelters just south of the METELEN slope. 3 companies of the battalion were in line and 1 in support. Of the Regiment 1 Battalion was in line, one in support and one in rest at CROIX DE BAC.

Order of Battle. N to S. 10. R.I.R.  
156. I.R.  
22. I.R.

Strength of Company. When they went into the line at BAILLEUL on the 9th Inst, about 120 rifle strength, today about 61 rifle strength.

Intentions. Prisoner was confident that no attack was anticipated in the near future, as far as they were concerned, for the following reasons.

1. The Battalion was not in a fit state to participate in any offensive movement, on account of its strength.
2. He had heard definitely that no attempts were to be made to advance on their front until their left had advanced further forward.
3. That whilst the Regiment was so disposed, viz, 1 Battalion in line, 1 in support, and 1 in rest, (the trench warfare disposition) he was confident nothing would materialise in the form of an attack.
4. No reinforcements have been sent to the Battalion since the 9-4-18.

(P.T.C.)



( 2 )

Casualties. Prisoner who only came into the line on the night 29/30th knew of no casualties being inflicted during the relief, nor during the day. Being isolated and having to keep his head very low during daylight, he was uninformed on the subject.

The casualties received by the regiment whilst in the line at BAILLEUL from the 9th Inst to the 15th were very heavy.

Names of Commanders.

Company.	Lt Albuston.
Battalion.	Capt. Nougobauer.
Regimental.	Lt-Col. Koil.
Divisional.	His excellency Gen dor Inf.

Von. Boos.

Gas. Prisoner states that last night 29th, he distinctly heard our gas projectors going over his head, and thinks they would just about have caught the company in rear. He knew the sound, having already heard it at LENS. Everyone immediately put his gas mask on.

Being isolated in his forward post prisoner did not know whether casualties had been inflicted by this gas.

Defences. Prisoner said no wire had been erected in front of their posts and he had not seen any on his way up. Being dark, it was possible he had come through some without seeing it.

General. Prisoner had been told the day before they came into the line, that if the advance came off, as they hoped it would on the 29th April, prisoners regiment was to march through behind the attacking units, and act as garrison of the occupied territory. On this attack failing his regiment came into the line between the 10th. R.I.R. and the 22nd. I.R. relieving elements of both of the above.

When asked if he knew what troops were opposite to them, prisoner replied; - Yes, Australians.

The three prisoners of the 3rd Company 1st Battalion, 12th. Division, captured in E.5.D. were of a very poor stamp of country boys who know absolutely nothing other than they came into line last night, there to remain for 3 days.

A prisoner of the 3rd, Company 1st. Battalion captured in X.25.C.7.4. 23. I.R. 12th. Division, was too severely wounded to be interrogated.



SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 18.From 3 a.m. 1/5/18 to 6 a.m. 2/5/18.A. OUR OPERATIONS.

(a) Infantry. Patrols operated along our front during the hours of darkness. No hostile patrols were encountered.

Reports from the above patrols furnish us with the following information:-

Enemy posts were located along hedge at X.16.a.2.1. at this location a post appeared to be strongly held. A snipers post was located at X.21.a.3.5. and a listening post at X.20.d.0.8.

Enemy working parties, busy on posts, damaged by our artillery fire in X.15.c.

Working party at X.20.c.8.4. were engaged by 4 Mills Grenades, result not known.

Flares were fired from house at X.15.c.75.80. Enemy listening post at X.20.d.0.8. is unoccupied. Coughing was heard at about E.6.a.4.4.

Snipers along the Divisional front claim 13 hits.

(b) Artillery. Normal harassing fire was carried out throughout the day and night on roads, tracks, hedges, and known centres of enemy activity.

Bursts of fire were brought to bear on farms at X.17.d.8.4. and X.16.d.7.6., X.16.d.5.3., X.17.a.1.0., and F.1.d.1.4. with satisfactory results.

(c) Trench Mortars. 31 rounds L.T.M.'s were fired on to houses in E.6.c. and trenches in E.6.a. and 12 rounds on to house and M.G. position in F.1.a.

As the result of this fire, enemy horn, apparently a call for stretcher bearers could be heard.

Other targets were engaged during the day by our M. and L.T.M.

(d) Aerial Activity. Our planes were much more active during the day, frequently crossing into enemy territory.

Our machines continually dived and fired bursts into enemy trenches and at about 11 a.m. a squadron of our planes dropped about 30 bombs on to his positions East of METERN. Results could not be observed.

As a result of an aerial combat an enemy plane was forced to land behind our lines at about X.6.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

(a) Infantry. The general attitude of his infantry is one of exceptional quietness, and he still appears to be doing no patrolling whatsoever.

(b) Artillery. With the exception of the following, the hostile artillery has been very quiet.

(i) Box barrages were placed round posts at about E.6.a.2.8. and E.5.d.1.6. from 2-30 a.m. to 3-5 a.m. and 2-45 to 3 a.m. respectively.

(ii) Destructive shoot on STRAZEELE station between 2-30 a.m. and 3 a.m.

(iii) A registration shoot on our front line in X.16.a. and b. took place at 2-15 a.m.

(c) Movement. Individual movement was observed throughout the day.

At 4-45 p.m. a party of about 50 men were seen moving towards house at X.27.a.5.9. and a party of 10 moved away from post at X.21.c.3.3. Artillery were informed.



12-  
Appendix. 1.

-2-

From 9 p.m. to 11-30 p.m. enemy transport could be plainly heard moving at a fast rate along the BAILLEUL-METEREN road.

At 7-30 p.m. and at 5-45 a.m. about 20 men were seen at E.5.d.9.1.

At 8-40 a.m., about 30 men were observed working at E.12.d.5.6.

Defences.

(d) Trench Mortars. Two granatowefors were observed firing from X.16.d.65.65. and T.M. at F.1.a.1.6.

(e) Machine Guns. Cross roads in F.1.a. 3 M.Gs at X.26.a.2.8. M.G. at X.20.c.8.4. and at the following locations.

X.16.a.35.20., X.16.a.2.5. and X.15.b.7.2. (at aeroplanes) and positions at X.15.c.20.55. and X.21.a.55.90.

(f) Snipers posts were located at X.17.a.2.4. in house at X.17.b.2.4. in trench at X.15.b.1.1. and at X.21.a.3.5. Snipers and O.P. suspected at X.20.d.4.7.

(g) Listening post, suspected at E.11.b.5.5.

(h) Trench Systems. From X.20.c.8.4. to X.20.c.35.10. this position has been the centre of great activity.

(i) Posts. located at E.6.c.25.80., X.20.c.8.4., X.26.a.2.8.

(j) Wire. More barbed wire seems to have been erected in front of trench at X.15.b.25.30. 6 coils of wire are lying on the ground at this point.

(k) Aerial. Enemy aerial activity shows a decrease during the period under review.

(l) Miscellaneous. Gun flashes were observed as follows from R.31.c.7.2., 10-25 a.m. 163° X T.B., 11-24 a.m. 4-2 How. 174° T.B. 4-45 p.m. 77 m.m. battery firing on E.7.a. 183° T.B.

Two mines were successfully exploded on METEREN - FLETRE Road during the night.

At 8-15 a.m. enemy 77 m.m. shells fell in his own lines whereupon single and double RED flares were fired and battery ceased firing.

Prior to the box barrage at E.6.a.2.8. about 2-30 a.m. approx. 20 Gas Shells, believed YELLOW CROSS, were fired on to this position. Yellow Flares bursting into either two or three pink stars were used. Whilst E.A. was flying over our Left section about 5 p.m. a flare was fired by him over post at X.25.b.2.1. 77's immediately shelled this position.

Geo. H. P. M. Key  
Lieut. Col.  
Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.



ANNEXE TO FIRST AUST DIVISION  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 18.

Short history of 11th. Res. Division, identified opposite the Division on the night 30th April/1st May.

Commander;- Gen. d. Inf. v. BOIS.

22nd. Inf. Regt.      156th. Inf. Regt.      10th. Res. Inf. Regt.

Composition. The 11th Reserve Division, with the 12th Reserve Division, originally formed the VI Reserve Corps, which was formed in Silesia on mobilization. It consisted of the 21st Reserve Infantry Brigade (10th Reserve and 11th Reserve Infantry Regiments) and the 23rd Infantry Brigade (22nd and 156th Infantry Regiments). In March 1915, the 11th Reserve Regiment was transferred to the newly-formed 117th Division. The remaining three Regiments were then grouped under the staff of the 23rd Infantry Brigade.

History. At the outbreak of war the VI Reserve Corps formed part of the Fifth Army under the German Crown Prince. The Fifth Army entered France by way of LONGWY and advanced to the area between CHALONS and VERDUN. The battle of the MARNE compelled it to retire northward and take up approximately its present position, astride the MEUSE, North of VERDUN. The VI Reserve Corps held the sector between the Bois de MALANCOURT and the MEUSE. It remained in line in this area throughout 1915. No fighting at all took place, and its casualties were very light.

When the VERDUN battle began the 11th and 12th Reserve Divisions opened the attack west of the MEUSE, which did not take place till the 8th March, 1916. The 11th Reserve Division made an unsuccessful attack on BETHINCOURT on the 9th March, but subsequently, after hard fighting captured MALANCOURT on the 30th March and BETHINCOURT on the 9th April. The whole Corps was withdrawn from the VERDUN battle at the beginning of May, 1916, and went into Army reserve in the CAMBRAI area.

The nine battalions of the 11th Reserve Division reported 5,678 casualties for the VERDUN battle - 63 per cent, of its strength.

The 11th Reserve Division was brought up to reinforce the SOMME front on the 5th July. It was severely engaged with the French in the sector between HARDECOURT and the SOMME, and suffered heavy casualties. It was withdrawn on the 15/16th July, and at the end of the month relieved the 24th Division in the quiet sector south of the River LYS.

The Division returned to the SOMME front at the end of September. This time it went into line south of the river, relieving the 28th Division between the SOMME and BARLEUX. It was sharply attacked in the BLANCHES sector on the 11th October, when the French captured a large part of the POIS BLAISE and took between three and four hundred prisoners. For the counter-attack delivered at the end of the month (which resulted in the capture of LA HAISONNETTE) the northern elements of the Division were relieved by the 206th Division.

The 11th Reserve Division suffered very heavy losses in the SOMME battle. Its casualties amounted to 8,941 - 77 per cent of establishment. The 22nd Regiment lost 2,750 men (92 per cent) and the 10th Reserve Regiment 2,635 (82 per cent.).

The 11th Reserve Division was relieved early in November and transferred to the LENS sector. It remained in line there until the end of March, 1917, when it was transferred for six weeks to the BELLICOURT - BELLENGLISE sector, between CAMBRAI and ST QUENTIN. In the middle of May it returned to its old sector south-west of LENS, and remained in this area most of the Summer. On the 1st July it extended its front northwards as far as the LENS - CREMAY railway. The right flank of the division was involved in the Canadian attack on the 15th August. On the following day the division was withdrawn, but returned to line on the 9th September in the ACHIEVILLE - PIESNOY sector, farther south. At the beginning of November it was transferred to Flanders and relieved the 11th Bav. Div. south of the YPRES - ROULENS railway.



## Appendix I.

( 2 )

Moral. The 11th Reserve Division prides itself on the fact that, although a reserve division, it contains two active regiments. It is not easy at the present moment to give an accurate estimate of its fighting qualities, as the bulk of the division has not been seriously engaged since the SOMME battle. While in the LENS and FRESNOY sectors it suffered heavy casualties from our gas projection, which have probably had a bad effect on its moral. A company of the 156th Regiment was reduced by one gas attack to 24 men.

Order of Battle:-11th Reserve Division.25th Infantry Brigade.

22nd. Inf. Regt.  
156th. Inf. Regt.  
10th. Res. Inf. Regt.

Divisional Cavalry. Elements, 4th Res. Hussar Regt.

Artillery Command. 11th. Res. F.A. Regt.

Pioneer Bn; 4th Field Coy., 11 Pioneer Bn. No. 6.  
4th. Bav. Heavy Fortress Searchlight Section.  
211th Minenwerfer Company.

Signals. 411th Telephone Detachment.

Medical and Veterinary; 506th Bearer Company.  
29th. Res. Field. Hospital.  
411th Veterinary Hospital.

Train; 710th (?) Divnl. M.T. Column.

Field. Post Office. No. 854.

AS reported in yesterdays summary the 11th. Res. Division at present are very weak, having had no reinforcements, since they were heavily engaged near HAILLEUL between the 9th and 16th April. The moral of the Division at present, in spite of the heavy losses sustained recently, is good.

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 19.

6.a.m. 2-5-18. to 6.a.m. 3-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry.

Our patrols were very active during the night, but no enemy patrols were encountered. Shots were exchanged with several enemy posts. One enemy Listening Post at X.17.A.2.5. was rushed but enemy escaped leaving a rifle behind. (Markings on the rifle are being checked and will be forwarded later) Enemy posts etc discovered are included in "Enemy Defences."

Many casualties were caused by snipers and machine gunners to enemy who were dislodged from a strong point between E.5.D.9.3. and E.3.C.0.3. by our artillery.

Snipers claim about 50 hits. Rifle grenadiers engaged enemy forward positions with No. 36 grenades and phosphorus bombs. A farm in X.20.D. was destroyed and an S.A.A. dump exploded.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars.

A prearranged programme was carried out on hedges and roads and buildings recently reported active, by ground observers. Fires were caused at occupied houses in E.6.C., E.12.A. and F.1.A. At 4.p.m. 2 fires were started in MERRIS.

Medium and Light T.Ms were very active engaging hostile T.Ms, M.Gs and occupied posts.

On several occasions garrisons were dislodged and caught with rifle and Lewis Gun fire. A 7.7. battery at BELLE CROIX Fm (X.27.) was engaged.

3. Aerial.

Our planes were very active, low flying planes fired bursts into enemy posts.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. Hostile Activity.

(a) Infantry. Enemy remains quiet but alert, M.Gs firing on least noise by night. The Section just S of the MERRIS BECQUE reports that he has now withdrawn his small Listening posts and man the larger posts strongly.

(b) Artillery. A slight increase in activity is reported. At 5.30.a.m. a sharp barrage was put down on forward positions in X.25. and W.30.

A concentration of gas (chlorine and phosgene) and H.E. was put down in W.30.C. between 5.30. and 6.a.m. Intermittent harassing fire took place on the area X.16., X.9., X.10., X.11. and X.15. Between 12 midday and 6.p.m. 150 rounds 5.9 and 4.2. fell at W.15.A.2.7. From 5 to 3.a.m. STRAZELLE Town and Station were intermittently shelled. Destructive and counter battery shoots were carried out on battery areas in X.3. Q.24.B. and Q.18.B.&D.

For the past two mornings at about 3.a.m. enemy has commenced rather heavy shelling of the right sub-sector.

At 11.30.a.m. a 4.2. battery from the direction of F.21. Central registered with aeroplane observation on to Road junction at W.30.C.3.1.

(c) Trench Mortars. Inactive, except for shelling of forward posts on the extreme right section of our front.

(d) Aerial. Hostile planes showed slight activity between 11.a.m. and 2.30.p.m. At 11.a.m. one E.A. flew over our extreme right and fired red flares. At 11.30.a.m. one E.A. fired one white flare over E.6.A. and hostile artillery immediately opened on this position. At 2.50.p.m. a low flying plane dropped two bombs on CLEIRE. This plane was marked with plain black crosses. All the above E.As were actively engaged by A.A. Lewis and Machine Guns.

II. Movement. The usual individual movement was observed. Between 2.50.a.m. and 3.10.a.m. traffic was heard on the metal road in X.20.D.

III. Defences. Machine Guns in F.1.A. were active. T.Ms firing from 1.a.m. to 2.a.m. on left posts of Right Section were active from about E.6.B.8.8. to F.1.A.2.6. At 6.a.m. H.T.M. and GRANATENWERFER fired on to left Coy. Right section from a bearing of 170 deg. grid from W.30.D. 1.2. Posts at E.11.B.5.5., E.6.A.45.40. judging by number of voices, are strongly held. Post is suspected at E.11.B.9.9. and located at E.6.B.3.8., E.6.B.0.7., E.6.A.8.4. and F.1.A.9.1.



A strongly manned post with wire in front runs from X.16.A.1.1. to X.16.A.35.20. Posts were located at X.17.A.4.4., X.17.A.2.5., X.16.A.0.1. and X.16.A.3.2. M.G. posts were located at X.17.A.0.5. and X.15.B.5.4. Granatowrfer fired several rounds from X.16.C.6.7. Wiring parties at X.17.A.8.4. and 2.4.

#### IV. Miscellaneous.

Flares. Two red flares were again used by enemy opposite right brigade to indicate short shooting.

At 9.15 p.m. a yellow flare burning into 2 reds was fired from about X.26.A.5.7. and repeated to the rear in delays.

On one red flare being sent up T.M.s in E.C.B. and E.1.A. immediately ceased firing.

#### Flash bearings.

7.25 p.m. 5 flashes 1390 grid from W.23.A.8.5. (heavy gun firing on back area).

9.30 a.m. 1100 grid W.30.A.2.2. (4.2.H.V.)

Arms and equipment. At 2 a.m., 2 shells fell in X.19.B. Their burst could clearly be heard, but a great cloud of smoke and clusters of stars ascended; the observer suggested hitting O.I.

Papors. Secret maps, documents etc were taken from a dead Boscho at E.11.B.8.0. and are forwarded.

Kx.



Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.

#### Note.

General News from "Wireless press" and other sources will in future be forwarded daily within the division to all recipients of the daily Intelligence Summary.



SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6.a.m. 5-5-18. to 6.a.m. 4-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

a. Artillery. Our artillery has again been active. A successful shoot was carried out by 60 pdrs, on a working party at X.25.A.0.8. at 3.15.p.m. About 14 bell tents situated at X.25.A.3.3. was the centre of a little movement yesterday, and at 5.p.m. our 18-pdrs shelled this position. In reply to a call by Left section for retaliation, enemy front system was shelled at 8.30.p.m. Our heavies carried out destructive shoots on MERRIS, MONT MERRIS, and vicinity.

b. Patrols. Several fighting patrols went out during the night in search of identification. They were unsuccessful though many exciting episodes were experienced. A large hostile party was observed trying to outflank one patrol at about E.5.D.7.4. This design was discovered in time and the enemy party being engaged with rifle and L.C. fire and bombs, was forced to retire.

Large working parties were heard E of the line E.6.A.4.4. - 4.2. E.3.E.4.9. Hand grenades were thrown by another of our patrols among the enemy congregating about E.6.A.4.4. as a result of which cries of pain could be heard. Enemy then moved S with the intention of attacking our patrol. Again the enemy's intentions were frustrated by the skilful use of a covering Lewis Gun.

Another patrol penetrated to about X.25.D.1.3. and reports that enemy listening posts have been withdrawn. Enemy posts at X.25.D.1.2. and X.25.D.5.4. are very strongly held. A suspected enemy post at X.20.C.8.5. was entered and found unoccupied. House at X.20.C.9.8. is not occupied.

Enemy is reported as being particularly alert, firing many flares, machine guns and rifles. Grenade throwers were also thrown among one patrol.

c. Machine Guns. Indirect fire was indulged in and enemy targets harassed.

d. T.Mortars. Promising targets were engaged during the period. Direct hits were obtained and houses totally destroyed at X.15.C. 85. 80. and X.15.D.90.85. 6" Newtons fired a dump at E.6.C.5.9. S.A.A. could be heard exploding. Farm at E.6.B.2.3. were also fired.

e. Snipers. - Right Battalion Left Brigade claims 7 hits, and left Battalion Right Brigade claims 4 hits and Right Battalion Right Brigade also claimed hits, but it is understood that some of those latter are in dispute.

f. Aerial Activity. At 11.40.a.m. as a result of an aerial combat one of our planes (S.E.5.) crashed at X.7.B.3.7. What is believed to be one of our planes was observed to come down in flames in X.21. as the result of an aerial combat.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

a. Infantry. Nervous, firing many flares and very much alert, employing Machine Gun fire at the least movement. Enemy does not patrol or even post listening posts.

b. Artillery. STRAZELLE and the Station and Support System received a good deal of attention. At 7.45.p.m., 15 minutes concentration by 5.9s was placed on STRAZELLE. At 9.30.p.m. a heavy barrage was put down on the centre of the sub-sector. Gas was included in this shelling. At the same time, Counter battery shoot was carried out in E.2. and E.8. Enemy carried out intermittent harassing fire throughout the day principally on roads of approach and centres of activity. Areas particularly engaged were Cross Roads at X.4.C.4.4., along road in X.4.C. and X.10.A., X.15.C. and X.14.D. At 4.40.a.m. (10 minutes lasting 30 minutes about 500 yards in rear of our front line posts. A few gas shells . . . fell in rear of front line posts of right Battalion at 4.5.a.m.

(P.T.O.).



## Appendix.

( 2 )

e. Defences. A post was located at X.15.D.3.3. A Brenatenwerfer fired during the day from a T.E. of 1650 from X.15.A.8.3. distant about 400 yards. Barbed wire is visible in front of hedge from X.15.A.95.00. to X.15.B.1.1. a trench is suspected behind hedge at X.15.Central. A barricade of barrels of earth is across the road at X.15.B.50.35.

Digging at E.5.D.8.3., Work at E.11.B.2.7. and E.11.B.3.5. Posts at E.5.D.8.7. and E.5.D.9.5. and X.25.D.1.2. and X.25.D.3.5. are strongly held. Machine guns E.6.C.45.90. - X.26.C.5.7. and X.20.C.8.4. Work was being carried on at hedges in X.20.Central and at F.1.B.2.8. Wire at X.20.C.9.0.

d. Aerial Activity. Enemy planes were very active during the day, firing occasional bursts of H.C. fire into our posts. They were actively engaged by our M.G. and A.A. Guns apparently without effect. At 6.45.p.m. 8 planes flew at a high altitude along our forward area.

c. Movement. A small party at F.15.A.1.6. and also a party in file at E.12.B.5.6. Working party at X.25.A.0.3. engaged by our 50-pdrs. House at X.23.A.1.8. appears to be used as a billet. A House at X.26.B.4.5. has sandbagged windows; O.P. or M.G. position. Smoke observed behind hedge at X.21.D.0.1. Movement observed at F.1.A.5.4. Smoke also seen at this place. At night, transport could be heard on road in X.20.D.

f. Arms and Equipment. At 9.30.p.m. phosgene gas shells were used among H.E. and other shells on centre of right sector and in F.3. and 8.

g. Miscellaneous. It has been noticed that our aeroplanes formations proceeding south over us towards METEREN are heavily engaged by enemy A.A. and M.Gs. whereas it appears that our plane proceeding S.W., clear of METEREN, do not receive much attention. Gun flashes were observed on T.Bs of 1690 and 1700 from 6.10.p.m. to 6.20.p.m. from R.39.C.7.2. At 4.15.a.m. a loud explosion was heard in enemy support lines. Sound appeared to come from direction of METEREN-BAILLEUL Road.

As a result of our shelling, fires were observed at X.21.C.6.0. X.21.C.8.5. and X.21.C.4.4. and VIEUX BERQUIN.

h. Identifications. Nil.

*[Signature]*  
Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.

#### INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

It has been generally understood that the enemy was averse to preparing an infantry assault by a concentration of gas on the area to be assaulted.

This teaching has been shown to be fallacious by a study of the recent fighting at VILLERS BRETONNEUX. On the occasion in question, the enemy fired about 2500 gas shells into the village and then immediately followed this intense gas concentration by his infantry assault on the village.



SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 21.

From 6.a.m. 4-5-18. to 6.a.m. 5-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

a. Infantry. (Night 3rd/4th.) Our left Battalion co-operated with the French advance during the morning. During the darkness prior to zero, patrols went to X.17.A.6.8. and encountered no enemy. A trench 1 foot deep was dug at this spot and a section remained to retain possession while the remainder withdrew.

At zero plus 4 a platoon went out and completed the digging of the post. No opposition was encountered and the platoon suffered no casualties. Further to the right, patrols sent out during the darkness met opposition at X.17.A.25.50. One man was killed and the remainder were withdrawn. At zero, the attacking party of 1 platoon attacked the post at X.17.A.25.50. from the N.E. The post was sited behind a hedge.

Covering fire was provided by a L.G. in one of the original posts. No opposition was encountered until the party was quite close to the enemy post, when rifle and M.G. fire was opened on them. The covering L.G. was then turned on to the hedge, enfilading it, L.T.Ms co-operated and a bombing section worked along the hedge with the result that the enemy hurriedly evacuated the position, which was occupied by us without further opposition. No casualties were sustained by us during the operation. Our line is unaltered except for the posts established forward at X.17.A.0.6. X.17.A.6.8. and X.11.C.8.5. (approx.)

(Night 4th/5th.) At about 4.30 a.m. Corporal J. LEAN in charge of one of our forward posts observed movement in what appeared to be an enemy post about X.20.D.2.8. Being confident of his ability to oust the enemy, this N.C.O. collected his party of 2 other ranks, and made an onslaught upon the post, with the result that they captured it with comparative ease. Four prisoners were brought in including the corporal in charge of the post (badly wounded) and 3 other ranks. It appears that the Corporal with 7 men had relieved the garrison of the post during the night and at the moment of the determined onslaught by Corporal LEAN and his two men, they were preparing to make themselves comfortable for the day. Unfortunately 2 of the garrison happened to be away drawing rations. The remaining two members of the garrison apparently accepted discretion as the best part of valour and made good their escape. Our party suffered no casualties.

b. Artillery. Advantage was taken of a reported state of disorganisation on the enemy's front, opposite the Divisional Sector to increase all prearranged harassing fire by 100%.

