

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/30/15 Part 2

Title: Intelligence, Headquarters, 1st
ANZAC Corps

April 1917



AWM4-1/30/15PART2

[1/30/15 , Part 2]

Typed transcript of First ANZAC Corps
Intelligence Summaries 1-30 Apr 1918

Donated by South African Soldiers Association
of Victoria , 3 DRL 5097 ,
AWM file 748/3/38 .

FIRST ANZAC CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 245.

From 6.30 p.m. 31st March. to 6.30 p.m. 1st April. 1917.NOT TO BE TAKEN FURTHER FORWARD THAN
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERSFor Official Use Only.PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners of war have been admitted to the Corps Cage during the last 24 hours.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

The following localities were shelled during the last 24 hours:-
Distillery in I.1.d. by 15 cm How. from PRONVILLE: Road in I.8.b. by 10 cm gun from NOEUIL: J.8.c. by 15 cm How from GRAINCOURT: VAULX by 15 cm How from CAGNICOURT; VRAUCOURT by 77 mm gun from unknown direction; VRAUCOURT by 10.5 cm How from QUEANT CAGNICOURT and RIENCOURT and by 15 cm How from RIENCOURT, also by 10 cm gun from HENDECOURT: I.19.d by 10 cm gun from NOEUIL.
The almost entire absence of shelling by 77 mm guns was again most marked.

ENEMY POSTS.

A strong point has apparently been constructed at D.19.b.6.1. An entrenched position was protected by a patrol at approximately C.17.b.1.9. A patrol was fired on by a machine gun and rifles from approximately C.17.b.40.2.5. Another patrol was fired on by machine gun apparently from the sunken road running through C.8.c.

OBSERVATION POSTS.

Posts have been located in a building at J.29.a.5.2. and in a railway bank at J.28.a.3.4.

NEW WORK.

A new mine crater has appeared at C.5.c.65.75. The trenches in front of QUEANT running through D.1. and D.7. show signs of recent work.

FIRES.

An explosion took place at QUEANT at 7.30 a.m. Fires were noticed at BOURSIES and DEMICOURT at 10.15 a.m.

MOVEMENT.

Infantry observers report that at the station at D.2.d.4.7, trains were coming in empty and going out full at a quarter to every hour. They were seen at 5.45, 9.45, 10.45, and 11.45 a.m. Nature of the freight could not be seen. (Artillery observers report continual train movements during the morning in this vicinity). At 6.30 p.m. a narrow gauge engine and 10 trucks was seen in the vicinity of D.1.a.1.0. Heavy transport was seen continually up till two o'clock on the road D.8.a.1.1. to D.14.b.5.5. and at the road junction D.2.c.9.0. north of QUEANT. Working Parties were seen in C.12.a, C.6.d., C.17.a., D.1., and V.25. Throughout the day movement was seen in V.25. and U.3

SIGNALS.

In answer to two green flares fired at several points, hostile artillery and machine guns immediately opened fire.

MINES.

The following mines, the location of which has been obtained from captured documents, have not been sprung nor previously reported :-

CROISILLES	T,24,a.1.6
St LEGER	T,28.c.7.6
QUEANT	D.2.c.1.0.
MORCHIES	I.6.c.0.3
RAPAPIE	J.9.b.6.2
DEMICOURT	J.12.d.5.2.
OISY LE VERGER	R.19.a.3.3
LOUVERVAL	J.4.c.5.3

A German mine in a farm in the area of the army on our right has been examined. It is found that a wire was arranged in a tube of corrosive acid, in such a manner that when the wire broke, a striker acted on a primer, and detonated 50 kilos of high explosive.

With such a device the time that would elapse after setting the mine and before the explosion, could be regulated by the thickness of the wire to be corroded or by the composition of the acid. The mine can be concealed so that no wires show.

EXTRACTS FROM CAPTURED DOCUMENTS.

Demolition of roads. Demolitions on the route to be taken by the 17th Inf. Div. on their retirement (in FAVREUIL, BEUGNAYRE, MORCHIES, on the high road (National strasse) between the brick factory N.E. of BEAUMETZ inclusive and the eastern exit of BOURSIES, as well as on the BOURSIES - INCY Road) are to be carried out on the orders of the 17th Inf. Div.

Demolitions of roads in BEAUMETZ and DOIGNIES to be carried out by 4th Guard Division.

Demolitions prepared between RAPERIE, south of LOUVERVAL and the SIEGFRIED Stellung on the high road (National Strasse) and on roads east of the line - West edge of LOUVERVAL - DOIGNIES.

HOSTILE AIR ACTIVITY

Hostile aircraft were reported over BEUGNY in the forenoon flying very low, 1000 feet, apparently not accompanied by artillery action.

S. S. BUTLER, M.
Brigadier General
General Staff
1st ANZAC Corps.

1-4-17

FURTHER INFORMATION from Prisoner (Ersatz Reservist, aged 25), belonging to the 8th Coy., 2nd Bn., 77th R.I.R., captured in D. 25 on the morning of the 31st March.

UNITS SEEN A large notice board showing words, "ARMIERUNG BATAILLON No. 110," was seen by prisoner on the 26th March on the road from INCY to PRONVILLE close to where it is cut by the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

"ARMIERUNG'S BATAILLON, No. 116," also seen close by. (Prisoner is certain of the first number, but not of the second.)

COMPANY STRENGTH and COMPOSITION. Trench strength 150. Large number of recruits and returned wounded. About 4 men over 40. No 1918 Class.

DRAFTS. Last draft about November, 1916. 12 to 15 recruits per company were received, and in addition 12 to 15 P.B. men from Germany who relieved for duty in the line men on H.Q. and other details.

HEADQUARTERS. Regimental H.Q. of the 77th R.I.R.: EPINCY.

The 2nd Bn. H.Q. was in a hollow road a little S.W. of INCHY, definite location impossible. May now have moved, as recent runners failed to find it. Prisoner believes present location probably in SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

COMMANDERS. Company Commander: Lt. MEYER. 2nd Bn. Commander; Hauptmann Von FRANKENBERG-ODWITZ. Regtl. Commander, 77th R.I.R.: Oberst VOGT. Divisional Commander: General (Inf.) Freiherr Von FUCHS. General von SUSSKIND appears to have been transferred to the General Staff at STRASSBOURG. He was much esteemed and very popular.

ARTILLERY POSITIONS. Prisoner ridicules the reports of sunken battery positions behind the line.

TANKS. Nothing heard of employment on Western Front, and none seen. Prisoner knows nothing of German defences against Tanks.

NEW AMMUNITION. Prisoner has heard of shells being expected containing Prussic Acid (BLAUSAURE). Believes they are to be used, but thinks their employment must be limited owing to great difficulties in obtaining large supplies of Prussic Acid.

GAS Knows of no new gas. Towards the end of June, 1916, near GOMMIECOURT, his battalion was subjected to four English gas attacks on the one day. The gas was blown away along a depression towards the right of the 77th R.I.R., who suffered no casualties or inconvenience. Prisoner states that the 73rd I.R. suffered the full effect of these gas attacks, and were believed to have had heavy casualties.

PRONVILLE. Two days ago Company cooks found no water in PRONVILLE for making coffee; all sources of water in PRONVILLE appear to have been destroyed.

INCHY. Village seems to have suffered very little so far from our artillery, and still wears a normal appearance.

ROADS. The roads from PRONVILLE to INCHY and Sains-les-MARQUION are badly worn in a few places, but otherwise in excellent condition.

LIGHT RAILWAY. Prisoner has seen stretchers of light railway (some distance from the road), at intervals, on his way from EPINOY right up to the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. He has heard that this railway runs underground for some distance in places. Cannot be located definitely by prisoner.

POSTAL RESTRICTIONS. About 4 to 5 weeks ago, when prisoner's battalion retired from BUCQUOY through ABLAINZVILLE and CROISILLES to EPINOY; there was a cessation of both incoming and outgoing mails for five complete days.

FIRST ANZAC CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 246.

From 6.30 p.m. 1st April, to 6.30 p.m. 2nd April. 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

The following prisoners have been admitted to the Corps Cage during the last 24 hours.

Battn.	Regiment.	Division.	
1st	119th R. I.R.	26th R.D.	47 o.r.
1st and M.G. Co.	120th	"	27 o.r.
	26th F.A.R.		1 o.r.
	20th Uhlan		1 o.r.
3rd	94th R. I.R.		7 o.r.
1st	96th R. I.R.	1 off.	1 o.r.
1st	77th R. I.R.	26th R.D.	1 o.r.
	6th F.F.A.	1 off.	1 o.r.
		(cadet)	
		TOTAL	2 offs. 86 o.r.

In addition to the above, 36 prisoners are reported as having passed through Field Ambulances, making a total of 124 prisoners altogether.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

LAGNICOURT was shelled by 15 cm Hows. from an unknown direction; VAULX VRAUCOURT by 15 cm. Hows, from HEUDICOURT; VAULX By 21 cm Hows. from an unknown direction; the roads in I.1.b by 10 5 cm & 15cm. hows. from DOIGNIES by 10.5 cm and 15 cm Hows. from GRAINCOURT; H.6.a. by 10 cm gun from QUEANT; BAPAUME by 13 cm gun and 15 cm gun or larger from QUEANT; AVESNES Les BAPAUME by 15 cm gun from a N.E. direction.

OPERATIONS.

This morning, we successfully attacked and occupied the villages - NOREUIL, LOUVERVAL and DOIGNIES. There were 5 counter attacks on the two latter places, all of which were successfully beaten off. Our artillery causing a large number of casualties. Altogether 124 prisoners, 3 M.Gs, and 2 trench mortars were captured, and very heavy casualties are known to have been inflicted on the enemy. When our attacking parties rushed DOIGNIES, four mines were exploded by the enemy causing some casualties, but the resistance offered in the above villages was not very determined. Our aeroplanes gave valuable information which enabled our artillery to deal severely with the enemy counter attacks.

AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE.

Enemy Defences. The ground immediately south of the railway in C.4., 5 and 6 was reconnoitred, no hostile movement was seen there, not does there appear to be any work in progress. There is evidence of work in front of the HINDENBURG Line in D.1.c and the trenches in front of QUEANT. The road running at right angles to the railway in D.1.b and the railway in D.1.a and b have also apparently been worked upon recently.

Enemy dispositions. About a double company of Germans were observed at 7.05 a.m. from about D.17.d.9.4. to D.17.b.9.1. A similar party was seen across the road at D.17.b.9.9. Artillery fire was directed on these parties successfully.

Explosion. A large explosion was observed in HAVRINCOURT at 9.10. a.m.

Fires. A large fire was seen in HERMIES and another in J.29. b.9.9. at 9.40 a.m.

AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE (contd).

Balloons. At 7.45 a.m. 2 balloons were seen up east of DEMICOURT, 2 others were seen up, but position uncertain.

HOSTILE DEFENCES.

Observers report that much work was done on the HINDENBURG Line in T.6. and U.1. between daylight and 1 p.m. on the 31st instant. At times over 100 Germans were seen together outside the trenches,

TRAIN ACTIVITY.

A train of 5 carriages was seen at C.2.b.9.9. at 11.10 a.m. this morning, and one, possibly the same at 12.10 p.m. at INCHY. No movement was noticed on the MARQUION - QUEANT line on which yesterday considerable activity was observed.

HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

A hostile aeroplane which was believed to be ranging a gun on the railway in V.28.d on to BAPAUME was brought down this morning in H.5. The aeroplane is little damaged, and both pilot and observer were taken prisoner.

ENEMY RUSES.

(a) A shovel stuck into the side of a dugout between the timbers which when removed pulled a wire which exploded a mine.

(b) A French stove with stove pipe dismantled, one wire attached to leg of stove and the other to stove pipe nearby. When the stove pipe is picked up a mine is fired.

(c) A charge of 2000 lbs Perdite in a seemingly dead end of a galley of a dugout and connected to ordinary telephone wires. Face of the galley made up to look like undisturbed ground with pick marks on it.

(d) A window weight suspended by fine cord stretched across the entrance to a dugout. On a man entering the cord would be broken and the weight fall into a box of detonators in connection with a charge of explosives.

(e) Several charges found in dugouts placed behind the lining. The only visible sign was that in removing the sets the tenon had been cut and on replacement had to be held in place by small wedges.

(f) A cavity hollowed out under the road leaving only the crust. An 8" shell placed in the cavity with a contact fuse arranged to fire should the road be depressed at all.

(Sgd). S. S. BUTLER, Major.
for Brigadier-General,
General Staff,
1st ANZAC Corps.

STATEMENTS OF PRISONERS.

94th I.R. Prisoners state that the whole of the 3rd Bn. was in the outpost line. They were a part of a picquet holding a trench round the RAPERIE in front of LOUVERVAL. The rest of the picquet were killed or wounded. The 1st and 2nd Bns. are believed to be in reserve and support.

96th I.R. Only the 2nd Coy. said to be in the outpost line. An officer stated that he did not know of any other troops of the 96th Regt. being forward; his platoon formed an outpost at LOUVERVAL.

STATEMENTS OF PRISONERS (Contd).

77th R.I.R. The 1st Bn., 77th R.I.R. relieved the 2nd Bn. last night in the forward area. The 1st Coy. was near LOUVERVAL, prisoner being one of a picquet N.W. of the village.

119th R.I.R. The 1st, 3rd and 4th Coys. were at NOREUIL defending the village. There was a scarcity of M.G.'s in the battalion and it was reinforced by seven guns from the 180th Regt.

The remaining battalions of the 119th were at RIENCOURT, their headquarters.

The 121st Regt. was at rest at CAGNICOURT, its headquarters.

26th F.A.R. 3rd Battery. The prisoner was doing liaison work between Battery H.Q. and infantry. He gave the location of a battery (4 guns 77mm.) belonging to the 20th Ros. F. A.R. AT C.4.a.2.5

20th Uhlans. Prisoner stated very little cavalry was being employed in front of us. The strength of the 20th Uhlans being about 50.

The rest billets are at CAGNICOURT.

SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. Prisoner heard that the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG is not yet near completion.

The PRONVILLE - QUEANT Line is not yet quite complete, and is to be held as long as possible.

CASUALTIES. Men of the 12th Coy., 94th Regt. stated that yesterday our artillery caused heavy casualties in the RAPERIE, 15 men being killed and 40 wounded.

2nd M.G. Coy., 180th Regt.

Order of Battle. The 121st Res. Regt. is on the right and the 119th Res. Regt. is on the left of the 180th.

The strength of the 2nd M.G. Coy. is about 100.

SUPPORTS AND RELIEFS. The 2nd M.G. Coy. relieved the 1st on the 31st March/1st April. The supports of the M.G. Coy. are on the NOREUIL - RIENCOURT Road about 100yds. from NOREUIL.

HEADQUARTERS. One prisoner stated that the H.Q. of the 26th Res. Divn. were at RIENCOURT.

PASWORDS. Password this morning was BISMARCK.

ORGANIZATION. One prisoner stated that the 99th Res. Regt. had left the Division.

1st Bn., 119th R.I.R.

ENEMY'S INTENTIONS. A prisoner of the 4th Coy. was batman to the 1st Platoon Commander, who was a relative of the Company Commander's. Two days ago in RIENCOURT the Company received the following orders from the Bn. Commander which came down to the Platoon and reached the ears of the prisoner.

"NOREUIL was to be held until the 12/13th April. The 1st Bn. was to be relieved on the 5/6th by the 3rd Bn. The former were to have 6 days' rest in VILLERS. On the 11/12th the 3rd Bn. were to evacuate the village.

The COJEUL SWITCH was to be a bluff and Company was to hold this switch with 2 N.C.O. Posts, each consisting of 1 N.C.O. and 8 men: they were to walk up and down and fire lights.

On the 13/14th the COJEUL SWITCH was to be evacuated. The 1st Bn. was to take up its position in the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG which runs North through CAGNICOURT - ETERPIGNY - ETAING (The DROCOURT - QUEANT Line.) This line was to be held at all costs."

HEADQUARTERS. Regtl. H.Q., 119th R.I.R. in VILLERS-les-CAGNICOURT, the fourth house on the left coming from CAMBRAI along the CAMBRAI - ARRAS Road after passing cross-road in VILLERS.

DISPOSITIONS. The 2nd Bn., 119th R.I.R. in QUEANT.

The 2nd Bn., 121st R.I.R. in RIENCOURT.

The 3rd Bn., 119th R.I.R. in VILLERS.

RELIEFS. The 1st Bn., 119th R.I.R., relieved the 2nd Bn. 121st R.I.R. on the NOREUIL Sector on the morning of the 1st April.

STATEMENTS OF PRISONERS (Contd).

6th Bavarian Feld Fl. Abt.

This Abteilung contains from 6 to 8 machines -- Albatross
Bi-planes with "Mercedes" Engines (200 H.P.).

The object of the prisoners' flight was a general reconnais-
sance.

FIRST ANZAC CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 247.

From 6.30. p.m. 2nd April to 6.30 p.m. 3rd April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR

Prisoner admitted to Corps Cage during the last 24 hours;

<u>Coy.</u>	<u>Regt.</u>	<u>Divn.</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>O.R.</u>
1st M.G.	91st Reserve	2nd Gd. Reserve	1	1

The figures published in last night's Summary of "Prisoners of War" captured are not quite correct. Including the above two prisoners of the 91st R.I.R., the numbers and categories of prisoners captured yesterday and to-day are as follows:-

	<u>119th R.I.R. 1st Bn. & 2nd Cyclist Coy.</u>	<u>180th I.R. 1st Bn. & 2nd M.G. Coy.</u>	<u>77th R.I.R. 1st Bn</u>	<u>91st I.R. 1st M.G. Coy.</u>	<u>94th L. R. 3rd Bn.</u>	<u>96th L. R. 1st Bn.</u>	<u>20th Uhlan</u>	<u>26th F.A.R.</u>	<u>6th F.F.A.</u>
Active	3	1	1						1
Reserve	5					1		1	
Ersatz Res.	12	1			2				
Landwehr I	7					1			
Landwehr II	5								
Untrained Landsturn	20				1				
Recruits 1914	1	1			1		1		1
" 1915	7	2		1	2				
" 1916	10	2		1					
Volunteers)	1								
	<u>71</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

In addition to the above, 42 wounded prisoners have been admitted to Field Ambulances (not 36 as stated in last night's summary), making a total of 135.

ORDER OF BATTLE AND HOSTILE DISPOSITIONS.

The Order of Battle of the enemy outpost line opposite the Corps front from West to East appears to be as follows: 180th I.R. (1 Bn); 119th R.I.R. (1st Bn.); 91st R.I.R. (1 Bn.); 77th R.I.R. (1st Bn.); 96th I.R. (elements of 1st Bn.); 94th I.R. (3rd Bn.)