Special attention was paid to the following locations:-  
Railway in E.12.A.2.B. Hedges in E.12., E.6., E.11. X.21., 22., and 23.  
and roads and tracks reported to be used by enemy along the Divisional front.

Bursts of fire were directed on to located T.M. and M.G. positions in X.16., and X.17., and hostile battery at F.8.A.50.70., was dealt with at 2.30 p.m. good results being reported.

During the early morning farm buildings and enclosures in E.12. were bombarded at a rapid rate of fire for 15 mins., as a diversion to a minor operation carried out by the Division on our Right.

c. Patrols. A patrol met opposition from an enemy post at about X.20.B.65.15. Hedge running from X.16.B.2.2. to X.17.A.0.5. was found to be unoccupied. Liaison patrols were maintained, but no other items of importance were collected.

d. M.Guns. Harassing fire on enemy centres of activity were indulged in.

e. T.Mortars. Stokes and 6" Newton Mortars actively engaged known targets, many direct hits being obtained on buildings, which in some cases were destroyed. Newtons expended 118 rounds and Stokes 73.

Enemy M.G. and T.M. position at E.12.A.2.7. and E.11.B.7.5. were driven out of the posts by Medium T.M. fire and effectively dealt with by Infantry fire.

(P.T.O.)



## Appendix 1.

( 2 )

f. Aerial Activity. Enemy forward areas were kept under constant observation by our planes during the day and many formations were observed to cross over enemy territory.

## ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

a. Infantry. Enemy attitude was slightly more aggressive during the early hours of the night. His snipers and M.Gs were more active than usual. At 9.30.p.m. 3 or 4 sections of the enemy were formed up to attack and re-take positions occupied by us on the morning of the 4th. Our artillery dispersed the parties and no attack eventuated. The enemy fires numerous flares at the first indication of any bombardment by our guns.

b. Artillery. Enemy artillery fire which shows a marked increase is still in the nature of harassing shoots on to roads and approaches with occasional destructive shoots on to occupied buildings. At 8.30.p.m. a heavy bombardment in which T.Ms co-operated was directed against our posts in X.16.B. for 15 minutes. No infantry action followed. A special harassing shoot against our positions in X.7.D. was carried out between 4.50.p.m. and 5.30.p.m.

15.c.m. placed about 80 rounds destructive shoot on to R.25.D. and R.31.B. during the afternoon. Destructive shoots were carried out at intervals during the day on STRAZELLE and STRAZELLE Station. Throughout the 24 hours his harassing fire has been very consistent, his batteries mostly firing in salvos. At 8.45.p.m. eight heavy large calibre shells (probably 21 cm.) fell at W.23.D. Central. Between 2.a.m. and 3.30.a.m. squares W.17., 18., 23., 24., 29., and 30., were lightly shelled with 7.7. and 10 cm. shells; the shooting was very scattered and no damage was done. Gas Shelling. At 7.30.p.m. and 9.p.m. enemy shelled W.29.B. lightly with phosgene gas. From 11.p.m. to 11.30.p.m. 30. 10.cm. gas shells fell in W.16.D. and W.22.B.

c. Enemy Defences. Work in progress at X.16.B.3.2. Enemy post located at X.15.D.94.45. and H.G. positions at X.16.A.10.25. and X.16.C.50.95. T.M. position at X.16.D.1.6. A continuous trench system running from X.20.B.65.15. to X.21.A.8.6. and is strongly manned.

Machine Guns. Very active against our planes. By night roads and approaches to the out post system were swept intermittently.

T.Ms. Quiet except for continuous bombing of Square E.6.A. and forward posts on the extreme left.

d. Aerial. Two machines crossed our lines at 7.a.m. At 5.45.p.m. a flight of enemy machines was attacked by our planes and one of the E.A. fell out of control behind the enemy lines.

e. Movement. Individual movement observed at X.27.C.95.05. and X.16.D.7.4. and several small groups in X.17.C.8.D. 6 men moved in file across field from X.16.C.6.4. to hedge at X.16.C.35.15. and reappeared at X.21.B.30.25. moving towards Buildings in X.21.A.50.95. Men entered house at X.15.D.8.4. and house at X.15.D.4.3.

f. Miscellaneous. During the night numerous red and green flares were used by the enemy. On one occasion he appeared to lengthen his artillery range by firing single red flares.

At 8.20.p.m. an E.A. fired a white flare over X.17 and at 8.50. from over X.4. on which enemy artillery immediately opened on the areas for 15 minutes.

## g. Identifications:-

Prisoner.	Coy.	Batt.	Regt.	Div.
1.O.R.	5th.	2nd.	95.I.R.	58th.
Corporal. & 3.O.Rs.	5th.	2nd.	62.I.R.	12th.

Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.

Note. Fragments of enemy shells, especially 15 cm. Hows., are urgently required. When possible parts of the nose or base should be sent to Divisional General Staff, intelligence section with information as to the area shelled and rough direction of shelling.



ANNEXE to 1st. Aust. Div. SUMMARY NO. 21.Preliminary Interrogation of prisoners.  
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Prisoner a private taken in X.17.A.5.6, appeared reliable in his statements.

Identification. 5th Coy, 2nd Batt, 95th. I.R. 38th. Division

Method of Capture. Three or four Gruppen (about 27 or 25 men.) of the 96.I.R. were to retake post occupied by us on the morning of the 4th inst. They were to attack at 9.30 p.m.

Prisoners Gruppe were to advance if necessary upon receiving orders from the Coy Sgrt Major, who along with prisoner was acting as a liaison with the 96.I.R.

The timely warning of our artillery and accuracy of our M.Gun fire, apparently prevented the enemys coup de main from materialising. Prisoner and his companion were out looking for the 96.I.R. when the Sgrt Major was shot through the head, prisoner being wounded in the leg walked into our post.

Enemy Defences. Prisoner states wire is being erected in front of their posts.

Company Strength. Rifle strength at present about 63.

Reinforcements. About 8 days ago the company received 15, all being boys of about 18. These are being employed as ration carriers.

Reliefs. Prisoner stated they had been told and promised they should be relieved in 2 days time. The relieving Division or Regiment were unknown to prisoner.

Enemy Attitude. Purely a defensive policy is at present, in vogue, and prisoner was confident that no attack was contemplated by them.

EXAMINATION OF PRISONERS ( 1 Corporal and 3 O.Rs.)  
-----

Identification. 5th Company, 2nd Batt, 62.I.R. 12th. Division.

Method of Capture. The Corporal and his Gruppe of 7 other ranks were in a post at X.20.D.2.8. When the post was rushed, the Corporal and 3 other ranks only were present and were captured. Two had gone off for rations, and the remaining two were runners, just coming up to the post.

Enemy Defences. Prisoners having come up into the line last night, knew of no wire being erected. The posts which are usually garrisoned by a Gruppe are about 40 metres apart.

Company Strength. Rifle strength about 70 - 75.

Reinforcements. Prisoners company had received about 15 reinforcements during the last few days.

Reliefs. The 62nd.I.R. relieved the 156.I.R. of the 11th Division, last night, 4th/5th inst. One battalion is in line, one in support, and 1 rest around DOULIEU. The period in front line is generally 4 days.

Enemy Attitude. Again a purely defensive attitude was to be adopted, by the regiment whilst in line. Prisoner gave 3 reasons for this attitude. -

(i) Practically no maps had, been issued to Officers or N.C.Os, before taking over the sector.

(ii) On account of the disposition of battalions.

(iii) Very little training had been done whilst they were in rest, that which was done, being purely elementary infantry training.

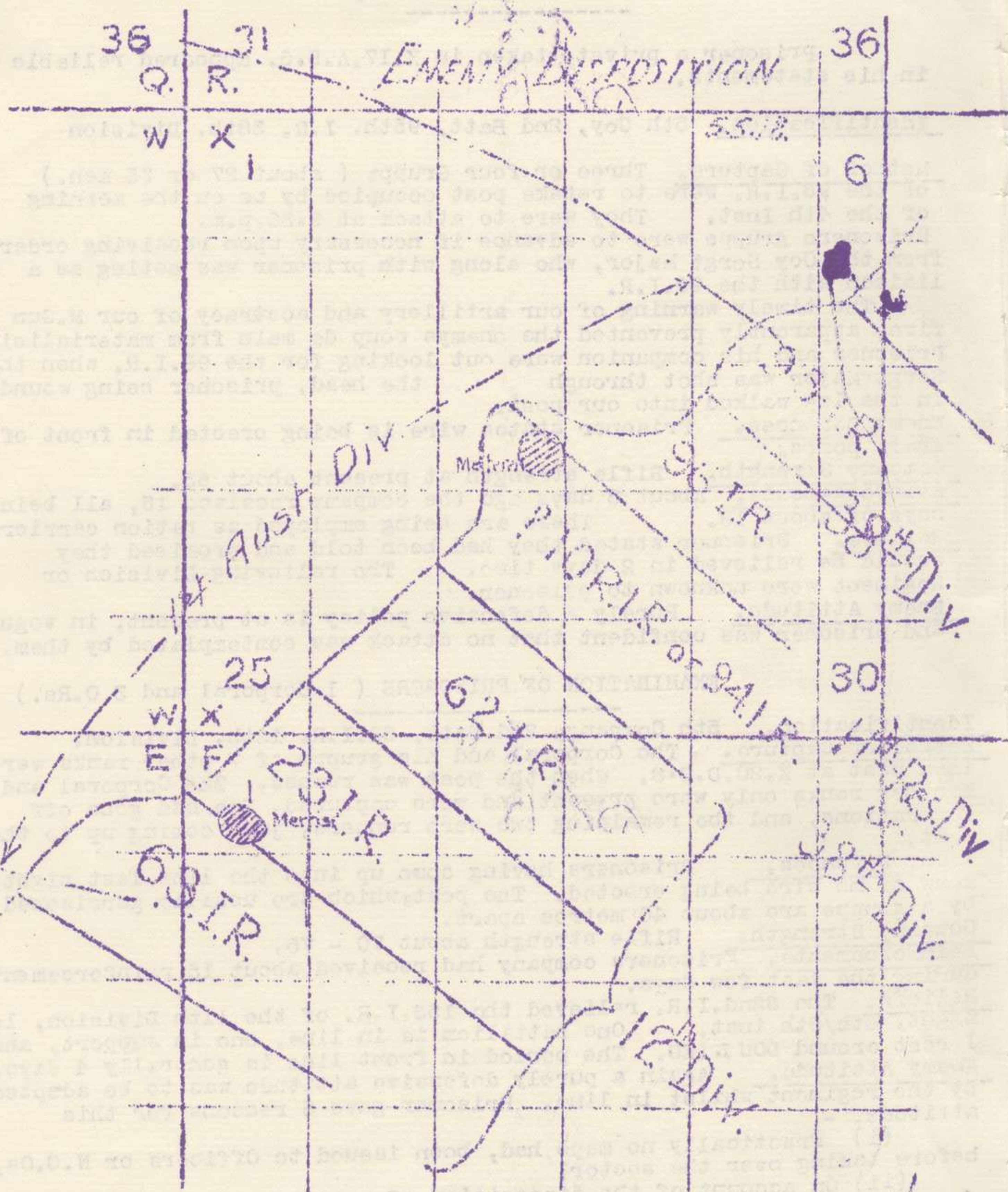
Other Units seen. 10th Jager Zgr. Fuss. Left Doulieu about 5 or 6 days ago, for an unknown destination.

Miscellaneous. Prisoner states that Artillery from this front is being generally withdrawn, and it is prisoners opinion that it is moving northwards.

The following is thought to be order of battle opposite our divisional front.



## Appendix. 1.



The following is thought to be order of battle opposite our divisional front.



SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 22.

From 6.a.m. 5-5-18 to 6.a.m. 6-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry.

a. Patrols. No Mans Land was actively patrolled on the whole of the front. Routes taken and details of information obtained is shown on attached Map ( to Corps.).

A patrol located an enemy working party at X.15.B.7.1. which was dispersed by L.G. fire. Enemy working parties were heard North and West of METEREN. An enemy listening post at X.25.D.85.55. was found unoccupied.

b. Machine Guns. fired on H.Qrs, S.Ps, and tracks in X.27, X.21., E.12.C. and F.7.C.

c. Snipers. near METEREN claim 4 hits but very little movement was observed on remainder of front.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars.

Field guns carried out a thorough harassing of enemy centres of activity and approaches.

Counter Battery work was carried out on to hostile positions in E.12.D., and F.7.A.B.&D. A shoot in conjunction with heavies was carried out on X.27.Cont, X.27.B.15.90. and F.2.B.90.00. Movement on roads S and S.E. of METEREN was successfully engaged at 7.15.p.m. and 3.25.a.m.

Dumps were exploded behind METEREN at 8.45.p.m. and near OUTERSTEENE at 5.20.p.m.

Medium and Stokes T.Ms were very active and very successful. shoots were carried out on occupied buildings, METEREN Brewery was engaged in conjunction with the artillery.

B. Enemy Intelligence.

1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. was again very quiet. A considerable amount of work was being done near METEREN but the right brigade report very little work being done opposite them. His snipers however were very active on this front.

b. Artillery. Hostile artillery was fairly quiet during the day, but towards evening considerable shelling of a harassing nature took place on roads and communications of both brigades.

At intervals throughout the day the area W.25.C., W.26.B.& E.1.B. was shelled by two 8" hows. Grid bearings of these hows were as follows;:-

1310 30' and 1250 from W.25.A.5.2.

130 from W.25.D.5.8.

A destructive shoot took place in vicinity of battalion H.Q. in X.14.A. ( 5.9s and 4.2s.)

At 3.20.a.m. a light barrage was put down on front line posts near MONT de MERRIS. STRAZELLE was subjected to the usual short heavy concentrations.

Posts in front of NORD HELF WOOD, are reported to have been shelled by a light field gun, possibly a six pounder from about X.26.D.0.5.

Gas. Six "Blue Cross" shells fell at E.6.A.2.5. during the night.

c. Trench Mortars. were active at intervals against our positions in E.6.A. and W.30.D. An enemy H.W. at E.6.D.4.9. was silenced by our 18-pdrs.

d. Aerial. Hostile planes were not very active. About 13 were observed over our forward areas between 2.p.m. and 6.p.m. At 2.25.p.m. two planes flew over right brigade at about 7,000 feet. Pineapple bombs were dropped from a plane at a working party in X.1. Plane was actively engaged and appeared to make a forced landing behind his lines. Reconnaissances were also carried out over FLETRE and PRADELLES.

(P.T.O.)



( 2 ).

10 hostile balloons were up opposite our front throughout the day.

II. Movement. Low visibility prevented observation. Individual movement was observed as follows:- Working party at E.6.A.5.1. In buildings at X.24.C.1.2. Transport was heard between 1.30.a.m. and 2.30.a.m. at METEREN and at house at X.13.D.7.9. This was engaged with L.C. fire. Smoke could be seen coming up from under house at F.1.A.10.45.

III. Defences. Enemy is improving his defences at E.3.B.5.5. a H.W. fired from E.6.D.4.9. An enemy M.G. was located at X.17.A.0.4. and a post at X.16.B.9.4. Wiring parties were heard at X.16.B.3.4., X.16.B.6.4., and X.16.B.7.2. A post has been dug and manned from X.17.A.0.2. to X.17.A.4.2. A trench mortar fired 10 rounds on to our posts at X.15.C.2.7. from about X.15.C.8.0.

IV. Miscellaneous. Fires were observed in BAILLEUL during the day. At 5.30.p.m. a fire broke out at X.29.A.5.5. as the result of our artillery fire; after burning for three minutes an explosion took place. It burnt until 4.a.m. Signalling with WHITE light was observed at intervals between 4.40.p.m. and 8.p.m. at building at X.29.A.3.5. and at 8.30.p.m. from about X.27.C. Gun flashes were again observed at BELLE-CROIX Fm (X.27.) at 4.15.p.m. At the same time a great deal of smoke was seen around the farm. Attached is a sketch of a hostile tank, showing vulnerable points.

V. Identifications. Nil.

*J. D. Rogers*  
for

Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.

Note. No wireless has been received during the last two days, but the following has been received from the SOMME front.

During the night 1st/2nd inst, our line was slightly advanced astride the main VILLERS-BRETONNEUX - ST QUENTIN road. South of the ANCRE our line was again advanced. The total advance in the BUIRE-TREUX area during the last two nights is now 400 to 600 yards on a 1,400 yard front.

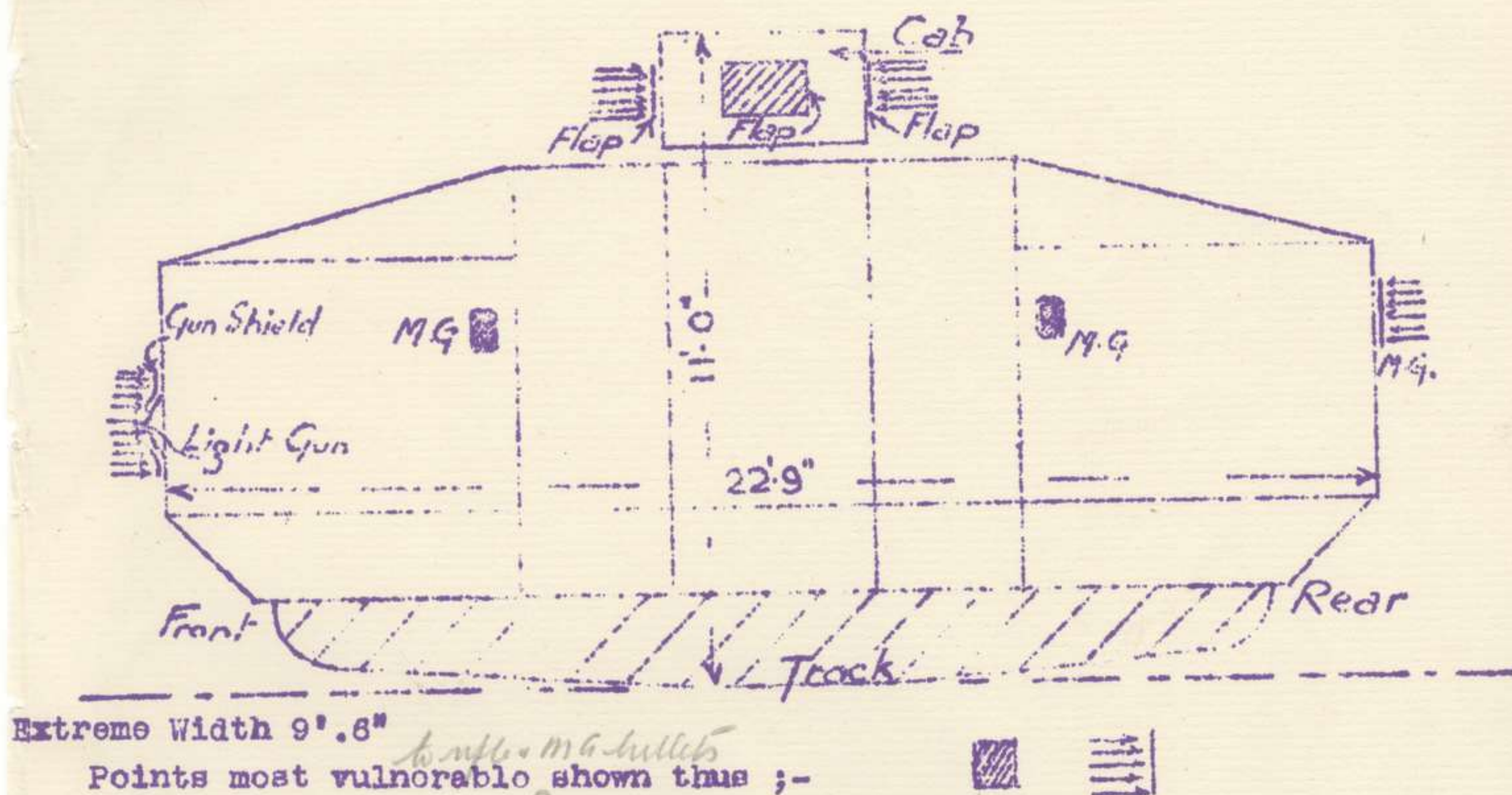
Yesterday morning the French captured the whole of the BOIS de LAGAUNE. 1,500 metres south-west of MALLEY RAIMEVAL, together with one Company-Commander, 2 M.C.Os, and 25 O.R, and 5 machine guns, without loss to themselves.

Later. G.H.Q. reports 10.30.a.m. 6th Inst:-

3rd Aust. Division carried out further operations last night between the SOMME and the ANCRE rivers as the result of which they advanced their line to a depth of 500 yards on a front of 2000 yards west and south-west of MORLANCOURT and captured 150 prisoners 2 M.Gs and a trench mortar. 3rd Div advanced their line slightly during the night between LOGNON and the LAWE river and fighting is still taking place in this locality. On the remainder of the British front there is nothing to report."



SKETCH OF HOSTILE TANK USED AT VILLERS BRETONNEUX.  
on 24th April. 1918.



Notes.

French A.P. bullets have penetrated the Cab. Ordinary bullets pass through aperture if flap is open and through space between Gun shield and front of tank.

The "splash" of ordinary bullets is effective against Cab, and against M.G. emplacements.

Armour Plate is of poor quality and there is no protection against the "splash" of an ordinary bullet.

This Tank cannot cross a large trench (8 foot or over) or large shell holes.

Artillery. A direct hit will put this tank out of action.



SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION,INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 23.

From 3.a.m. 6-5-18 to 3.a.m. 7-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

Gas Projectors were successfully discharged on the following targets; - E.6.A.9.0. to E.6.B.7.0. and E.6.C.9.8. to E.6.D.7.8. and on road from X.26.B.3.7. to X.26.D.4.2.

1. Infantry. Our Infantry activity was confined to patrolling. Ten special reconnaissance patrols left our line during the period under review. No encounters with hostile patrols took place, and with one exception no hostile patrols were seen.

Patrol from our Right Brigade front saw a hostile party of six patrolling their wire on the eastern edge of the road at E.6.A.7.7. to A.7.8.

Houses at E.6.C.0.3. and E.12.A.1.3. were reached by patrols without any signs of the enemy being found.

Patrols from our left brigade front located a strongly held hostile post at about X.15.C.9.9. A dead German was found and searched in the house at X.15.C.8.9., he appeared to have been dead some days. Enemy liaison patrols consisting of two men were seen walking between post at X.15.B.3.2. to X.15.B.2.1. about every 20 minutes.

About 15 of the enemy were also seen moving towards post at X.15.B.2.2. Patrol moving from X.20.D.0.8. to X.20.D.2.8. along a hedge found a number of small shelters dug in the ground, these were unoccupied, but showed signs of recent occupation. About 30 enemy dead were in vicinity of these shelters.

b. Machine Guns. 6,000 rounds of S.A.A. were expended by our Right Brigade in harassing fire on selected targets. Our left Brigade M.Gs engaged enemy forward posts during the night.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars. Our artillery engaged enemy forward positions and centres of activity throughout the day, and communications behind the front system again came under lively shelling from our batteries, particularly in and around OUTTERSTEENE and MERRIS.

Trench Mortars. Harassing fire by our Stokes Mortars was carried out in the vicinity of Farms at E.6.C.4.6. suspected M.G. at E.6.A.7.4. and various other well known targets.

Aerial. Our aeroplanes were constantly patrolling our own and enemy forward positions.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

1. Hostile Activity. Enemy is still extremely quiet, appears to do no patrolling, and has of late adopted an attitude of alertness.

b. Artillery. On our left brigade front the hostile artillery activity has shown an increase especially on our rear areas, fire being in the nature of registration shoots and harassing fire.

On our right brigade front his artillery was exceptionally quiet. The usual destructive shoots were carried out on STRAZEELE, and during the night the outpost system received a considerable amount of attention, these being the two characteristics of his shooting.

Hostile Aerial Activity. Enemy machines were observed on 8 occasions during the day over our own and enemy forward areas. At 8.p.m. a machine dropped paper balloons, one of which appeared to fall near W.17.A.8.4., it was not recovered.

Balloons. During the day several hostile balloons were up opposite the divisional sector. Between 9.30.a.m. and 10.a.m. as follows; - True Bearings of 1080, 1260, 1270, 1520, 1560, 1580, 1670, 1720, 1800, from R.31.C.7.2.

II. Movement. Practically no enemy movement was seen during the period. 4 men entered building at X.24.C.1.2. and much movement in vicinity of post at X.15.B.2.1. and X.15.B.3.2. was observed by one of our patrols. Individual movement to and from the wood in F.7.C. was observed during the day.

(P.T.O.)



**III. Defences.** The enemy appears to be working hard on a continuous trench running from X.16.C.70.75., to X.16.D.35.05. Working parties were generally busy from midnight onwards. A considerable amount of new work appears to be going on in F.7.C. and D. and on strong point at F.7.B.8.9. The trench from X.20.C.5.0. to X.26.A.7.8. is being worked on. Old enemy posts at X.25.C.5.0. and X.25.C.95.05. were visited and found unoccupied. Enemy posts were located at X.26.A.70.75. and X.20.C.9.0. A listening post was located at X.25.B.9.1.

**Wire.** Enemy appears to be wiring his outpost system; very little wire is visible by day and it is probable that the majority of the wire is being placed in ditches and hedges. A party of about 20 men who appeared to be wiring were located at X.20.C.90.75. They moved in on the approach of our party. Wire about two foot high runs from X.16.B.3.4. to X.16.A.3.3.

**Machine Guns.** Enemy machine guns were quiet except for two which were located at E.6.A.8.5. and E.6.A.9.0. The latter gun fired consistently throughout the night on W.30.C. A. H.G. was located at X.15.B.5.1.

**Trench Mortars.** A granatwerfer is suspected on the Eastern side of a turnip heap at E.6.A.6.3. (approx.) A minenwerfer is suspected at E.6D.4.9. between the house and road. Snipers were located at E.6.A.9.0. and X.20.X.90.75. (in baths) and effectively dealt with by our snipers.

Ruined house at X.17.A.6.2. is used by the enemy. A suspected O.P. is located in a barn at X.17.A.3.1. Strongly manned trenches are located at X.15.B.3.2., X.15.B.2.1., X.15.C.8.9., X.15.C.5.0. and an occupied post at X.21.A.2.5.

**IV. Miscellaneous.** A gun flash was observed on a T.B. of 1640, from R.31.C.7.2. at 4.30.p.m. 9 bell tents can be seen on the Southern outskirts of BAILLEUL. Single red flares still appear to be the signal that enemy artillery is firing short. Gun flashes were observed at Grid bearings of 125, 128, 130 degrees from W.23.A.75.55., and at Grid bearing of 131 from W.23.B. 15.25.

*Ge. H. P. H. 1*  
Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.

**General.** The following received from G.H.Q. timed 10.45.p.m. Hostile post in neighbourhood of BOIS DE VAIRE (south east of HAMEL) was occupied early this morning and garrison accounted for. Prisoners taken by 3rd Australian Division last night in neighbourhood of MORLANCOURT exceeds 290. Estimated 150 Germans killed in hostile trench system alone. As a result of minor operations by 3rd Division reported this morning a small bridge head had been established west of PONT TOURNANT in orchard S. E. of LOGON. Hostile artillery active on VILLERS BRETONNEUX - ALBERT front and on forward areas of 4th Corps, also on different points between SCARPE river and LA BASSE Canal. Heavy shelling on area north of METEREN. Our artillery active north of the LYS river.



SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 24.

From 6.a.m. 7-5-18. to 6.a.m. 8-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

Gas Projector Attack. Gas projectors were successfully discharged on to enemy positions in HERREM at 10.p.m.

Infantry. At 10.15.p.m. a party of 1 H.C.O. and 3 men went forward, and set fire to a house at E.11.B.2.5. suspected to be used by the enemy. This fire caused an enemy working party to be disclosed, casualties being inflicted upon the party, as they were dispersed by the fire of our Lewis Gunners.

Patrols. No Hans Land was actively patrolled on the whole front, from which source we have the following information; A patrol examined two suspected enemy posts at E.5.D.7.95. and F.1.A.05.30. which were found unoccupied, although the former showed signs of recent occupation. A patrol of 1 H.C.O. and 6 O.Rs, reconnoitred hedge in vicinity of X.15.C.7.6. several dug-outs were observed in front of hedge, but no signs of enemy was seen or heard. Other patrols report similar instances.

Machine Guns. Our Vickers Guns fired intermittent bursts on to enemy approaches during the night, and Lewis Guns actively engaged enemy forward positions.

Trench Mortars. 100 rounds in all, were expended on enemy posts, and centres of activity.

Aerial Activity. Our planes were active throughout the day. Several low flights over enemy forward positions were observed, and at 5.p.m. our planes drove off five enemy aircraft from our lines.

Artillery. Normal harassing fire was carried out throughout the day, and night, on roads, tracks, hedges and known centres of enemy activity.

Following a direct hit on the Church of HERREIS, numbers of the enemy were observed to rush along road, and make for railway at F.7.C.3.9. They were followed by Shrapnel burst and casualties are believed to have been inflicted.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. Infantry. Under cover of darkness, six of the enemy attempted to approach our listening post at X.17.A.0.5. They were dispersed by rifle fire, and retired dragging a wounded man with them. At present the general attitude of the hostile infantry is one of nervousness. He appears to withdraw the garrisons of the majority of his front post systems, into "nests" strongly held by L. Guns. Only a few listening posts being left out in front, as "watch; then run" posts, who are responsible for the warning of the H.C. nests.

Artillery. The following are the peculiarities of the hostile shelling during the 24 hours under review. A concentrated shoot was opened on square X.19. which lasted until 5.30.p.m. At 5.10.a.m. this was repeated, and extended into X.25. with a light barrage extending to both flanks lasting until 4.52.a.m. when the situation was again quiet.

Harassing fire was directed on to our roads, and communications, the following areas receiving particular attention, X.1., X.2., X.7., X.8., X.9., X.10., and W.6.B.

Trench Mortars. With the exception of a minenwerfer which was active on to squares X.25., W.50. and our posts between E.3.A.5.5. and E.6.A.9.9. no T.M. activity is reported.

Aerial. Enemy formations were observed over our lines on a few occasions during the day, they were always engaged by our A.A. & H.G. fire. At 8.p.m. an enemy machine flew very low over STRASSELE Station and dropped six granatenwerfer bombs on to individual movement in that vicinity.

II. Movement. Individual movement was seen during the day, but movement of any description seems to be cut down to a minimum.

III. Defences. Trenches from X.16.C.70.75. to X.16.A.35.95. is being worked on, also around wood in F.7.C. Enemy posts were located as follows; - X.17.B.1.9. E.5.D.8.6. X.25.D.70.52. and X.25.F.62.42. flares being fired from the two latter locations. A T.M. position is suspected at X.16.A.1.1. and a patrol at X.25.B.95.32.



**IV. Miscellaneous.** On enemy aballs falling short a single RED flare was fired from his front line posts; shelling immediately ceased.

At 10.p.m. two double red and one double green flares were fired on Right En. Sector, no action followed. During enemy bombardment between 3.a.m. and 4.a.m. enemy used numerous single and double red flares.

Between 10.p.m. and midnight fire was burning in BAILLEUL.

At 1.40.a.m. small fire broke out in W. 28.

Gun Flashes. At 12.25.p.m. at Grid bearing of 110.45 degrees and at 3.p.m. at Grid bearing of 128 degrees from E. 4. C. 9° 9.

At 4.15.p.m. at Grid bearing of 138 degrees from W. 28. B. 15. 25. also at Grid bearing of 118, 159, and 140.30. degrees from W. 23. A. 75.55.

*Geo. F. Smith, D. 11*  
Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.

#### General.

36th French Corps report 9.15.a.m. On the left progress has been made in the direction of POMPIER. No captured the farms between BUTTERFLY and LE POMPIER ESTAMINET E. 14. A. 5. 0. We do not appear to have captured the farms to the N.E. of POMPIER ESTAMINET. Some prisoners were taken.

Following from G. E. 0. Australian troops carried out 3 small operations last night between the SAUMER and the ANCRE advancing their line 500 yards on a 600 yards front East of SAILLY to Sec 300 yards on a front of 300 yards west of MORAINGOURT and slightly N.E. of SAILLY LE SEC. 14 prisoners captured.



## FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 25.

From 6 a.m. 8-5-18 to 6 a.m. 9-5-18.

## A. OUR OPERATIONS.

Infantry. For the purpose of securing identification Capt. KEIGHLEY and Cpl Wearmouth left our lines from a post at E.20.A.5.0. and crawled via hedges and ditches thence along HETTEREN BROUKE to baths at X.20.D.15.70. where sniper had been located active on the previous day. The baths were searched and found temporarily unoccupied, they then searched 3 small posts at X.20.C.95.70. where one prisoner was captured, and brought back to our lines. No mishap occurred to our party.

Patrols. Patrols operated along our front during the hours of darkness. They report:-

No enemy were encountered. Flares were extensively used by the enemy. On one occasion a M.G. opened fire on our patrol from about E.6.C.7.3. Enemy was found to be in occupation of posts on both sides of hedge running from X.15.C.9.2. to X.15.C.7.8. Two of the enemy were seen to leave post at X.15.C.5.0. and disappear at X.21.A.35.75. At E.11.B.5.6. a German pack, and oilskin were found, which gave the impression of having been placed on the ground by a sentry, who had cleared out hurriedly on the approach of our patrol. The coat taken from the pack had the number "138" on the shoulder strap.

Machine Guns. Harassing fire on selected targets was carried out by our Vickers Guns during the night, and Lewis Guns kept enemy forward position under constant fire.

Artillery. Constant fire was maintained by our Batteries on selected targets during the period. Direct hits were observed on buildings in OUTERSTEEDE, HERRIS, and in vicinity of GIBBONS Farm.

Trench Mortars. 6" Newton Mortars silenced an enemy Granatwerfer at X.16.A.10.15. and expended 22 rounds on enemy strong points in X.15.D.

Aerial Activity. Throughout the day our planes showed increased activity, and although always greeted with heavy A.A. and M.G. fire they were constantly patrolling enemy forward positions. At 9.15 a.m. as a result of an air combat one of our planes (S.E.5.) crashed at X.16.A.9.5. The pilot was not injured. The plane was afterwards set on fire.

## B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

Infantry. By day he was very quiet, but by night there appeared to be more movement than usual in his forward area. At 10 p.m. enemy attempted to raid our post at E.6.A.75.75. Under cover of a heavy barrage from T.Ms and field guns, two hostile parties approached the post along the roads at E.6.A.68.50. and E.6.A.85.85. each party was about 15 strong.

The parties were engaged by rifle fire, and eventually retired in disorder without reaching our wire. Casualties were evidently inflicted and stretcher bearers were observed working until daylight.

In reply to S.O.S. a barrage was put down opposite this position of the front for 15 minutes. Our casualties were very light.

Artillery. Enemy artillery was much quieter than usual. Indiscriminate harassing fire was directed over practically the whole of the divisional front. At 8.30 a.m. enemy commenced shelling STRAZELLE Station with 8", a total of 84 shells were fired; the gun flash was observed on a grid bearing of 1630 from E.11.A.4.9.

Trench Mortars. With the exception of the burst of activity between 10 p.m. and 11.15 p.m. in conjunction with the attempted raid, no trench mortar activity is reported.

(P.T.O.)



( 2 )

**d. Aerial.** Enemy machines were more active than usual, continually scouting over our forward area in ones and twos, on all occasions they were engaged by A.A. and H.G. fire. At 3.30.p.m. an enemy flight was driven off by our planes.

**II. Movement.** At 2.40.p.m. 4 men entered house at F.13.A.1.6. they appeared to be followed by a telephone wire. Slight movement was observed in MERRIS during the day.

**III. Defences.** A granatwerfer fired 50 rounds on to our posts from X.16.A.10.15. Three small enemy posts were located at X.20.C.9.8. H.G. emplacement at E.6.A.7.4. and Hodge at X.15.B.9.4. has been wired.

**IV. Miscellaneous.** **Fires.** Were observed at Grid bearings of 96½ and 112 degrees from E.4.C.9.9. At 5.20.p.m. large fire broke out in MERRIS and was followed by an explosion at 5.27.p.m. At 10.10.p.m. large fire started at Grid bearing of 112 degrees from W.23.a.75.55. At 10.52.p.m. there was an explosion at the same place. Several other fires were observed in rear of enemy's lines, but could not be located.

**Flares.** Numerous single and double red and green flares were fired throughout the night, but no deductions to meanings could be made.

**V. Identifications.** A prisoner belonging to 5th Company 62.I.R. 12th Division, was captured at X.20.C.9.7. Preliminary interrogation attached to Summary.

#### Information from other sources.

**Note;**— On the 27th April, 1918, the hostile strength in the different European theatres of war was as follows;—

Theatre.	German Divisions.	Austro-Hungarian Divisions.	Bulgarian Divisions.
Western.	205	27	og of 3.
Eastern.	36	2	og of 24.
Balkan.	1	49	og of 27.
Italian.	242	78	
<b>Totals.</b>	<b>242.</b>	<b>78.</b>	<b>og of 27.</b>

\* Allowance has been made in these totals for two unidentified divisions transferred from the Eastern to the Western Theatre during March and April.

*Geo. F. P. Hey*

Colonel.

General Staff.

1st Australian Division.

#### Information from other sources.

Extract from Battalion Orders from 3rd Bn., 94th.I.R.(38th.Div 22-4-18. (Found near METEREN night 6/7.5.18.

**Regimental Order.** "Hedges and ruined houses in advance of the front line, machine gun nests and trench mortar positions are to be wired, wire being taken from the hop fields etc. in the neighbourhood; this must be carried out without the enemy becoming aware of it. Caps are to be left in the wire.

**Battalions Addendum.** Wiring is to be carried on immediately according to instructions, with ordinary wire found lying about in the neighbourhood, if no barbed wire is available. In addition companies must join up the rifle pits so that not less than 4 men are in one piece of trench. All work is to be well camouflaged.



FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

9-5-18.

AERIAL ANNEXE to 1st Aust. Div. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 25.

Photo

- 4.B.211. A few new tracks and the old ones are more emphasised. There is probably a new battery position at X.2.C.9.3. (compare with photos 4.B.24 and 4.B.30.)
- 4.B.212. New tracks, (old ones now more easily seen) leading to probable new battery positions along hedges between A.15. A.13.00. and A.61.29. Positions faintly discernible on older photos now clearly seen at A.15.C.70.16. (compare with photos 4.B.35 and 38.)
- 4.B.213. A battery position appears near to BECQUE DELA FRANCOISE, and tracks are more marked.
- 4.B.215. A little activity along hedges.
- 4.B.221. and 4.B.222. A little new work appears to have been done, but note the shell hole system of posts, and probably also for shelter during shelling, or for assembly if necessary. Tracks are now more distinct than on photo 4.B.195.
- 4.B.227. Screens or barricades have been erected on the VIEUX BERQUIN STRAZELLE road at E.11.C.86.00. and E.17.E.13.45. Posts are occupied at about E.11.D.45.65.
- 4.B.228. Posts are occupied between E.6.B.80.25. and F.1.A.5.0. Four small objects in farm at E.3.D.39.85. visible on the last photo but now clearer; tracks lead them to hedge at E.6.B.88.00. (compare photo 4.B.35.)
- 4.B.229. Posts at E.11.B.50.27. and E.11.D.20.59. now clear. (see photo 4.B.106.)
- 4.B.232. Track evidently much used as it now skirts shell hole at F.7.D.52.21. Road damaged at F.13.B.58.69. (compare photo 4.B.185.)
- 4.B.237. Posts and tracks more marked. (see photos 4.B.138 and 139.)
- 4.B.242. Posts and tracks more distinct. (photos 4.B.101. and 4.B.130.)
- 4.B.243. Work is in progress at E.12.D.10.79. and D.82.15. where there may be batteries. (see photo 4.B.201. and 4.B.202.)

P40

079



FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

9-5-18.

ANNEXE to 1st.Aust.Div.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 25.

EXAMINATION of prisoner of 5th Coy, 62.I.R., 12th Division  
captured in the afternoon of 8/5/18 at X.20.C.9.7.  
(S.W. of METELEN.)

METHOD OF CAPTURE. Prisoner was on the extreme left of an outpost line formed by a platoon of the 5th Coy. At about 2.a.m. on the 8th the majority of this platoon ran back to the main line of defence about 450 yards in rear owing to our trench mortar fire, prisoner did not go back as he thought that our artillery was firing on the main line of defence and considered that he would be safer if he stayed where he was. At about 1.30.p.m. he was surprised and taken prisoner by one of our officers accompanied by an N.C.O.

RELIEFS. On the late evening of the 4/5/18 the 2nd Bn. 62.I.R. relieved a battalion of the 156.I.R. (11th.Res.Div.) which was to go into rest.

Before coming into line the Company Commander of the 5th Coy. said that the 10.R.I.R. (11th.Res.Div.) would be on the left of the 5th Coy. Prisoner states that about two days ago he heard that the 10.R.I.R. had been relieved, (apparently by the 1st.Bn. 62.I.R. as prisoner states that the 1st Coy. 62.I.R. was on the left of the 5th.Coy.)

METHOD OF HOLDING THE LINE. The 62.I.R. has two battalions in line (2nd on right and 1st on left) and one battalion (3rd) in reserve.

DETAILED DISPOSITIONS. The 2nd.Bn. has two Coys in the main line and two in support a short distance in rear. The two Coys, in the main line each have one platoon as an outpost line about 450 yards in advance of the main line. In the 5th Coy. the outpost platoon consisted of 3 Infantry Groups and 2 Light M.G. Groups, the light M.Gs being placed on the right and left flanks of the platoon front.

REST BILLETTS. Before coming into line the 2nd Bn. 62.I.R. was billeted in the open about 1 kilometre E. of DOULIEU.

WIRE. Wire is being put out in front of the main line of defence.

INTENTIONS. Nothing is known of any attack being undertaken by the 12th Division. The 2nd.Bn. 62.I.R. is to be relieved as soon as it has succeeded in taking some prisoners; this is to be done by patrols and not by any organised raid.

COMPANY STRENGTH. The 5th Coy. has a fighting strength of 150 and a ration strength of 200.

LOSSES. In the attack on the morning of the 17th the 5th Coy. suffered 30 casualties, including the company commander.

In the attack S.E. of ARRAS at the end of March the 1st.Bn. 62.I.R. had heavy losses.

MORAL. The moral of the 5th Coy is good.

GENERAL. Prisoner came through DOULIEU on 27/4/18 and states that it was practically deserted, and believes that it had to be evacuated owing to our artillery fire. Whilst in rest near DOULIEU, the 5th Coy. was much worried by our bombing although no casualties were caused. Several horses were killed in the wagon lines, however.

Shortly before the attack on the 21st March S.E. of ARRAS, the 5th Coy. suffered 27 casualties from bombing by our machines which obtained several direct hits on the trenches which it was holding.

P10



SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 26.

From 6.a.m. 9-5-18 to 6.a.m. 10-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

I. Infantry.

Patrols. report that growing crops in No Mans Land afford good cover and ground is generally dry. At dawn parties of enemy were seen retiring from forward positions and were engaged with L.G. fire. An Officers patrol on night 8/9th found the hedge at X.20.C.9.5. occupied but the house at X.20.C.95.85. unoccupied.

Snipers. fired on a party entering enemy front line in E.6.B. causing 1 casualty.

Stokes Mortars. The following targets were engaged - Trench system from E.3.A.3.5. to E.3.B.1.7. E.6.A.75.00. to F.6.A.8.5. L.G. at F.6.A.70.15. House at F.1.A.1.5.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars. Intermittent harassing fire has been carried out on roads tracks hedges and buildings and occupied positions.

H.Q. posts at BELLE CROIX Fm and at Fm GERBEDOGEN were destroyed Houses at E.12.A.5.0. and F.12.B.00.85. were burnt. An active battery at F.8.B.20.33. - 00.41. was engaged.

Medium T.M.s fired on hostile positions around and in METTEREN. A destructive shoot was carried out in F.1.A. E.12.A. and E.6.C. This drew a heavy retaliation.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. Hostile Activity.

(a) Infantry. Enemy remains very quiet, but is alert and nervous; patrols were inactive.

(b) Artillery. Between dusk and midnight harassing fire was carried out on roads and positions on a line running North and South through BORRE. This was mostly high bursting shrapnel with some H.E. and Gas. About 90 gas shells fell in W.29. 80.77's fell in ROUGE CROIX between 8. and 6.45.a.m.

Gun Flashes. Battery observed at 1580 grid from W.28.B.1.2. 5.50.p.m. observed 1020 30' grid from W.23.A.75.75.

6.40.p.m. H.V. gun observed at 1120 grid from W.9.B.1.2.

A battery was also located firing from the hedge at F.3.C.5.5

Aerial. Hostile planes were normally active but mostly flying high. At 6.30.p.m. one machine flew low over forward areas. Two balloons were observed opposite our sector during the day.

II. Movement. Two men were seen standing on trench at E.12.D.8.9. At 7.45.p.m. six men carrying what appeared to be rations, left house at F.13.A.1.6. and made towards the front line. At midnight three small parties of men in E.6.B. were silhouetted against a fire and were dispersed by H.G. fire.

III. Defences. A machine gun was reported active from E.6.A.7\*3. An old enemy listening post at E.3.A.40.15. was examined and found unoccupied. New work can be observed in F.3.C. Hedge at X.20.C.95.60. is held by enemy.

IV. Identifications. Nil.

GERMAN MACHINE GUN BELTS.

Information has been received that there is a scarcity of German Machine Gun Belts which are now made of a mixture of paper and canvas. Specimens of German M.G. belts are required and should be forwarded to Divisional H.Q.

*J. H. Rogers*  
Colonel.  
General Staff.

1st Australian Division.



FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

11-5-18.

SECRET.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 27.

From 8.a.m. 10-5-18. to 8.a.m. 11-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry. A minor enterprise was very successfully carried out last night by our Left line battalion. Under cover of a barrage of 6" Newtons on selected points, a party of 20 men under Lieut. H.R. GOWER moved forward from our line in X.20.C. The objective was reached practically without opposition.

The results of the operation were:-

(a) Our line was straightened and strengthened, posts being established at X.20.C.6.4. X.20.C.7.5. X.20.C.8.6. with a line of Listening posts about 150 yards Eastward.

(b) 4 prisoners were captured.

(c) We now have possession of the baths from which enemy sniped. We suffered no casualties.

Patrols. were out continuously throughout the night. Map is forwarded to Corps showing routes taken and information obtained. Two enemy patrols of 3 men were observed in X.16.A. and X.25.D. and another small party in F.1.A. Patrols in the South found the enemy very alert and considerable M.G. fire was encountered from posts along the railway.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars. Our artillery carried out intermittent harassing shoots on centres proved active from recent photos and reports. Special attention was paid to Buildings in E.11.C. and F.19. and the wood in F.7.A. Trench Mortars were very active in co-operation with the minor enterprise and also on enemy communications and strong points.

B. Enemy Intelligence.

1. Hostile Activity.

(a) Infantry. Enemy is very much on the "qui vive", particularly on the South but no change is reported in his defensive attitude.

(b) Artillery. The chief feature of enemys shelling has been a gas concentration put down in the area STRAZEELE, vicinity of the COURTE CROIX switch up as far as COURTE CROIX, at intervals during the night. Approximately 550 shells fell.

The usual harassing fire over forward areas and on STRAZEELE Station and town was carried out during the day. Houses at E.11.A. 3.7. and W.29.B.8.9.

Gun Flashes.

11.30.a.m.	97½	grid bearing W.29.D.1.3.
3.15.p.m.	940	do.
7.25.p.m.	1250	W.21.B.45.90.
10.p.m.	1200	W.8.D.53.08.

(c) Trench Mortars. Inactive.

(d) Aerial. Activity shewed a decided decrease, at 4.p.m. 3 planes flew over ROUGE CROIX.

II. Movement. Visibility was bad and very little movement was seen behind enemy lines.

III. Defences.

Enemy Posts. Occupied posts were located by patrols at E.6.A.5 E.6.A.6.3. E.6.A.85.35. E.6.B.6.7. A continuous trench is reported from E.6.B.45.75. to E.6.B.25.75., with very little wire in front.

Machine Guns. Located at E.11.B.6.1., E.11.B.6.4. (approx.) at E.12.A.15.60. One suspected at E.12.A.8.5.

IV. Miscellaneous.

Enemy Respirators. What appears to be an addition to the German respirator in the form of a perforated lid which fits on to the bottom of the container, was captured last night. Inside the lid is a layer of substance similar to blotting paper and a piece of wire gauze. (This is being forwarded by the Divisional Gas Officer.)

(P.T.O.)



11-5-52

( 2 )

on aerial photos

It appears on account of the invisibility of certain known enemy posts, that enemy is camouflaging a number of his forward posts.

V. Identifications. One wounded and three unwounded prisoners belonging to the 82nd A.C. of the 12th Division were captured in the area. The preliminary interrogation is attached as an ANNEX.

1st Australian Division

*John Ragan, Capt*  
Colonel  
General Staff

( 2 )



11-5-18.

ANNEXE to 1st Aust. Div. Intelligence Summary No. 27.

Preliminary Interrogation of prisoner  
taken this morning at X.20.C.85.65.

Identification. 1. O.R. 1st Company 1st Battalion 62. I.R. 12th Div.  
1 N.C.O. & 1 O.R. 5th " 2nd " 62. I.R. 12th Div.

Method of Capture. The N.C.O. and O.R. of the 5th Company were  
part of the garrison occupying post in front of baths at X.20.C.90.  
75. The post was heavily shelled by our Trench Mortars, two of  
the garrison being killed and a number badly wounded.

The N.C.O. and man, deciding that the post was "too hot"  
for a permanent occupation decided to evacuate, and joining their  
friends of the 1st Company in their post at X.20.C.85.65.

The post situated in a hop field was reached without  
difficulty, but no sooner had the parties greeted each other than a  
M.G. opened on the party of 4, one was wounded, the other three  
threw down their rifles and surrendered unconditionally.