ORDER OF BATTLE AND HOSTILE DISPOSITIONS (Contd).

Although driven out of practically all his original outpost position in front of the HINDENBURG Line, the enemy evidently intends to delay our advance up to the actual main line by all means in his power, and for this purpose is digging trenches and putting out wire in advantageous positions in front of the line. This action goes to show that time is of the utmost importance to him, doubtless because of the unfinished state of the HINDENBURG Line and he apparently intends to delay our advance and contest each yard of ground gained so as to make time for the completion of the HINDENBURG Line. Strong counter-attacks may be expected against our recent gains, and any further ground that may be occupied by us.

AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE.

ENEMY DEFENCES. There appear to be a row of Dug-outs along the Southern bank in the road from DEMICOURT as far as K.7.c.3.5. More dug-outs were seen along the South-Western bank of road from K.7.c.9.4. to K.7.d.2.0. The following new trenches were observed; From D13.d.0.8. to D13.d.3.0. - D.14.d.0.9. to D.14.d.30.75. - D.14.d.25.15. to Cross-Roads at D.21.a.1.9. - D.21.a.25.95. to D15.d.0.2. - J.5.b.75.65. to J.5.b.85.25. - J.5.c.4.4. to J.5.c.60.15. - J.4.d.9.1. to J.11.a.9.6. (not quite continuous) - J.12.c.1.2. to J.18.a.4.3. - J.18.a.0.4. to J.17.d.8.7. A line of holes runs from J.17.c.3.3. to J.11.d.0.5. The enemy's outpost line in front of QUEANT and PRONVILLE appears to run C.7.b.3.2. - C.15.c.8.6. and thence down the road to D.27.b.9.3. The enemy are dug in along this line, but there is no continuous trench. There is a trench about 100 yds. long running South from the road at about J.5.b.1.5.

There is a trench round the East of DOIGNIES in J.16.b. and d.

There appears to be fresh work between ABBAYE FARM and QUEANT village. This is possibly a battery position. There are some tracks running from the QUEANT - PRONVILLE Road to the banks in D.8.b. A short, shallow trench has been dug running N.W. from the QUEANT - LAGNICOURT Road at about D.7.c.6.2. There also appears to be several posts a short distance in advance of the line in D.7.d.

MOVEMENT. Very little movement was seen.

FIRES. Fires seen at D.18.d.9.2. and another in West end of BOURSIES. Fires also seen (a) Near or in front line trench of HINDENBURG Line at the small wood in D.18.d.; (b) In HERMIES (small fire); (c) Large fire, probably one or two houses burning, in METZ.

TRAIN MOVEMENT No abnormal train movement was noticed.

HOSTILE SHELLING. NOREUIL was shelled this morning by 10.5cm.Hows. from RIENCOURT, and VRAUCOURT by 15.cm.Hows. from QUEANT. This afternoon VAULX was shelled by 77.mm. guns from RIENCOURT. BAPAUME was again shelled by 13.cm or 15.cm gun from N.W.corner of BOIS de BOUCHE.

MOVEMENT IN REAR OF ENEMY LINES. A good deal of movement was observed yesterday in areas D.8.c. and d., D.8.c.5.5. Transport was seen moving along the road in these areas. A party of men was observed in U.30.a. and b. at 6.a.m. This party distributed themselves as if manning a trench. At 4.p.m. a party of 200 seen on road in U.17. central marching into HENDECOURT. 3.p.m. troops on road D.2.d. - D.3.a. and working party in V.27.c. central.

NOTES ON AEROPLANE PHOTOS TAKEN ON 3rd April 1917.

3.AE.344. 3.AE.345. A strong point exists on the West side of the Road at J.29.c.4.5. Another has been dug in front of the main line defending HERMIES at J.29.a.5.7. Concertina wire and knife rests have been placed in front of HERMIES, and also to the South of it. This wire runs from J.22.b. - 23.c. - 28.b. - 29.a. - 29.c. - 29.d. - The Southern portion of the wire is exclusively wire.

Trees have been felled across the HERMIES - DOIGNIES Road just at the entrance to HERMIES.

NOTES ON AEROPLANE PHOTOS TAKEN ON 3rd April 1917. (Contd).

3 AE. 346. A small strong point has been commenced at about J.35.b.2.7. also on the roadside at J.35.a.3.6. The trees along this road just South of this point, have been cut down and some of them have been placed across as an obstacle.

3.AE.348. A machine-gun emplacement has been dug just off the road at J.12.a.5.5. firing S.W. on to DOIGNIES.

3.AE.351. Shows the series of holes where the Germans are dug in in J.23.b.

3.AE.355. A barricade has been placed across the road at about D.29.c.9.8. and trees have been felled across the road at J.4.b.7.9. A party of Germans is lining the road from D.29.c.3.7. to D.29.c.25.75.

3.AE.358. The enemy is apparently lining the road running through D.21.c. A machine-gun emplacement can be seen at D.21.d.3.8.

3.AE.359. Shows the line along which the enemy is dug in; it is not a continuous trench as yet, but is protected by a very thin line of wire.

LANDMARKS LEFT BY THE GERMANS.

The enemy appear to have left a certain number of trees and hedges intact, particularly those which are marked on the map, for the purpose of ranging his artillery, In one case a notice has been found in the proximity of a well-defined tree forbidding its destruction. It has also been noticed that the vicinity of certain other conspicuous trees is much pitted with shell holes.

INFANTRY GUN-BATTERIES.

A prisoner of the 5th Infantry Geshutz Battery states that his unit consist of 4 officers and 120 men, and is equipped with 6 guns of 6.62 cm. calibre. He states 27 batteries of this nature were formed in August 1916. His battery formed part of the 1st Assault Battalion, and is normally used in the preparation of raids and in special enterprises.

MISCELLANEOUS.

With reference to the Brigade dug-out which was recently blown up by a mine, it appears from further information now to hand that the wires found had been previously cut by the Engineers then in the line, and explosive removed. From prisoners' statements it is almost certain that the mine was blown by a clockwork device.

The officer and his batman of the 91st R.I.R. are unwilling to impart any information whatever. Further endeavours will be made to obtain information from them to-morrow,

(Sgd) S. S. BUTLER, Major.

for Brigadier-General.

General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

FURTHER EXAMINATION OF PRISONERS.

180th R.I.R., 2nd M.G.Coy.

TRENCH STRENGTH. 60.

HEADQUARTERS. Of 2nd M.G.Coy. opposite Church in main street of RIENCOURT. Of 1st and 2nd Bns., 180th I.R. in RIENCOURT. Of 3rd Bn., in CAGNICOURT.

FURTHER EXAMINATION OF PRISONERS (Contd).

DUG-OUTS. There are 6 dug-outs 200 yds. S. of RIENCOURT lying between the main road, RIENCOURT - BULLECOURT and RIENCOURT - NOREUIL.

UNITS SEEN. Prisoners confirm presence of 13th Pioneers in RIENCOURT.

ROUTES. Reliefs coming from RIENCOURT use the sunken road running through U.29.a. and c., turning to the left in an Easterly direction along the sunken road through C.5.a. and b. in the hollow into the low ground in C.6.c., where they turn to the right in a South-westerly direction.

Food stuff and ammunition is brought up through the main street in RIENCOURT, mostly between mid-day and 4 p.m.

-----oO-----

119th R.I.R.

CONTACT PATROL COURSES. Since December last each company has been sending three men on 14 day courses to HEYNECOURT. Here they had sham fights and practised signalling to aeroplanes with ground signals and lamps.

HEADQUARTERS. Of the 1st Bn. in RIENCOURT, opposite side, to the right, of the Church, and 20 to 30 yards to the North of it.

DIVISIONAL MACHINE-GUNS. Each company is to be shortly issued with two machine-guns in addition to the six already with M.G. Companies. They were expected six weeks ago and should arrive any day now.

BATTERY POSITIONS. A 12 cm. battery lies between RIENCOURT and CAGNICOURT, 200 metres from former village and about 200 metres East of CAGNICOURT - RIENCOURT Road. There is also a 28 cm. Naval gun about 30 metres East of the above mentioned battery position, and a 15 cm. battery 60metres East of the 1st battery.

These batteries were seen last on the 31st March.

AMMUNITION DUMP. There is a large ammunition dump on the VILLERS - BOIS de BOUCHE Road about 30 metres South of the RIENCOURT - BARALLE Road, and on the Eastern side of it.

ROADS. Between RIENCOURT and CAGNICOURT the road is said to be in bad condition, but improves considerably between CAGNICOURT and VILLERS. Up to the present no trees have been laid across the roads N.E. of RIENCOURT.

CONDITION OF RIENCOURT. RIENCOURT is said to have subterranean passages running for some considerable distance underground with entrances in the church. The village is in good condition, and up to the present troops are billeted in the houses, and no cellars are being used.

RATION STRENGTH. 200 to 220 men.

RIFLE STRENGTH. About 120.

MORAL. The moral of the 119th R.I.R. is indifferent. The men have been receiving short rations, and during our recent attack there were several cases of men throwing their rifles away.

GENERAL. A recruit company of 160 men has recently been sent from Germany to work on the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

Further information obtained from a prisoner, Pilot (Corporal - "Offizier-Aspirant") belonging to the 6th Bavarian Feld. Flieger Abteilung.

6th F.F.A. Prisoner believes it is intended shortly to send the 6th F.F.A. further South for some special duties, nature of which at present unknown. At the moment the 6th F.F.A. appears to be more or less detached. Its commander is in Berlin, and flights of individual machines or of the whole unit are undertaken occasionally by direction of the deputy commander, but more frequently when the pilots or observers feel inclined to carry out a reconnaissance or to take photographs.

OBJECT OF FLIGHT. The night of the 1st/2nd April appears to have been spent by the officers belonging to the 6th F.F.A. in somewhat riotous fashion in the Officers' Casino at LE CATEAU. At about 5.30 a.m. on the 2nd it was generally decided that instead of turning in the F.F.A. should carry out a small reconnaissance flight. The machines rose between 6 and 6.30 a.m. with the intention of reconnoitring our line in front of our old PERONNE - SAILLY SECTOR. One machine carried a camera. The others came more or less as an escort to this machine. Prisoner's machine was attacked by three Sopwith biplanes, and was damaged by M.G. fire from one plane which descended upon it from ~~from~~ above and behind. There was a strong wind blowing North which carried the plane towards our line at LAGNICOURT where it finally was forced to descend.

HEADQUARTERS. The 6th F.F.A.'s H.Q. in LE CATEAU. No other F.F.A. at LE CATEAU. One F.F.A. (No. unknown) at INCHY (10 miles East of CAMBRAI). The 257th Artillery F.F.A. has its H.Q. in the neighbourhood of LE CATEAU.

NOMENCLATURE. Prisoner states that the numbers of numerous F.F.A's have been changed during the last two months. He can throw no light on the system. The 257th Artillery F.F.A. is a case in point.

Special F.F.A's. There are a number of F.F.A's which confine their activities to special matters such as bombing, pure and simple, photography, and panorama work ("Film-Arbeit") -- the operator carries a cinematographic apparatus and apparently takes panoramic photographs during the flight of his machine.

ORGANIZATION OF GERMAN AIR-SERVICE. There appear to be two German Flying Corps, Prussian and Bavarian, with Headquarters in Berlin and Munich respectively. The Saxon, Wurttemberg and Baden Flying sections come under Prussian jurisdiction.

There is intrigue going on to bring the Bavarian Flying Corps under Prussian control. The full title of the Bavarian Command is, "Bayrisch Inspektion des Luft und Kraft Fahrwesens." (Bavarian Inspection of Air and Motor Traffic).

PILOTS. Bavaria produces 20 to 30 new pilots monthly: Prussia considerably more.

THE RETIREMENT. There are no signs of new positions begun behind the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

CONDITIONS AT HOME. Bearable. Bavarian people as well as Prussian willing to make further sacrifices. Much bitterness between Bavarians and Prussians in the field as well as at home. This has not decreased since the beginning of the war. Cases of actual fracas between the two nationalities actually occurred in France; nevertheless, prisoner does not think Bavaria will in any way try to break the German Solidarity.

FIRST ANZAC CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 6.30 p.m 3rd April, to 6.30 p.m. 4th April, 1917

PRISONERS OF WAR.

One wounded prisoner of the 2nd M.G. Coy, 96th I.R. has been captured during the last 24 hours.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

The following localities were shelled during the last 24 hours:-
Distillery in I.1.a. by 10 cm and 15 cm hows. from CAGNICOURT and ECOUST; I.4.a by 77 mm from PRONVILLE; VAULX by 10.5 cm and 15 cm hows or larger from north easterly direction and QUEANT, and by heavy how. from CAGNICOURT; Railway station, BAPAUME by 13 cm or 15 cm gun from north easterly direction; MORENIES by 10.5 cm gun from northerly direction; DOIGNIES and BEAUMETZ by 10.5 cm hows. from BOURSIES; CAGNICOURT by 10.5 cm how from PRONVILLE; I.3.b by 15 cm how from INCHY.

MOVEMENT.

An enemy field battery was seen going into position S.E. of PRONVILLE in D.10.c.9.0.
A party of men about 100 strong were seen working in V.28. Considerable amount of movement was seen on the main BAPAUME - CAMBRAI road. In E.23.d and E.24.c and d; ~~motor~~ motor and horse transport and infantry movement were seen. The transport wagens appeared to be becoming light from FONTAINE NOTRE DAME and returning loaded.
At 2.10 p.m. two coys. of men marching in column of fours in a N.E. direction were seen in E.22.d.
A considerable amount of movement throughout the day, on the road E.4.a, both coming from and going to BOURLON. Transport was moving frequently in E.24.c and d.
At 5.15 p.m. a body of horsemen about 100 strong was seen on the road E.9.c going west. Limbers, cookers and men were seen on the road in W.28 going towards BOURLON.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Work was being done at D.7.d.5.9. The wire in D.18.a and 19.a was being worked on by a party of 30 men. Another party was wiring at F.22.a. Large parties were seen working on a trench in E.22.a and in E.18.d in the afternoon.

MINES AND EXPLOSIONS.

A mine was blown at approximately D.7.b.4.6. at 7.20 a.m., Early in the morning of the 2nd several mines were sprung in DOIGNIES. At 11.30 a.m. a mine exploded in a house which was in good order in LEBUCQUIERE and completely destroyed the building.
A mine crater is reported at J.16.b.2.5.
At 3.15 p.m. an explosion took place in RIENCOURT, causing a fire. Explosions were seen in U.28.a.1.6 at 5.27 p.m. and at 6.12 p.m.

FIRES.

Fires were seen in BULLECOURT, QUEANT, METZ en COUTURE, and in several villages S.E. of our area. They all seemed to be on this side of the HINDENBURG Line.

J. J. W. HERBERTSON, Lt.
for Brigadier General
General Staff
1st ANZAC Corps.

FURTHER INFORMATION FROM PRISONERS CAPTURED ON THE 2nd APRIL 1917

Information from Private (officer's batman) of 1st Machine Gun Company, 91st R.I.R. 1915 recruit, not called up till 1916, owing to faulty heart.

CAPTURE.

On evening of 2nd inst. one officer with 2 m.gs. and crews from 1st M.G.Coy, then in BARALLE were ordered to report to front line beyond QUEANT. Officer and batman strayed beyond wire and were captured.

HEADQUARTERS

1st M.G.Coy., 91st R.I.R. IN BARALIE. Orderly rooms of other two M.G.Coys. also in BARALIE.

ORGANISATION.

100 men, 6 guns, all German. No Lewis Guns. Nothing known about new light machine guns.

SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

When withdrawal began prisoner heard much talk about intended occupation of trenches containing concreted dugouts. He has passed over SIEGFRIED STELLUNG only at night in a limber. Remembers seeing much wire, but no trenches.

He merely caught a glimpse of trenches south of QUEANT. These appeared deep and well built, but he saw no dugouts.

METHOD OF HOLDING LINE.

A battalion of 91st R.I.R was holding these trenches. Prisoner saw line of posts. Thinks it possible some may be billeted in QUEANT. BARALLE.

There are no civilians. There is a Bn. canteen here belonging to the 1st Bn. 91st R.I.R. Most ordinary necessaries can be obtained here including newspapers. Milk, tinned or otherwise, is not obtainable nor chocolate, nor tinned fruits. Butter occasionally at 3 to 4 marks per lb. This is cheaper than at home.

RATIONS.

Ample in quantity and of quite good quality. Frequent issues of tinned meat and sausages. Potato ration was stopped for a time during heavy frost, but new again on issue. The 1st M.G.Coy. keeps a cow, and supplies of fresh milk are always obtainable at the Coy, Orderly Room.

ENEMY INTENTIONS.

Prisoner believes SIEGFRIED STELLUNG is to be held.

Information obtained from prisoner belonging to 3rd Bty. 36th Res.F.A.

PRISONERS UNIT.

3rd Bty., was emplaced about a kilometre due S. of RIENCOURT, E. by S.E. of BULLECOURT, about 800 yards N. of a short sunken road running due east. Its sole target was LAGNICOURT. Prisoner himself was attached to the Artillery observation officer, who was in turn attached to the outpost commander in NOREUIL in the sunken road at C.10.c.65.65. Prisoner used to accompany his officer on a daily round of the picquet and sentry posts defending NOREUIL.

DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

Prisoner believes that the 26th Reserve Division have at present at their disposal 3 batteries on 10 cm Hows. and 3 to 4 batteries of 15 cm Hows.

AMMUNITION.

Prisoner believes that supplies of ammunition have if anything increased this year. It is brought nightly to his battery in G.S. Wagons. Location of dumps unknown.

On a normal quiet day prisoner's battery fires from 150 to 180 rounds, chiefly during night time. This battery fired 6500 rounds during the course of the 1st July 1916, at THIEPVAL. This is the maximum ever fired by the battery. On the 3rd July over 4000 rounds were fired. Most of this was shrapnel. On a normal day the Pro-portion of H.E. to shrapnel fired is about 20 to 1.

UNDERGROUND BATTERY POSITIONS BEHIND SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

No knowledge. Prisoner doubts their practicability.

RELATIONS BETWEEN PRUSSIANS AND OTHERS.

There is much bitterness against, and hatred of the Prussians in the Wurtemburger Regiments, this has if anything increased since the beginning of the war, and there is much brotherly feeling between the Bavarians and the Wurtembergers on this account.

SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

Prisoner saw trenches in U.29 and confirms our information regarding depth and general appearance. He states wire is anything from 100 to 150 metres across.

Information obtained from prisoners of the 119th R.I.R.

FIELD RECRUIT COYS.

119th R.I.R. 130th I.R. and 121st R.I.R. Each Coy 100 strong. These Field Recruit Coys were at BLECOURT until Xmas 1916, but were removed to PALLUEL. The 119th R.I.R. have received between December 1st 1916 and January 20th 1917, 3 drafts of roughly 80 each from their Field Recruit Coy.

LOCATION OF TROOPS.

99th R.I.R. last seen in IBOIRY St MARTIN in January, now reported to have gone back to ZAARBURG.

ARTILLERY.

Rough locations of 2 77mms at RIENCOURT, one at U23.d.2.8 and the other at U.30.a.3.8.

NEW DEFENCES.

Work going on hastily on new lines behind RIENCOURT.

ROUTE FOR AMMUNITION SUPPLIES.

BARALLE - QUEANT Road.

FURTHER INFORMATION obtained from prisoner belonging to 3rd Battery, 36th Reserve F.A.R.

GENERAL. The average life of a 7.7cm. gun is about 7,000 rounds but on occasion they have been used for 10,000. The drafts of artillery recruits prove very satisfactory. The ammunition shows no deterioration. This man spent over 32 months in this battery.

FURTHER INFORMATION. obtained from prisoners belonging to the 94th I.R.

COUNTER-ATTACKS ON BEAUMETZ. Prisoners state that the reason for the counter-attacks on BEAUMETZ was purely and simply to destroy the cellars and do more damage to the village before finally evacuating it.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT. Trench guns are reported to have been used against our aeroplanes at DOIGNIES. These guns are said to have a range of 2,000 metres and a calibre of about 5 centimetres. Prisoners think they may probably be used against Tanks.

FANNENWERFER. STURM TRUPPS are still trained in the use of Fannengerfer, and recent demonstrations have been given behind the line. No instrument, however, has been used capable of throwing a flame more than 50 metres.

MINING. The canal in the neighbourhood of HERMIES is said to be mined, but has not yet been blown up. There is also an unexploded time mine in the white house in the Northern extremity of BEAUMETZ.

PASS-WORD. The pass-word of the 94th I.R. from 1st to 8th instant is said to be "STORCHNEST".

CONDITIONS AT HOME. Black Pox is said to have broken out in several large cities in Germany, including BERLIN and CASSEL. It is also said that children of poor families are being distributed amongst the farmers.

GENERAL. The owner of the Chateau and BOIS de BOURLON, in BOURLON, is said to have recently offered the Germans five million francs if they would protect his property.

FIRST ANZAC CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6.30.p.m. 4th April, to 6.30 p.m. 5th April 1917.

CORRIGENDUM

1st Anzac Corps Intelligence Summary No. 248. dated 4.4.17.
page 14.

"Information obtained from prisoner belonging to 3rd Bty. 36th
Res. F.A.P."

for 36th Res. F.A.R., read 26th Res. F.A.R.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been captured during the last 24 hours .

HOSTILE SHELLING.

The following localities have been shelled during the last 24
hours :-

I.11.b. by 15 cm. hows, from PRONVILLE; MORCHIES by 15 cm how (1 gm)
from RIENCOURT; I.11.d. by 21 cm How (2 guns) from VILLERS; NOREUIL
by 10.5 cm and 15 cm hows from BOIS de BOUCHE; LONGATTE by 10.5 cm
and 15 cm hows. from RIENCOURT and HENDICOURT; LAGNICOURT by 15 cm
how. from PRONVILLE; BAPAUME Station by 24 cm gun from BOURLON; C.10.
a by 15 cm. how. from RIENCOURT; DOIGNES, by 15 c.m.How. from INCHY;
VAULX, by 10.5 and 15 cm hows. from BOIS de BOUCHE.

HOSTILE MOVEMENT.

At daybreak about 100 men/dispersed by our artillery at
C.6.d. A working party of about 20 men were seen on D.21.d.
At 4.15 p.m. yesterday a train was seen in V.24. It is believed
that this train carried the gun which shelled BAPAUME.

HOSTILE AIRCRAFT.

Hostile aircraft today have been active.

FIRES. At 1.2 7.p.m. clouds of smoke were observed by ground ob-
servers in HERMIES.

DUMPS. Large dumps at D.4.a. and V.28.d.(S.E. on INCHY Station) are
reported by aerial observers.

L. Engineer material and building material of all kinds are, according
to captured documents at the SIEGFRIED Station, MARQUION and INCHY
Stations. There is also an engineer dump in LA DRIOCHE FERME (Vil-
lers Lez Cagnicourt).

REST BILLETS.

L. Officers refreshment room in the Chateau at REMAUCOURT. There is
a refreshment room for men in CAGNICOURT, VILLERS LEZ CAGNICOURT, and
ECOURT ST. QUENTIN.

HEADQUARTERS.

A captured map shows a headquarters in QUEANT at V.25.c.8.0.

SUMMER TIME.

R. German Army Orders announce that summer time will be introduced
at 2.a.m. on the 16th April and will cease at 3.a.m. on the 17th
September 1917.

WARNING

Poisoned food.

Extract from special orders of the 2nd German Army dated
March 26th 1917.

"Two cases of death have occurred by arsenic poisoning, following on the consumption of a white powder mixed with flour found in the evacuated billets. Troops are again warned against the use of rations left behind in billets."

The above is significant. The Germans are probably again following their favourite device of accusing others of what they are about to perpetrate themselves.

Troops should be warned to avoid all food left behind by the German soldiery.

CAPTURED TROPHIES.

In the operations of the 2nd instant, in addition to the 3 officers and 132 other ranks captured, 7 machine guns, 4 trench mortars, 2 bomb throwers, a telephone set and some bicycles were captured. A conservative estimate of the German killed is 500.

FURTHER INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM PRISONERS OF THE 119th R.I.R. CAPTURED ON THE 2nd INSTANT.

BATTALION AND COMPANY DISPOSITIONS.

A whole battalion was being used at a time for outpost duty, 3 coys. being in line and one in reserve in RIENCOURT. On the 2. 4. 17. the 1st 3rd and 4th Coy. were in line. Battalions were doing 10 days in line. The 2nd Bn. was relieved by the 1st Bn. about 5 days ago, and went back to rest in VILLERS. On the 2nd inst., the 2nd Bn. was in the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

DIVISIONAL RELIEF.

According to one prisoner the 26th R.Div. was to have been relieved some days ago by the 28th R. Div.

COMPANY STRENGTH.

Trench strength, 120 to 150. Ration strength, 200 to 250.

SIEGFRIED LINE.

A short time ago, the 1st Bn. was in the SIEGFRIED line just in front of RIENCOURT. This part of the line appears from prisoners' statements practically complete, but the dugouts are lined with timber and not concrete. This is apparently due to the frosts having stopped concrete work. The general impression is that a definite stand will be made in the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. One man states that the wire in front of the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG in front of RIENCOURT IS ABOUT 150 metres wide, with only openings for patrols.

FURTHER LINES OF DEFENCE.

No knowledge of any further lines in rear completed or in course of construction.

FOOD AND MORAL.

No complaints about food. Some of the Older men are rather anxious to the exact meaning of the retreat, but the remainder seem satisfied that they have fallen back on a well built line which they believe they can hold.

Life in the towns is becoming more and more difficult, but in the country conditions are not so hard, although there is privation.

(Sgd) S. S. BUTLER, Major.

for Brigadier-General.
General Staff.
1st ANZAC Corps.

5-4-17.

No. 21.

FIRST ANZAC CORPS REPORT ON THE ENEMY FORCES.
ORGANIZATION, WORK, &c., FOR WEEK
ENDING APRIL 5th, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR. The following prisoners were captured during the period under review:

	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O.R.</u>
119th R.I.R.		71
120th I.R.		7
77th R.I.R.		2
91st I.R.	1	1
94th I.R.		6
96th I.R.	1	2
15th R.I.R.		1
20th Uhlán		1
26th F.A.R.		1
6th F.F.A.	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>TOTAL</u>	3	93

In addition to the above, 42 wounded prisoners (of whom one is an officer), have been admitted to Field Ambulances and Casualty Clearing Stations, bringing the total number of prisoners captured during the period up to 138.

TROPHIES. The following trophies have also been captured:

7 Machine-Guns; 4 Trench Mortars; 2 Bomb Throwers;
1 Telephone Set; and some Bicycles.

ENEMY DISPOSITIONS. The identifications made during the past week have been normal.

The enemy, in our sector, having been driven from all the Villages between us and the HINDENBURG Line except BOURSIES and DEMI-COURT, still contest, in accordance with their orders to keep us as long as possible from the SIEGFRIED Line, the country which is immediately West of it. There is no doubt that our occupation of NOREUIL, LOUVERVAL and DOIGNIES, has seriously deranged the enemy's plans. The SIEGFRIED STELLUNG is not ready: air photographs show that an error was probably made in laying part of it out. Hence the enemy's repeated counter-attacks, and his efforts to dig himself in on his present line.

It may be reckoned that the Corps sector is held by Infantry amounting to about 3,000 in number, with a few patrols of divisional cavalry and cyclists. The nearest field batteries are in the vicinity of PRONVILLE.

Troops in reserve appear to be quartered in the villages immediately East of the HINDENBURG Line, such as CAGNICOURT and RIENCOURT; those in rest, further back in villages such as SAUCHY-L'ESTREE.

ENEMY DEFENCES. The enemy has been busy seeking cover in his present line, especially in D.13 and J.19. Prisoners' statements agree that the HINDENBURG Line is not completed. It is known to have reached a much higher state of perfection in the FONTAINELLES-CROISILLES sector than at BULLECOURT.

An air reconnaissance on the 31st March confirmed the presence of a line of trenches running West of DURY - ETAING - SAILLY-VITRY, continuing North between IZEL-les-EQUERCHIN and QUIERY-la-MOTTE. Recent air photographs show that this line, just North of QUEANT, has been very considerably worked upon and improved.

MORAL. The moral of the prisoners taken recently has been fair. There are evidently two anchors of hope to which all trust: the submarine campaign and the genius of HINDENBURG. Doubts are already creeping in as to the efficiency of the former, while national trust in the great soldier who has never before had to ask for confidence is now being put to a severe test.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY. There has been an increase in hostile shelling during the past week. The following areas have been shelled:

PERSISTENTLY: BAPAUME - VAUX - ECOUST - LONGATTE.

INTERMITTENTLY: LAGNICOURT - NOREUIL - DOIGNIES - BEUGNY.

The number of active batteries has increased. This may be accounted for by the fact that they are now settled in new positions. Compared with the number of batteries active before the retirement, there is no increase.

The volume of fire from 77mm. guns has been a little more noticeable, but the shelling from guns of this calibre is still seldom reported.

GROUPING. It is still impossible to report with certainty on hostile grouping, but from the study of reports and from air photos, it appears that there are five groups:

QUEANT - 5 batteries; RIENCOURT - 7 batteries; PRON-
VILLE - 4 batteries; BUISSY - 6 batteries; CAGNICOURT
- 3 batteries.

HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. The hostile air activity during the past week has been normal.

MISCELLANEOUS. It has been noticed that whenever our artillery fire on RIENCOURT, the enemy retaliates on VAULX.

J. J. W. HERBERTSON. Lt.
for
Brigadier-General
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

FIRST ANZAC CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 250.

From 6.30 p.m. 5th April to 6.30 p.m. 6th April. 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

Two prisoners of the 119th R.I.R. have been captured during the last 24 hours.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

The following localities were shelled during the last 24 hours :-
V.12.X by 10.5 cm and 15 cm hows from ECOUST and RIENCOURT; LAGNICOURT
By 77 mm and 15 cm hows from QUEANT and CAGNICOURT; C.5.a. by 15 cm
hows from HENDICOURT; VRAUCOURT by 15 cm and 21 cm from CAGNICOURT;
C.9.a. by 15 cm how from CAGNICOURT; NOREUIL - LONGATTE Road by 10.5 cm
hows from CAGNICOURT, J.1.central by 10.5 cm hows from INCHY;
LOUVERVAL by 10.5 cm hows from INCHY; J.13 by 15 cm hows from INCHY;
VRAUCOURT COPSE by 77 mms from HENDICOURT; C.19.d.2.6 by 15 cm hows
from QUEANT; MORCHIES by 15 cm hows from RIENCOURT; I.11.b by 10.5 and
15 cm hows from PRONVILLE.

MOVEMENT.

Horse transport was seen moving on the road in D.4.d. and c in the direction of PRONVILLE, and light transport in D.2.c.6.8 leaving QUEANT towards CAGNICOURT. A working party of 20 men was seen in V.2.c.8.5. Divisional observers report no enemy movement in the BULLECOURT - RIENCOURT Sector.

Several times during the day the enemy at work at his wire in front of QUEANT were dispersed by our artillery.

A party of men were seen pushing trucks on the Decauville railway from V.25.b.8.2 to d.3.b.2.6.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

An artillery observer reports that much new work is in progress in U.12.c.3.2 and U.23.b.8.0.

Air reconnaissance reports that the HINDENBURG Line south and east of BULLECOURT appears to have been considerably damaged by shell fire.

OBSERVATION BALLOONS.

At 7 a.m. a kite balloon was up at about V.22.a (Sheet 51b) It descended at 7.30 a.m. At 7.30 a.m. a kite balloon was up at F.29.a (Sheet 57c). At 8.45 a.m. a kite balloon was up north east of BOURLON. Two hostile balloons were seen in rear of ECOUST at 11 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

FIRES AND EXPLOSIONS.

An explosion was seen at 10.10 a.m. in LONGATTE. Many fires were seen in RIENCOURT at 5 p.m. At 10.45 a.m. a dense cloud of smoke came from MARQUION.

MISCELLANEOUS.

RIENCOURT Church spire disappeared at 2.26 p.m.

The Tour de QUEANT has been blown down (probably by Germans), and the trees on the road nearby have been felled.

It is reported that that German cavalry rode towards our lines opposite FRESNOY le PETIT, dressed in British uniform, and after a short interval galloped away

S. S. BUTLER, M.
for Brigadier General
General Staff
1st ANZAC Corps.

APPENDIX A

No. 250.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Photographs taken yesterday establish the following main points :-

- (i) From the junction of the QUEANT - PRONVILLE and HINDENBURG lines in U.30.b. a double line is being constructed past RIENCOURT, HENDICOURT, and FONRAINE lez CROISILLES. It is in a very incomplete state except from RIENCOURT to U.16.c.13 where a single line appears to have been dug to full depth. (15 AE 1396, 1398, 1399, 14 00, 1401.)
- (ii) From the same point (U.30.b) a double line runs to join the DROCOURT - QUEANT line in V.13.d. (15 AE 1390 - 1393).
- (iii) A double line is shown under construction in V.30.b. which will probably join them in HINDENBURG LINE immediately west of INCHY thus continuing the MOEUVRES - INCHY part of the line northwards towards BUISSY. (18 V 411).

The intention of the enemy appears to be to switch the HINDENBURG line in a more northerly direction from suitable points, and to increase the depth of the system behind the line from FONTAINE to MOEUVRES.

APPENDIX B.

Translation of letter taken from German Officer captured on 2nd April '17

18. 3. 17

Dear Reihling,

Many thanks for your letter of 23.2.17 and card. In your letter you give some insight into the brilliant retreat which, shortly after, astonished the whole world, but and not least, the English themselves. One thing however, I must frankly confess, namely, that although I can understand the motive for the momentary withdrawal, I cannot conceive of further decisive results on these lines. I am certainly glad that one no longer insists on the holding at all costs of the front line, but, to put it briefly, we cannot win the war in this manner.

I am inclined to think that the idea is to postpone an issue until the intensified U boat war has made its effect felt.

I do not however any longer believe in a decisive effect of the latter, and for the following reasons :-

Firstly, the communications between France and England, according to undenied reports, have not been interrupted, or even endangered. For this reason alone, the complete starvation of England would not be easy. Then again, the blockade is not effective by a long way, since, apart from the many exaggerations, a considerable number of ships have got through, and this in February, when the effect should have been greatest

We can see from our own case that a certain amount of organisation renders the starvation of a country very difficult,

I will not go into the question of the effects of the U boat war on the erstwhile neutral countries, both during the war and more especially afterwards.

And so you see that I have become quite pessimistic again, although at the outset I anticipated great things from it. But all the same, I am entirely of your opinion that every great and clever action relieves one for the moment from the oppressive consciousness that the vast majority of our people are either hopelessly stupid or of low character. That has been exactly my opinion also since I have become a soldier and particularly since I have been in the field.

Your sincere friend,
Richard Wagner.

6-4-17.

No. 250

INFORMATION obtained from a prisoner, a corporal, 1914 volunteer (1916 Class-, belonging to the 12th Coy., 119th R.I.R.; captured in C.6.c. on the morning of April 5th.

Most of the following information is confirmed by another prisoner (untrained Landsturm), from the 11th Coy., 119th R.I.R.

ORDER OF BATTLE. North to South; 121st R.I.R. (2 Bns. about to come into the line on right flank of 180th I.R.); 180th I.R., 2 Bns. 119th R.I.R., 2 Bns.; 91st R.I.R.

METHOD OF HOLDING THE LINE. The 11th and 12th Coys. holding the front line in U.30. On their right the 9th and 10th Coys., on their left the 2nd Bn., 119th R.I.R. - C.6.b. and d., and in D.7.a. and d.

Each company in the 3rd Bn. had a platoon of about 30 men under an officer about 600 to 1000 yards in front of the front line on outpost duty. The platoons from the 11th and 12th Coys., with two officers, were posted in improvised dug-outs North of the railway embankment in C.6.c. and d., immediately South of the cross-roads in C.6. central. These platoons retired on our advancing, with the exception of the two men who were captured. Prisoner believes that there is now a post of one platoon under an officer in the sunken road immediately East of the cross-roads in C.5.b.

Average Company front 300 to 350 yards.

SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. Information already received confirmed by prisoner in most particulars. Dug-out entrances in front line, roughly, every 10 metres. At bottom of each stairway sleeping accommodation for one Gruppe (8 men). Three to four of these dug-outs are connected underground on this front by a passage, so that there are three to four exits to the trench for each platoon. The system is not yet, however, completely continuous underground on this front.

Prisoner knows of, and has seen, some concreted chambers, 10 to 12 feet square, in the parapet, with stairway leading from the rear under the ground to the dug-outs. But there are none of these chambers on prisoner's battalion front. Prisoner saw one in U.28.a., S.E. of BULLECOURT. He confirms previous dimensions, but adds that the interior is divided up into small cells by means of reinforced concrete.