Dispositions. The 62.I.R. has two battalions in the line with the  
3rd in reserve. Each line battalion has 3 companies in line and  
one in support.

Company Strength. of the 5th Company. - At present, rifle strength is  
about 90.

Reliefs. Prisoner of the 1st Battalion has been told that they  
would be out of the line by the morning of the 13th. The  
sector held by the 1st Battalion extends from X.20.C.85.65. to  
about X.26.A. Central.

Intentions. Prisoners are confident that no attack is premeditated  
opposite us.

Moral. The general moral of the prisoners was poor.

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SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

12-5-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 28.

From 6.a.m. 11-5-18. to 6.a.m. 12-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

I. Infantry.

a. Minor Enterprises. Throughout yesterday the garrison of our post at X.20.C.75.75. sniped continuously at enemy in post at X.20.C.90.75. At dusk a man attempted to run away but was shot. An N.C.O. and three men then worked around to the Northern flank of the enemy post and captured the whole of the garrison - 11 men. One of the enemy later attempted to escape and was shot by one of our posts.

From this same post an enemy M.G. could be observed poking over the parapet of enemy trench at X.20.C.85.35. At dusk an Officer and 2 men moved out bombed the position rushed in and captured the gun. The gun crew of three were found dead.

Three prisoners who had lost their way were also taken in E.11.B.

b. Patrols reconnoitred the whole of our front as shown on the attached map (to Corps.)

No hostile patrols were encountered but an increase in M.G. and rifle fire against our patrols was again noted.

Considerable movement was observed in the hop field at about E.6.B.5.7. Ground in E.6.B. and X.25.C. is very open and affords practically no cover for patrols.

c. Snipers. killed four of the enemy during the day.

d. Stokes Mortars. Accurate shooting was observed on houses in F.1.A. and on the trench from E.6.A.7.0. to E.6.B.15.70.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars. In addition to sweeping fire on centres of activity the following places received special attention:- Cross Roads at F.1.B.8.1. and in F.8.A., Bridge at F.8.A. 95.25. Houses in F.2.B.&D. X.26.D., F.7.A. and F.3.B. and BELLE CROIX Fm. Hostile batteries near OUTERSTEENE at F.2.C.41.20., F.8.B.2.3., F.2.C.4.4., F.8.A.5.7. were engaged. Newton Mortars carried out a harassing shoot on METEREN between 9.p.m. and 3.a.m. and also carried out effective shoots on forward posts and M.G. positions.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Enemy remains quiet; Moral of the forward troops is not good.

b. Artillery. Hostile artillery was rather quieter than usual. Special features of the shelling were :- Support Coy H.Q. at E.4.C.8.8. was heavily shelled. About 50 gas shells fell in W.29. during the night. STRAZELLE was intermittently shelled.

Gun Flashes. A 15 cm. How was observed at 1320 grid from E.4.B.50.55.

c. Trench Mortars. 16 Granatonwerfer bombs fell in rear of our new posts in X.20.C; otherwise inactive.

d. Aerial. Inactive. At 3.55.p.m. three machines flew over E.5. and dropped 5 light bombs.

II. Movement. Individual movement was observed at the following localities - E.6.A.7.3., E.18.B., E.12.D., E.6.B.5.8., Farms at F.13.A.1.6., F.13.C.10.65. At 8.10.p.m. two motor lorries passed along road in F.5.A. and C.

III. Defences. Machine Guns - are reported active from E.11.B.6.0., E.11.B.6.4., and E.11.B.7.8. Enemy post was located at E.6.B.5.8. (approx.) Flares were being fired from X.25.D.95.40.

(P.T.O.)



IV. Hostile dispositions and identifications.

The following identifications were obtained:-  
10 men 5th Coy, 2nd Bn, 62nd.I.R. 12th Division, in X.20.C.  
1 N.C.O. and 2 men 9th Coy, 3rd Bn, 62nd.I.R. 12th Division in E.11.B.

From last night's identifications it appears that the 2nd battalion of the 62nd.I.R. holds the line from about X.20.D. to about X.20.A. Northward, with the 1st Battalion South of them.

The 3rd Battalion joins the 132nd at about E.11.D.8.8. and extends Northwards.

There are therefore two possibilities -

(i) That the 1st and 3rd Battalions hold the whole of front from X.20.D. to E.11.D., in which case one regiment is holding the whole of the line opposite us.

(ii) That the 23rd I.R. still holds its original sector in between these two battalions.

An identification of the enemy between X.26.A. Central and W.3.D. Central is therefore urgently required.

*John Rogers*  
Colonel.  
General Staff.

1st Australian Division.

Information from Other Sources.

1. The enemy counter attacked East of LOCRE early yesterday morning and succeeded in re-occupying BRULOOZE and BRULOOZE GABT which had been captured by the French last night in a local operation.

2. Two N.C.O. prisoners of the 52nd. Res. Division captured near VERSTRAAT on 8th Inst, state that an offensive on a large scale will be launched in the near future in the direction of POPERINGHE. The date of the attack depends on the arrival of Artillery reinforcements.

They also state that the Germans intend using projectors prior to future offensives. These projectors will be dug in on a front of 1000 yards and would discharge drums containing an invisible and odourless gas.



12-5-18.

ANNEXE to 1st Aust. Div. Intelligence Summary No. 28.

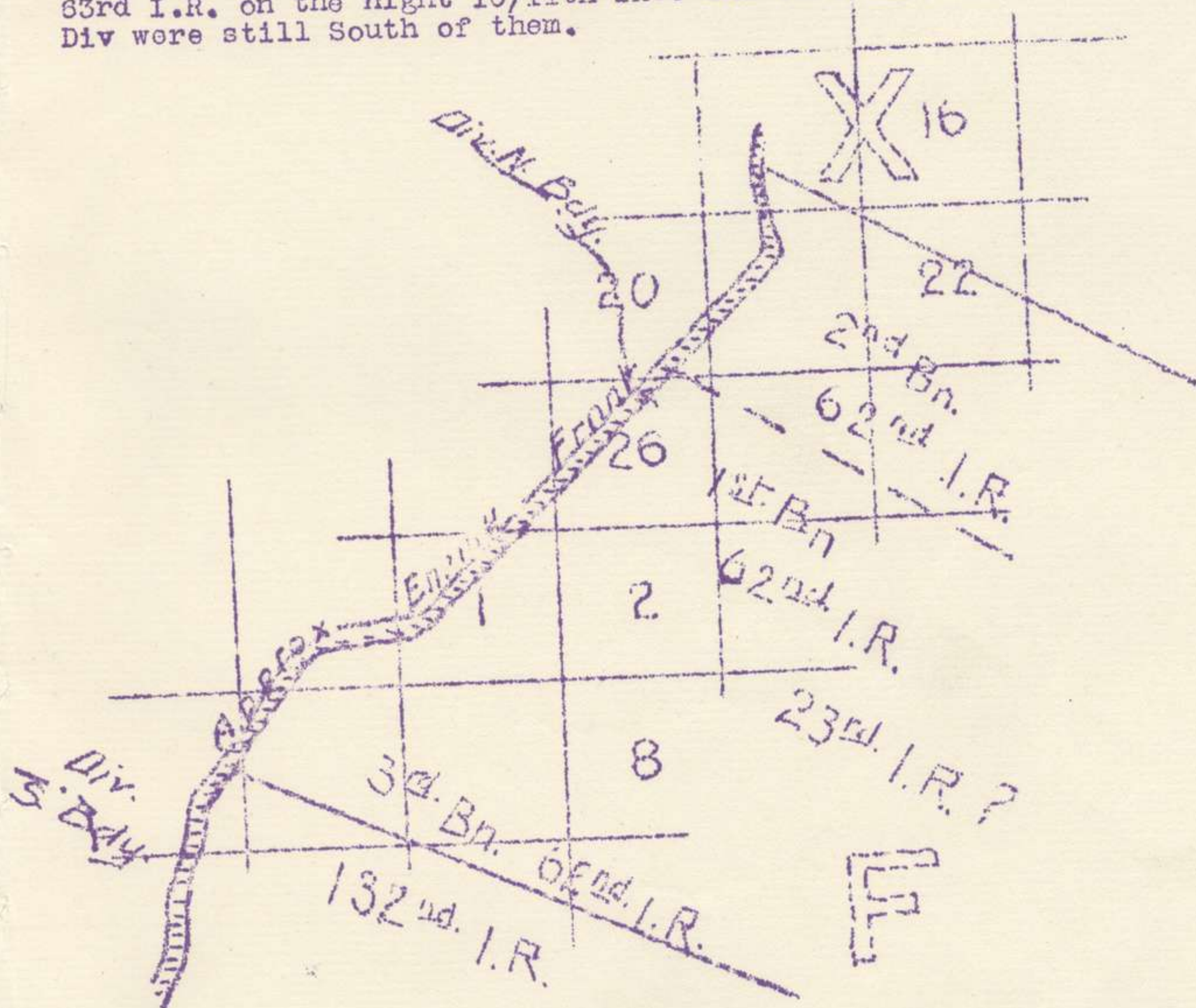
Short Preliminary Interrogation of  
prisoners taken last night in (sheet 27)  
X.20.C.90.75. and (sheet 36A) E.11.B.

Identification. Number.	Max	Coy	Battalion	Regt	Division	Taken in
1 wounded N.C.O. and 9 men.		5th	2nd	62 I.R.	12th.	X.20.C.90.75.
1 corporal and 2 privates.		9th	3rd.	62 I.R.	12th.	E.11.B.

Method of Capture. The N.C.O. and men of the 2nd Bn formed the garrisons of the one large, and two small posts, located immediately West of the baths at X.20.C.90.75. Prisoners, were in a front line post for the first time in their lives. They were led forward by an N.C.O. on the morning of the 11th at about 4.a.m. when they received instructions to keep their heads down during daylight, to adopt a placid attitude and to fight only if attacked. Prisoners having apparently forgotten their third order, remained fulfilling their second, until they were escorted back to our lines by 1 corporal and 3 O.Rs of the 9th Battalion.

History. Prisoners, eight of whom were under 20 years of age, were undoubtedly the poorest and most insignificant yet met by this Division. They had been trained at Oels in Silesia as "Jager zu Fuss", (dismounted cavalry) but just a week ago were drafted as reinforcements to infantry units, prisoners coming to the 62.I.R. As a result prisoners could give practically no information of dispositions, or headquarters.

The other 3 prisoners taken in E.11.B. were of a very similar type, one having been drafted again from the Jager zu Fuss, The Corporal and the third man who was an officers batman, also wandered over into our line. They stated that their battalion relieved the 63rd I.R. on the night 10/11th Inst and that the 132nd I.R. of the 39th Div were still South of them.





FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 29.

From 6.a.m. 12-5-18. to 6.a.m. 13-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry. To give closer liaison with left flank division a post was constructed during the night at X.20.D.1.8. At 10.p.m. one German walked into this position and was captured. At 2.30.a.m. the baths in X.20.D. were fired by us.

Our Patrols were very active, repeated efforts being made to get identifications. An attempt was made to surround post at E.6.B.6.7. but enemy was very alert and opened up M.Gs and bombs, and continued bombing his own wire for some time.

A post at X.26.A.2.6. was found unoccupied. a enemy patrol of 5 men were chased to over 300 yards E of our posts in X.26.A. but escaped. Several working parties were seen along the HAZEBROUCK - BAILLEUL railway.

Machine Guns. expended 7.050 rounds on harassing fire and A.A. fire.

Stokes Mortars. engaged trench and M.G. positions in E.6.A. and F.I.A.

Lewis Gunners and Snipers inflicted casualties on an enemy party of 30 who could be seen silhouetted against the fire in MERRIS.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars. In anticipation of a enemy relief an increased amount of harassing fire was put down on roads and tracks in E.6., E.12., F.I, F.7. and F.8. between 11.p.m. and 1.a.m. Harassing fire was maintained on occupied houses, hedges, posts and M.G. Positions. Fm LESAGE was entirely demolished, and a large explosion caused in one end of the house.

Houses in E.11.D. E.12.C. and in E.11.B. were set on fire and a M.G. in the house at E.11.B.65.50. has since been silent. Medium Trench Mortars were again active, a post at E.12.A.75.35. was shelled and the garrison dispersed. A small bomb and flare store was set on fire at E.6.C.50.55.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Attitude quiet. One hostile patrol was encountered, wiring and working has increased on both sides of the HAZEBROUCK - BAILLEUL railway. Enemy frequently bombs his own wire by night.

b. Artillery. Hostile artillery was normally active with the exception of gas shelling, which showed an increase, especially in the vicinity of ROUGE CROIX W.6.C., W.11.B., W.5.D., X.19. and X.20. The usual amount of destructive fire was carried out on STRAZELLE and STRAZELLE Station

Trench Mortars. Slight activity on our positions in E.11.C. from direction of E.17.Central.

Aerial. Several machines were observed during the day, but they did not attempt to cross our line.

From midnight until daylight his bombing squadrons crossed into our rear areas several times.

Balloons. During the afternoon sixteen balloons were observed in enemy territory. The following are Grid bearings of eleven of them from W.23.A.75.55. - 100, 102, 104, 110, 112, 138, 142, 143, 127, 144 and 158 degrees.

At 3.40.p.m. two balloons were observed on the ground at Grid bearings of 1340.30. and 1400 from W.23.B.75.35., the latter appeared to be in wood in L.17.D. (Artillery was informed.)

II. Defences. An enemy working party was observed moving towards house at E.11.B.65.15. other working parties were seen in vicinity of house at E.11.B.65.50. and near tall trees at E.11.B.7.0.

(P.T.O.)



( 2 )

Buildings at E.6.C.15.55. and E.6.C.0.3. were examined and found unoccupied, although covered by a hostile machine gun firing from E.6.C.35.65. A. M.G. position was located at approximately E.6.B.2.7.

III. Movement. At 5.45.p.m. five men left house at F.27.A.6.9. Between 6.30.p.m. and 8.p.m. considerable movement observed near houses and cross roads in vicinity of L.4.Central. 8.45.p.m. about 50 men moved N.W. along road in F.27.B. and F.21.C. Four men entered house at F.9.A.4.8.

IV. Miscellaneous. A Dump in F.15.A. was exploded by our Artillery. Numerous coloured flares were used by the enemy during the night. From 8.45.p.m. to 9.15.p.m. red and white flares were fired from four points in his rear areas at Grid bearings of 114, 126, 115, and 138 degrees from W.23.A.75.55.

Several fires were burning during the night in rear of his lines.

V. Identifications. A man belonging to 5th Coy, 2nd.Bn. 62nd.I.R. was captured at X.20.D.1.8. (normal.)

*Spec. for*  
Lieut. Col. for  
Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.

#### Information from other sources.

Of the 203 Divisions on the Western Front, 151 have been engaged since March 21st, and 18 are of poor quality. There are 12 fresh divisions in reserve and in addition 25 fresh divisions in line not yet drawn into the battle.



SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 30.

From 6.a.m. 13-5-18 to 6.a.m. 14-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry.

Patrols reconnoitred the whole of our front as shown on attached map ( to Corps). No enemy patrols were met and less M.G. and rifle fire was encountered than usual. Movement was very difficult on account of the wet ground.

Enemy post at E.6.A.3.0. was found unoccupied. Voices were heard at about E.6.B.5.7.

Machine Guns engaged enemy positions in F.5.A. and

X.27.

Stokes Mortars fired on enemy trenches in F.1.A. and in E.6.A.B.2.C. and on house at F.1.A.1.6.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars.

Intermittent bursts of fire were maintained on chief centres of activity. BELLE CROIX, GERBEDOEN and HULLEBERT Fms, and trenches and hedges in E.6, F.1, F.7, F.2. and X.26. received special attention. N.F. Calls in F.2.D. were answered at 7.10.a.m. and 8.20.a.m. A house in E.11.B. was set on fire.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Enemy remains quiet but alert.

b. Artillery. Hostile activity has shown a slight decrease. Heavy intermittent shelling of X.19.B.C.&D. took place between 11.a.m. and 3.p.m.

A destructive shoot was carried out on to E.3.C.&D. with 5.9s, between the same hours. ROUGE CROIX was intermittently shelled with 4.2s.

Gun Flashes were observed as follows:-

- (i) 9.40.a.m. 1520 grid from W.28.B.7.3.
- (ii) 9.50.a.m. 1500 grid from " "
- (iii) 10.20.a.m. 1470 grid from W.28.B.1.2.
- (iv) 10.40.a.m. 1430.30' grid from " "
- (v) 11.30.a.m. 1420. " " " "

Our artillery engaged (iv) and rounds were observed falling beyond hostile battery.

c. Trench Mortars. About 6.p.m. a heavy E.W. fired 33 rounds on to E.11.A.

d. Aerial. At 9.30.a.m., an enemy plane dropped bombs in E.9.D. and again at 10.40.a.m. 3 planes did likewise in E.4.D. and E.10.C. At 7.p.m. 1 hostile plane flew over STRAZEELE Station and was fired on by A.A. and M.Gs.

Hostile Balloons were observed from W.28.B.1.2. at grid bearings of 1510, 1470, 1390, 1290, 1490, and 1380.

II. Movement. Several small parties were seen during the day in F.13. moving along hedges. At 6.15. a.m. 4 men walked from F.13.A.7.2. along the road at VIEUX LERQUIN disappearing behind the hedges at E.18.C.35.35. Two of this party appeared to be carrying packs. At 7.50.p.m. 6 men came under observation at E.18.A.4.6. moved along track and disappeared from view in E.18.B.

III. Defences. Patrols report enemy wiring party at about E.6.B.8.7. and rifle fire from approx. X.26.C.7.2.

IV. Identification. Nil.

Ammunition Carriers.

A prisoner saw a German ammunition carrier S.E. of ARRAS on 21-3-18. This carrier is reported to resemble a tank except for a large square armour plated case on the top, in which the ammunition is carried.

*J. D. Rogers* Capt  
Colonel.  
General Staff.



SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 31.

15-5-18.

From 6.a.m. 14-5-18. to 6.a.m. 15-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry.

Minor Enterprise.

Two Officers and 10 Other Ranks went out to locate enemy post behind hedge at X.20.C.8.1. and if possible to capture the garrison. A bombing fight ensued and our party rushed the post. Five enemy succeeded in escaping leaving behind an N.C.O. who died.

A post was pushed forward to X.20.C.8.5.

Patrols reconnoitred the front without encountering any hostile patrols. A suspected enemy position near E.6.A.8.6. was searched and found unoccupied. Working party was heard at E.5.D. 7.4.

Machine Guns expended 7500 rounds on active centres.

Lewis Guns engaged an enemy S. P. in E.11.B.

Stokes Mortars intermittently shelled enemy forward posts.

Aerial. Our planes have been very active. At 7.15.p.m. two of our planes forced an enemy plane to land well behind his lines.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars.

Our artillery has again been active. A gun placed in position in W.12.C. carried out shoots as follows:- Farm at F.1.B.70.45. was destroyed. Farms at F.2.D.4.7. and F.4.C.1.0. and X.27.B.75.15. were set on fire, three large and several smaller explosions being caused at the first; harassing fire in E.2., F.4., F.8., and F.9., An N.F. call at F.3.A.40.25. was answered.

Medium T.Ms expended 175 rounds on enemy posts and houses.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry.

Enemy remains quiet, but is very alert, particularly in the vicinity of the railway.

b. Artillery.

Activity has shown a decided increase since 3.p.m. yesterday. A heavy concentration of large calibre shells probably 8" was put down in V.30.D. from 3.p.m. - 4.30.p.m., from 10.p.m. to 11.p.m. and again from 4.30.a.m. to 5.15.a.m. A heavy shoot also took place on E.1.B. and W.25.D. between 5.30.a.m. and 7.a.m. X.25.A.&B. were intermittently shelled. STRAZELLE was again heavily shelled. A strong gas concentration was put down at about 10.p.m. An H.V. Gun firing 730 grid from C.11.C.6.6. engaged our balloons.

Gun Flashes.

4.35.p.m. 1690 Grid from W.28.B.1.2. (4.2s.)

5.20.a.m. " " " " " "

4.5.p.m. 1130 " " " " " "

5.1.a.m. 1490 " " " " " "

7.45.p.m. 1200 " " " " " "

8.40.p.m. 1330 " " " " " "

A 5.9. battery was reported in action from behind houses at F.8.B. 20.05.

c. Trench Mortars.

A few G.W. bombs fell short of our posts in X.20.A. and some light M.W. bombs were fired into W.30.C.

d. Aerial.

Activity slight during the day. Between 10.p.m. and midnight a large number of bombs were dropped. The following vicinities were reported:- X.19.D., W.17.Central., ROUGE CROIX. SERCUS. LYNDE.

About six balloons were up opposite our front during the day.

II. Movement.

At 6.30.p.m., 150 men were observed in E.23.A. moving in three parties in artillery formation towards the front line. At 6.a.m. (14th) 4 groups each of 6 men moved in file from F.7.C.1.8. in an easterly direction.

(P.T.O.)



Дрелдѣх

From 6.15.18 to 14.5.18. (2)

Individual movement was seen throughout the day as follows; -  
at E.24.B. to F.19.A., F.13.A. to E.24.B., Trench system at E.24.  
Central. and E.24.A. Farm at L.2.C.2.2. Trench in E.18.D. and in  
E.12.D., E.23.A.&.B. Stretcher Bearers with wounded men at  
E.18.D. to F.13.C. 5 wagons some distance apart from LA COURONNE to  
VERTE RUE. GOMBERT FM. Houses in X.22.C., X.22.A.1.0., X.22.A.2.1.,  
F.5.D.0.6., LABIS FM, HULLEBERT FM and OUTTERSTEENE.  
III. Defences. M.Gs located at about E.3.B.5.2, and E.12.A.8.3.  
Work is reported at E.5.D.7.4. Opposite Left Coy. Right Section,  
enemy wire is thin and scattered. A H.T.M. located at about E.1.B.  
7.3.

Officers taking part in the minor enterprise in X.20.C. report that enemy used Mills Grenades. At 3.p.m. signalling was observed from STEINWERCK Church steeple to the rear. A small white balloon dropped from an enemy aeroplane dropped leaflets which fell in the vicinity of QUETTERSTEINE. IV. Identifications. A man killed in X.20.C. belonged to 5th Comp. 62.I.R. 12th Division. (no. 21.)

Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.



FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

16-5-18.

SECRET.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 32.

From 6.a.m. 15-5-18. to 6.a.m. 16-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry.

Patrols were very busy throughout the night covering the whole of the front. A number of enemy were observed moving into forward posts on the right half of the front carrying full packs. Several attempts were made to way lay enemy posts but none of enemy were captured.

Wiring parties were very busy between NORD HELL WOOD and the VIEUX BERQUIN road, and were engaged with Lewis Gun fire. A M.G. at about E.6.A.4.3. was bombed. Information obtained re enemy defences is below.

Machine Guns. Vickers guns fired 3500 rounds on active centres and against enemy aircraft.

Lewis Guns dispersed enemy parties during the day at Fm GERBEDOEN and at E.6.B.15.80.

Stokes Mortars carried out very effective shoots on trenches in E.6.A.4.0. and F.1.A. and caused a number of casualties. Rifle grenadiers engaged enemy forward positions in E.6.A. with good results.

2. Aerial. Our planes were very active throughout the day.

3. Artillery and Trench Mortars.

Centres of activity from latest aerial photos were systematically searched. Good visibility enabled all batteries to carry out numerous observed shoots. The gun run forward into W.12.C. again obtained excellent results.

An active T.M. at E.12.D.6.3. was engaged. Heavies intermittently shelled MERRIS. Medium T.Ms fired 180 rounds on enemy Strong Points in E.17.A.8.2.C. E.6.B.0.2.D. and F.1.A.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Enemy has again been very alert. A party of about 8 approached our new Listening post in X.20.C. and was dispersed by Rifle fire.

b. Artillery. A slight decrease was noted in the shelling over forward areas, but rear areas received much increased attention. Most of the shelling continues to come from the OUTERSTRENE Group. Farms in the area of the Centre Section were systematically shelled. The main road through BORRE was subjected to bursts of 4.2. harassing fire at about 10.30.p.m. Gas shells were fired on to STRAZELLE and X.25. about 10.15.p.m. W.25. received regular shelling from an 8" during the day.

c. Trench Mortars. Slight activity is reported on the centre section front from positions behind the MONT DE MERRIS.

d. Aerial. Hostile planes were much more active than usual, but were kept well out of our territory by A.A. and M.G. fire. Most of the reconnaissances were carried out over the vicinity of STRAZELLE, town and station. Bombing was active again between 10.p.m. and 12 midnight. Bombs fell on DOUVE CROIX railway and CAESTRE. 10 Balloons were observed up between 1040 and 1520 from W.28.B.1.2. At 10.5.a.m. a balloon was brought down behind LA GORGUE Ch, cause unknown.

II. Movement. The usual isolated movement was seen in F.25. E.12.D. E.18.D. F.13.D. Several parties in full kit were observed by patrols in E.6.A. On one of our shells bursting in a trench about E.12.D.9.6. 4 men jumped out in full kit and ran to another post about 50 yards away. About 30 men were seen at 3.50.p.m. working in a trench at about F.3.D.5.8. They were dispersed by our artillery.

(P.T.O.)