WIRE. The wire system is from 100 to 150 metres across including intervals. There is an interval of about 50 metres between the parapet and the first stretch of wire, which is 40 to 50 yards across. Then there is another interval of about 5yds. before reaching the second stretch of wire. This refers only to the wire immediately South of RIENCOURT. Prisoner adds that there are at present numerous zig-zag gaps in the wire about 18" to 2'0" wide.

The companies in the front line are working at high pressure finishing off communication trenches leading to the support line. These are not yet in a fit condition for use. A proportion of the men are engaged in building concrete M.G. and T.M. emplacements in the front line. Prisoner believes that each company front disposes of from two to three Trench Mortars, light and heavy. He has not heard whether these are to be employed against air-craft or Tanks.

MACHINE-GUNS. The outposts in C.6.c. and d. had only one machine-gun between them posted at C.6.d.5.7. There is one M.G. Coy. in position with each Bn. in front (6 guns); apparently these are all in the front line.

Six machine-guns per Inf. Coy. are expected from Germany any day, and are to be of a lighter pattern than those in use now. 25 Men per Coy., and all the officers, have recently gone through a machine-gun course of training.

6-4-17.

Nb. 250.

RELIEFS. Prisoner has no knowledge of length of time each battalion has to remain in the front line. A divisional relief was expected in February, but nothing further has been heard of the subject since that time.

HEADQUARTERS. The Bn. H.Q. was in RIENCOURT until the 2nd instant; now probably removed. Regimental H.Q. in VILLERS, on main CAMBRAI - ARRAS road, coming from CAMBRAI, one of the first houses on the left after passing the VILLERS Cross-roads.

REST BILLETS. 1st Battalion resting in VILLERS.

COMPANY STRENGTH. Trench strength 150; ration strength about 200.

DRAFTS. Last draft 25th March, about 15 men; all previously belonging to company and returned from convalescence.

COMMANDERS. Company: Lt. SEYTER. 11th Company: Lt. LOEKLE. 3rd Bn.: Hauptmann von BRENNING. 119th R.I.R.: Oberst von ZIGESAR. Divisional: Freiherr von FUCHS.

Prisoner adds that the Corps Commander is Generale-Lieutenant von FRITZ, but does not know to what corps formation his regiment belongs.

PASS-WORD. This still "BISMARCK", and will remain the same till the 8th instant.

ENEMY'S INTENTIONS. To hold the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

TRENCH FIELD GUNS. Nothing known.

ARTILLERY. The 27th Res. F.A.R. was attached to the division together with 26th Res. F.A.R. until the middle of February, when the former was withdrawn for a rest to BELGIUM. Prisoner does not know where it is now.

He also states that the following heavy artillery is attached to the division: 10th, and 15th and 21st Res Foot Art.

VILLAGES.

RIENCOURT. This is now largely destroyed by English artillery. No troops have been billeted here since the 2nd instant.

VILLERS. Many civilians still in VILLERS including young girls.

AMMUNITION. Nothing known of new shells, bombs or grenades. There is general satisfaction with the ordinary small egg-bomb, which can easily be thrown a considerable distance, and, is said, on bursting to break very readily into small pieces.

CLASSES. The first ban of the 1919 class was mustered last month in STUTTGART.

}}-----

Notes on Aeroplane Photos taken on 6th. April 1917.

3 AE 394.

There are now three rows of wire in front of the trenches in K.8.b. and d. and K.14.5. and d.

A machine gun emplacement has been built at the end of a sap at K.8.b.4. 6.

3 AE 395. A very large number of trees have been cut down in the BOIS - DE - HAURINCOURT.

There may be a dump or battery position at K.32.c. 10.15., as many tracks converge on this point.

3 AE 396.

A line of wire has been erected on the western side of the CANAL DU NORD, running through K.14b-d., then round the Quarry in K.20.a.

Trees have been felled across the road to DEMICOURT in K.14.c. and at K.19.b.3.9.

The entrance to a large dug-out can be seen at K.20.a 45.95.

3 AE 397.

Much work has been put into the trenches in E.19.b. Communication trenches leading to MOEUVRE and the HINDENBURG LINE in rear, have been dug. Some saps in this vicinity have the appearance of having been dug then covered in. From the amount of fresh tracks it would seem that large working parties are still being employed in strengthening the wire.

3 AE 393.

A rectangle of trenches is being dug in off the trenches in K.14.b. and d. This has already been wired.

A party of Germans at work on the wire can be seen at K.14.b.2.5.

3 AE 410.

The enemy is dug-in in small posts running from the northern corner of the garden J.5.c.60.20 to J.5.c.6.4. - J.5.d.2.0. to J.5.d. 3.9., the line then crosses the straight road running N.N.W., and then runs due North.

There is a small post of about 6 men about 60 to 70 yards E. of the small portion of trench. There is another similar post at about J.5.d.10.95.

3 AE 414.

The support line in D.18.b - d. and E.13.c has now been linked up and connected to the front line by communication trenches.

Trees along the road to INCHY have been felled across it.

3 AE 415.

The wire entanglement in front of HERMIES has been continued south as far as the Canal at J.35.b.7.0.

What is probably a machine gun emplacement has been erected at H.35.b.6.7.

There is probably an H.Q. dug-out or telephone exchange at J.36.a.1.3. Two sets of buried cables lead to it.

3 AE 412.

The front and support lines in D.1.a. and c, have been much worked upon. The support line does not appear to be very deep or revetted in D.7.b.

3 AE 407.

The support line in D.17.b., has been worked upon, also dug-outs in front line and support in D.18.

There is apparently a line of dug-outs built into the bank at D.11.d.7 5.75.

3 AE 432 and 440.

A new trench has been dug running from the eastern corner of the wood in D.14.d. at D.14.d.25.90. to about D.14d.72.35.

The new rows of wire run along the Western side of the road from D. 14.a35.85. to D.14.c.6.5. and D.14.d.95.45; then there is a single row along the eastern edge of the wood and in front of the new trench, as far as the road in D.14.b., it then bends back and rejoins the main line at D.14.b.65.80.

There are two sets of dug-outs one at D.14.c.95.60 and D.14.c.62.60. There is apparently a telephone dug-out or H.Q. on the road in the trench at D.14.b.55.05., as a buried cable leads from this point back to the HINDENBURG LINE at about D.14.b.7.8. This dug-out may belong to an O.P. as the ground is fairly high at this point.

3 AE 435, 428, 433, 434, 427, 429.

The se photos show the line held by the enemy in D.29.c.- D.28- D.27 and D.26. This line consists of a series of holes, some connected up, others at regular intervals. Numerous tracks can be seen joining them up.

In D.26.b., and D.27.a., the line appears to be protected by a disconnected thin line of wire.

There is a machine gun position at about D.28.c.3.6. on the road.

FIRST ANZAC CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
From 6.30 p.m. 6th April to 6.30 p.m. 7th April 1917.

No. 251.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

1 prisoner of the 3rd Coy. 1st Bn. 77th R.I.R. has been captured during the last 24 hours. This prisoner is a deserter.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

The following localities have been shelled during the last 24 hours: I.11.b. by 10.5 cm and 15 cm hows. from INCHY and PRONVILLE; J.8.c. Cross Roads by 10.5 cm hows. from INCHY; VRAUCOURT by 15 cm how. from CAGNICOURT and QUEANT; I.11.c. by 15 cm hows. from INCHY; MORCHIES by 15 cm how. from RIENCOURT and CAGNICOURT; C.6.c. by 77mm from N.E. direction; NOREUIL by 77 mm and 10.5 cm hows from unknown direction; VAULX by 15 cm hows. from BOIS de BOUCHE; LONGATTE - NOREUIL Road by 10.5 cm hows. from HENDICOURT; J.20.d.0.2. by 77 mm from E. direction; C.8.b. by 10.5 cm hows. from N. direction, J.20.d.0.2. by 77 mms and 10.5 cm hows. from, ECOUST and RIENCOURT; J.14.a. by 10.5 cm hows. from N.E. direction; LONGATTE by 10.5 cm hows. from HENDICOURT; BAPAUME and AVESNES Les BAPAUME by 24 cm gun from BOIS de BOURLON.

AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE.

Hostile Defences. Trench 250 yds long direction N.W. at right angles to trench and parallel to road at U.16.d.2.1. Trench running N.E. in U.16.d. has been continued up to HENDICOURT LEZ CAGNICOURT New trench stopping in U.22.a.20.35. has been continued in two branches. Slightly curved to communication trench at U.22.d.3.7. and U.22.b.2.4. respectively with a short branch at U.22.a.3.5. to road at U.22.a.5.2. Enemy wire appears most damaged from U.28.c.2.8 to U.28.b.2.7; U.28.b.4.7 to U.29.a.5.6. is not so much damaged. From U.29.a.8.5. to U.29.b.7.3. it is damaged, but not so much as further west.

Explosions. Four explosions seen at 4.p.m. at BULLECOURT. Explosion at approximately U.24.a.3.2. seen at 4.15.p.m.

HOSTILE MOVEMENT.

Ground observers report.
12.35 p.m. a company of men in D.3.d. marching north.
1.19 p.m. 40 men seen at D.4.c.2.8. 15 men working at light railway D.5.c.7.4. at 2.46 p.m.
Several 4 horse transport wagons were observed yesterday moving along road at D.4 .d. and c. in direction of PRONVILLE. Light transport was seen to leave QUEANT and move in direction of CAGNICOURT.

HOSTILE AIRCRAFT.

At 10.a.m. yesterday one of our machines engaged and drove down two enemy planes in a damaged condition behind his own lines (Ground observer)

TRENCH NOMENCLATURE.

According to a captured map, the PRONVILLE - QUEANT Line is called the BALKON STELLUNG.

AIR PHOTOGRAPHS.

All demands for air photograph prints whether taken by 3rd or 4th Squadron should be made to 1st ANZAC Branch Intelligence Section, 3rd Squadron, R.F.C.

(Sgd) S. S. BUTLER, Major.

for Brigadier-General.
General Staff.
1st ANZAC Corps.

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM A PRISONER. a deserter, belonging to the 3rd Coy., 1st Battalion, 77th R.I.R., captured in D.26. on the night 6th/7th April.

REASONS FOR DESERTING.

Prisoner has lived in Belgium all his life. He deserted on account of bad rations, and the rough treatment he received from his officers and N.C.Os.

ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.

Prisoner stated that the 1st and 3rd Coys. of the 1st Bn. were in the line, and the 2nd and 4th Coys. in INCHY.

RELIEFS.

Prisoners' Coy. came into the outpost line on the night of the 4th April, and the 2nd and 4th Coys. were to be relieved on the night of the 6th by 2 Coys. of the 3rd. Bn.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

North west to South East - 91st R.I.R. - 15th R.I.R. - 77th R.I.R. - a Jaegar Battalion, number unknown, and then 96th R.I.R.

HEADQUARTERS.

1st and 3rd Bn. H.Q. in INCHY 2nd Bn. in EPINOIS, Regt. and Divisional H.Q. in MARQUION.

SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

Prisoner worked on the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG till ^{the} end of March, and again in the first days of April. He says that the front line has three lines of wire in front of it, and that there is a passage through it for each company sector. Dugouts in the front line each 32 steps down. These are to be concreted. The trenches are nearly completed (This refers only to the front line). There are 15 dugouts in each regtl. sector with sufficient accommodation for the garrison.

The second line has dugouts 54 steps down, and will not be completed for 3 months. It has 2 rows of wire, and a third not yet completed.

Trenches not yet revetted.

Prisoner knows nothing of underground passages leading from the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG to the rear. He has never seen, or heard of, any gas apparatus in the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

ARTILLERY.

Prisoner reports seeing one 15 cm gun in INCHY, and another on the height above the railway station in E.1 a.8.4. He asserts there were at least 4 batteries of 7.5 cm and 10 cm guns in D.12.c. and d. Artillery dugouts are being constructed in the dry canal bed to right of the bridge into INCHY, E.2.a.9.1. to 9.9.; others were thought to be along the stream in E.1.b. and c.

GENERAL.

When going on outpost duty prisoner's company had been warned to hold out to the utmost; to avoid being captured; and to say nothing if captured.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

HINDENBURG LINE. (according to prisoners of 50th Res. Division.)

Nomenclature. Statements are conflicting. Prisoners agree that the eastern system of trenches (E. of RIENCOURT) is called the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. The part of the line west of RIENCOURT through K.34 to R.2 is called the WOTAN STELLUNG by one prisoner, and the HINDENBURG STELLUNG by another. One prisoner stated that he had heard of trenches near RIENCOURT called ROLAND STELLUNG but was unable to fix the position of these trenches on the map. Most prisoners used the name SIEGFRIED STELLUNG when speaking of the HINDENBURG Line generally. The term

Construction. Most of the prisoners had worked on the line about K.34.b. They stated that about every 20 metres or so there were galleries under the parapet running about 5 or 6 metres forward and sloping downwards to a depth of about 10 metres at the end. The front trench was finished except for these galleries; the support trench was not finished. None of the prisoners saw any concrete work but they stated that T.M. emplacements were being made. M.G. emplacements were to be behind the support line. The front trench had about 100 metres of wire in front of it.

INFORMATION FROM AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

(a) There is a communication trench running from the neighbourhood of a large quarry (not marked on the maps) in U.11.b. and 12.a. parallel to the road through U.6.c. and d. towards the DROCOURT - QUEANT line.

Another trench runs from V.1.a.1500 to V.1.d.2535.

A third communication trench runs N.E. from a wood (not marked on the maps) in V.7.a. to V.7.b.1560. (18 V 420 and 441).

(b) The line between RIENCOURT and FONTAINE is connected with the HINDENBURG Line by communication trenches running to U.21.a.9040 and U.21.d.3280. From the latter trench a branch runs into BULLECOURT from U.22.a.0510 to U.21.d.8000 whence it runs to the front line by a trench previously recorded. (18 V 439 - 15 AE 1412 - 1413).

(c) The sap running from U.22.d.5500 to U.22.b.5772 has been covered and camouflaged. (15 AE 1420. of. 4 AE 1651).

FIRST ANZAC CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 252

From 6.30 p.m. 7th April, to 6.30 p.m. 8th April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

One prisoner of the 1st Bn. 95th Regt. was captured today in the vicinity of BOURSIES.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

Hostile shelling during the last 24 hours has been considerably above normal, and was exceptionally lively during the night. MORCHIES was intermittently shelled with all calibres from 77mm to 21 cm. From about 3 a.m. to 8 a.m. mixed barrages were put down by the enemy in the following places:- 3.20 a.m. Right Divisional front; 4.15 to 5.45 a.m. along the whole front, direction INCHY; 6.10 a.m. in D.27.d. and D.28.c from the direction of WUEANT and PRONVILLE; 6.52 a.m. to 8 a.m. on the road south of LOUVERVAL. During the day hostile artillery has been fairly quiet. Our bombardment at 3 p.m. brought little response, the principle retaliation being on VAULX with 10.5 and 15 cm hows. The general direction is still from the N.E. Very little 77mm shelling is reported.

AIR RECONNAISSANCE.

An air reconnaissance at 4.55 p.m. this afternoon reports continuous heavy motor traffic in both directions in the CAMBRAI-BAPAUME road between the Sugar Factory north of GRAINCOURT and CAMBRAI. The lorries had brown tops and possibly contained troops. This movement may indicate a relief of the 38th or 4th ERSATZ Division, or, as the fronts of the divisions at present opposite this Corps are more extended than usual, it may indicate reinforcement of the line. No unusual train movement is reported.

Demolitions. Explosions took place at HENDICOURT and FONTAINE LES CROISILLES this afternoon.

A crater is visible at U.27.d.4.2. A large explosion in TREZCAULT was followed by a fire lasting for almost an hour. A fire was seen in K.34 and large columns of smoke in HERMIES and at Q.3.c.90.10. A fire was seen at RIBECOURT.

Wire. The wire from U.29.b.2.4. to U.29.b.9.4. now appears to be very much damaged. From the latter point to U.30.a.45.10. it is not nearly so much damaged. From U.29.a.3.5. to U.29.b.0.4. there is still some wire undamaged.

BALLOONS.

Hostile balloons were seen up in the following localities :- D.4.c.7.3., K.6.c.5.5., K.18.a., V.1 l.b., E.4.

HOSTILE BATTERIES.

A prisoner of the 77th R.I.R. confirms the presence of a naval gun on the MARQUION - INCHY Line. He states there is a three gun battery about 500 yards in front of the wire in D.15.d; he thinks it is a trench gun battery.

FIELD KITCHENS.

The Field Kitchens of the 77th R.I.R. come from SAINS LES MARQUION and remain on the road in D.15.a just north of the crater; they usually arrive about 9.p.m.

GERMAN RUSES. (From G.H.Q. Summary)

The following additional ruses have been reported:-

- (a) Trench boards (new in every case) on fire step, which detonated grenades when trodden on.
- (b) A dozen stick grenades to be fired by means of a wire attached to a sandbag, which had to be moved before the door of a dugout could be opened.
- (c) Charge in a chimney with length of fuse attached, which would be ignited if a fire were lighted.
- (d) Detonators in lumps of coal.
- (e) Book on table, with wire down leg of table, Charge would fire if book were lifted.
- (f) A blown-in entrance to a dugout is not always a safety sign. Charges may be concealed in the unblown portions. They are generally crudely arranged contact charges.

LATER. A great amount of movement was observed in rear of the HINDENBURG Line on the ridge between QUEANT and PRONVILLE.

NOTICE. The C ORPS PRISONERS OF WAR CAGE, will be moved tomorrow from BAZENTIN TO BAPAUME, where it will be established next to the Detention Compound in the Barracks just north of the old fort. (H.33.a)

S. S. BUTLER, Major.
for Brigadier General
General Staff.
1st ANZAC Corps.

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM

No. 7357 L/Cpl. PIGGOTT, "D" Coy., 5th Dorset Regt.
No. 13941, H. F. Parsey, "A" Coy. "
No. 14619, T. O. Downes, "D" Coy. "

Captured at BEAUMONT-HAMEL by the Germans on the 11th January, 1917.

METHOD OF ESCAPE. Left SAUCHY-CAUCHY, 9.35.a., at 8-30 p.m. last evening, the 7th. The road they took was through W.3, W.8, W.13, V.18, V.17 and V.16 central, and then they struck three lines of trenches: (This was somewhere near CAGNICOURT). The first trench was of a normal width and about 2ft. deep, and with perpendicular sides. The second trench was about 100yds. from the 1st, and was well built and strongly held -- about two men to every yard. They made a detour till they came to a spot where there were no soldiers, and jumped across a traverse. The 3rd trench was about 100 to 150 yards from the 2nd, and similar to it in every way; it was also strongly held. In front of this third line of trenches there was a little wire, and there was a large working party putting up wire. They managed to cross by making a detour as before.

HINDENBURG LINE. They proceeded towards the HINDENBURG Line and struck it at about U.22.c.8.2. They crossed a trench at about U.28.a.4.7, and another trench at about U.28.a.3.0. These trenches were not held, and they saw no Germans there at all. As they were crossing the last trench, they were challenged by a small sentry party, and two shots were fired after them. (One of the men was wounded slightly in the hand.)

WIRE. The wire in front of the HINDENBURG Line at the spot where they found themselves, was about 5 to 6 yards wide, and about 3 to 4 feet high. There were three rows separated by an interval of a few yards, and the wire was so tight that they were able to walk on it, and so over it.

DUG-OUTS. They noticed several dug-outs in the HINDENBURG Line. None of them were cemented, and were of the ordinary, boarded type. One of these dug-outs was packed with boxes, probably ammunition or bomb boxes.

TRAPS FOR CAVALRY. Between the CAMBRAI-ARRAS Road and the RIENCOURT Road, the Germans have dug a large number of holes, similar in size and shape to those made by 5.9 shells. There were quite a number of these holes in the area over which they passed, and they believe that they are intended as a trap for cavalry.

TREATMENT DURING CAPTIVITY? From BEAUMONT-HAMEL; where they were captured they were taken to CAMBRAI, given a bath and their clothes fumigated. They stayed in CAMBRAI from the 12th to the 19th January; from January 19th to February 23rd they were at ERVILLERS; from February 24th to March 21st at SAUCHY-LESTREE; and from March 22nd until they escaped they were at SAUCHY-CAUCHY.

It was noticed that the English prisoners worked much harder than the French prisoners; also received harsher treatment. They were paid 2 marks every 10 days, in German notes, which were not negotiable on presentation.

MACHINE-GUNS. Several Lewis Guns were captured by the Germans on the 11th January, and used at once against our men. The Germans appeared to know a good deal about Lewis Guns and worked them very well -- mostly from the steps of the dug-outs.

ARTILLERY. (This information was given by H.F. PARSEY.)

At least one, or possibly more guns or howitzers of high calibre between railway and road in W.11.b.25.40 (approximately). He was working very close to this place. He saw four very deep pits at the spot, 12 to 14 feet square and about 14 feet deep. At this particular point the main line passed quite close, and a branch line switched off to where the troops were working on these pits. Above these pits a very large pulley arrangement about 14ft. high. A short time after the pits were dug a 12ft. barricade was put all around, which completely shut off the view from the outside. Soon after he used to hear a gun being fired from this spot, but could not see what kind of gun it was.

ARTILLERY BILLETS. Artillery men -- about 100 per day -- were mostly seen in SAUCHY-CAUCHY. They do not know what units they belonged to, but the men wore yellow shoulder straps with a red grenade. Very few infantry seen.

8-4-17.

No. 252.

FURTHER INFORMATION obtained from a prisoner of the 3rd Coy., 77th R.I.R., captured on the night of the 6/7th April.

METHOD OF HOLDING THE LINE. The fighting strength of the 3rd Coy. -- 70 men, held with its three platoons over a kilometre of front of the outpost line.

BILLETS. The 2nd Bn. is in rest Billets in EPINOY.

OUTPOSTS. The outposts of the 77th R.I.R. consist of 2 companies and a Storming Troop, 30 to 40 strong.

Each company has 4 machine-guns. The Storming Troops are armed with revolvers and bombs.

The prisoner states that the most suitable time to attack outposts is at about 8.30 to 10 p.m., as then about a third of the strength are fetching rations and the remainder are not very alert. They are most alert between 4 and 7 a.m.

REGIMENTAL SECTOR. The sector occupied by the 77th R.I.R. is from the road in D.15.a. to the road in D.18.d. This sector is occupied by 2 companies.

SIEGFRIED LINE. Work is being carried out at high pressure. Prisoner states that between the 2nd 4th instants, two platoons of his coy. worked for 48 hours on the line without being relieved.

Minenwerfer emplacements are being built between the 1st and 2nd lines, about 80 metres in front of the latter - three to each regimental sector.

Artillery positions seen by prisoner behind the line were of a normal type.

Prisoner understands that there is to be no retirement beyond this line.

UNITS SEEN. A canteen of the 64th R.I.R. in SAUCHY-CAUCHY was still being used on the 21st March.

Prisoner believes that the divisions in this sector, relieved, by the retirement, are now resting in BELGIUM.

RELIEFS. The 3rd Bn. expects to be relieved by the 2nd Bn. on the 11th inst.

DRAFTS. On the 21/3/17 prisoner joined the 77th R.I.R., being one of a draft of 200 men.

DEPOTS. At the 2nd Guard Res. Division depot at RESSAIN THERE were 6 companies -- a total of about 1,800 men.

TRENCH MORTARS. Prisoner says there are two light trench mortars on the West side of road at about D.21.a.25.90.

MORAL. The prisoner stated that his Regiment had been ordered to fire on any of the 96th I.R. seen deserting. The Jaeger Bn. had similar orders. They were put into line between the 77th R.I.R. and the 96th I.R. in order to check this tendency on the part of the 96th.

INFORMATION obtained from a prisoner of the 1st Bn., 95th II.R.

The prisoner knows nothing of the order of battle or of other troops.

He states that the village of BOURSIES is unoccupied. A line is held West of the village by 2 machine-guns and about 100 men.

FIRST ANZAC CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No.253.

From 6.30 p.m. 8th April to 6.30 p.m. 9th April 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

The following prisoners have passed through the Corps Cage during last 24 hours :-

2nd Bn.	94th I.R.		10 o.r.
1st Bn.	95th I.R.		1 "
1st Bn.	361st I.R.		1 "
2nd Bn.	361st I.R.		2 "
3rd Bn.	362nd L.R.	1 officer	131 "
4th M.G.Coy.	362nd I.R.		14 "
Mucketen Bn.			11 "
		<u>Total.</u>	<u>1 officer 170 o.r.</u>

HOSTILE SHELLING.

Hostile shelling during the last 24 hours has been about normal, during the night hostile artillery was quiet. HERMIES was heavily shelled with all calibres at 5.27 a.m. mostly from the direction of HAVRINCOURT. From 5.30 a.m. till 7 a.m. enemy was fairly active on ECOUST, LONGATTE, NOREUIL, DOIGNIES and MORCHIES with 10.5 and 15 cm hows, the latter town was also shelled with a 10 cm H.V. gun from an unknown direction. Enemy again fairly active between 11 a.m. and 12 noon probably in response to our bombardment; DOIGNIES, MORCHIES and DEMICOURT being shelled with 10.5 and 15 cm hows, and a barrage of 77 mms and 10.5 hows being put up on C.8.a. and C.7.b. There is nothing to indicate any change in disposition or strength of enemy artillery.

OPERATIONS.

Our right division successfully attacked this morning and occupied the villages of HERMIES, DEMICOURT and BOURSIES. Considerable amount of opposition was encountered. At 7.20 a.m. the enemy endeavoured to develop a local counter attack from the direction of DEMICOURT, but the attack was broken up by artillery fire. 1 officer and 170 o.r. were captured, also 3 machine guns and a large number of the enemy were killed.

ORDER OF BATTLE AND ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.

The order of battle remains unchanged, except that certain elements of the Musketen Bn. have reinforced the 362nd I.R. Enemy dispositions are shown on tonight's situation map. The whole of the 362nd I.R. is apparently north of the Canal Du Nord with the 361st I.R. on their left. It would appear that the enemy is thickening the line opposite our right division by closing up to the right a little.

AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE.

Enemy defences. A trench almost 200 yds long observed running N. from road junction at K.7.c.8.6. Sunken road running S.E. from junction at K.7.c.1.6 is strongly occupied. Rifle fire encountered over K.1., K.7., and L.13., Also Machine gun fire later from emplacement at D.8.c.70.05 which seemed very strongly built. Trench running north from road in J.30. occupied, but not ascertained if by our troops or the enemy.

Train movement. Train movement not abnormal.

AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE (Contd).

Explosions. Explosion observed in RIENCOURT at 6.35 p.m. Large explosion in INCHY en ARTOIS at 5.15 p.m.

SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

Deserter of the 77th I.R. who has worked on the SIEGFRIED Stellung in front of INCHY asserts that the double line of trenches immediately in front of INCHY, passing through D.6.d.12.b.d. is not dug, but only marked out and has been abandoned in favour of a line behind INCHY. This line prisoner stated was on higher ground behind the railway station at E.1.a. central.

All prisoners seem to be of the unanimous opinion that there is to be no retirement from SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

MINING AND DEMOLITIONS

Repatries state that the Chateau and all important houses in HAVRINCOURT are mined.

The houses at BULLECOURT according to prisoners have not been put into a state of defence, neither have they been destroyed.

Ground observers report that the enemy have blown up SAINS Church, also that a large fire was observed in HAVRINCOURT at 8.55 p.m.

HEADQUARTERS.

362nd I.R., Regtl. H.Q. at CANTAING., 4th Ersatz Div H.Q. CAMBRAI.

ENEMY WIRE.

Patrols last night examined enemy's wire from U.28.b.9.7. They report the average thickness 30 yards; cut about in places by our artillery fire, but no gaps yet.

MOVEMENT IN REAR OF ENEMY LINES.

Small parties of enemy observed yesterday moving about in rear of BULLECOURT and RIENCOURT. A working party observed at U.27.d.5.9.

INFORMATION FROM REPATRIES.

A repatriated civilian states there are 4 large concrete gun emplacements north of the MOEUVRE cemetery.

OBSTACLES.

The Corps on our left reports 6 trees are lying across the road in U.20.d.8.2. The sunken road to BULLECOURT at U.20.d.9.4. and the branch road running N.N.E. are blocked.

MACHINE GUNS.

Suspected on the road in front of trench in U.27.a.9.9. Reported in a house in BULLECOURT at U.27.b.4.7. Active against our aircraft from U.27.b.5.5., U.27.b.9.5., U.27.b.0.9., U.27.b.0.5.

S. S. BUTLER, Major.
for Brigadier General
General Staff.
1st ANZAC Corps.

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM -

No. 7357	L/Cpl. PIGGOTT,	D Coy. 5th Dorset Regt.
13971	" PARSEY,	A Coy. 5th Dorset Regt.
14619	Pte. DOWNES,	D Coy. 5th Dorset Regt.

Captured by the Germans at BEAUMONT HAMEL on 11. 1. 17. and escaped into the British lines on 7. 4. 17.

ACCOUNT OF THEIR CAPTURE.

An attack was made early on morning of 11. 1. 17 by "A" and "D" Coys. 5th Dorset Regt. just beyond BEAUMONT HAMEL, the object being to secure two positions known as the "NEST" and the "CHALKPIT", these two positions to be subsequently connected up to form an advance line. The attack was successful, but later in the morning the Germans counter-attacked in several waves, retook the position and captured about 80 prisoners. The men consider that had our attack been pushed on slightly further, we should have secured a commanding position which would have rendered a counter attack impossible.

L/Cpl. PARSEY was on telephone duty when he was captured, and the company having apparently lost its officers, he was endeavouring to communicate with Headquarters to report the situation.

ENGLISH OFFICER CAPTURED.

Among the prisoners taken was Lieutenant BATEMAN, of "D" Coy. He was slightly wounded in the head and the men saw nothing more of him after being captured.

PRISONERS TAKEN TO CAMBRAI.

The "A" Coy. prisoners were taken at once to a dugout just behind the German line where they found a number of prisoners who had been taken earlier in the attack. Later, during the morning, they were all marched to MORY.

The "D" Coy. prisoners were kept in the Chalk-pit position, which the Germans had retaken, until night, and then had to assist in carrying back wounded, after which they were also marched to MORY.

Prisoners were not interrogated at MORY, but were searched, all papers, pocket knives etc, being removed. The Germans also took their leather jerkins, the rubber from inside their steel helmets and the brass badges from caps and tunics.

The prisoners remained at MORY all night with nothing to eat, and next morning, after a very small breakfast, were marched to CAMBRAI, the escort being about 1 to 10.

At CAMBRAI they were put in the citadel where they found 3 to 400 prisoners including English, French, Russian and Algerian. When they left CAMBRAI, 7 days later, the number of prisoners in the citadel was about 1000.

PRISONERS INTERROGATION.

At CAMBRAI the prisoners were interrogated by a German Cavalry officer speaking excellent English, a clerk being also present to take down their replies in short-hand. The officer's attitude towards prisoners was very unfriendly at first, and one prisoner who refused information was threatened to be shot. The sentence was however, not carried out, and the officer seemed subsequently to imagine that a more friendly attitude would probably serve his purpose better. The officer had at his disposal a large printed book of the British field forces with which he appeared very familiar and the men were surprised at the amount he appeared to know regarding the British Army and their movements.

The prisoners were interrogated on the following points :-

- (1) Whether each man belonged to the ordinary fighting troops or had any special duty. PARSEY was spotted as a signaller by his badge and was specially questioned regarding types of instruments, and any codes used. He stated that he had no technical knowledge of instruments and that codes were only known to officers.
- (2) Whether each man was a regular, or "Kitchener's" Army.
- (3) Order of battle. (Regts. on right and left).
- (4) Regimental and Divisional reliefs.
- (5) Strength with which front line is held.
- (6) Routes taken by reliefs.
- (7) Gun and ammunition dump positions.
- (8) Means by which ammunition is brought up.
- (9) Any novelties or improvements in machine or Lewis Guns. (The men got the impression that the Germans are thoroughly familiar with our guns, and know how to use them.)
- (10) What food our men in the line got, and how it is brought up.
- (11) Position of any headquarters, and supply dumps.
- (12) Whether prisoners had any knowledge of pending British attacks.
- (13) Private DOWNES was questioned particularly regarding a certain light railway which he didn't know, but which the officer seemed to know well.
- (14) Whether any armoured cars are in use by us or the French; with special wire cutting attachment.

Prisoners were not questioned regarding moral; conditions in England, or new military formations likely to be coming to this front.

PRISONERS GO TO WORK AT ERVILLERS.

The men were sent with a party of prisoners about 100 strong to ERVILLERS on the 19. 1. 17. and were there put on road work, consisting principally in the construction of new roads from MORY to ERVILLERS and St LEGER. The working hours were from 7.30 a.m. till mid-day and from 2 to 5 p.m.

FOOD.

The daily food consisted of 1/4 loaf of black bread, some thin soup, and a small quantity of weak coffee.

QUARTERS, CLOTHING, ETC.

They were billeted in a hut, far from weather-proof, and had no overcoats or blankets even in the coldest weather.

After the bath which they had on first being captured, they had practically no opportunity to wash, water being difficult to get and soap unobtainable.

SICKNESS.

Many men became sick, due to fatigue and starvation. Only a few however, were allowed to go sick, any showing the slightest disinclination to go to work being thrashed with whips and beaten with butt end of rifles. Some of the men developed serious skin diseases, one man Corporal PEESY, of "A" Coy, having his back partly eaten away with ulcers. He was not allowed to go sick, but was kept at work with no medical attention beyond having the ulcers roughly lanced from time to time.

PAY.

The prisoners were paid at the rate of 2 marks 80 per 10 days, but they had no opportunity of making use of the money.

SMOKING.

During the whole period of captivity, prisoners never had a smoke, except when they occasionally picked up cigar ends.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Prisoners were supposed to be allowed to write one post card per week, and one letter per fortnight, but it was only occasionally, after making complaints that they were allowed to do so.

They never received any letters, and heard of men who had been prisoners since October 1916, without ever receiving a letter or post card.

TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF VARIOUS NATIONS.

The men were certain that the British prisoners receive the worst treatment, the French and Russians being apparently considerably better off. The British were never allowed to communicate with the civilians, whereas the French were allowed to do so. French prisoners, are, however, being brought up close to the front to work, the Germans saying that this is because the French have treated their prisoners similarly. Just when they were leaving ERVILLERS a party of 600 French Prisoners was brought up from the rear to work near the front.

INTERCOURSE BETWEEN PRISONERS AND GERMAN MILITARY.

The prisoners very rarely met a German N.C.O. or man who would converse with them. The working parties were in charge of N.C.O.'s and these men were practically all very brutal. Occasionally they met a German who had lived in England and who was willing to talk, and towards the end of their captivity at SAUCHY - CAUCHY one man of the guard was friendly, and endeavoured to make things more comfortable for the prisoners.

PRISONERS MOVED TO SAUCHY.

After being at ERVILLERS one month, the men were sent with a party of 80 prisoners to work at SAUCHY - LESTREE where they did road repairs, and also worked at the station unloading girders and other engineer's supplies. After three weeks they were moved to SAUCHY-CAUCHY where they did similar work, and where they remained up to the time of their escape.

The prisoners' camp at SAUCHY - CAUCHY is in a brickfield, with a tall chimney close to the station surrounded with barbed wire.

The guard is not very strict, and prisoners had little difficulty in getting away.

CIVILIANS.

The men saw very few civilians at ERVILLERS.

Civilian life at CAMBRAI appeared quite normal and they even saw new houses being built.

They also saw a certain number of civilians at SAUCHY.

The attitude of the civilians towards the British prisoners was exceedingly friendly, but the Germans would not allow them to converse.

A large number of civilians were seen working for the Germans on the roads, and they appeared to be fairly well treated. They understood, however, that a large number of the young men of military age are interned.

TRANSPORT.

The roads appeared in fairly good condition.

The men did not at any time see any large amount of transport. Only lorries, singly or in pairs and a variety of horse drawn vehicles, consisting largely of farm carts and wagons. The lorries have no rubber tyres and they understood that they do not run well, due to a substitute for petrol being used. Most of the horses appeared in bad condition.

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS AND GUNS.

No large amount of movement of troops was seen at any time. A certain number of artillery^{men}/were in SAUCHY - CAUCHY, and at the time of their escape there seemed to be a considerable quantity of similar troops arriving at SAUCHY - LESTREE.

They did not see any movement of guns.

FOOD OF GERMAN TROOPS.

The men did not have an opportunity of observing the conditions under which the regular troops live, but the prisoners guard did not appear to be very well fed. Their daily ration consisted of 1/2 a loaf, part of a tin of meat, coffee and brandy. They did not appear to get any cheese or butter.

SHELLING AND BOMBS.

The men did not at any time have to work directly under shell fire. Four shells fell in SAUCHY - CAUCHY last Wednesday, and last Friday SAUCHY - CAUCHY and LESTREE were bombed, one man of the British working party being killed.