( 2 )

III. Defences. Digging heard at X.26.A.8.8. and on trenches at E.6.A.9.8. and also between E.11.D.5.5. and E.11.D.8.5. Wire in X.25.D., at X.26.A.4.4. small crop lightly wired, E.5.D.8.5. E.11.B.9.5. from E.12.A.1.6. to E.12.A.5.5. Wire at E.6.A.9.8. is reported loose, 4½ feet high and 10 feet wide. M.Gs at X.26.A.5.6., E.6.A.60.35., E.11.D.8.5., and E.5.D.8.6., Posts at E.11.D.5.3., E.5.D.8.6. (well built in and held 20 to 30 men) X.26.A.4.6. and X.25.D.8.5. Listening Post at X.25.C.2.1. is unoccupied, as also is a house at E.11.B.7.0. House at E.12.A.1.6. is strongly garrisoned.

IV. Miscellaneous. At 12.15 a.m. large fires were seen in enemy lines at F.13. and X.2. A number of fires were burning throughout the day. The sketch below shows what appears to be the enemy system of constructing and holding his front line posts. This was noticed on the night 14/15th May when our posts were pushed forward. Further reports are required.

#### V. Hostile Dispositions and Identifications.

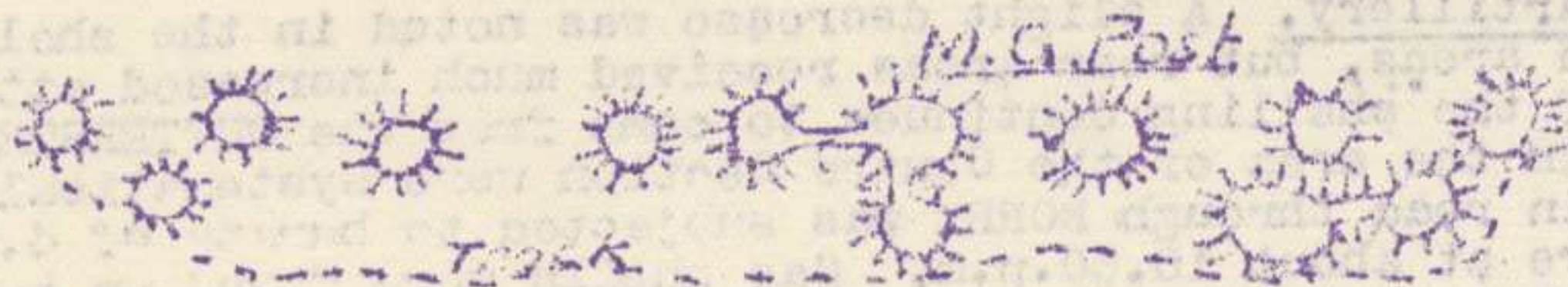
The movement in E.8.A. and E.12.D. in complete kit, combined with the fact that flares were less numerous, especially in the vicinity of Railway, than during the previous 24 hours, would appear to denote that the enemy had carried out a relief opposite the right half of our front.

*J. H. Rogers*

Captain  
for Lieut-Colonel  
General Staff  
1st Australian Division.

#### New Method of Construction of German front line Posts.

Plan



Elevation.



Each post holds one man.  
Two posts joined are used as M.G. Posts.



SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 33.

From 6.a.m. 16-5-18. to 6.a.m. 17-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Infantry.

Patrols covered the whole of the Divisional front and attempts were made to surround enemy posts.

One patrol saw three enemy at about E.11.B.75.60, one of whom was in advance of the others. He observed our party and was about to retire, so was shot and an identification obtained.

Farm building at E.5.D.3.5. was rushed but was found unoccupied although it showed recent signs of habitation.

Enemy post at X.25.C.3.0. was approached almost to the parapet and a bombing fight ensued in which casualties were caused to the enemy. Heavy direct M.G. fire prevented the post being entered.

A strong enemy liaison patrol was seen to move from house at E.12.A.15.60. to hedge at E.6.C.15.05.

Working parties were heard at X.26.A. and between E.11.B.9.4. and E.11.D.3.4. and dispersed by Lewis Gun fire. Hostile M.G. fire was more active than usual.

b. Machine Guns. Vickers Guns expended 3000 rounds on targets in X.28.A. & B. Lewis Guns fired intermittently on enemy posts in E.6.B. & C. and in crop in X.25.C.

Stokes Mortars and rifle Grenadiers engaged targets in E.6.A. and F.1.A. and a suspected M.W. post at F.1.A.0.8. and silenced a number of machine guns.

2. Aerial. Our planes were again active, on one occasion targets along the BAILLEUL - METEMEN road being engaged by low flying planes.

3. Artillery and Trench Mortars. Excellent results were again obtained from gun run forward to W.12.C. By the use of Thermit Shell, eight houses were set on fire, and several direct hits obtained on other houses in enemy occupation. In addition to the usual harassing and destructive fire, Counter-Battery work was carried out on to active hostile Batteries F.1.51., F.1.71., F.A.73., F.A.32., F.A.62., and F.A.44.

Working parties at E.24.B.2.7. and in E.11.C. were dispersed.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Enemy continues to strengthen his forward positions. He is patrolling very little but remains extremely alert.

b. Artillery. Activity was normal throughout the day but at night there was again a noticeable increase, particularly along the BORRE, PRADELLES, STRAZEELE road and its vicinity. Between 10.50. and 11.40.p.m. a barrage was put down on the support line on the extreme left. About 700 5.9s, 4.2s, and 77s fell during the night in W.21., W.22., 20., and 27. The area STRAZEELE - to the Station was also heavily shelled. Gas shells were fired on this same area about 2.a.m. Several direct hits were obtained on an O.P. in W.12.A.

49 duds fell in W.18.D. at about 11.30.p.m.

Gun Flashes. 1130 and 1430 True from W.29.D.2.3. 1070 and 1220 True from W.21.C.15.75. (4.2s.) firing on W.21.C.

c. Trench Mortars. A few bombs were fired in to E.11.C. from about E.17.B.3.5. and also on to W.30.C. from E.6.Central. About 30 fired on to X.25.A.7.6. from about F.1.A.5.5.

d. Aerial. Enemy planes were fairly active, the majority flying high.

II. Movement. Movement seen in trench at E.6.C.7.8., One man moving from F.1.A.5.5. to F.1.A.6.8. was wounded by our L.G. fire, and two more of the enemy were driven away by our M.G. fire about this position. What appeared to be transport was observed on the MERRIS-OUTTERSTEENE Road. This road was shelled by our 18-pdrs.



( 2 )

III. Defences. Posts located at X.26.C.3.4. (approx.), X.25.C.3.0., E.6.A.5.4., (Found unoccupied last night). House at E.5.D.7.5. and post at E.5.D.80.55. also found unoccupied. Three listening posts between E.12.A.15.60. and E.6.C.15.05. X.26.A.3.8., X.26.A.5.7. (he appears to be linking up positions in X.26.A.) New earth seems to have been thrown up at X.25.C.3.0. Centre Section report work behind enemy front line.

IV. Miscellaneous. On enemy artillery firing short, two green flares were sent up from forward position and 1 Red from the rear. A fire at F.2.A.2.2. apparently ignited a dump as explosions could be heard. No apparent action followed on Orange flares again being used. Centre Section front posts report that at 5.30.a.m. 16th Inst, two pigeons took a direct course S. S.E. into enemy territory.

V. Hostile Dispositions and Identifications. A man killed by a patrol at E.11.E. had no paybook, nor identity disc but shoulder strap gave the identification of 63rd I.R. 12th Division.

A relief was suspected on this front on the night 15/16th and is therefore probable that the 63rd I.R. took over from the 62nd I.R. on the right half of our front.

Further confirmation is required. A body which had apparently been dead for some days was found at X.20.D.2.4. Papers show him to have belonged to I.K. 62. I.R. 12th Division.

*J. D. Rogers*

Captain.  
for Major.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.



SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 34.

From 6.a.m. 17-5-18 to 6.a.m. 18-5-18.

A. OPERATIONS.

A. Infantry. (1) As the result of a reconnaissance made in the early morning, Lieut. N.S. MADDOX decided that the enemy manning the post at X.20.C.85.40. could be captured or killed with ease. Having come to the conclusion he decided to act upon it. Under cover of flanking Lewis Gun fire and a barrage of No.36. Rifle Grenades he with 3 other ranks managed to get to within 30 yards of the hostile post. At 11.45.a.m. on a pre-arranged signal being given the Lewis Gun fire was switched to the left, thus cutting off the retreat of the garrison, the rifle grenade barrage ceased, and Lieut. MADDOX with his party rushed the post. Then followed a fierce little fight. The post was occupied by 15 of the enemy. One of these immediately surrendered, but unfortunately his discretion availed him nothing as a stray bomb blew him up. Then, apparently, the rest of the enemy garrison collected itself and rushed Cpl. S.L. WILLIAMS, who happened to be the nearest of our party. He was stopped by the first man receiving a bullet in his stomach. This and other well directed shots discouraged the enemy who then scurried to the hedge which promised safety. Five of them were dropped by Lieut. MADDOX and his men, before they reached it. And now was the opportunity of the flanking Lewis Gun which was trained on this spot for just this chance. But unfortunately a stoppage chose to appear in the Gun just at this moment and thus the rest of the utterly scared and bewildered garrison unfortunately escaped. Thirty of the enemy then attacked our party, so Lieut. MADDOX withdrew with his party intact. A shoulder strap marked 62 was secured from one of the dead Bosche. Casualties were inflicted on the advancing counter attack party of the enemy.

(2) At about 1.a.m. 2 Officers and 35 other ranks under cover of Arty and T.M. and M.G. fire left our lines to raid the enemy trench at about X.26.A.4.8. The trench was found to be unoccupied. Our party returned to our lines without suffering any casualties.

(3) A party of 1 Officer and 9 other ranks in co-operation with the above party also attempted to obtain identification, but were unable to do so, owing to the heavy M.G. and rifle fire.

Patrols. Patrols attempted to obtain touch with the enemy at various points. They were successful in seeing and hearing small parties of the enemy here and there, but M. Gun fire and hand bombing throughout the night prevented any captures being made. A hostile M.G. was spotted at about E.11.B.5.4.

b. T.Mortars. Co-operation for infantry activity was obtained. Promising targets were engaged with harassing fire. A small outbreak of fire was observed at E.6.Central.

c. M.Guns. M.Gun fire supported infantry action on several occasions. Harassing fire was thrown on to selected targets.

d. Artillery and M.T.Mortars. At 1.a.m. artillery supported a raid by our Left section and made a diversion on the Right section front. Throughout the day our 18-pdrs harassed enemy tracks, roads and known occupied positions. An enemy T.M. position at E.11.D.4.3. was engaged and good hits obtained on the hedge screening this position. Our heavies were active on MERRIS and other positions in rear of enemy's lines. 220 rounds were fired by our M.T.Ms on various targets in the enemy's lines. Enfilade fire was placed on enemy's trenches in X.26.A. during our raid. Several direct hits were obtained on farmhouses.

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c. Aerial. Our planes active throughout the day,  
2. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. His patrols do not venture into No Mans Land to any great distance, but his attitude generally is one of extreme alertness.

b. Artillery. At 8.15.a.m. a light barrage of 77s lasting 10 minutes was placed in X.26.A. Registration shoots appeared to have been carried out on cross roads in Left Section.

Approaches to, and STRAZEELE, STRAZEELE Station, were subjected to heavy fire during the day. STRAZEELE Station was fired about 3.15.p.m. Enemys retaliation to our barrage at 1.a.m. did not come down until about 10 minutes after, and it seemed that he then paid particular attention to road W.29.D.1.3. - W.30.C.3.2.

His barrage line appeared to be W.30.D.9.9. to E.5.B.7.0. Ammunition dump at E.5.A.4.0. was fired about 1.30.a.m. Heavy shelling by 8" and 5.9s took place in W.25.E.C.&D. and E.1.B. during the early evening and house at E.1.B.5.8. was destroyed.

c. Trench Mortars. Enemy Trench Mortars placed a barrage on front of centre section when our barrage commenced at 1.a.m.

d. Aerial. At about 8.15.p.m. enemy plane flew over station area and dropped 10 or 12 small bombs at E.11.C.5.8. Enemy planes rather active during morning. Balloons were observed as follows:- 152 and 153 deg True from X.19.A.4.9. 121, 109, 110, 128, 130 and 135 deg. Grid from W.23.A.75.55. 118, 123, 125, and 132 deg. True from E.3.D.2.6.

II. Movement. 3 men left farm at E.12.B.5.5. and moved in an Easterly direction. At 2.45.p.m. men working at F.3.D.1.7. were dispersed by our artillery. Movement was observed at E.11.D. towards Fm LABIS, in F.25.A. and at E.12.C.22.22.

III. Defences. No new works have been located, but enemy can be heard working on his trenches opposite Centre Section. Machine Guns active at E.11.B.95.75., E.11.D.3.8., E.11.B.5.4., Indirect fire was played on to E.4.B.9.9. Trench Mortars suspected at E.11.D.4.3. Posts at E.11.B.95.75. (with Machine Gun.)

IV. Miscellaneous. At 1.a.m. on our barrage opening, enemy fired one large cluster of Orange lights. Double green flares were observed several times after the opening of our barrage. Enemy posts strafed by our T.Ms about 1.a.m. appeared to fire 1 green and evidently two reds, the call for retaliation. At 10.30.a.m. two fires were seen in Farms at E.12.C.22.22. 11.25.a.m. a dump seen to explode at L.21.A. Pont de la TEMPE. At 2.18.p.m. a series of flares were observed coming from towers of Churches in ESTAIRES. They appeared to be directed towards DOULIEU. Gun flashes were observed at 1440 Grid Bearing from W.28.B.1.2.

V. Identifications. Shoulder strap taken from Bosche killed yesterday in X.20.C. shows him to have belonged to 62. I.R.

*Langh* Major.  
General Staff.  
1st. Australian Division.

Later. At about 6.45.a.m. this morning, three of the enemy were observed basking in the sun at about X.20.D.1.8. A small party from our left section thereupon commenced to stalk them and had succeeded in getting very close to them, when the quarry became alarmed and ran along the road in an Easterly direction. Two succeeded in getting away but one was captured at X.20.D.4.8. and brought back to our lines. Identification, 6.K. 62. I.R.

18-5-18.



## ANNEXE to 1st.Aust.Div.Intelligence Summary No. 34.

Short Preliminary Interrogation of prisoner  
captured this morning in X.20.D.4.7.

Identification. 6 company 2nd Battalion, 62. I.R. 12th Division.  
Prisoners War History. On the 21st Sept 1917 (3 days before his 18th birthday) prisoner was called up at BRESLAU and sent to the 6th Regiment, Jager zu Fuas". He left that regiment with a lot of young reinforcements for the 62 I.R. about 16 or 18 days ago. This was prisoners first period in front line, and beyond the fact that food was plentiful and regular he knew, or cared not what happened. By trade prisoner is a carpenter.

Method of Capture. About 6.30 a.m. this morning prisoner along with two other men the garrison of his post crawled out to have a "stretch in the sun" and fell asleep. According to prisoner, their movements had apparently been observed by our troops. All of a sudden, one of his friends shouted out and bolted, upon seeing the approach of our small party. Prisoner who was the last to awaken, seeing his two comrades disappearing over the horizon, set off in pursuit, but was overtaken and captured at X.20.D.4.8.

Intentions. Prisoner says he is confident no attack is contemplated by them.

Wire. No wire is in front of the post, of which they were the garrison.

Gas. Prisoner had noticed the smell of our gas whilst in support, but had not heard of any casualties from it.

Moral and esp rit de corps of prisoner were low.

## NOTES ON AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

PHOTO.	NEW WORK OBSERVED.	REMARKS.	COMPARE WITH PREVIOUS PHOTO.
<u>GENERAL.</u> Again the increase of tracks is noticeable to and from the constantly changing battery positions. Photos also show up the work on shell holes some of these being probably filled with ammunition. The frequent explosions round battery positions under our fire may indicate that a good deal of ammunition is being kept in holes close to the guns.			
4.B.473.	Tracks.	slight increase.	4.B.348.
	Works.	on small holes about F.3.B.63.50.	
4.B.475.	Tracks.	Slight increase.	4.B.281.
	Works.	on shell holes about F.2.D.75.78.	
4.B.478.	Bridges.	road bridge at E.23.A. 70.52. destroyed and light bridge erected.	4.B. 12.
	Tracks.	new to house (reported Coy H.Q.) at E.23.C.1. whither movement has been observed)	
4.B.485.	Screens.	new screen (partly perhaps a barricade) across road at E.28.D.41.15.	
4.B.490.	Trenches.	New short line of posts at X.20.C.90.23. and work near the new demolished huts at X.20.D.1.7.	
4.B.503.	Work.	on shell holes (apparently filled in) at F.13.A.05.05.	4.B.334.

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PHOTO.	NEW WORK OBSERVED.	REMARKS.	COMPARE WITH PREVIOUS PHOTO.
4.B.507.	Tracks.	Increase of tracks and a little work along hedges about F.1.C.25.40. at F.1.C.19.56.	4.B.301. and 307.
	Emplacement.		
4.B.508.	Work.	(a row of holes) at F.7.B.88.40.	4.B.283.
4.B.512.	Tracks.	a few new.	4.B.165.
	Work.	at F.5.D.40.29.	
4.B.514.	Wire.	possibly between X.28.D. 83.12. and X.29.D.00.12.	4.B.347.
4.B.751.	Shell Holes.	Obviously occupied. This is about where a Coy is reported to be stationed. A T.M. has been reported near the house at E.17.C. 42.00. Possible positions are at E.17.C.40.12. and E.17.C.57.28. (the latter just at the edge of the stream)	4.B.480.
4.B.574.	Bridge.	at E.30.C.60.58. destroyed.	4.B.263.
4.B.536.	Trenches.	Short lengths at F.1.D.2.5.	4.B.490.
4.B.571.	Trenches.	Support line slightly more connected up.	4.B.205.
4.B.612.		at F.4.C.5.5. a balloon-like object is visible. It seems far too close to the line however. This photo is not very clear.	4.B.348.



FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

19-5-18.

SECRET.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. NO. 35.

From 6.a.m. 18-5-18 to 6.a.m. 19-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Infantry.

a. Patrols from the left section left our lines for the purpose of rushing enemy post at X.26.C.3.4. This intention was frustrated by the action of a hostile party, estimated at 70 strong, which, after breaking up into 3 parties, attempted to advance towards our lines. Our patrols engaged this party and inflicted casualties, successfully blocking the advance. Our patrols then withdrew. Another patrol discovered two disused enemy posts at about E.6.A.4.1.

Enemy post at E.6.A.1.8\* was approached by one of our patrols. 10 men were observed to enter the post at a few minutes later 5 men left the post. Our patrol by this time had been evidently located by the enemy, for it was bombed and several flares were fired by the enemy, which caused our party to withdraw. Enemy transport could be heard on roads. Patrols report no wire or obstacles observed in front of enemy forward positions in vicinity of E.11.Central.

A patrol left our lines and took up a position at E.5.D.7.2. to intercept an enemy patrol of about 30 men which had been observed at about E.5.D.8.4. Whispering could be heard and also an occasional slight metallic clank as of a M.G. moving. No further sign of the enemy being manifest, our patrol withdrew after 2 hours waiting. An old unoccupied L.P. was observed at about E.11.B.5.4.

b. Machine Guns. Targets in squares X.27., X.26., F.3., and X.21. were engaged with harassing fire.

c. Stokes Mortars. Enemy tracks and trenches in E.6.A.&.C., E.6.B.5.9., E.6.B.9.8., F.1.A.9.3. were engaged.

d. Snipers. One hit is claimed at X.20.D.2.4.

e. Aerial. Our planes were active.

2. Artillery and M.T. Mortars. The study of aerial photographs and other recent intelligence provided an abundance of targets for all Batteries. These were systematically harassed during the period, especially the following locations; - BELLE CROIX FARM, FARM GERBEDOEN Cross Roads at F.1.B.90.25., 70. 70. and F.8.A.50.60., METEREN BECQUE in F.8., approaches to MERRIS and OUTERSTEENE and railway in E.12. In addition counter Battery work was carried out against F.A.62.-32. and Batteries at F.2.D., F.7.B., and F.9.A., Farms at X.26.B.50.50 F.3.C.10.05., F.8.B.40.90., F.8.B.50.95., and F.8.B.60.80., were burnt down by the use of Thermit shell from forward position at W.12.C.85.90. A number of rounds were expended in calibration and registration.

Very effective harassing shoots by Trench Mortars were carried out on houses, posts and trenches in X.20.D.20.70. 20.20., X.26.A., X.20.C.&.D., E.5.D.46.40., E.12.A.98.48., and X.20.D.20.30. 112 rounds of 6" Newton were expended, and with the exception of one dud, all bombs detonated well and effectively.

Our heavy artillery was active against MERRIS and rear areas during the day. 5.25.p.m. a dump at about F.25.D.8.4. was seen to catch fire as a result of our shelling. 5.35.p.m. a house at F.25.D.85.50. was set on fire by our heavy artillery.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile activity.

a. Infantry. Enemy infantry evinced considerable alertness during the night and his patrols were much more active than usual. The garrisons of enemy forward posts were extremely alert. Many flares were fired in the vicinity of MONT DE MERRIS.

b. Artillery. Enemy artillery was not so active as during the previous 24 hours, most of the shelling being of a harassing nature.

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with the exception of 2 destructive shoots carried out on the road in E.11.A. and also on STRAZELLE Station. A little shrapnel was fired over the STRAZELLE Station at 7.30.a.m.

c. Trench Mortars. With the exception of one T.M. which fired from about E.17.C.3.7. on to our right section front, there has been no activity.

d. Aerial. Enemy planes were active during the morning and about 10.a.m. 3 bombs were dropped at E.5.B.8.5. Bombing planes were active at night. Balloons were observed as follows:-  
135, 129, 122, 101, and 109 deg. Grid from W.25.A.7.8.  
125, 118, 111, 104, 149, 143 and 139 deg. True from W.29.D.1.3.  
136, 128, 122, and 148 deg. True from E.3.D.2.6.

II. Movement. At 7.15.a.m. 5 men seen moving in trench at E.12.D.7.1. and at 7.30.a.m. 7 men left this position. Slight movement observed during day behind hedge at F.1.B.2.2. proceeding towards MERRIS.

III. Defences. M.G. located about E.6.A.45.15. T.M. located at about E.17.C.3.7. Post about E.11.B.5.6. found unoccupied. Flares fired from approx. E.12.A.2.5.

IV. Miscellaneous. A light was observed in house at F.1.B.7.2. Smoke rose from trees about X.26.D.2.8. 5.9. shells which fell about E.11.A.2.4. are reported to have had two explosions. A No. 23 Mills grenade was found in enemy post at X.20.C.8.4. and brought back to our lines.

Flash of gun seen at 1500 T.B. from W.28.B.1.2.

V. Identifications. Documents taken from a dead German in X.26.A. shews him to have belonged to I.K. 62. I.R.

*Major.*  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.



SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 36.

From 6.a.m. 19-5-18. to 6.a.m. 20-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.I. Infantry.

Minor Enterprise. Particulars of the enterprise carried out in X.20.D. at 4.30.p.m. yesterday are given at the end of this Summary.

Patrols. again went out to intercept and engage hostile patrols. An enemy post was found at E.11.C.8.1. but although it showed signs of recent use it was unoccupied. Cross Roads at E.11.C.7.3. were visited but no enemy were seen.

Vickers Guns engaged targets in X.26.B. and X.27.C. and Lewis Guns fired intermittently on enemy forward positions.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars. A very satisfactory observed destructive shoot was carried out by a section of 4.5. Hows in position at W.17.Central.

A special observed shoot was carried out against enemy positions on the MONT DE MERRIS.

Occupied areas, tracks, hedges and farms in X.26. X.27., F.1.2.3., E.6.&E.11. and E.12.

Trench Mortars carried out successful registration shoots on targets in E.11., 12. and 17 and X.20.C. Heavies fired on MERRIS between 1.30.a.m. and 3.30.a.m.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. were quiet. No patrolling was done and flares were fired less frequently.

b. Artillery. Hostile activity showed a slight decrease the majority of the shelling being of a harassing nature, the chief areas shelled being ROUGE CROIX, roads leading from ROUGE CROIX to STRAZENLE and PRADELLES and the area W.29.C., W.30.C.&D.

Gun Flashes 1.50.p.m. 1330 True from W.16.C.30.85.  
5.20.p.m. 1430 True from W.28.B.1.2.

c. Trench Mortars. 30 rounds were fired on to the Road Junction at X.20.C.8.8.

d. Aerial. Hostile planes were not active, those observed being at a great height. Balloons were observed at grid bearings of 1150, 1200, 1200, 1440, and 1500 from W.28.B.1.2., and at 9440, 970, 1030, from W.25.A.7.5.

II. Movement. Very little movement has been observed during the last 24 hours. A few men were seen in fields between VIEUX BERQUIN, LA COURONNE and BLEU.

At 5.30.a.m. a party of 8 men were seen working at about F.19.D.30.05.

At 6.p.m. a man appeared from what looked like a M.G. position in a hole at E.24.A.9.5.

III. Defences. Post at E.11.C.8.1. unoccupied. Suspected M.G. post at E.24.A.9.5.

IV. Hostile Disposition and Identifications.

The shoulder straps taken from two enemy killed at X.20.D.3.3. yesterday were marked 269. and 242.

The former would probably identify the 269th R.I.R. of the 81st. Res. Division who were withdrawn from the METESEN - NORD HELF WOOD sector at about the end of April.

The other regiments of this division are the 267th R.I.R. and the 268th R.I.R.

The 242nd.R.I.R. with the 241. R.I.R. and the 243.R.I.R. compose the 53rd. Reserve Division. It is rather doubtful if this Division could be opposite us as they were identified quite

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recently south of AMIENS.

Further identifications are therefore required on the whole of our front as it seems probable that the 12th Division has been wholly relieved.

*J. H. Rogers*

Captain  
for Major,  
General Staff,  
1st Australian Division.

Minor Enterprise.

The details of the enterprise carried out with dash and skill by the 5th Battalion yesterday are as follows:-  
At 4.20.p.m. one of our men was reconnoitring an enemy post at X.20.D.3.3. when two Germans were observed stealthily following him. Under covering fire from two of our posts four men immediately set out to frustrate enemys intencion. The enemy then ran towards their line and although hostile posts opened up heavy fire on our party they followed the Germans to their own post at X.20.D.3.3. The enemy showed no desire to surrender and were therefore killed. Shoulder straps marked 242 and 269 were secured but as the enemy were arriving in force, our party were unable to get papers etc from the bodies. By following dead ground our party returned successfully with but one casualty.



SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

21-5-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 37.

From 6.a.m. 20-5-18. to 6.a.m. 21-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Infantry.

a. Patrols covered the whole of the Divisional front, and liaison was maintained with flank divisions.

The reports from these patrols furnish us with the following information. Enemy post at E.6.A.6.4. was investigated and found unoccupied.

Two men were seen at road junction at E.6.A.7.3. and flares were fired from about E.6.A.7.4. One patrol was fired on by the enemy from a post at about E.11.C.9.1. An enemy working party was heard at E.11.D.8.7. A patrol from our left Battalion came under heavy enemy M.G. fire, the leader being wounded, patrol returned to our lines.

b. Machine Guns. Harassing fire was carried out by our Vickers Guns during the night on to enemy positions at X.27.A.60.98. and X.26.B.85.90. Lewis Guns fired intermittent bursts on to enemy forward positions and tracks.

c. Trench Mortars. Expended 25 rounds on enemy post at E.6.A.6.3.

d. Snipers. One hit is claimed by our snipers.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars. Usual harassing fire was carried out by all Batteries. A gas bombardment was carried out by How. Batteries of 1st, 2nd, and 28th Brigades on roads, tracks, and approaches to crossing over METELEN BEQUE in F.2.B.8.D. embracing also the occupied houses in F.2.B.5.5., F.2.D.4.7. and F.8.A.85.35.

The bombardment was carried out in bursts of fire lasting 4 minutes, commencing at 10.10.p.m. and at irregular intervals till 2.5.a.m. In all 936 rounds were fired.

Trench Mortars fired 165 rounds on registration of new positions and on destructive and harassing fire on M.G. positions, cross roads and other known targets.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

a. Infantry. The general attitude is one of a nervous defender.

b. Artillery. Enemy artillery was rather more active than usual, harassing shoots being again the chief characteristics of the activity. Support Systems in W.29.B. front line in W.30.C. and cross roads in W.17.C. and W.18. were subjected to harassing fire throughout the afternoon. A concentration of gas and H.E. was placed down in vicinity of PRADILLES and STRAZEELE and along PRADILLES - STRAZEELE road from 10.30.p.m. to 2.a.m. W.18. also received about 150 H.E. and gas.

c. Trench Mortars. A heavy MINENWERFER fired 5 rounds on E.11.D. from about E.17.B.70.50.

d. Aerial. Enemy planes were practically inactive during the day. Balloons were observed at the following true bearings from X.19.D.95. 90, 1190, 1260, 1370, 1430, 1510 and 1070.

II. Movement. A party of 4 men was dispersed by Lewis Gun fire at X.26.A.9.2. Two men were seen digging at X.27.B.4.5. Individual movement was observed during the day at E.5.D.4.0., house at E.11.B.6.9. and E.12.C.50.85. and along LA COURONNE - BLEU Road.

III. Defences. Enemy posts were located at X.11.C.9.1., E.6.A.7.4. and trench at X.6.A.8.5. A heavy Minenwerfer was located at E.17.B.7.5.

IV. Miscellaneous. At 10.15.p.m. several enemy shells fell short in the vicinity of his posts on which flares bursting into two PINK stars were fired and artillery ceased. On re-opening the range had

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been lengthened.  
When the gas shoot was put down it was noticed that the enemy fired golden cluster flares, followed by a light artillery barrage, in which he used some 18-pdr. shrapnel.

*Geo. H. Prior Key 1*  
*Printed for*  
Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.

#### NEW GERMAN SHELL.

The enemy is known to have introduced new pattern of shell for his 5.5.cm. field guns and for his 10.5.cm., 15 cm. and 21.cm. howitzers.

According to a captured document dated 20/3/18, the field gun shell is designated K.Gr.16= Kanonen-Grenate 1916, or 1916 pattern shell.

The designations of the 10.5. cm. and 15 cm. howitzer shell are unknown, but the 21 cm. howitzer shell is referred to in a captured order of the Sixth German Army, dated 6/5/18, as 21 cm. Gr. 17, or 1917 pattern shell.

Specimens of these new shells are required for examination.

#### AERIAL ANNEXE.

Photo.	New Work Observed.	Remarks.	Compare with previous photos.
4.B.873. 885.	TRENCHES.	A new traversed trench about 1500 yards long has been dug since yesterday from E.30.A.47.31. to E.18.C.9.0. this is at present only shallow, and will probably link up with existing trench lengths on the East Bank of the PLATE BECQUE.	4.B.812. and 842.
4.B.877.	MOVEMENT.	There is evidently much whelled traffic in vicinity of farm at F.5.A.50.54. This was visible but not so clearly on the old photos.	4.B. 514.
4.B.880.	DUMPS.	Several shell holes are used (probably for ammunition) at F.10.A.0.4.	
	MOVEMENT.	There is much activity between F.9.B. and NUTTEBILK and along the adjacent hedges.	
4.B.956.	WIRE. TRACKS.	Short new length at E.17.A.90.10. between posts just N. of this slightly more pronounced.	4.B.416.
	WORK.	The shelters or emplacements along the hedge running N.E. from E.17. central are now clearer.	
4.B.964.	WIRE.	has been erected in front of the front line in K.10.C.	
	L.Ps.	At K.10.C.32.30.25.19., 1605., and 0302.	4.B.571. and 42.A.524.
4.B.971. 4.B.972. 4.B.973. 4.B.975.	TRENCHES. EMPLACEMENTS.	The new trench E of BIEUX BERQUIN is almost continuous up to the HAZEBROUCK-BAILLEUL Railway. Four raised emplacements are visible at E.18.B. 8.6.	5.B.763, 764. and 828.



SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

22-5-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 58.

From 6.a.m. 21-5-18 to 6.a.m. 22-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Infantry.

Minor Enterprise. At 6.a.m. this morning an enemy post at E.11.D.3.4. was rushed, four of the enemy were killed and identifications obtained. Details of the enterprise are not yet to hand.

Patrols fighting and reconnaissance patrols were very active throughout the night. No enemy patrols were met but fights took place with hostile posts at E.11.B.6.3. and X.20.C.95.30. At the former post, an enemy party from a flanking post attempted to work round our party but they were driven off with bombs and rifle fire. In the latter fight enemy left their post and ran to the rear.

German equipment was found in a post near E.11.D.6.8.

Enemy parties were seen at E.5.D.9.3. and in the post at E.5.D.9.7.

A number of enemy posts and wire were located. These are reported under "Enemy Defences".

Houses at E.11.B.6.9., E.5.D.7.4. and the terrace at E.11.C.5.3. were found unoccupied. House at E.11.D.3.3. is in use.

A working party was heard along the railway line. Sounds indicated that rails were being removed.

Stokes Mortars and Machine Guns engaged enemy positions intermittently.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars. As a diversion to a raid carried out by the Division on our right, we bombarded enemy defences in E.6.B.8.0., houses at F.6.D.90./60.95./90.90., M.G. position at E.6.B.52.15. and trenches at E.6.C.70.30.

This barrage was made to simulate one for an actual raid by two lifts each of 200 yards at zero plus 4 and zero plus 14 respectively.

In addition to the usual harassing fire on enemy approaches, trenches and centres of activity, the following locations were subjected to special observed shoots, - Hostile battery position in F.2.D.17.63, houses in X.20.D., and X.23.A., new road from F.2.D.30.30. to X.27.C.70.60., FARM GIERBEDOEN and houses at F.1.A.80.20.

A total of 232 rounds was expended by our M.T.M. in effective harassing and destructive fire on houses, cross roads, trenches and M.G. positions in E.17.B., E.13.A. & C., E.5.D., E.6.B. & C. & D., F.1.A. & B. & C. & D., X.20.D. and X.26.B.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile Activity.

(a) Infantry remains quiet. M.Gs showed a slight increase in activity on the front just N and S of the railway.

(b) Artillery. Hostile artillery showed a decrease in activity over rear areas but an increase against our front and support systems. Between 11.35. and 12. a shoot was carried out on the Windmill near STRAZEELE Station. This battery was located at F.20.A.05.05. Destructive shoots were carried out on STRAZEELE STATION and Railway and on trenches in E.4.B. & D. PRADELLES - STRAZEELE Road was again subjected to harassing fire throughout the morning. At 11.26.p.m. when our artillery on right opened up scattered shelling took place in W.40.B., W.25.A., and road junction at W.30.C.5.0. to E.5.B.5.9. a large amount of gas shells being used.

Gun positions located

(i) Battery at F.20.A.05.05. and F.19.B.5.3. (F.C.2. & 11. on C.B. Map No.4.) Our heavies shelled these batteries during the

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afternoon. Shooting was observed to be very accurate. Two guns thought to be A.A. were seen firing rapidly at a true bearing of 151° 10' just behind the road at L.2.C.4.3.2. Flashes were observed as follows; - from W.28.B.1.2. 9.25.a.m. and 4.25.p.m. True bearing of 147° 50' from W.28.B.1.2. 9.a.m. " " " 1200 from W.30.A.1.8. 12 noon and 4.30.p.m. " " " 1190 from " " " c. Trench Mortars. A few heavy T.M. shells fell at E.6.A.1.8. as retaliation to our fire at 11.30.p.m. At 6.20.a.m. S.M.W. shells fell on STRAZELLE STATION.

d. Aerial. Enemy planes were more active during the day, several formations being over our lines. 5 bombs were dropped on to STRAZELLE STATION at 6.15.p.m. Balloons were observed on T.Bs of 1020, 1040, 1200, 1140, 1240, and 1450 from W.23.A.7.5. II. Movement. Individual movement was seen at houses at E.11.B.75.25., E.12.A.5.0., E.6.D.9.8. and E.6.D.80.35. A number of men were observed along the LA COURONNE - BLEU road during the day, and in F.25.C.2.D.

Two men who were apparently following a telegraph line walked from house at F.19.C.3.1. to E.21.B.3.4. to E.21.B.1.6. and finally disappeared at E.24.A.8.8. These men returned later to house at F.19.C.3.1.

At 7.45.p.m. a small party were at work in the tram line in L.8.

III. Defences. Enemy listening post located at X.20.C.9.3. Posts located at X.25.B.9.2. and X.25.C.5.1. E.11.B.6.3. and E.6.A.80.65. Wire. About 200 yards along in front of posts at F.1.A.3.3. very thin and offers small obstacle. Wire in front of posts in vicinity of E.11.B.55.40. A new trench system can be observed through the Northern edge of Cemetery at VIEUX BERQUIN.

IV. Miscellaneous. A helio was seen working from the house at F.23.D.7.3. House at E.24.B.10.62. is newly bedecked with a considerable amount of camouflage. An enemy plane flying low over our line was fired on by our Lewis Guns and the bullets were seen to pause sparks on the bottom of the plane. Flares bursting into two PINK stars were again used by enemy to denote short shooting.

V. Identifications. Four men killed at E.11.D.3.4. belonged to the 7th Coy 126th I.R. of 39th Division.

The identification of the Division is normal but it was not known definitely which regiment was holding its right flank.

*J. H. Rogers* Capt

Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.

Notes on the attack made by the French on the 20.5.18.

1. Infantry attacked after a very short artillery preparation. They obtained their objectives with ease and captured about 500 prisoners belonging to five different Divisions and about 20 machine guns. The enemy was completely surprised.
2. No counter-attack was made by the enemy and the artillery retaliation was weak. Later, however, hostile artillery became heavy.
3. It was noticed that of the hostile batteries firing about 40% made their appearance for the first time from previously unlocated positions. About 20% had been located from air photographs but had not fired since the 7th or even the 4th May on which dates they had registered. It seems, therefore, that a portion of the artillery on this front is specially reserved for barrage fire and remains silent at other times. The artillery group N. of NEUVE EGLISE appears to have been strongly reinforced.



SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Appendix 1.

23-5-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 39.

From 6.a.m. 22-4-18. to 6.a.m. 23-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

I. Further detailed confirmation of minor enterprise reported in yesterday's summary - At 5.30.A.M. on the 22nd inst Sgt BRUGGY left our lines at E.11.C.4.7. to investigate suspected post at E.11.D.3.4. Owing to the bright light, the Sgt was compelled to crawl the whole way. Just before reaching the house at E.11.D.5.4. he came upon an enemy post garrisoned by 4 men. He fired on the party killing one man, then rushed the post and wounded the remainder. Removing the identity discs from 3 of the men the N.C.O. returned to our lines.

At 7.a.m. accompanied by C.S.M. KINCHINTON, Sgt BRUGGY again visited the post which was found to contain only two men, one of whom was dead. The other man was severely wounded and died before he could be moved. The post contained haversacks, steel and gas helmets and had a small dugout shelter at one end. A track of blood showed where the other two men had left the post and crawled to the rear. The two N.C.O.s regained our line at 7.55.a.m.

a. Patrols reconnoitred the whole of our front as shown on attached map (to Corps)

The following information was obtained from their reports - One Officer and 10 Other ranks left our line at E.11.A.5.1. to get in touch with the enemy forward posts.

Patrol moved to E.11.D.4.8. where a large enemy patrol about 30 strong was located. Protected by flanking fire from two M.G.s at E.11.D.5.8. and E.11.D.4.5. enemy patrol made endeavours to surround our party who withdrew a short distance, and engaged enemy with bombs and rifle fire successfully driving them off. Patrol then returned to our line at E.11.A.5.1.

A patrol reconnoitred area X.26.A.05.95. - X.20.C.6.2. - X.20.C.10.15. No enemy were encountered but occupied post was located at X.26.A.45.70.

b. Stokes Mortars. Enemy positions at E.6.A.8.4., E.6.A.8.5., and E.6.B.8.8. were engaged during the night, 24 rounds being expended

c. Machine Guns. Lewis Guns intermittently swept enemy forward positions during the night.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars. Usual harassing fire was carried out on Divisional front, and registration of guns from alternative positions, particular attention being paid to houses, roads and tracks etc., in F.2. and F.3. tracks and roads in F.13.A., E.11.B.&D. roads and hedges in E.6.C.&D., approaches to NEPRIS and OUTERSTEENE, roads in F.8.A. and F.7.B.

Our Medium Trench Mortars expended 37 rounds in harassing and destructive shoots, securing 4 direct hits on house in E.12.A.11.60.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Still very quiet.

b. Artillery. Enemy artillery was quieter than in the preceding 24 hours, most of the fire being directed against our forward areas. Destructive shoots were carried out in trenches in W.29.B. between 6.30. and 7.45.a.m., on STRAZELLE STATION and railway in vicinity from 9 to 10.a.m. and trenches in E.5.A.&B. claimed a fair amount of attention about midday. Harassing fire was maintained on BORRE - PRADELLES Road throughout the afternoon and evening and roads in X.19. and E.11.A. were also subjected to intermittent bursts of fire during the period.

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c. Trench Mortars. Heavy T.Ms were active on the left sub-section during the day, bombarding area around X.25.B.2.2. Flash of H.T.M. was observed on a T.B. of 1120 from X.19.D.95.90.

d. Aerial. Enemy planes were again active crossing our lines on several occasions during the day. At 5.15.a.m. a machine was spotting for artillery shoot on our battery position in vicinity of SEC 30IS. Six Balloons were up during the day between 1020 and 1350 Grid Bearings from W.23.A.7.5.

II. Movement. Individual movement was seen during the day at E.12.A.25.90., E.18.C.15.70., and E.24.A.95.20. A working party of about 50 at X.25.C.3.0. was dispersed by our 18 pdrs. at 10.p.m.

III. Defences. An occupied trench was located at X.26.A.45.70. and X.27.A.6.5. An occupied post located at E.6.A.9.8. Wire was located round enemy post and house at E.11.D.3.4. and E.12.C.30.

25. Enemy M.Gs fired from E.6.C.5.5. and from trench at E.6.C.60.85. Heavy T.Ms were located at F.2.A.0.2., F.2.A.2.2., F.1.B.8.3. and F.1.B.8.5.

IV. Miscellaneous. An enemy dump was blown up at F.19.C.9.0.

Gun flashes were observed as follows - 1080, 1580, 1750 Grid Bearings from X.19.D.95.90.

V. Identifications. Nil.

*Geo: H. Priceley*  
Lt Col  
Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.

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AERIAL ANNEXE to 1st. Aust. Div.  
Intelligence Summary No. 40.

24-5-18.

General.

Bombs containing mustard gas are stated to have been dropped in the neighbourhood of VLAMERTINGHE, and lachrymatory gas bombs near BRANDHOEK.

A new type of bomb has been reported as being used by hostile aeroplanes. Reports from WATTEN on the 16th, and WISQUES and ST OMER on the night of the 21st/22nd, state that this bomb is of unusually small size, the explosion resembles that of a Mills bomb; a crater, caused by one of these bombs, was saucer shaped, measured one yard in diameter, and 6" in depth at the centre, fragments flow about 200 yards.

Photo.	New work observed.	Remarks.	compare with previous photo.
4.B.1063.	DUMPS.	An ammunition dump with marked tracks along it is now visible at F.14.A.7.1.	4.B.821.
4.B.1067.	WIRE.	At E.6.C.9.5. (visible on old photo)	
	RIFLE PITS.	The rifle pits and possible assembly holes are very clear.	4.B.996.
4.B.1077.	DUMPS.	Shows up clearly the numerous groups of possible ammunition holes now from F.8.C.28.88. to F.8.C.49.60.	4.B.840 883.
4.B.1081.	TRENCH. SHELTERS.	at the edge of the METEREN BECQUE at F.8.C.6.7.	
	SCREENS.	possible screens on N. side of road at F.8.B.3.1.	4.B.716 & 713.
4.B.1083.	TRACKS.	new from house at E.11.D.29.46. to road at E.11.C.54.54.	4.B.422.
4.B.1085.	TRENCHES.	The new trench has been connected up between E.18.B.93.70. and F.13.C.00.88.	
	DUMP.	new tracks lead to the ammunition holes at F.13.A.10.10. where there is evidently some activity.	4.B.972. & 973.
4.B.1088.	DUMPS.	Ammunition holes at F.9.D.80.58. and F.16.A.3.7. and close to batteries are more clearly seen.	4.B.886.
4.B.1088.	DUMPS.	The dump along the METEREN BECQUE has increased slightly and is easy to see.	
	TRACKS.	Slight increase to battery at F.21.B.20.46.	4.E.815.
4.B.1105.	MOVEMENT.	wholled traffic to ammunition holes and batteries especially about F.16.Central.	4.B.889.
4.B.1107. 1108.	DUMPS.	The track along the N. side of the trees on the N. side of the road from F.21.B.8.9. to F.16.C. suggests material hidden underneath the trees, A row of white objects is lying across the field at F.22.C.1.5.	
	MOVEMENT.	There is much traffic in this vicinity especially about F.21.B.2.	
	SCREENS.	a long line of screens has been erected for about 600 yards along the N. side of the road through F.21.C.&.D.	
	EMPLACEMENTS.	Several emplacements (or shelters) round hedges and along the stream just S. of the house	
	CAMOUFLAGE.	Turf has been removed just S. of the road at F.21.D.8.3.	



SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 40.

24-5-18.

From 8.a.m. 23-5-18. to 8.a.m. 24-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

I. Infantry. (a) Gas. 1250 Gas projectors were successfully discharged on to enemy positions on MONT DE MERRIS at 11.p.m.  
 b. Patrols. Patrols operated along the front during hours of darkness. Enemy was very alert and no captures were made. The following points of interest are reported. Enemy post at E.11.C. 8.0. was unoccupied, but showed signs of recent use and had been recently worked on. Post at E.11.C.7.2. was also found to be unoccupied. Enemy was observed at E.5.D.65.65. apparently drawing camouflage over a post. Six men were seen to leave this post and move towards the rear. They were engaged and dispersed by rifle fire. A message thrower in the form of a rocket was fired from MONT DE MERRIS and appeared to fall in the vicinity of the farm at E.12.A.2.6. Enemy posts in vicinity of X Road in E.11.C. were found to be unoccupied.  
 Post at E.11.B.55.30. was found to be occupied and was engaged with rifle grenades and Lewis Gun fire, the enemy replying with rifle grenades whose explosions resembled those of Mills grenades. A Snipers post was located at E.11.B.5.7. A patrol at E.6.B.8.7. came under H.G. fire from enemy posts located at E.6.B.9.7. and E.6.B.7.5. A party of the enemy (4) was seen at about E.6.A.7.2. An attempt was made to outflank this party, but the patrol came under heavy rifle grenade fire and the attempt was abandoned. Hodge at X.20.C.35.50. was found to be wired and a belt of wire was located at X.20.C.65.20. to X.20.C.9.5. Enemy working party was heard at X.20.C.8.0.

c. Stokes Mortars. Enemy post at E.6.A.3.4. was engaged.

d. Machine Guns. Intermittent bursts of fire were employed on selected targets during the period.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars. The usual harassing fire was carried out by batteries on the Divisional front during the day. From 11.p.m. to 11.30.p.m. in conjunction with the Gas Projector bombardment a special shoot took place against enemy positions in E.6., E.12.A.&B. and F.1.

During the period under review a hostile battery at F.8.A.7.5. was neutralized. A section of the 102nd Battery was run forward to W.17.Central and carried out harassing fire.

Our E.T.s completed a very extensive programme of harassing and destructive shoots involving a total expenditure of 205 rounds on enemy X roads, posts, H.G. positions, wire and farms in X.26., X.20. E.C. E.12. and F.1. A hostile T.M. at X.20.D. 11.12. was effectively silenced during the early morning.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. Hostile Activity. (a) Infantry. Enemy does not appear to do any patrolling and is generally quiet until aroused. He is very alert.

b. Artillery. As in the preceding 24 hours most of the shelling was confined to our forward positions. From 8.30.a.m. to 1.p.m. a destructive shoot was carried out on STRAZELLE STATION by 10 and 15 cm H.O.S. A destructive shoot was also placed on trenches in E.11.C. from 10.a. to 12.noon. X.19.A. and W.18.D. were subjected to a heavy concentration of Gas Shells from 9.35. to 9.45.p.m. about 300 shells being received. Otherwise shelling was light and scattered and in the nature of harassing fire. W.13.Central, ROUGE CROIX, W.15.D. and W.21.A.2. received slight attention during the day.

c. T.Mortars. Are reported not to have fired during the period.

d. Aerial. During early hours of the morning enemy planes were very active but the remainder of the day was unfavourable for flying.

II. Movement. A marked increase in individual movement was noticeable during the day. Individual movement was seen at E.18.C.5.5., F.25.C. 2.0. F.25.Central. F.19.B.3.0. F.19.B.7.8. LA COUROMNE. BLEU Road.

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X.26.A.5.3.7 E.24.B. towards VILUX BERQUIN. E.24.D. disappearing at E.24.Central. F.19.A. going East. VILUX BERQUIN to OUTERSTEENE house at F.19.C.7.1 road in E.24.B. apparently patrolling telephone wires. house K.6.B.5.7. two parties of 2 men in full marching order seen to emerge from trenches at about E.18.B.8.9. and walk across field towards BLEU.

III. Defences. Work is in progress on trenches at E.6.A.8.0. and F.19.D.15.50. A camouflaged trench was located at E.5.D. 35.65. Wire runs from E.20.C.35.20. to X.20.C.9.5., incomplete belt of wire located at E.1.A.3.9. and E.1.A.7.9. Enemy posts were located at E.3.B.3.7. E.3.B.3.7., E.6.A.7.2. Snipers posts located at E.1.A.7.9. An O.P. in tree at X.26.A.50.35.

IV. Miscellaneous. 3 enemy balloons were observed between T.5a of 730 and 1370 from W.23.D.15.45. during the early morning. Gun flashes were observed as follows:- 77.m.m. gun on 1400 and 15340, Grid Bearing from W.23.B.13.15. 1440 Grid from W.23.B.1.2 1590 Grid from W.23.B.1.2. 1390 Grid from W.23.B.1.2. at approx K.12.E.7.4.

V. Identifications. Nil.

*Langhorne* Capt  
Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.



SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 41.

From 6.a.m. 24-5-18 to 6.a.m. 25-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.1. Infantry.