DEFENCE WORKS, GUNS ETC.

No trenches or wire were seen either existing, or under construction until the men reached the trenches in about V16. central when escaping. Pits apparently intended for ammunition have been dug in the roadside in Q.36.c. One of these pits was seen to contain a large number of field gun shells. On the opposite side of the road and about 50 yards away is a bank which ~~affere~~ would afford cover for guns, but no guns were there at the time.

A gun which appeared to be of naval type was seen on a railway truck on a single line railway in a small wood about 1500 yards east of SAUCHY Station. This gun fired about 20 rounds a day.

TANKS.

The men never saw or heard anything regarding German Tanks.

AERODROME.

They understood that there is an aerodrome at EPINOY, but never went there to see it.

LIGHT RAILWAYS.

Nothing in the shape of a thorough system of light railways was seen, only a few isolated lines, one of which ran past the prisoner camp at SAUCHY - CAUCHY.

TRAIN TRAFFIC AT SAUCHY.

SAUCHY station appears to be the supply railhead for a considerable district and every third day transport comes in from all directions for supplies. This takes place mostly in the morning,

Today (9th April) should be a day for fetching supplies.

The men did not see any ammunition being unloaded at SAUCHY station.

PRISONERS TAKEN IN SUBSEQUENT OPERATIONS.

The men did not at any time come into contact with prisoners taken in later operations.

INFORMATION OBTAINED from a prisoner of the 4th Coy., 95th I.R. captured in the vicinity of BOURSIES on the 8th instant.

DISPOSITIONS. Prisoner's company together with the 93rd, who were on their right, were on outpost duty in the vicinity of BOURSIES. There were two machine-guns with prisoner's company. Prisoner, who is very dense, is unable to give any other information concerning the regimental dispositions.

RELIEFS. The 1st Bn. relieved the 2nd Bn. in the front line on the 4th instant.

HEADQUARTERS. There is a battalion H.Q. in the Chateau at HEYNECOURT.

STRENGTH. Strength on outpost of prisoner's company -- 110 men.

LINES IN REAR OF SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. Prisoner knows of no lines IN rear of the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

INFORMATION OBTAINED from a prisoner belonging to the 3rd Bn., 362nd I.R., captured on the night of the 8/9th April.

ORDER OF BATTLE. The 362nd have two battalions in the line. The 1st Bn. is on the left of the 3rd Bn., and the 94th I.R. on the right.

REST BILLETS. The 2nd Bn. of the 362nd is in rest billets at CAMBRAI, and 4th Bn. in CANTAING.

METHOD OF HOLDING THE LINE. The coys. of the 3rd Bn. are on outpost duty, and one in support, in front of the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. Only half of the 1st Bn. is on outpost duty, the other half holding the line behind.

MACHINE-GUNS. The Bn. has now four M.G.Coys. The fourth Coy. was formed in January last when the Bn. left the position opposite our Corps in STORMY TRENCH. The fourth M.G. Coy. came into the line on the night of the 6/7th. It relieved the Scharpachutzen Troop.

RELIEFS. The 3rd Bn. relieved the 2nd Bn. on the night of the 4/5th.

UNITS SEEN. Prisoner knows of no units seen in rear.

SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. Prisoner thinks the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG is now nearly completed. He knows of no trenches in rear of the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG, except some short stretches in the neighbourhood of CANTAING and NOYELLES. The general opinion is that the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG will be held, and that the English will not be able to take it.

TANKS GUNS and TRAPS. Knows nothing about Tank Guns or Traps.

CANAL DU NORD. It is reported that the Canal is mined.

Notes on aeroplane Photos taken on 8th. April 1917.5 AE 447, 451, 461, 463.

A new line is being dug between the front line and the wire entanglements from D.7. central to D.14.a. This line is as yet very shallow probably barely 6 inches or 1 ft. deep.

From D.7. central to D.7.d.2.5. the trench is only marked out. Series of communication trenches join this line to the front line. A tree which had been felled across the road at D.8.c.8.2 has been removed.

3 AE 452.

There appears to be a machine gun emplacement at the end of a sap at D.15.b.3.3. The road has been blown up at D.15.b.40.35.

3 AE 464-465-467-468.

A new trench just in front of the front line has been commenced. It runs at present from D.1.c.1.3. to D.7.a.3.8. Mines have been exploded at C.6.d.6.7, C.6.d.7.0. From this point S.S.^h, series of circular holes have been dug ending with a large round hole at C.12.b.95.70.

Since the 6th Inst., considerable work has been put into it. On the Northern side there appears to be a small trench leading into it. These holes may be traps for cavalry or some form of emplacement.

Many of the trees which had been felled across the approaches to QUEANT have been removed. The branch line which formerly led to a gun emplacement at D.7.b.6.9 has been removed and all the traces nearly obliterated.

3AE 473.

A machine gun emplacement or small strong point has been dug at E.25.b.2.8. This is evidently much used from the tracks leading to it. Apparently this emplacement has been built to support the rows of posts which lie out in front of it. It would seem that the machine gun emplacement proper is at the extremity of the covered in sap at E.26.c.7.6. The dug-out belonging to the crew is at E.26.c.8.7 but is yet uncovered. The machine gun is probably placed in the strong point in front of the HINDENBURG LINE at night only, and brought back during the day.

3 AE 474. Sho

Shows the new line dug to the East of RIENCOURT. This trench is very shallow, probably not more than 1 foot to 18 inches deep.

3 AE 469-451-476-18V 453.

A trench for a buried cable has been dug from the existing trench at D.2.d.80.25, to D.2.d.87.60 then to V.27.c.6.7. This cable runs from the dug-outs on the road at D.8.c.15.95. to D.8.a.82.10-95.22- D.8.b.15.30. - 20.47 then along the ditch to 50.60 then 75.88 - 80.90. This cable may be conveying electric light to the trenches. Series of dug-outs can be seen on both sides of the road in D.2.b.

3 AE 477-500-496-501.

Show a new trench which has been marked out running through V.14.b-d-21a-central. There are new battery positions at V.20.b.9.7. and V.14.d.3.7. This last position shows much activity. Tracks show that ammunition is brought up from the road at V.15.a.5.7. (496) Shows dug-outs on the Western side of the road at V.15.a. V.21.d.8.0. The northern one of these is apparently a telephone exchange. Buried cables lead to it from the front line and overhead cables from it Eastwards towards BUISSY.

3 AE 494 - 495.

Show INCHY Station and the new siding just North of it. This siding forms a very large dump. This contains probably ammunition and food as many cases can be seen lying about.

A long communication trench has been dug running more or less parallel to the road from BUISSY to QUEANT.

The trench following the railway line has been prolonged.

There is probably a large gun on railway mountings in the shed at V.28.c.7.6., a branch line leads to it.

The 8" How. position reported by escaped French prisoners as being behind the farm at V.28.a.7.4., is confirmed. The branch line from INCHY Station leads to this farm, evidently for the purpose of bringing up ammunition. The battery position reported by the same French prisoners as being at V.28.b.4.5., in a trench is also confirmed.

Four pits for large Hows have been dug at V.22.d.5.8. they appear however unoccupied.

3 AE 488.

Show a new crater at D.30.b.0.r., and a strong point on the Western side of the road at D.30.a.7.7.

3 AE 497.

A new trench has been dug from the communication trench at D.5.d.5.3. to D.6.c.central. It is only scratched out.

The communication trench at D.6.b.2.0. has been continued to D.6.d.3.3. The front line in D.6. is barely marked out and not dug, neither is the support line.

3 AE 516.

This photo shows that the communication trench D.8 central road at D.3.c.3.0. to this trench.

The house at D.9.c.60.75 is probably used as Headquarters as tracks lead up to it from the village, and telephone wires or cables run into it from D.9.a.8.2. The house at D.9.a.8.6. has also got a wire running to it from the telephone dug-out at D.9.a.75.90.

18V 446.

Much transport can be seen parked in VILLERS LES CAGNICOURT. In the courtyard at V.4.c.7.6. behind the houses at V.4.d.2.7. and V.4.a.5.0.

18 V.447.

G.S.Wagons and limbers can be seen parked in CAGNICOURT at V.9.d.5.1.

There appears to be a dump on the roadside between the BOIS DE LOISON and the cross roads in V.10.c. There are three huts in the BOIS DE LOISON at V.16.a.15.95.

18 V.454.

There appears to be an abnormally large dug-out at V.27.a.6.7. The communication trench leading back to BUISSY runs into it.

From 6.30 p.m. 9th April to 6.30 p.m. 10th April 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

The following prisoners were admitted to Corps Cage during the last 24 hours.

	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O.R.</u>
362nd R.I.R., 10th Coy.		1
124th I.R.	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1	2

In addition to prisoners already reported in yesterday's and to-day's Summaries, 19 wounded prisoners have been admitted to Field Ambulances.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

The following localities were shelled during the past 24 hours: C.15. by 15cm. How. from N.E. of NOREUIL; LAGNICOURT by 77mm. guns and 10.5cm. Hows from PRONVILLE; Sunken Road in C.27.d. by 10.5cm. from INCHY; VAULX by 15cm. How. from QUEANT; MORCHIES by 15cm. Hows. from PRONVILLE; NOREUIL by 77mm. guns from RIENCOURT-lez-CAGNICOURT; i.10.b. by 10.5cm. Gun from INCHY; DEMICOURT by 10.5cm. How. from N.E. direction; I.11.c. by 15cm. How. from an unknown direction; BEUGNY by 10.5cm. How. from INCHY; and AVESNES-lez-BAPAUME by 15cm. Gun from BOIS de INCHY.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

The 26th Reserve Division has been relieved by the 27th Reserve Division, which has taken over, as far as can be judged, the same sector as the Division which it has relieved. The Order of Battle North to South is 120th Res, - 124th I.R. - 125th Res.

ENEMY INTENTIONS.

It is stated by prisoners of the 124th Regt. that the 180th I.R. had been given orders for an attack. Prisoners do not believe that the relieving regiment will carry out the operation, but they think that any attack on our part will be met by an immediate and vigorous counter-attack.

It is probable that strong opposition will be met with on the line running North-West through RIENCOURT, which bars approach to the Southern portion of the DROCOURT - QUEANT Line.

AIR RECONNAISSANCE.

ENEMY DEFENCES. The HINDENBURG Line S.E. and East of BULLECOURT appears to have suffered from our shelling, as has also the wire in U.28.a., b, and c. The wire East of this point appears to be little damaged, and the trenches are in good condition. Our shelling of the wire in U.20 and U.21 was falling right on it.

There is some new trench work just N.E. of the cross-roads at U.29.a.6.2, and signs of movement around it.

A new trench has also been dug at the railway junction at D.1.b.2.6. running to about V.25.c.0.2.

There are signs of more work on the posts in front of the line in C.6.b., D.1.c., D.7.a., there is also a small work at about D.8.a.7.3.

AIR RECONNAISSANCE (Cont).

The fortifications of Queant appear to have been recently strengthened.

EXPLOSIONS. At 3 p.m. an explosion occurred in RIENCOURT Church, which suffered considerable damage.

A very big fire was seen in the neighbourhood of MARCOING. at 11.55 a.m.

MOVEMENT.

100 horsemen were seen on the CAGNICOURT Road going North-West towards the Chateau this afternoon, and also some ammunition waggons. About 1000 infantry were seen in K.23., and were fired on by our heavies.

SHELLS AND FUSES.

(Dopp. 2.92 lg. Drig Sp 16.) Several fuses of the 9 cm. modern field-gun shrapnel have been found in this area lately.

Number of 7.5cm. light Minenwerfer shell left behind by the enemy have been found. Fuse Marks:- l.m.mzdr. 2, 1916 and 1917. Markings on shell -- Grey with 3 black rings and in some cases S.L.

J. J. W. HERBERTSON. Lt.
for Brigadier-General
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Co

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM AN OFFICER OF THE 124th I.R. captured this morning, 10th April, 1917.

The 124th I.R. left VALENCIENNES on the 6th inst, detrained at MARQUION, and spent one night in CAGNICOURT, thence relieving the 180th Regt, on the night 7th/8th April.

ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.

120th 123rd, 124th Regts. All three have two bns. in the line. Each Bn. has 3 companies in the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG, 2 platoons in front line, one in support. The other two coys are in RIENCOURT.

The 12th Coy has all three platoons in the front line, as the support dugout was blown in by our artillery.

1st and 3rd Bns. of the 124th are in the line, The 2nd Bn. is in CAGNICOURT, where the Regtl. H.Q. also is; But prisoner believes it is leaving because of shelling, he does not know where. The two Bn. H.Q. in RIENCOURT are also leaving, as they are continually under fire,

ENEMY INTENTIONS.

Officers of the 180th Regt. told prisoner that the 180th were to have attacked our position along the railway line C.4.5. and 6, but that they were not strong enough. The attack was to have been made as follows:- 1 platoon 1st wave, and 1 platoon following up to consolidate. Prisoner thinks his regiment may make this attack, but no orders or arrangements made before he was captured.

HEADQUARTERS.

Coy. H.Q. in front line.

REGIMENTAL SECTOR.

From U.28.b.9.8 to U.30.a.9.9. (the same as the 180th)

REST BILLETS.

Prisoner states the 180th Regt. have taken over their billets in neighbourhood of VALENCIENNES.

EXPECTED ATTACK.

Order was received from 27th Div. at midday 9th, to expect an attack from us this morning (10.4.17). Platoon in support had orders to counter attack at once without orders, in the event of the first line being lost.

Prisoner has heard nothing of the attack by the Third Army yesterday morning.

STRENGTH.

Rifle strength of 12th Coy, 100. The "BAW" Coy also 100 strong. This latter working on dugouts on the road that goes through V.14.a and b. 12th Coy. have one M.G. in front line and one in support. Other M.Gs, are behind the line between RIENCOURT and the line.

TANK TRAPS.

Holes for tanks, 8 metres deep, every 100 metres is in U.29.d.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

Officer stated 120th Regt on right and 123rd Regt. on left.

MOVEMENTS.

124th Regt were relieved at St PIERRE St VAAST Wood on the 17th March, and went straight to VALENCIENNES to rest.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRENCH MORTARS. About half a dozen trench mortars just south of RIENCOURT in U.23 and 24.

FIELD KITCHENS. Come from CAGNICOURT and remain on road in U.18.c.

BILLETS. The troops in RIENCOURT are billeted in cellars, not in dug-outs.

TELEPHONE. Telephone is now in the front line.

PATROLS. Company has one N.C.O. and 6 men on patrol. There are no men on outpost duty.

SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. Orders are to hold the SIEGFRIED Stellung, and in the event of our taking it, they are to counter attack at once. Wire is generally 30 metres wide.

127th I.R. No longer with the division. This regt. left division at the beginning of the year.

INFORMATION obtained from prisoners of the 1st Musketen Bn.

ORGANIZATION. The 1st Bn. consists of 3 Coys. The 3rd Coy. is about 120 strong, and is divided into 18 sections, with an equipment of 15 automatic rifles. Each Gruppe has two automatic rifles, and each platoon is commanded by an officer.

The 2nd Bn. consists of only 2 Coys., and remained behind in ARCHON.

MOVEMENT. The 1st Bn. came from ARCHON (LAON) on the 4th instant and detrained at CAMBRAI. On the night of the 5/6th 8 sections went straight into the line. Three of these only were attached to the 3rd Bn., 362nd R.I.R., and prisoners do not know to whom the other five sections were attached, nor their whereabouts.

TOUR OF DUTY. This varies from three to five days. The sections in the platoon relieve one another.

COMMANDERS. The 1st. Bn.: Hptmann. MORE.

INFORMATION obtained from prisoners of the 361st R.I.R.

All prisoners of this regiment taken during the attack belong to the Divisional STURM TRUPPE.

Ten of these men were stationed in HERMIES, the remainder of the Truppe were in CAMBRAI.

STRENGTH. ^{strength} The total/ of the STURM TRUPPE is about 20 men.

INFORMATION obtained from prisoners belonging to the 4th Machine-Gun Coy., 362nd R.I.R.

ORGANIZATION. This company was formed on the 1st January, 1917, and equipped with 5 German and 1 Russian machine-guns.

STRENGTH. The total strength of the company is about 90 men.

RELIEFS. On the night of the 6/7th the 4th Coy. relieved the Scharoschutzen Troop (No. unknown).

The sections in the company relieve one another.

COMMANDERS. 4th M.G. Coy.: Lieut. HARCHMEISTER. 3rd M.G. Coy.: Lieut. VEYE.

M.G. EMBLACEMENTS. Prisoners have no knowledge of any elaborate M.G. emplacements in the neighbourhood of HAVRINCOURT.

Continued.

10-4-17.

- 5 -

No.254.

INFORMATION obtained from prisoners belonging to the 94th I.R.

RELIEFS. The 2nd Bn. relieved the 3rd Bn. on the night of the 2/4th instant.

DISPOSITIONS. Two companies minus 2 platoons on outpost duty. Two companies plus 2 platoons in support.

One company in sunken road in K.7.c., the other company plus 2 platoons in road, DEMICOURT - HERMIES.

One battalion in the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. The 3rd Bn. in rest, in all probability, 3 companies in Sugar Factory in E.29.a., and 1 company in Brickfields at Eastern exit of MOEUVRES.

ORDER OF BATTLE. N.W. to S.E. - 95th I.R. - 94th I.R.

HEADQUARTERS. Regimental H.Q. has moved from Sugar Factory in E.29.a. to FONTAINE, but there is still a battalion H.Q. there. There are no dug-outs in the factory.

COMPANY STRENGTH. Rifle strength about 190. Ration strength about 240.

COMMANDERS. 2nd Bn.: Hptmann. von PUSSAIN. 5th Coy.: Lieut. YUNGER. 6th Coy.: Lieut. SCHULTZ. 7th Coy.: Lieut. VOLE. 8th Coy.: 1st Lieut. SCHAFFER.

SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. Trenches in E.26.d. and K.2.b. are re-vetted. A fire step has been made in the communication trench in K.3.a., near LOCK.

TRENCHES in E.28.b. On the 4th instant there were no trenches at this spot, only wire.

INFORMATION obtained from prisoners belonging to the 95th I.R.

The 2nd Bn. of the 95th is still in BOURLON, and civilians are said to be still there.

UNITS SEEN. A company of ARMIERUNGS Landsturm Bn. were seen in BOURLON on the 6th instant.

FIRST ANZAC CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No.255.

From 6.30 pm.m 10th April, to 6.30 p.m. 11th April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

The following prisoners were admitted to the Corps Cage during the past 24 hours :-

11th Coy.	124th I.R.	30 o.r.
Minenwerfer Detachment,	124th I.R.	5 "
3rd Machine Gun Coy.	124th I.R.	1 "
	Total	<u>36 o.r.</u>

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Men who took part in this morning's attack report that the front trench of the HINDENBURG Line is from 8 to 10 feet deep, camouflaged in places, but not revetted or duck-boarded. The parapets in many places was badly battered about by our artillery. It contained large dugouts not less than 30 feet deep, with 2 exits, the shaft descending straight from the trench with no parapet chamber. The entrances to the dugouts were so arranged that on the trench being taken they were fully exposed to German bomb and trench mortar fire. There were no signs of underground communication trenches.

MOVEMENT.

Two gun limbers with 4 horse teams were seen trotting through U.11.b. Evidently a battery behind HENDICOURT was preparing to retire, or was receiving ammunition. In U.5.d and U.6.a enemy were seen damaging the telegraph lines.

AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE.

At 10.20 a.m. a very large explosion was seen in the vicinity of MARCOING others at C.6.b.7.3 and D.1.c.9.3. Trees have been cut down in D.7. At 8.40 a.m. a long train was seen going North on the line between L.31 and K.13 (Sheet 57 c). At 10 a.m. a train was seen approaching CAMBRAI from the South. At 10.30 a.m. a train was in the station at BOURLON. At 10.40 a.m. a train was moving south at VILLERS - OUTREMUX. At 11.05 a.m. a train was going S.E. at W.5.a (Sheet 51 b). At 11.30 a.m. a train was going east at M.12.c (Sheet 57 c). A large fire was seen in HAVRINCOURT, lasting for at least an hour.

HERMIES.

Hermies appears to have been more systematically destroyed than other villages which we have passed through, but the dugouts on the HERMIES - DEMICOURT Road are in good condition, and supplies of food and fuel, sufficient for several days, were found in them.

R. STATEMENT OF PRISONER. 1st M.G.Coy. 1st Bn. 361st I.R., 4th Ersatz Div

The regimental sector runs along the southern bank of the canal in J.36 and K.31. The position held by the regt. in the north western arm of HAVRINCOURT Wood is very strong, consisting of a great many small trenches, wire and machine guns.

Continued.

11-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 255.

Statement of prisoner etc. (Contd).

Machine guns. The 1st Machine gun Coy (attached to the 1st Bn.) has 8 machine guns in the line., along the southern bank of the canal in K.31 firing in a north westerly direction, and 4 machine guns in reserve. Each machine gun in the line has a dugout.

Canal du Nord. As much of the canal as the prisoner has seen was full of water, which he thinks to be some depth. There is only one small bridge over which troops could cross, namely at about K.32.a.3.7 on the bend of the canal.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

Hostile shelling during the past 24 hours has been above normal. In reply to our bombardment this morning, the enemy put up a very slight barrage. Later during the morning, LAGNICOURT, BULLECOURT and NOREUIL were shelled by all calibres. From 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. the LONGATTE - NOREUIL road was heavily shelled with gas shells from the direction of CAGNICOURT. A large number of new batteries were seen from the air and the following conclusions have been made. Hostile batteries may now be said to form into 3 main groups, all of which are very active; one between CAGNICOURT and RIENCOURT, two between QUEANT and BUISSY, 3 between QUEANT and MOEUVRES. There is also a smaller group south of MOEUVRES, but not very active at present.

S. S. BUTLER. M.
for Brigadier General,
General Staff,
1st ANZAC Corps.

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM PRISONERS of the 11th Coy. 124th I.R., and
Minenwerfer Detachment, 124th I.R.

RESERVES.

Previous information corroborated.

ENEMY INTENTIONS.

Prisoners had heard of no orders to evacuate the HINDENBURG Line, and believe it is to be held at all costs.

MOVEMENTS.

It should have been stated in last night's summary that the 124th I.R. was at rest on MAING, near VALENCIENNES.

INFORMATION OF TRENCH MORTAR SECTIONS.

Since the 1st January, 1917, each regiment in the 27th Division has had a Minenwerfer detachment consisting of 11 light trench mortars. Personnel of this detachment -- 3 officers and 94 o.r.

27th DIVISIONAL MINENWERFER COMPANY.

The 27th Div. Minenwerfer Coy., consisting of heavy and medium trench mortars, was also up in the line.

STRENGTH.

The fighting strength of the 11th Coy. about 100.

Continued.

11-4-17.

- 3 -

No.255.

CASUALTIES.

During this morning's fighting very heavy. One man said that the 28 prisoners at the cage were all that were left of the 11th Coy., all the remainder being killed, mostly by Tanks. Prisoners also think that the majority of their battalion was either captured, killed or wounded.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

N.W. to S.E. confirmed, 120th I.R., 124th I.R., 123rd L.R.

127th REGIMENT.

It is believed that the 127th Regt. has returned to Germany to form the nuclei of new regiments.

MACHINE GUNS.

The 124th L.R. has 3 Coys. Apparently the M.Gs. of the 3rd Bn. were ineffective this morning owing to a shortage of ammunition.

27th DIVISION.

The 27th Division has now only one brigade, No.53, which is called Von der OSTEN from the name of its commander. Its original commander, Von KORBLING has retired.

COMMANDERS.

Of the Division: Gen. von MAUER. He relieved von MOSER about the 14th December. Of the 124th I.R. Major LEGELER. Of the 3rd Bn. Hauptmann SCHELIMANN. Of the 11th Coy., who has been killed Lieutenant NESTLE.

HEADQUARTERS.

Regimental in RIBECOURT (confirmed).

GERMAN TANKS.

None of the prisoners has any knowledge of German Tanks.

WORK BEHIND THE SIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

A few half finished trenches behind RIENCOURT. No one has seen any further defence works.

GENERAL.

From prisoners' statements our attack was entirely unexpected. One man said that they had been warned against a possible gas attack. None of them had any idea that Tanks were going to be used against them.

Prisoners have heard of the attack in front of ARRAS, but knew no details.

From 6.30 p.m. 11th April to 6.30 p.m. 12th April 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

The following prisoners have been admitted to the Corps Cage during the past 24 hours :-

	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O.R.</u>
11th Coy., 124th I.R.		1
3rd Machine-Gun Coy., 124th I.R.		1
Minenwerfer Section.		1
		<u>3</u>

In addition to the above, three wounded prisoners have been admitted to Field Ambulances.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

The hostile shelling during the past 24 hours has been below normal. During this morning and afternoon VRAUCOURT COPSE was shelled by 15 cm. Hows. from the direction of QUEANT. MORCHIES was shelled by a 10.5 cm. How. from PRONVILLE. At 1.20 p.m. the enemy shelled BULLECOURT from all directions, and at 3.15 p.m. a heavy barrage of 10.5 cm and 15 cm. Hows was put up in front of this place. At 5.18 p.m. a very heavy barrage was placed on our lines in U.26 and U.27. which continued until after 6.p.m.

MOVEMENT.

Constant movement has recently been observed from HAVRINCOURT WOOD across the Canal by the bridge at K.31.a.0.2. to the road at K.31.a.8.7. and the enemy was seen moving freely on the roads in the wood at K.31.a. and c. Parties were seen carrying picks and shovels to a trench, located approximately at K.32.d.2.8.

At 8.30 a.m. and at 9.30 a.m. this morning, about a battalion of the enemy were seen massing behind RIENCOURT. They formed into column of route and moved towards HENDECOURT. On both occasions they were fired on with success by our artillery.

The G report that this morning a party of about 300 Germans was seen retiring from BULLECOURT to HENDECOURT and another party between 200 and 300 strong was seen to retire in open order through V.6.a. at 10.30 a.m.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

Reconnoitring patrols report that enemy holds a line of disconnected holes running from K.7.d.5.5. to K.7.a.8.2. to K.7.a.2.5. A party of about 20 were seen at J.6.d.5.1. digging and putting out wire.

TANKS.

Prisoners report that our tanks produced a great moral effect on their infantry, and caused a large number of casualties.

An observer reports that the guns employed against the Tanks are 77 mm; there was on battery firing from the outskirts of RIENCOURT which might have been a of smaller calibre.

EXPLOSIONS.

During the day our artillery fire caused two large explosions in enemy battery positions.

At 2.30 p.m. the cross-roads at E.26.d.3.1. were blown up. Two mines were exploded in D.1.c.

Continued.

12-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 256.

FIRES.

Fires were observed in HAVRINCOURT during the day.

ARMOURD CARS.

Three objects which looked like Tanks were observed on the EPEHY - HONNECOURT Road this morning. They had conning towers on top, appeared to have no wheels and were thicker on top than below. They moved slowly and disappeared towards HONNECOURT.

The description of these objects corresponds with that of the three armoured cars described in Corps Summary No. 114. of 3rd April.

HINDENBURG LINE.

The following information regarding the HINDENBURG Line, the BULLECOURT Sector, has been received from our left Division.

No concrete emplacements were seen.

There were a number of holes in front of the wire of rear Line. These appeared to be entrances to underground passages proceeding underneath the rear line and coming to the surface again behind it.

MACHINE-GUNS. Machine-guns were firing from the front and rear of the rear line. They appear to be placed in a semicircle from BULLECOURT, over the high ground over the rear line round to RIENCOURT. Most of the machine-gun fire came from villages.

A number of holes were noticed in front of the front line. They appear to be uncompleted dugouts.

There us no underground communication between the front and the rear lines.

IDENTIFICATIONS.

Two Germans were killed last night in C.12.d. Identifications found on them showed them to belong to the 91st R.I.R., 2nd Guard Reserve Division, and the 119th R.I.R., 26th Reserve Division. This latter Division is known to have been relieved by the 27th Division, and the German killed was probably one of a detachment left behind for some purpose.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the attack yesterday on the HINDENBURG Line a body of about 60 of the enemy is reported to have come forward under the white flag to surrender. German machine-guns were at once turned against them with the result that the majority of the party was wiped out.

(sgd) S. S. BUTLER. Major.
for Brigadier-General.
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

PRISONERS OF WAR. During the period under review the following prisoners have been captured:

	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>O.R.</u>
77th R.I.R.		1
94th I.R.		2
95th I.R.		10
124th I.R.	1	40
361st R.I.R.	1	3
362nd R.I.R.		1146
1st Musketen Bn.		11
Wounded through Field Ambulances		24
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2	237
	<hr/>	<hr/>

This brings the total number of prisoners captured by the Corps during the German retreat up to 9 Officers and 631 O.R.

ORDER OF BATTLE. Except that the 27th Division has relieved the 26th Reserve Division, the order of battle opposite the Corps front remains the same.

The Order of Battle of the 27th Division from West to East is 120th - 124th - 123rd Regiments.

ENEMY INTENTIONS. A captured officer of the 124th I.R. stated that the regiment that they relieved, i.e., the 180th I.R., had received orders to attack our positions on the railway in C.4., 5 and 6., but that owing to the reduced number of their effectives, they were unable to do so. This officer further stated that it was the impression in his regiment that they might have to make this attack, but up to the time of his capture (the morning of the 10th April), no definite orders had been issued.

It does not appear probable from all information obtained from observation, photographs, and prisoners' statements generally, that the enemy will attack in this part of the line. On the other hand, there is no doubt that the enemy intend holding the HINDENBURG Line as far as its junction with the DROCOURT - QUEANT Line with the greatest determination until such time as their troops now retiring further to the North-West have had time to fall back on to the latter line.

Our troops were fiercely counter-attacked after the capture of the trenches between BULLECOURT and QUEANT, the enemy no doubt realising that the possession of this trench by us endangered the retreat of the forces moving back to the DROCOURT Line in front of the Army on our left. The retirement of the enemy's main forces opposite the Army and Corps on our left once accomplished, he may be expected also to withdraw from the trenches between BULLECOURT and the main DROCOURT Line. It would seem that this is imminent.

Further South-East there is nothing to indicate an attack on the part of the enemy.

It appears from prisoners' statements that the line in front of INCHY is unsatisfactory, being only partially dug. A new line is in course of construction further North. In view of the fact that the loss of the BALKON Stellung and the line in front of INCHY would imperil the safety of the whole of the DROCOURT - QUEANT Line, there is no doubt that our advance towards the BALKON Stellung (QUEANT - PRONVILLE - HAVRINCOURT Line) will be resisted as much as possible to enable the defences to be perfected.

Continued.

12-4-17.

- 2 -

No.22.

ENEMY DISPOSITIONS. With the exception that the 27th Division has relieved the 26th Reserve Division, the enemy's dispositions are as shown on 1st ANZAC Corps Situation map, issued on the 6th instant.

ENEMY DEFENCES. During the week the enemy has been busy improving and wiring the main DROCOURT - QUEANT Line and preparing a new line of defence going through RIENCOURT up to FONTAINE-lez-CROISILLES in stretches of trench of various lengths, parts of which are wired.

Work has also been carried out on trenches from CAGNICOURT through V.27, V.28 and thence N.E. to V.23.b. The weather during the period has been unfavourable for aerial photography on most days.

MORAL. The moral of the 27th Division is good, and they counter-attacked with resolution. This division has always had an excellent fighting reputation.

The moral of the 2nd Guard Reserve Division and 38th Division may be said to be fair; but the moral of the 4th Ersatz Division does not appear to have improved since we met the division in February last, when it was at a very low ebb.

HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Most of the week hostile aircraft activity was normal. On the 11th there was a marked increase of hostile scouts, and numerous combats took place, some within our lines. One German machine was registering our artillery during our attack.

On the 12th hostile machines were seen patrolling in rear of the enemy's lines, but did not attempt to cross over to our side. Their object was apparently to prevent our machines from reconnoitring the enemy's rear.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY. Hostile shelling was about normal at the beginning, but gradually increased towards the middle of the week. On the 7/8th instants hostile shelling was considerably above normal.

At 3.20 a.m. on the 7/8th, the enemy in response to S.O.S. signals put up a very heavy mixed barrage along the right Divisional front. On the ensuing days the enemy retaliation to our bombardments was comparatively slight.

On the evening of the 9th instant, many hostile batteries were discovered in action by the R.F.C., and on the 10th a very noticeable increase in the shelling of our back area was apparent. During the evening of the 9/10th a number of the batteries around BULLECOURT and RIENCOURT retired to positions nearer CAGNICOURT.

S. S. BUTLER. Major.
for Brigadier-General.
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

From 6.30 p.m. 12th April to 6.30 p.m. 13th April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been captured during the past 24 hours.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

During the past 24 hours has been above normal. About 7.45 p.m., our trenches in front of BULLECOURT were heavily barraged, and again at 3.50 a.m. this morning; hostile shelling was very intense and consisted of 15cm. and 10.5cm. Hows and gas shells. VRAUCOURT Copse was shelled several times during the day and night by 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows. and gas shells from the direction of CAGNICOURT. C.15 received much attention from the same direction. - the enemy searching for a battery. NOREUIL was again shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. chiefly from the direction of QUEANT. ECOUST-St-MEIN was shelled by 15cm. Hows. from an unknown direction, and 10.5cm. Hows. from RIENCOURT. MORCHIES was shelled several times during the afternoon by 15cm. Hows. from QUEANT. Other places occasionally shelled: BEAUMETZ by 10.5cm. from MOEUVRES; LONGATTE by 10.5cm. How. from CAGNICOURT; and LOUVERVAL by 15cm. Hows. from INCHY.

ENEMY POSTS.

A patrol going out from C.5.b.6.4 was fired on by machine-gun at U.30.c.5.7. Another patrol starting from the same point was similarly fired on from U.30.a.5.4. A patrol from U.20.c.8.2 proceeded to the wire at U.28.a.7.0 and thence to U.27.d.9.8. The patrol found the trenches manned and located two listening posts, one at U.28.a.7.0, and one at U.27.d.9.8.

A track was visible running N.E. past U.12.c.4.2, where a dug-out is suspected; men have been seen to disappear at this point; new earth is visible; and a number of telephone wires lead to it.

WIRE.

The wire in U.29.c.8.8 is in very good condition. At U.30.a.5.4. it doesn't appear to be cut to any great extent.

Air reconnaissance reports the wire West, South and South-East of BULLECOURT well out; also from

U.28.b.2.8 to U.28.a.8.2

U.27.d.9.9 to the BULLECOURT -
ECOUST Road at U.27.d.6.9

U.20.a.7.7 to U.20.b.1.4

U.20.d.4.9 to U.21.c.7.8

- the wire has been badly damaged. From U.29.a.9.1. to U.28.c.5.9 the wire has been destroyed.

EXPLOSIONS. and FIRES.

At 3.5 p.m. a very large explosion was seen in FONTAINE-lez-CROISILLES; apparently a large building was blown up; another large explosion was seen in CHERISY.

Two large fires are reported in BULLECOURT.

MOVEMENT.

At 12.30 p.m., 12 motor lorries were seen moving e in an Easterly direction from QUEANT, and at 1.37 p.m. traffic was seen moving in V.13.d.2.3 towards CAGNICOURT. On both these occasions our heavy artillery acted with success.

Continued.

13-4-17.

- 2 -

No.257.

MOVEMENT (Contd).

About 50 of the enemy with their transport were seen and dispersed on the road in U.12.c.

- A At 1.30 p.m. three bodies of infantry were seen marching West on the CAMBRAI Road between VILLERS-lez-CAGNICOURT and MARQUION, each party being about 300 strong. Column of G.S.Waggons about half a mile long was seen moving towards CAMBRAI at the same place. The troops and transport were fired on by our planes.

AIR RECONNAISSANCE.

BULLECOURT and the trenches surrounding it are reported to be badly damaged. Two enemy posts were seen, one at U.24.b.6.2 of about 10 men, and one of six or 7 at U.21.d.15.50.

A reconnaissance made between 11.50 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. reported that the Germans were holding the trench immediately West of BULLECOURT, but only one party of 4 or 5 men was seen in the trench.

- L Another reconnaissance made between 11.50 and 12.50 reported about 6 of the enemy seen in a trench just North of the road at U.21.d.4.6. No enemy were seen in BULLECOURT, but rifle^{fire} came from the houses, and machine-gun fire from U.15.d.9.5 and from the factory in U.22.a.

Reconnaissance made between 2.50 p.m. and 6.45 p.m. reports a large explosion in BULLECOURT at 3.15 p.m., causing a fire which lasted some time. Small fires were also seen in QUEANT, FONTAINE-lez-CROISILLES. At 3.40 p.m., explosions were seen in HAVRINCOURT.

The patrol was fired at by rifles or machine-guns from BULLECOURT at 3.5 p.m.