Patrols actively reconnoitred our front during the night. An enemy patrol was met and engaged in E.6.C. After throwing some bombs enemy patrol retired. A number of enemy posts were located. A special patrol sent out along the railway to ascertain if rails were being removed proceeded as far as East as E.11.B.9.6. No signs of rails having been removed could be noticed, nor were any suspicious noises heard.

Stokes Mortars engaged enemy posts at E.6.A.58. and E.6.A.8.3.

2. Artillery and Trench Mortars.

Harassing and destructive shoots were carried out on known centres of activity. Roads and tracks were thoroughly searched and swept. Enemy working parties were dispersed in E.12.C. and F.19.C.

Counter batteries engaged hostile batteries firing on E.11.A.8.C. and W.24. Medium T.Ms fired on to X.26.B.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile activity.

a. Infantry. Still quiet but alert. M.Gs are reported rather more active at MONT DE MERRIS.

b. Artillery. Hostile artillery has been above normal during the period. Between 12.20.p.m. and 1.20.p.m. a heavy bombardment was put down on to W.11. W.12. W.17.B.8.D., W.23.B.8.D., W.24 W.18. and COURTE CROIX. What appeared to be a wire cutting shoot was carried out during the day in X.24.A. Y.23.D., X.29.B.8. by 4.2s with delay action. Very little damage is reported.

Destructive shoots were carried out on W.17., W.18., and W.24.A.8.B. during the afternoon. A heavy concentration of gas was placed down on W.21. and 27. from 9.30.p.m. to 12.30.a.m. A H.E. and Gas Barrage was also put down on W.7. at 10.p.m. At 12.55.a.m. W.18. was again subjected to a gas bombardment, lasting for 35 minutes. A shoot in the nature of a barrage was placed on the Divisional front from 12.30. to 3.30.a.m. Harassing fire was maintained throughout the day and night over the area, special attention being paid to roads in vicinity of MODLENACKER and KLITE HILL.

Gun Flashes were observed at Grid bearings of 1100 and 1110 from W.29.D.15.45.

c. Trench Mortars. A few rounds were fired by a heavy T.M. on our posts in X.25.C. and X.25.A.

d. Aerial. No enemy planes were seen.

II. Movement. As on previous day considerable individual in rear enemys lines took place. Men were seen during the day at F.13.A. 1.6., FE. LABIS, F.13.C.4.7., F.13.C.4.8., F.19.C.30.05., E.24.3. 6.7. and on roads of approach to BLEU and OUTTERSTEENE. A man was seen observing at X.26.C.2.4.

III. Defences. A thin belt of wire was located at E.6.B.3.8. and a low belt about 8 feet wide at F.1.A.10.65.

Machine Guns were located at X.20.C.85.00., X.20.C.9.1. and X.20. 70.05. and posts at X.20.C.85.10., X.26.C.3.7. to F.1.B.5.7., X.26.A.1.4., E.6.B.80.35., E.6.B.5.7., E.6.B.2.8., and E.6.B.30.7

IV. Miscellaneous. Two green lights were fired by the enemy opposite our right to denote short shooting by his artillery.

At 4.15.p.m. a signalling lamp was observed at 1480 True bearing from W.30.A.1.6. Message read as follows;- 74, 746, 961, 248, 414, 361, 33.

*J. Rogers* Capt  
for

Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.



SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

26-5-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 42.

From 3.a.m. 25-5-18 to 6.a.m. 26-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

I. Infantry.

a. Patrols.

Our patrols were energetic throughout the night and succeeded in gaining touch with the enemy at many points. Enemy posts at E.6.C.10.75, E.12.A.1.8, E.6.C.00.45, were bombed and engaged with rifle and rifle-grenade fire, but in no case was the enemy found unprepared, our fire being returned vigorously. Enemy movement on road at E.11.B.7.5, was engaged with rifle grenade fire. A hostile working party with a covering force at E.6.A.5.2, was engaged by another of our patrols with hand grenades. A H.G. was located at X.20.D.15.45, and a snipers post at X.20.D.0.4. An enemy working party was observed at X.25.D.9.7. An N.G.0. succeeded in crawling to within 50 yards of an enemy post at X.20.C.80.28. The garrison of the post, 5 in number, observed the N.G.0. who had to then withdraw.

B. Stokes Mortars.

Enemy posts at E.6.A.85, and 36 were engaged.

c. Artillery.

The usual harassing fire was carried out by our batteries during the period. A special shoot was directed against enemy positions in E.6.A.2.B. at 10.30.p.m. immediately after attempted raid. In reply to an S.O.S. Signal fired at 1.45.a.m. to our North our batteries opened on S.O.S. lines opposite left Battalion front, lasting about 20 minutes. Heavies engaged known targets in enemy rear areas and counter battery shoots against enemy batteries firing on STRAZELLE STATION were carried out during the day.

ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry.

Enemy infantry were much more aggressive than usual and an increased activity in H.G. fire was noticeable along the whole Divisional front. At 10.10.p.m. an enemy party about 60 strong, attempted to raid our posts at E.6.A.5.6, but was dispersed by our rifle and H.G. fire. Prior to the raid a barrage of Minenwerfers and "Pineapple" Bombs, 77 mm 4.2s and 5.9s was placed on our Support Line and Front System in E.5., E.6., and W.30. The attacking party covered by this Barrage and flanking fire (H.G.) left their trenches in one line and doubled towards our posts. Fire was immediately opened by our riflemen, Lewis gunners and rifle grenadiers and enemy forced to take cover when about 100 yards from our posts. From here the party succeeded in withdrawing to their lines. As soon as possible after the raid patrols searched the area with a view to securing identification, but no trace of enemy dead or wounded could be found.

b. Artillery.

Enemy artillery was again active. In addition to light harassing fire on our roads and communications, destructive shoots were carried out on PRADELLES and roads in vicinity, STRAZELLE and STRAZELLE STATION. At 10.10.p.m. when enemy attempted to raid one of our posts a barrage was put down on the Support Line in front of STRAZELLE extending to MOOLENBAUER. Gas shelling was again a feature of his activity throughout the night and early morning. PRADELLES and battery positions in vicinity, STRAZELLE, COURTE CROIX, Switch Line in W.18.D. and 24.A. and trenches in W.16.D. were subjected to fairly heavy concentrations of gas.

c. T.Ls.

Enemy Mortars were very active at 10.10.p.m. and placed a barrage on our front and support systems in E.5., E.6., and W.30. At 1.40.a.m. several rounds were fired by H.5.Ms on to our posts in X.25.B.3.D.

d. Aerial.

Hostile planes were not very active during the day, only a few single planes being observed over our lines.

II. Movement.

Individual movement was observed during the day at E.24.B.1.75, E.15.A.4.5., E.15.A.3.C. LABES FM, E.15.A.7.5, trench in F.15.C.50.35, house at E.24.D.10.65. 2 men were seen moving across country from E.24.B. towards buildings at F.19.B.8.8. They appeared

(P.T.O.)



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- to be patrolling telephone lines. A man was seen to be observing at X.26.C.2.4.
- III. Defences. M.Gs. were located at X.20.D.15.50., X.25.B.85.35., X.20.C.8.3., E.12.A.1.7., posts at X.20.D.00.45., X.20.C.9.4., X.20.C.9.3., X.20.C.8.3., X.26.C.2.4.
- IV. Miscellaneous. Gun flashes were observed on Grid Bearings 01250, 1180, 1090, 1040, and 910 from X.18.D.1.5. An enemy signal lamp was observed flashing from X.15.C.80.55.
- V. Identifications. Nil.

*Stanley* Capt  
for Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.



INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 43.

From 6.a.m. 26-5-18. to 27-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.I. Infantry.

a. Patrols. Touch was gained with the enemy at several points. An enemy wiring party was heard at E.6.C.05.30. This party was engaged with rifle grenades. An enemy working party at E.6.C.05.60. was engaged with rifle fire and bombs. Post at E.11.B.3.2. was engaged with rifle grenades. Enemy located at E.6.A.4.3. M.G. was active from hedge at X.20.C.65.30. Enemy posts at X.20.C.6.4. and X.20.C.75.35. were found unoccupied. Patrols were engaged throughout the night endeavoring to obtain identifications. Efforts were fruitless, as in many cases the objectives were found unoccupied and in other cases the infantry fire brought to bear upon the patrols was usually heavy.

b. Stokes Mortars. Posts at E.6.A.8.4. and E.6.A.8.5. were engaged.

c. Artillery. In support of a raid carried out by the Division on our right, one Battery of our Right Brigade enfiladed road from E.17.A.85.95. to X Roads at E.11.C.70.35.

At 12.25.a.m. our Infantry reported a considerable concentration of enemy at F.1.D.15.45., and this was dealt with by the 1st. Brigade. Extensive harassing fire was carried out by all Batteries, special attention being paid to occupied hedges, houses and approaches to MERRIS and OUTTERSTEEDE. During the early morning hostile Batteries at F.8.B.20.85. and F.15.A.05.80. were bombarded. Medium Trench Mortars. Houses and M.G. positions in E.11., E.12. E.5., E.6. and E.17. afforded excellent targets for our M.T.M. Battery, a total of 41 rounds being expended with very satisfactory results, many direct hits being obtained.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. (a) Infantry. Enemy does not appear to patrol, but his defence is very alert. He appears to be working hard on his forward defence.

(b) Artillery. Enemy artillery was generally quieter than in the preceding 24 hours. The usual harassing fire was carried out on our roads during the day. Towards night enemy's activity increased. Destructive shoots were carried out on W.17.C.8.D., W.18.C.8.D., and on trenches in W.27.B.2.C. and in W.30.A. Front line posts in E.11.A.8.C. claimed a fair amount of attention during the day. A counter battery shoot took place on batteries in W.23.A. and W.30.B. at 10.45.p.m. While raid on right Division front was in progress fairly heavy shelling took place on our forward positions. 500 77mm gas shells were dropped on to X.23. X.17. and 18. between 11.45.a.m. and 12.5.p.m. and also on W.20. and W.14. during the night.

(c) T.Ms. A granatenwerfer fired several rounds on to our posts at X.26.A.1.9. otherwise mortars were not active.

(d) Aircraft. Enemy aircraft were much more active than usual. Several formations are reported to have crossed our lines. E.A. flew over PRADELLES during the day. At 2.p.m. two E.A. flew low over the forward areas. From 4.p.m. onwards activity seemed to increase.

II. Movement. Individual movement was observed at E.30.B.30.75., L.12.C.5.5. road in E.24.B. along train track in E.24.B. towards VIEUX BERQUIN, house at F.25.D.35.35. E.23.D.8.2. road in L.2.C. road in F.30.B. road F.19.C. towards BLEU. 7 men left cottage at E.24.B.1.6. and moved to house at F.19.D.30.65. 8 men carrying containers seen along road in F.25.C.8.D. At 12.30 p.m. small parties of the enemy were seen moving to the rear at F.1.D.3.9. 8 men were seen to leave trench at E.24.E.15.60. and proceed along track to F.19.C.2.1. Our artillery fired on them and immediately they disappeared in trench at F.19.C.3.1.

(P.T.O.)



Continually throughout the day, men were seen to emerge from behind the screen (E.30.B.) on the LA COURONNE - BLEU Road and proceed towards BLEU. Much movement was observed along this road. During the day there was much more enemy movement visible than is usually the case.

Defences. Camouflage has been erected along the BLEU - LA COURONNE Road. Excavation work and wiring is in progress at E.6.C.05.30. to E.6.C.05.60. E.6.C.0.6. and at E.11.B.95.70. Snipers post located at X.26.A.4.9. Unoccupied enemy posts located at E.6.B.8.8. and E.6.A.4.3.

IV. Miscellaneous. 5 enemy balloons observed between 1000 and 1330 Grid Bearings from W.23.A.7.5. Flash of gun at 1470 G.B. from W.28.B.1.2. Flashes of battery seen at 1510 G.B. from W.28.B.1.2. This battery appears to be in hedge at F.2.Central. At 4.10.p.m. a fire broke out in L.2.D. which appeared to be an ammunition dump.

V. Identifications. Nil.

*Henry L. King*  
Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
1st Australian Division.

Information from other sources.

Three prisoners belonging to 132 I.R. 39th Division were captured this morning at 36a. E.17.D.1.1. (Normal.) Prisoners do not know what division is on their right. A document taken off a prisoner of the 121st Division captured by the French on 20-5-18 shows that the following light signals came into force on 21-5-18.

Double red stars.  
Double Yellow Stars or  
Yellow light Balls with parachute.  
Double Green stars  
White Star with pears

Barrage.

Counter Preparation.  
lengthen range.  
Shorten range.

(only to be used when outpost line has been evacuated)



SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

28-5-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 44.

From 6.a.m. 27-5-18 to 6.a.m. 28-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.I. Infantry.a. Patrols.

A patrol of 1 Officer, Lieut. CHEDGEY, Sgt EDWARDS and 14 men rushed an enemy post at X.26.A.5.8. and a lively fight ensued. The patrol was observed before it reached the objective and the enemy made a stiff opposition until our men were quite close, when they scattered in all directions. The whole of the enemy garrison (about 20 strong) succeeded in escaping and did not leave any identification. LIEUT. CHEDGEY and 7 other ranks were wounded.

Another patrol under Lieut. J.H. NIXON rushed enemy post at E.5.D.95.50. killing 3 of the enemy and capturing two others. Prisoners statements under interrogation are attached. An enemy M.G. was captured but became entangled in wire on the way back, and had to be abandoned. Other patrols operated, but did not succeed in gaining touch with the enemy. Enemy machine guns are reported as not being so active as usual.

b. Artillery. Harassing fire during the night was increased by 50% owing to information received from a prisoner of intended relief on our Right Sector. Particular attention was paid to approaches to OUTERSTEENE and the Cross Roads, bridge F.2.A., fork roads F.2.B., Post F.1.D.9.3., cross roads F.1.B.7.1., roads and houses E.11.B. and E.12.A.2.B., roads in vicinity of MERRIS, house F.7.A., batteries F.8.B. and F.14.D., the latter an N.F. call at 6.2.p.m. and observed shoots and registration.

Trench Mortars. Our M.T.Ms fired 68 rounds on M.G. position in E.12.A.10.60., cross roads in F.1.A. and E.6.D. and trenches in X.20. and 26.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. His attitude is even quieter than usual, though judging by the number of flares he expends, he is very nervous.

b. Artillery. Very little shelling is reported. Between 9.20.p. and 10.15.p.m. X.19.B. received attention from 7.7.cm shells. At 11.a.m. cross roads in W.17.D. and road running through W.23.B.2.A. was engaged by a 4.2. battery, the shoot being carried out in conjunction with aeroplane observation.

W.9.C. and ROUGE CROIX received attention between 7.30.p.m. and 8.30.p. It has been noticed that during the hours of daylight any shelling of OUTERSTEENE and the vicinity seems to come from the direction of direction of BLEU and NEUF BERQUIN.

c. Aerial. Hostile machines attempted to cross our lines on several occasions during the day, but were always met with heavy fire from our A.A. and Machine guns. During the night several flights of enemy machines crossed to our rear areas.

II. Movement. More than usual movement of the enemy is reported. Individual movement was observed at EM22.B. to VIEUX BERQUIN - F.19.C. to LA COURONNE - F.25.A. - trench at F.19.C.2.1. to trench at E.24.B. 15.65. - F.25.A.2.B. towards BLEU. - F.25.D. in northerly direction - road in L.8.C. - road through L.7.A.2.B. - Cemetery to house at F.19.C. 3.1. 12 men were seen in K.18.D. near what appeared to be a wireless set.

Much movement observed around houses at F.19.C.3.1. which are suspected of housing a headquarters. Two men apparently officers were seen inspecting trench system in E.24.D. Movement in E.24.B. drew fire from our artillery, which succeeded in scattering groups of men. Two men were seen carrying white boards in a trench in L.2.A.

III. Defences. A machine gun is reported at E.6.B.1.8. What looks like new work or Dugouts covered with turf and branches can be seen at N. Western end of pond in E.12.C.

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IV. Miscellaneous.

At 5.a.m. this morning 6 hostile balloons were up opposite the Brigade sector. Numerous double green and double red flares were used throughout the night. Enemy battery fires from 1460 30' Grid Bearing from W.28.B.1.2. Battery active in rear of BLEU G.B. 1590 from W.28.B.1.2. Fire was seen burning in K.12.A. at 4.5.p.m. Direct hit by our heavy arty was observed on MERVILLE DOME at 5.40.p.m. A H.V. gun was seen firing from about L.2.D.38.55. at 6.30.p.m. It was again active at 7.50.p.m. A gun was seen to fire from behind hedge at K.18.D.4.7. At 10.p.m. a signal lamp was observed flashing from NEUF BERQUIN Steeple. At 11.5.p.m. enemy sent up yellow flares bursting into Double greens on MONT DE MERRIS but no action ensued. At 11.40.p.m. 3 Golden Clusters and single red flares were seen in direction of MERVILLE. Enemy Arty in neighbourhood of NEUF BERQUIN immediately opened fire, despite the fact that our bombing planes were at the time above them.

V. Identifications. Two prisoners taken North of the railway in E.12.A. They belonged to 5th. K. Battalion. 57th. R.I.R. 13th. Reserve Division. It is presumed that the 81st. Res. Div. was relieved by elements of the 13th. Res. Division on night 26th/27th Inst.

*W. G. C. C. C.*  
Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
1st Australian Division.

Information from other sources - Army Summary 26-5-18,

" The importance of keeping the enemy's light railway system under close observation should be impressed on both air and ground observers; any reports as regards rolling stock, noting especially the direction of movement, should be wired to Army 'I' as soon as possible. "

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SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

29-5-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 45.

From 6.a.m. 28-5-18 to 6.a.m. 29-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry. The centre Battalion advanced their line during the night by establishing a post at E.C.A.5.3. Enemy snipers and a M.Gun were active from left front of new post during the operation, and at 5.a.m. a small bomb fight was in progress. No further particulars are available owing to break of day.

a. Patrols. Front was actively patrolled during the night, but active contact with the enemy was not gained by our patrols. Snipers and Machine Guns are reported as being active and enemy sentries as being very alert. Buildings in E.5.D. and E.11.A. were searched and found to be unoccupied. Enemy M.G. located among trees at E.11.B.7.1. Movement around small wood at E.11.D.65.85. observed. A M.G. was active from approx X.26.25.75. A patrol worked along the stream in X.25.C.8.D. It located an enemy post at X.26.C.00.35. on southern side of the stream. Two men were wiring this post. It also located a M.G. at about X.26.C.05.85. It reports another enemy post at about X.26.C.00.30.

b. Snipers. Co-operated with M.T.Ms by firing on enemy party dispersed from wood at E.11.D.55.90.

c. L.T.Ms. Enemy trench system and M.Gun at E.C.C.3.4. were engaged with harassing fire.

2. Artillery. Hurricane bombardments were put down by the 1st.F.A. Brigade intermittently during the evening on enemy defences in E.6. and F.1. In accordance with recent Intelligence all harassing fire during the night was increased 50% above normal.

Special attention was paid during the period to wood in F.7.C. Farms LYNDE, LABIS and LESAGE, PLATE BECQUE, Farm GERBEDOEN, trench from F.1.D.10.85. to F.1.D.40.90. and neutralization fire was put down on to hostile batteries at F.2.D.60.24. Very good results were obtained from a forward Section of the 4th.Bty. Buildings at X.26.B.45.50., X.21.D.99.72., X.21.B.80.10., X.21.C.80.90., X.26.B.35.50., and X.20.B.40.50. were demolished, the latter apparently being an advanced ammunition dump, as several small explosions were observed for some time after ignition. Our heavies were very active during the day, shelling MERRIS, OUTERSTERN and wood at E.17.B.2.9. Several direct hits on buildings in MERRIS were observed, and at X.26.B.5.3. a fire was started. Three other fires in rear areas were also observed and are believed to be result of the latter shelling.

Trench Mortars. A very effective series was fired by our M.T.M. on to enemy M.G. positions at E.11.A.40.60., T.M. at E.11.B.70.30. house at E.11.B.60.10. post at E.12.B.60.30. and post at E.11.D.55.90. The enemy were forced to evacuate the latter post, giving infantry an opportunity for effective sniping, many casualties being observed. In addition, trenches, houses, and posts at X.20.C.80.20./90.05., X.20.D.12.12., X.26.A. Central, X.26.C.90.90. and X.26.D.40.85. were satisfactorily bombarded.

d. Aerial activity. Our planes have been very active throughout the 24 hours. During early morning 5 machines attacked an enemy plane and forced it down in the enemys forward positions. Later another enemy machine was driven down in flames, landing well in rear of enemys lines. At 10.35.a.m. one of our planes is believed to have been set on fire and brought down in enemy country by his A.A. Guns.

II. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. During the 24 hours the enemy has been very quiet. Opposite the Centre Battalion he is reported to be very nervous and opens M.Gun fire and fires numerous flares on the slightest indicator of movement. Opposite the two flank Battalions he does not appear to be so nervous.



b. Artillery.

Enemy artillery was quieter than usual. STRAZELLE was shelled at intervals during the 24 hours with 15 c.m. shells. The remainder of the shelling was chiefly harassing fire on the forward area and field battery positions. H.V. Guns shelled the approaches to HAZEBROUCK at intervals. A. 4.2. H.V. gun shelled V.11.D. during morning and late afternoon.

c. T.Mortars. Inactive except for a few round from a heavy T.M. on the left Battalion front.

d. Aerial. E.A. were more active than usual. Two were brought down as reported above. At 4.20 p.m. an enemy plane over BEEU dropped a flare bursting into 3 white lights.

II. Movement. Individual movement is reported as follows:-  
F.19.C.15.15. along LA COURONNE Road to C.T. leading to VIPUX  
BERQUIN - F.25.D. - E.18.C.4.3. to E.24.B.5.8. - F.25.D.7.5. to  
F.25.D.9.7. Two men appeared to run a telephone wire from house  
at F.19.C.3.1. to house at E.24.B.1.7. 3 men seen working on  
tramway in E.18.D. The LA COURONNE BLEU road was much used.

III. Defences. Three men were observed digging at E.6.C.4.9.  
Enemy posts were located at X.26.C.00.65. and X.26.C.00.30.,  
Machine Guns were located at X.26.C.05.85., X.26.A.25.75. and  
E.11.B.7.1.

IV. Miscellaneous. Two red cross flags were seen at approximately  
F.8.C. From 11.30 p.m. to 12 midnight enemy sent up single yellow  
and single red flares from his positions in E.17.  
On night 26th/27th at 10 p.m. signalling lamp was seen in NEUF  
BERQUIN Church, receiving from ESTAIRES district. This continued  
until dawn. Flashes of enemy guns were seen at 1450 G.B. from  
W.28.B.1.2. in approx. L.9.A. and at 1550, 1570, and 160, G.B. from  
the same O.P.

V. Identifications. Nil.

*for* Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff,  
1st Australian Division.



AERIAL ANNEKE TO SUMMARY NO. 45.

29-5-18,

Ground Observers. report.	Aerial Photos. confirm.	Remarks.
1. Enemy posts at E.12.A.1.8. and E.6.C.00.45.	most likely located in shell holes.	see photo 996.
2. Enemy post at X.20.C.80.28.	this post is clearly defined.	see photos 4.B.490 and 4.B.622.
3. Work reported at E.6.E.5.2.	he is probably joining up the communication trench with the road at E.6.C.45.95.	see photo 4.B.1023.
4. M.G. reported at X.20.D.15.45.	A most likely position in the ruins of the farm build- ings, with a sniper which was also reported at X.20.D. 0.4. in hedge just in front of M.G. position.	see photo 4.B.1147.
5. Wire reported at E.6.C.05.30.	No wire can be seen at this location but tracks are to be seen around the area.	see photo 4.B.854.
6. Working party at E.11.B.95.70.	Work has been done here lately and is plainly visible in the form of improvements.	see photo 4.B.1004.
7. Enemy post at about E.11.D.2.4.	May be established in shell holes in vicinity.	See photo 4.B.994.
8. Working party at E.6.C.05.60.	Much work appears to be carried on in front and in the vicinity of houses at E.6.C.1.6. and probably wire is being erected in front of this fortified positions.	see photo 4.B.854.
9. Post at E.11.B. 3.2.	Post may be found in hedge around the location mentioned, the same photo also shows the unoccupied post reported at E.6.A.4.3.	4.B.996.
10. M.Gun in hedge at X.20.C.65.30.	One seen quite plainly a succession of occupied posts running along hedge, north and south of location given.	see photo 4.B.430.

PHOTO.	NEW WORK.	REMARKS.	PREV PHOTO.
4.B.1163. 1172.	BRIDGE.	Show the result of the 12" shoot on the railway bridge over the METEREN BECQUE at F.8.C.60.02. The bridge is partly destroyed and the railroad badly damaged near this point.	4.B.1079.

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PHOTO.	NEW WORK.	REMARKS.	PREV PHOTO.
4.B.1176.	TRACKS.	Leave the road about E.6.B. 50.02. and lead N. across the field to a probable emplacement behind the fallen tree at E.6.B.39.53. and thence to the hedge at E.6.B.43.40. on the S. side of which there are indications of activity. probable dump.	4.B.995.
4.B.1173.	TRENCHES.	A new trench is under construction between E.6.B.10.10. and E.6.B.20.02.	
4.B.1174.	EMPLACEMENT.	Possible new emplacement at E.2 A.70.18. near where trench appears to have been dug out Several in farm yard of F.9.B.1., which were not visible on previous photos.	4.B.995. 996, and 302.
4.B.1189.	OBJECTS.		4.B.887.

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SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

30-5-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 46.

From 6.a.m. 29-5-18. to 6.a.m. 30-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

I. Infantry. On Centre Bn front at 11.30.p.m. a strong fighting patrol, supported by 3 platoons, moved forward to examine enemy line of posts from E.6.C.05.75. to E.6.A.45.15. with the view of improving the position of our line should it appear possible to hold them.

Considerable opposition was encountered, but it was eventually decided to capture and occupy the posts. After a stiff fight this was done and our line now runs E.6.C.05.75. - E.6.A.35.00. - E.6.A.45.15. A counter-attack was launched by the enemy without success. One prisoner and one M.Gun have so far been brought in.

The captured position comprised 8 small posts, which have now been made into a continuous trench with wire in front.

In conjunction with Centre Bn operations, our Right Bn pushed forward their two extreme left posts to Farm at E.5.D.75.50. without opposition.

a. Patrols. Patrols operated along the front during the night. A M.G. is reported as firing from about X.26.B.0.5. Patrols were sniped at from hedges at X.20.C.5.1. and X.20.C.8.5. and fired at by M.G. at X.20.C.7.2. The wood at E.11.D.7.9. was found to be strongly held at the Southern edge. Much movement was heard in the wood. Listening Posts were located to E.11.D.4.6. and E.11.D.4.4.

A working party was observed at E.6.B.4.7. in enemy trench. A patrol of 1 Officer and 2 other ranks came suddenly to close quarters with an enemy post at about E.6.B.4.8. Shots were exchanged at close range, but the garrison of the post being aroused the patrol had to withdraw. Movements of small bodies of men were seen in vicinity of enemy posts just North of ditch in X.25.D.

b. Machine Guns and L.T.Mortars. Vickers Guns engaged with indirect fire promising targets throughout the period. A destructive shoot on enemy positions from E.6.A.8.2. to E.6.A.8.2. and E.6.A.7.1. to E.6.B.2.6. and E.6.A.9.1. was indulged in by L.T.Ms. Enemy trench in E.6.A.8.B. were subjected to a slow bombardment, in support of local infantry operations. A troublesome M.G. at E.6.A.8.3. was silenced.

3. Artillery. Harassing fire was carried out by all batteries during the 24 hours. At 11.30.p.m. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. Batteries put down a 2 minute hurricane bombardment in support of the minor operation in E.6., and again at 1.25. the 1st Brigade put down a protective barrage in front of the advancing party of the right Bn.

5th. Battery took a section forward to W.16.D.45.35., and with incendiary shell set fire to houses at X.22.C.35.72. and X.22.C.23.72. The former building stood on very high ground, had a screened approach and was probably an O.P. commanding an excellent view.

Houses at X.26.D.13.77. and X.26.D.55.10. shelled with good effect. About 20 rounds harassing fire also carried out when enemy began to retaliate. Section ceased firing. On re-opening later O.P. was shelled with 5.9 and the gun position with 8". Forward Section then ceased firing.

Trench Mortars. Our M.T.Ms at 11.p.m. fired 45 rounds on small wood houses and M.G. position, vicinity E.6.C.50.25. During the night effective harassing fire was carried out, a total of 115 rounds being expended.

c. Aerial. Considerable activity on the part of our aircraft is reported.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. He was very quiet until our minor operation commenced at 11.30.p.m. From then until daylight he was very nervous continually firing flares and swooping our forward areas with machine guns.



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b. Artillery. His batteries were considerable more active than on the previous day. Destructive shoots were carried out on STRAZEELE and Station also on several farm houses in W.27.28., E.3. and 4. A 21 cm. Howitzer fired 11 rounds on to cross roads in W.17.C. During the night 16 gas shells fell in W.23.D., 16 in W.24.E., 90 H.E. and gas mixed in W.18.D. and X.13.C., 10 gas in W.28.D., 20 H.E. and gas in W.27.B., 75 H.E. and gas in W.25.A. & B., 150 gas in W.27.A. His retaliation for our fire covering the minor operation was light, but lively harassing fire was kept up for the remainder of the night.

c. Aerial. Active. At 4.50.p.m. an E.A. was driven down in flames by one of our machines in vicinity of VIEUX BERQUIN.

II. Movement. Individual movements reported as follows:-  
Farm house at F.2.D.4.7. - X Roads at X.29.C.2.6. - wood at E.11.D.7.9. - LA COURRONE - BLEU ROAD. - road in L.2.C. towards PONT RONDIN - along BECQUE from FM LABIS to BLEU. Deductions from movement observed in Squares E.24., 30. and F.13. and 19 :- BRACKEN FM F.19.C.3.1. seems to be the centre of movement in this area. Men are continually seen coming from BLEU direction towards BRACKEN FM and then moving in a N.W. or W. direction. Telephone wires have been laid from BRACKEN FM to farm at E.24.B.1.7 and to E.24.C.3.8. Parties have been seen mending breaks in the telephone wire from BRACKEN FM to E.24.B.1.7. This seems to confirm the suspicion that BRACKEN FM is used as a Headquarters. Very much movement has been observed behind hedge in E.18.C. It is probable that a trench system is being spitlocked in this area, judging by the actions of men observed. What appears to be white notice boards are being placed in trenches in L.2.A.

III. Defences. Enemy posts were located at X.20.C.7.2., X.25.D.5.6., E.3.B.20.75., E.6.B.4.7., E.11.D.4.6., E.11.D.4.4. Snipers were active from positions at X.20.C.5.1., X.2.C.8.3. Machine guns were active from X.20.C.7.2. and X.26.B.0.5.

IV. Miscellaneous. 1.15.a.m. an enemy dump was exploded at Grid bearing of 1080 from X.23.A.7.5. A red cross flag was observed flying from the spire of BERQUIN Church. An enemy carrier pigeon was shot down during the afternoon at E.11.B.2.8. carrying message dated 23.5.18.\* Several balloons were up during the day opposite the Brigade front. (\* Message meant "everything quiet") Gun Flashes were observed as follows from W.23.B.1.2. at 1450 G.B. 1350 G.B. ( 2 guns), 1390 G.B., 1450 G.B. (3guns), 1470 G.B. V. Identifications. A prisoner belonging to 6th Coy, 2nd Battalion 57. R.I.R. 15th Reserve Div. was captured by centre Battalion during local operations at E.6.C.2.9.

*Bracken*  
for Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.

Information from other sources.

It is reported by a Division in the line further South that Blue Cross Gas has been extensively used on their front, mixed with H.E. Almost every burst of H.E. shell fire contain a few rounds of gas shell. Shrapnel also is reported to occasionally contain this gas.

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Movement around BRACKEN FM and its use as a Headquarters is corroborated by observers of the Division on the right.

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The French Northern Army has regained possession of SCOTTISH WOOD in a local operation. AISNE Front 10.p.m. 29th May - Line runs approximately as follows. - CREGY - AUTMONT - JUVIGNY - West of SOISSONS - BERZYLESC - CRAMALLE - NESLES - COULONGNES - TRESLON - ROSNAY - THILLOIS - the valley of the VESLE.



Appendix. 1.

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Appendix. 1.

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In Divisional Intelligence Summary No. 35 of 23rd Inst, Sgt. BRUGGY is reported as having at 5.30 a.m. on the 22nd inst, rushed a small enemy post of 4 men near the house at F.11.D.3.4. and accounting for all of the enemy in the post. A study of aerial photographs No. 994 of 21st and No. 1083 of the 22nd, are very interesting in this respect. The photograph of the 21st shows no tracks at all from our posts to the house at F.11.D.3.4. The photograph taken on the 22nd shows a very clearly defined single track from our post to the house. The return track is also shown.

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SECRET.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

31-5-18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 47.

From 8.a.m. 30-5-18 to 8.a.m. 31-5-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

1. Infantry. A party of 1 N.C.O. and 10 men of the Right Bn. with Lewis Gun left at midnight to raid enemy post at E.11.D.4.6. They crawled to the post and rushed it. The enemy garrison of 4 men put up a stout resistance and refused to surrender. All were killed with the exception of the fourth man who ran to the rear and spread the alarm just previous to our party rushing the post. Owing to the quick appearance of strong reinforcements and heavy M.Gun fire encountered, there was not time to search the bodies for purposes of identification, but the enemy M.Gun was brought in and our party returned to their lines without any casualties.

Our right Bn have established a post at E.5.D.35.60.  
a. Patrols. A patrol of Centre Bn examined enemy post at E.6.B.15.90. from which the enemy fired on one of our patrols the previous night. Before entering the post, it was bombed by our patrol and this drew machine gun and rifle fire from rear of post and from vicinity of E.6.B.3.4.

Post is sandbagged, has firing positions and is in good condition; a C.T. runs S from rear of trench through hop field. The post shows signs of recent occupation and only a few stick bombs were found. Left Bn. frontage was patrolled by five patrols. A small post at X.25.D.8.4. was examined and showed no signs of recent occupation. No enemy patrols were encountered. Occasional M.Gun fire and sniping was directed against our patrols.

b. L.T.Mortars. Enemy posts in vicinity of E.6.A.8.3. and roads and posts at E.6.A.70.35. and F.1.A.7.6. were engaged with harassing fire.

c. Snipers. had practice during the night on enemy figures on the skyline.

2. Artillery. All Batteries were engaged in harassing fire during the 24 hours, attention being paid to FARM GEEBELDON and vicinity, cross roads F.2.D.15.15., roads hedges and tracks E.6.A.12. and F.1.8.7. During the night shell storms were twice fired on E.12.A.4.5. to 7.5. A section of 6th. Battery took up forward position at W.12.C.8.9., and set fire to houses at F.2.D.1.2. and F.2.C.9.0., with incendiary shells. Direct hits were obtained on house at F.8.B.20.05. and harassing fire put down on tracks in F.3.D. A section of guns at F.3.D.2.8. was engaged, but effect could not be observed.

Trench Mortars. Our Medium Trench Mortars put effective harassing and destructive shoots on to trenches, posts and suspected T.M. and M.G. positions E.12.A., E.11.B.&.D. and E.6.B.&.D., and houses in E.12.C.45.90., E.11.B.70.10., E.5.D.09.30., several direct hits were obtained on the latter. A total of 131 rounds expended.

ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

1. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. Enemy is very quiet and not at all aggressive. In the MONT de MERRIS Sector he is very nervous, and uses numerous flares. He also sweeps No Mans Land and the forward area with M.Gun fire at intervals.

b. Artillery. A slight increase has been noticeable during the 24 hours. By day the Right Bn. H.Qrs (E.3.C.0.8.) was shelled at intervals with H.F. and gas. About 230 gas shells fell in the forward area during the night, shelling was very scattered. A destructive shoot was carried out on house at W.22.C.1.6.

c. T. Mortars. Cross roads in X.25.A. received attention at midnight from a heavy T.M. At 3.a.m. 40 rounds of T.M. gas shells fell in X.19.A.&.B. these could be seen while passing through the air, each shell leaving a trail of sparks. E.6.A.&.C. received attention from a M.T.M. Rifle Grenades were used by the enemy on the left front.



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d. Aircraft. His Machines were very active over our front area during the day, but mostly at a high altitude. Between 7.p.m. and 8.p.m. 9 E.A. flew very low over MONT de MERRIS.

A hostile balloon was set on fire by one of our planes at 4.30.p.m. on right division front.

II. Movement. Considerable movement observed during the day in L.3.C. At 7.30.a.m. a party of 9 men entered house at E.24.B.1.7. and at 11.a.m. another party of 5 men entered the same place. BRACKEN FM ( F.19.C.3.1. ) was again the centre of much movement.

The tendency of all movement in this area is towards the N.W., the main avenues of approach to the line at about E.11, appearing to be along the BLEU - COURONNE Road and then across the field in a N.W. direction to E.24.B.1.7. and thence behind hedges in E.18.C. Also from FM LABIS towards E.18.C. Tram line L.8.C. & A. is used as an infantry track by day. Continuous movement between house at F.26.C.2.7. and what appear to be gun pits at F.26.C.5.5. was observed.

3 men left corner of hedge at E.18.C.4.4. (one man carrying a heavy sack) and were joined at E.24.B.1.7. by 7 more men. The party proceeded along trench towards FM LABIS.

A party of 12 men were observed working on some defence work at F.26.C.30.65. at 6.a.m. It is suspected that the enemy is busily constructing defences in E.18.C. at night time.

III. Defences. Enemy posts are reported at X.25.D.5.3., X.25.D.9.6. X.20.C.8.2. and X.25.D.80.35. the latter is wired. The trench crossing the road at X.26.A.5.8. is reported to be strongly garrisoned and contains several M.Guns. A strong enemy post is suspected on the Northern edge of the wood in E.18.D. and a small post at E.12.A.4.4. A Machine Gun was located at X.20.C.7.2. Sniper fired on patrols from X.20.D.3.6. and X.20.C.8.5.

IV. Miscellaneous. Several fires were observed during the period in rear of the enemy's lines. Numerous colored flares were used by the enemy throughout the night, but no deductions as to meanings could be made. A red cross flag was seen flying from FM DU PRINCE in L.3.D. At 2.10.p.m. a dump in L.2.D. was seen to be blown up by our Heavy Art.

Gun Flashes. Taken from W.28.B.1.2. Grid Bearing in each case. 1380 20" - 1450 40 (H.V. Gun) approx Location L.2.D.35.60. - 1410 20" (H.V. gun apparently firing off railway near ESTAIRES). Two 7.7.cm guns were seen to fire from position at F.9.B.95.50. and F.10.A.3.5. A gun fires from behind hedge at F.26.C.80.06.

*W. J. Langford*  
Lieut. Colonel  
General Staff  
1st Australian Division.



ANNEXE.

31-5-18.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.XV Corps weekly Summary of Hostile Artillery Activity.

There is no evidence of a change in hostile artillery strength, but H.V. guns appear to have shown increased activity, and heavy howitzers less activity.

The main centre of activity has shifted Southwards and there is a considerable concentration of artillery N and E of NEUF BERQUIN.

Positions are changing with abnormal frequency, apparently in order to deceive rather than form a net increase of strength. There is no evidence of forward battery positions. The amount of ammunition which is accumulated round active positions still appears to be abnormal.

Army Summary.

Of 207 German Inf. Divisions on the Western front, 158 are known to have been engaged since March 21st and 18 are of poor quality. There are 13 fresh divisions in reserve and 34 divisions who have been refitting for 3 weeks or more. A total of 47 divisions in reserve available for immediate operations.

There are in addition, still 18 fresh divisions in line not yet drawn into the battle on any front.

A prisoner of 38. I.R. Captured N of the LYS Canal on 29th inst, states that orders have been received that the British in this area are to be disturbed as much as possible by frequent raids and that everything is to be done to keep our reserves tied down in this area.

Austrian Artillery. G.H.Q. Summary.

Reports have been received that shrapnel fired at our aircraft were observed to burst with a pinkish colour. A pink burst is typical of Austrian Anti-Aircraft and field guns shrapnel. This fact may assist in the detection and identification of Austrian Artillery units and should be brought to the notice of all observers.

Specimens are required of the enemys anti-aircraft H.E. Shell and shrapnel, particularly from areas where pink bursts have been observed.

New German Tank ; - G.H.Q. Summary.

Large consignments of tanks of a new type are reported to have been sent to the W front. The chief feature of this type would appear to be that the light gun and possibly M.Guns also, is mounted on the top of the tank. Thus there is less danger of the tank being put out of action when coming over the brow of a hill before its gun can open fire. The following details are given:-

Dimensions. Length 30' - 33'  
Height 10'  
Width 10'

Armament. One 5.7. cm (6 pdr) Q.F. gun and 4 machine guns. Two flame projectors with a range of 65 yards are also stated to be carried.

German Ammunition Wanks.

(1) Prisoners captured by the French state having seen, towards the end of April, 3 "caterpillars" known as Tankautos, which are used for the transport of heavy artillery ammunition across broken country. According to the prisoners description, their dimensions are:- length 25 - 26'; height 10'; width 8'.

This tank is driven by "caterpillars", stated to be



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completely covered in. As in the German fighting tank, the engine, placed in the centre, the officer and the 2 drivers sitting above it. From the driver's seat a good, all round view is said to be obtained.

In front of, and behind the engine are the ammunition compartments. No arament is carried, nor is the tank protected by armour. The body is of wood.

(ii) An examination of photographs taken opposite this Army shows that ammunition carriers, probably of this type, are being used in the area between the YPRES - COMINES Canal, and the LYS. The tracks are shown conspicuously on photographs especially between BAILLEUL and the LYS although the nature of the ground north of the BAILLEUL - ARMENTIERES railway renders them more difficult to detect. They appear to be used rather close up to the front line and one case has been noticed 1000 yards from our front line West of VIEUX BERQUIN (Photographs 4.B.1008. 1005. 1143. 206.K.511. taken between May 21st and 26th.

PHOTO.	NEW WORK.	REMARKS.	PREV PHOTO.
4.B.1213.	DUMPS.	Ammunition holes or shelters are now clear along the track leading to the railway from F.10.B.43.77. and along the railway N.E. of this point.	4.B.875.
4.B.1217.	RESERVE AREA,	The "nests" of shell holes between X.21.D.32.15. and 32.C.11.22. are more visible on this photo.	4.B.1116.
4.B.1226.	TRENCH. (C.T.)	has been continued along hedge at E.6.B.48.34.	4.B.995.
	EMPLACEMENT.	Heavy M.G. emplacement at E.6.D.61.32.	
4.B.1238. 1239.	BRIDGES.	over METEREN BECQUE at F. 8.C.50.45. and F.8.A.98.31. are damaged but still passible. No repairs are visible on the railway about F.8.C.60.62.	4.B.1164.
4.B.1241.	WIRE.	is now discernible at F.3.C.00.15.	
	BRIDGES.	2 Foot bridges across the METEREN BECQUE not clear on old photos are now seen at F.2.D.5.4. and F.8.B.30.95.	4.B.1199.
4.B.1243.	TRENCHES.	The front line trench at X.25.C.30.18. has been extended slightly.	4.B.609.
4.B.1246. 1247.	Work.	Building at F.10.A.3.5. appears to have been camouflaged. possible shelter for troops or ammunition.	4.B.1086.
4.B.1249.	BUILDINGS.	The house at F.15.A.60.73. has been destroyed and the road damaged at this point.	4.B.1091.
4.B.1253.	ACTIVITY.	around house at X.29.C.1. and in area N of this.	4.B.877 . 894.



INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 48.

From 6.a.m. 31-5-18 to 6.a.m. 1-6-18.

A. OUR OPERATIONS.

I. Infantry

a. Daylight reconnaissance. Pte KNIGHT of left Bn left our post at midday and moved towards enemy post at X.26.A.25.80. He crawled through a wheat crop to within a few yards of the post, and not observing any movement, he entered the post. Numerous stick bombs were lying about and some equipment and a rifle. A small "possy" was then examined and found occupied by a German who called out in alarm. He was shot. This aroused the remainder of the sleeping garrison, who made for the intruder. Knight waited long enough to shoot the foremost man and then he turned and ran out of the trench to the wheat field and from there fired again at the enemy. Lewis Gunners in our posts who were observing all this, then opened fire on the enemy trench, keeping the Germans down whilst KNIGHT made good his escape unarmed.

b. Patrols. Enemy sap at E.6.B.9.8. was entered and C.T. leading to rear was examined for 50 yards. The patrol was observed and a bomb fight ensued, as a result of which the enemy retired to his main line in rear, where he was engaged with rifle grenades. No wire was observed by this patrol. Enemy sap was about 3 feet deep, narrow and in dry condition.

At dusk a listening party moved out to E.5.D.9.5. and came across an enemy post which contained a light M.G. and shoulder strap bearing "57" on it and a post card.

No other signs of the enemy being observed, the M.Gun was brought into our lines. On returning to the post, the party found that the enemy (about 20 strong) had re-occupied it. With the help of the garrison of one of our posts, our men then bombed the enemy, and it is believed inflicted casualties.

The old posts at E.11.B.9.7. were examined and found to be unoccupied. Wire encountered at E.5.D.7.5. is low and not very thick. An enemy wiring party of about 15 men was located at E.11.B.45.50. Lewis Gun fire was directed on to them. Enemy post in this vicinity is considered to be strongly held.

Another enemy wiring party of 12 men was located at X.25.D.8.9. It was dispersed by Lewis Gun fire. Enemy snipers and Machine Guns were more active than usual against our patrols.

c. Snipers. Two casualties claimed by the centre Bn. One hit was on a sniper who had just previously obtained a casualty in our lines.

d. L.T. Mortars. Harassing fire was directed on to enemy position at E.6.C.5.5. E.6.A.8.1. to E.6.B.1.0. and E.6.A.95.30. which drew retaliation from enemy M.T.M. Enemy trench at F.1.A.9.7. was also shelled.

e. Rifle Grenadiers. did some good shooting on enemy trenches at X.26.A.40.85. and X.20.C.90.35. dislodging the enemy at the latter location.

2. Artillery and T. Mortars. Increased shelling by our batteries was observed during the day. Particular attention by our heavies was paid to MERRIS, OUTERSTEENE and houses in F.26. 22. 112U. Fme. HULLERPT (F.19.B.) and field batteries directed harassing fire on enemy forward positions during the day, on occasions putting over active bursts of fire of short duration. House at F.9. 105.40. was demolished by 50 rounds conducted with aeroplane observation.

Good shooting by our 18-pdrs. was observed on enemy positions at E.6.D.7.1.

M.T. Mortars expended 51 rounds on enemy posts and M.Guns in E.12.A. and E.11.D. and buildings in vicinity.

B. ENEMY INTELLIGENCE.

I. Hostile Activity.

a. Infantry. During the 24 hours enemy was very quiet along the whole front; his machine-guns and snipers were more active



against our patrols. None of his patrols were encountered. It appears that he seldom ventures beyond his own advanced posts. Less flares than usual were used and he was not so nervous.

b. Artillery. A slight decrease in activity was noticeable, although a greater amount of 10 and 15 cm. H.E. was fired on to the forward areas, especially in Squares W.29. and 30. STRAZELLE and STRAZELLE Station were shelled intermittently. A few gas shells fell during the night in W.22.D. and W.24.B. At about 8.45.p.m. some shrapnel and a few gas shells fell in W.19.D. on the outskirts of BORRE.

d. Aerial. Hostile machines appeared over our lines on several occasions during the day; they were engaged by A.A. and M.G.s and frequently driven off. During the night several large bombing squadrons passed over this Sector towards our rear areas.

II. Movement. Much movement again seen from behind hedges E.13.C. across fields past BRACKEN FM along road towards BLEU. Movement about house at E.24.B.1.7. again recorded. Linessmen soon patrolling telephone wire just N of road through E.24.B. and disappearing in front of Cemetery E.24.A.75.80. Large working parties have been observed working at F.26.C.35.80. just after dawn. A trench system seems to be under construction at this point.

Movement along road from ROOSTER FM to BECKETT CORNER has been observed. Individual movement soon during the day in F.1.C. and F.23.C.3.6. A party of 7 men left a post at E.13.Central (approx) and moved towards VIEUX BERQUIN at 6.10.a.m.

At 6.15.a.m. 14 men appeared from behind hedge at E.17.B.60.45. and entered FM LYNDE.

At 9.a.m. two men apparently following a telephone line moved from house at E.24.B.1.7. to near BRACKEN FM.

At 7.15.p.m. a motor lorry passed along the BLEU - LA COURRONE Road. A screen is erected along this road from F.19.C.2.1. to E.30.B.1.6.

III. Defences. Enemy posts were located at X.26.C.2.7. X.26.C.1.4. E.6.C.3.7. X.26.A.5.4. E.5.D.9.8. and X.26.A.5.5. Listening post at E.6.C.55.80. Wire. An enemy wiring party was located working on Western side of hedge at E.11.B.5.4. Some wire was located at E.5.D.7.5. also at X.25.D.8.9. This is probably a continuation of the wire at X.25.D.80.35., previously reported. Sniper active from E.6.B.4.3. A machine gun is again reported at E.6.C.40.65.

IV. Miscellaneous. A signal lamp was in use from F.2.B.00.60. (approx) another was observed on a Grid bearing of 112 degrees from W.23.A.7.5. probably in STEENWERCK Steeple. During the period fires were observed in F.5.C., F.19.A. METEREN and BAILLEUL, also at X.15.D.2.6. During the night fires with occasional explosions were observed at Grid bearings of 120 and 117 degrees from W.23.A.7.5.

An A.A. Battery was observed firing from L.2.D.3.9. Smoke seen issuing from Chimney of house at F.26.C.65.30.

Gun Flashes seen as follows from W.28.B.1.2. the bearing in each case being Grid bearing; - 1460 - 1470 ( 3 guns firing West) -

1480 ( 2 guns firing on to E.4. and W.27.

From W.23.A.7.5. grid bearings - 1200 - 1300 (H.V. Gun)

V. Identifications. A shoulder strap bearing "57" and a postcard giving Identification of 5th Company, 2nd Battalion, 57th R.I.R. 15th Reserve Division, were found in enemy post at E.5.D.9.5.

*Handwritten signature*  
Lieut. Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.