A. LIGHT RAILWAY.

A photograph taken yesterday (18.V.468) shows a light railway running from the ARRAS - CAMBRAI Road at P.34d.1.5 through VILLERS-lez-CAGNICOURT to V.3.d.18.25, where it runs off the photograph.

A GERMAN LISTENING SETS.

A german prisoner who had been employed as an interpreter with a listening set states that much valuable information is still obtained by the enemy from our indiscreet telephone and buzzer messages.

A GERMANS IN BRITISH UNIFORMS.

The following is an extract from the Outpost Orders of the 119th R.I.R., dated 23/1/17.

"The wearing of British articles of clothing by men of the outpost company in the front line caused a misunderstanding on the part of our artillery, I request company commanders to see that such irregularities do not occur in future."

LATER AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE.

Smoke was seen rising from RIENCOURT, - From the N.E. of BULLECOURT, from trenches in the vicinity of U.20.b., U.21.a., U.22.c.1.5 and U.21.a.9.5.

MINE-CRATERS. Mine-craters were observed on the railway line at C.6.c.9.4, C.6.d.4.6 and on the main CAMBRAI Road at K.1.b.5.6 and K.2.b.1.9.

S.S. BUTLER. Major,
for Brigadier-General
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

The following aeroplane photographs taken on the following dates have been received. Divisions etc., should indent direct on 1st. Anzac Branch Intelligence, No.3 Squadron R.F.C.

4-4-17

3-AE

344	J.23cd,29ab.	399	K.25b,26a.
345	J.29cd,35ab.	400	K.8cd.
346	J.34bd,35ac.	401	E.26cd,K.2a.
347	J.17bd,18ac.	402	J.30.
348	J.11bd,12abc.	403	J.24cd,30ab.
349	D.20bd,21ac,26b,27a.	404	J.18ab.
350	D20.	405	J.18d,K.13c.
351	J23b,24a.	406	D.18.
352	J.11d,12cd,17b,18a.	407	D.17bd,18ac.
353	J5,6a.	408	D.17bd.
354	J.5d,6a,11b.	409	J.29acd.
355	D.29cd,J.4b,5ac.	410	J.5.
356	D.28bd,29a.	411	D.1c,7ab.
357	D.21d,22c,27b,28a.	412	D.1cd,7b.
358	D21cd,27ab.	413	C.12cd,18ab.
359	D.20ac.	414	D.18bd,24b.
360	D.19.	415	J.29d,35ab,36a.
361	J.23cd,29b.	416	J.23d,24c,30a.
362	D23d,24c,29ab.	417	J.24bd,K.19ac.
363	D.29d,30ac,25b.	418	J.23b,24a.
364	D.9d,10c,15b,16a.	419	J.17b,18abc.
365	D.10d,16b.	420	J.11d,12c,17b,18a.
366	D.16bd,17c,22b.	421	J.12bcd.
367	D.23abc.	422	E.13cd,19ab.
368	D.3c,9ab.	423	D.1bd,2ac.
369	D.7bd,8ac.	424	D.2cd,8a.
370	D.7c,13ab.	425	J.11ab,12a.
371	D.2d,3c,8b,9a.	426	D.15c,21a.
372	D.7bd,8ac.	427	D.29c,1,4b,5a.
373	D.9d,15b.	428	D.28bcd.
374	J.35cd.	429	D.27bd,28ac.
375	K.31ac.	430	D.8bcd.
376	K.31bd.	431	D.8bcd,14b.
377	K.26bd,32ab.	432	D.27bd,28ac.
378	K.26bd,27c.	433	D.14bd,15ac.
379	K.27acd.	434	D.27.
380	K.21ab.	435	D.27ac.
381	K.15cd.	436	J.4ab.
382	K.15bcd.	437	J.4d,10b.
383	K.9a,15abd,16a.	438	J.10bd,11a.
384	K.8d,9abc.	439	J.10d,11c.
385	K.9acd,15a.	440	D.13d,14ac.
386	K.2d,8b,9a.	441	D.19d,20c.
387	K.2bcd,8ab.		
388	K.2.		
389	E.2bc,K.2ac.		

6-4-17.

390	P.6b,1ac.	442	S-4-17.
391	K.25d,31ac.	442	D.14d,15c,21a.
392	K.2.	443	J.4d,5c,10b,11a.
393	K.14.	444	C.18d,24ab.
394	K.8ab.	445	C.a8bd.
395	K.31.	446	D.7c,13ab.
396	K.14cd,20ab.	447	D.7d,8c.
397	E.19bcd.	448	J.29.
398	E.20c,25b,26a.	449	D.15,21ab.
		450	J.34.
		451	D.8c, 14a.
		452	D.15bd.

	8-4-17.		
453	J. 23d, 24c.	512	U. 24abc.
454	J. 23b, 24a.	513	U. 24cd, 30a.
455	J. 11.	514	U. 30d, V. 25ab.
456	D. 28cd, J. 4ab.	515	V. 25c, D. 1a.
457	D. 16acd.	516	D. 8bd, 9a.
458	D. 22, 16d.	517	D. 20d, 21c, 26b, 27a.
459	D. 22bd, 23ac.	518	D. 20bd, 21ac.
460	D. 14bd, 15ac.	519	D. 14d, 15c.
461	D. 8d, 14cd.	520	J. 24c, 30.
462	D. 22d, 23c.	521	J. 24cd, 30a.
463	D. 13bd, 14ac.	522	K. 14c, 20a.
464	D. 7.	523	K. 13d, 14c, 19b, 20a.
465	D. 1c, 7a.	524	J. 23.
466	C. 6d, 12b, D. 1c, 7a.	525	J. 16d, 17cd.
467	C. 6bd, D. 1ac.	526	K. 14b, 15a.
468	D. 1cd, 7b.	527	K. 14d, 15c.
469	D. 2cd, 8ab.	528	K. 14cd.
470	J. 29cd, 35ab.	529	U. 28d, 29c, D. 5a.
471	D. 18ac.		
472	D. 17cd, 23ab.		12-4-17.
473	E. 26c, K. 1b, 2a.	530	U. 29d, C. 5b.
474	U. 24.	531	D. 14cd, 20ab.
475	C. 6bcd.	532	D. 20bd, 21a.
476	V. 26d, 27c, D. 2d, 3a.	533	U. 30cd, C. 3ab.
477	V. 21ac.	534	D. 1d, 2c, 7b, 8a.
478	V. 25bd, 26a.	535	D. 8.
479	V. 19cd, 20c, 25b.	536	D. 14.
480	V. 19ac.	537	D. 1.
481	V. 26d, 27c, D. 2b, 3a.	538	C. 6d, D. 1ac.
482	D. 1.	539	C. 6bd, D. 1ac.
483	D. 1d, 2ac.	540	U. 29d, 30c, C. 6a.
484	D. 16d, 17c, 22b, 23a.	541	U. 29d, C. 5b.
485	D. 16.	542	U. 29c, C. 5a.
486	E. 25bd, 26a.	543	U. 30d, C. 6b.
487	D. 18d, 24abc.	544	D. 20bcd, 21c, 26b.
488	D. 24d, 30b, E. 19c.		
489	D. 30bd, E. 25a.		13-4-17.
490	K. 2.	545	K. 4ab.
491	K. 8ab, 9a.	546	K. 4cd.
492	K. 8cd, 9ab.	547	K. 9d, 15b, 16a.
493	K. 14.	548	E. 22abc,
494	V. 22d, 23c, 28b.	549	E. 16c, 22a.
495	V. 28bd.	550	E. 28ab.
496	V. 21ba, 22abc.	551	E. 22d, 23c, 28b.
497	D. 6.	552	E. 28bd.
498	D. 12bd, E. 7a.	553	K. 10ab.
499	V. 13.	554	K. 15.
500	V. 14bd, 15ac.	555	E. 14a.
501	V. 15cd, 21ab.		
502	K. 23.		
503	V. 20c, 25b, 26a.		
504	U. 24cd, V. 19c.		
505	U. 29.		
506	U. 30.		
507	U. 28acd.		
508	U. 22d, 28b, 29a.		
509	U. 28abd, 29c.		
510	U. 22b, 23ac.		
511	U. 17cd, 23ab.		

The following aeroplane photographs taken by the 4th Squadron R.F.C., on the 3rd April, 1917, have been received Divisions etc, should indent on 1st ANZAC Branch Intelligence, 3rd Squadron, R.F.C.

4 AE

1691	U.27.a .	1705	D.14.b
1692	U.27.b	1706	D.14.b.,15.a
1693	U.22.d.,28.b	1707	D.15.a
1694	U.22.d	1708	U.27.d
1695	U.23.b.,24.a	1709	
1696	U.23.b	1710	D.1.a.c
1697	U.24.a	1711	C.3.a.b
1698	D.2.a.b.	1712	U.27
1699	D.3.a	1713	U.27.d
1700	D.3.c	1714	D.1.c
1701	D.2.d	1715	U.27.c
1702	D.2.a	1716	D.1.b
1703	D.9.b.	1717	D.7.b
1704	D.9.b		

FIRST ANZAC CORPS INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

No. 259.

From 6.30p.m. 14th April to 6.30 p.m. 15th April, 1917.PRISONERS OF WAR.

The following prisoners have been admitted to Corps Cage during the last 24 hours:

<u>Battalion</u>	<u>Regiment</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>O.R.</u>
1st	15th R.I.R.	2nd Guard Res.		24
3rd	do.	do.		26
3rd M.G.Coy.				1
1st	77th R.I.R.	do.		22
1st M.G.Coy.				7
2nd	do.		1	37
3rd	do.		2	57
2nd	91st R.I.R.			13
2nd M.G.Coy.				5
1st	LEHR	3rd Guard Divn.		31
2nd	Gd. Fusilier	do.		1
3rd	360th I.R.	4th Ersatz		1
1st	361st I.R.			1
			3	226

In addition to the above 46 wounded prisoners are reported admitted to Field Ambulances, making a total of 3 Officers and 272 Other Ranks. Other wounded are still being brought in.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

Above normal during the past 24 hours. During the evening LAGNICOURT and C.15.c. were shelled by 15cm. Hows. from QUEANT and INCHY directions. At 4-40 a.m. this morning after a considerable bombardment the enemy attacked our line but was driven back. At 11-40 a.m., the enemy placed a barrage between BULLECOURT and RIENCOURT and heavily shelled LAGNICOURT and the ridge. During the early morning GREVILLERS and BAPAUME were shelled by a 24cm. gun from the direction of MARQUION which later continued to shell the BAPAUME-lez-SARS Road during the day. Other places shelled have been LONGATTE by 10.5cm. How. from unknown direction and FREMICOURT - BOURSIES Road by 10.5cm Hows. and 77mm. guns from BOURLON.

OPERATIONS.

At 4.30 a.m. this morning the enemy attacked the Corps front roughly from NOREUIL to HERMIES with a strength of 14 battalions, at least. North of the BAPAUME - CAMBRAI Road the attack was carried out by the 2nd Guard Res. Divn. and the 3rd Guard Divn., and South of the Road by the 4th Ersatz Divn. The main objectives seemed to have been NOREUIL - LAGNICOURT - BOURSIES - DEMICOURT - and HERMIES, the intention of the enemy apparently being to penetrate behind these villages, collect all possible information about our method of holding the line, take prisoners and destroy and capture guns.

Only near the village of LAGNICOURT did the enemy succeed in penetrating our lines any distance, and here he was shortly afterwards thrown out by a vigorous counter-attack, and our line has now been re-established all along the Corps front. The attack proved exceedingly costly to the enemy.

Continued.

15-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 259.

OPERATIONS (Contd).

He left behind over 270 prisoners, among them 3 officers, in our hands, and suffered exceedingly heavy casualties. A conservative estimate of the dead lying in front of our lines being 2,000.

Up to the present 4 machine-guns and two converted Lewis guns are also reported to have been captured.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

The order of battle from West to East appears to be: 27th Divn. - 2nd Guard Res. Divn. in course of relief by the 3rd Guard Divn. - with probably the 4th Ersatz Divn. on their left. It is not quite clear as to whether the 38th Divn. is still in line, as no prisoners of that division were captured in the attack this morning, and the 4th Ersatz Divn. appears to have moved north somewhat from its original sector. Endeavours are being made to clear this question up by interrogations of prisoners.

ENEMY INTENTIONS.

All prisoners agree that the enemy intend to hold the DROCOURT - QUEANT Line. The attack this morning may possibly have been in the nature of a reconnaissance with a view to an attack on even a larger scale subsequently, but the exceedingly heavy punishment received by the enemy will probably prevent him from repeating the experiment, at all events for some little time.

ENEMY MOVEMENT.

About 300 of the enemy seen at C.24.b.3.3, and a party of 200 was seen in D.13.d. -- both parties retiring East. They were fired on with effect. This afternoon small parties of the enemy in full marching order were seen N.W. and N.E. from RIENCOURT through U.;8 and U.12.

ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.

This morning patrols approached the enemy wire in U.28.c. and were sniped at. Machine-guns fired on them from BULLECOURT.

BRIDGES.

The western abutment of the bridge at V.2.d.7.8 blew up on the night of the 13/14th. This bridge was destroyed the day previous to the enemy's withdrawal. There are indications of similar preparations for the demolition of the abutments of the bridge at V.8.b.3.5.

DUMPS.

Waggons were seen to approach a large dump in K. 23.a from FLESQUIERES; they loaded up and returned.

HERMIES.

A captured note-book has the following entry: "34 tons of explosive are in the catacombs of HERMIES -- Either to-day or to-morrow -- Time fuse."

S. S. BUTLER. Major.
for Brigadier-General,
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

Continued.

15-4-17.

- 3 -

No 259.

Information concerning enemy attack to the North of main BAPAUME - CAMBRAI Road by the 2nd Guard Reserve Division and 3rd Guard Division. (Information concerning attack South of the Road is included in prisoners' statements of the 361st and 360th I.R.)

According to an Army order issued on the night of the 15th April, a strong armed reconnaissance attack was to be carried out by the 2nd Guard Reserve Divn. and the 3rd Guard Divn. the object being as follows:-

The 77th R.I.R. was to attack on the North with three battalions, less one company, supported on the left by two battalions of the 15th R.I.R. and on the right by one battalion of the 91st R.I.R., with the express purpose of locating and destroying our artillery, securing identifications, and discovering with what forces NOREUIL and LAGNICOURT were being held. These villages were to be held until this evening when the assaulting battalions were to return to their lines.

The LEHR Regiment, 2 battalions strong, with 2 battalions of the Guard Reserve Divn., after a forced march of 12 kilometres, were sent over the top, their object being the trench system in front of BOURSIES and North and South of it.

RELIEFS. According to an officer of the 77th R.I.R., the whole of the 77th R.I.R. has been replaced by a Grenadier Regiment, probably the 9th Grdr. Rgt, which came into the sector of the 77th R.I.R. in time to relieve the latter for their attack. Prisoner expected the whole of the 77th R.I.R. to go into rest billets after the attack.

METHOD OF ATTACK. According to prisoners' statements, the attack was to be carried out in a series of waves, supported by machine-guns. Each attack company had two machine-guns with them and two in reserve in the front line trench. No serious opposition was expected. The enemy were under the impression that they would have to deal only with outposts. The 3rd Bn., 77th R.I.R., attacked as follows: Two companies went over the top in six waves, each a platoon strong; the remaining two companies attacked in two waves, each of one platoon strong. The 1st Bn. attacked apparently in the same manner. The 2nd Bn., occupied the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG, but were later sent over the top to fill up the gap which was made between the two battalions. The 8th Coy. was apparently left behind.

The 15th R.I.R. attacked in a similar manner with the 1st and 3rd Bns. The location of the 2nd Bn. is not known. It is supposed to have left the rest billets and proceeded to ARRAS, but it is not known whether it has returned or not.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

From East to West: 91st R.I.R. - 77th R.I.R. -- 15th R.I.R. - LEHR I.R. - and Garde Fusiliere.

REASONS FOR FAILURE OF ATTACK. The enemy underrated the opposition to be met with in NOREUIL, and the lie of the country greatly assisted our machine-guns and prevented all attempts at a surprise.

At LAGNICOURT the moral of the new drafts of the 15th R.I.R. was very bad and helped to demoralize the order troops.

The co-operation of the enemy artillery with the infantry in these operations was very poor, no regard being paid to light signals sent up by the infantry.

Continued.

15-4-17.

- 4 -

No.259.

INFORMATION obtained from a prisoner of the 77th R.I.R., a Lieutenant, captured this morning.

ORDER OF BATTLE. From East to West -- 15th R.I.R. - 77th R.I.R. -- 91st R.I.R.

MOVEMENT. Prisoner's battalion was in the BALKON STELLUNG (between PRONVILLE and INCHY) with two companies holding the battalion sector, and one in rest at EPINOY. They were relieved by a Grenadier Regiment (probably the 9th Grenadier Regt.), after which they marched to QUEANT via PRONVILLE. The 2nd Bn., 77th R.I.R., which was at rest near CAMBRAI, had gone ahead to join the 1st and 3rd Bns. at QUEANT.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTACK. Instructions were to attack NOREUIL and capture guns, machine-guns and prisoners. Zero hour was 4 a.m., and they were to return to their original positions the same evening.

ENEMY DISPOSITIONS. The 3rd Bn. arrived at 4.15 when the fight was in progress. Two companies of the 1st Bn. remained behind as the relief was late in arriving. It was similarly the case with two companies of the 2nd Bn., as they were originally intended to remain in rest, and got their marching orders late. Thus the regimental strength in the line was really only two battalions.

GAS. Prisoner states no gas arrangements in his sector.

MACHINE-GUNS. 6 to 8 machine-guns in each company. New machine-guns, similar to our Lewis gun -- have been promised to prisoner's regiment, and were to have arrived a month ago. The crews are already trained, and the guns are now very shortly expected.

COMPANY STRENGTH. Rifle Strength -- 150 to 160.

COMMANDERS. Regtl.: Oberst VOIGET. Battalion: Hptmnn. SCHILLES. Company: von HOLZT (wounded prisoner).

NOMENCLATURE OF TRENCH SYSTEMS. BALKON Stellung - SIEGFRIED Stellung - and behind the SIEGFRIED Stellung, WOTAN Stellung.

INFORMATION obtained from a prisoner, a corporal, belonging to the LEHR Regt., captured this morning.

ENEMY DISPOSITIONS. 1st and 3rd Bns. in the line, 2nd Bn. in reserve.

HISTORY OF REGIMENT. Was on the SOMME last summer, and went from France to Galicia. Returned in December to Alsace. Left the Alsace front the first week in April and went to rest at METZ for 4 days, and then came to the ANCRE front detraining at BUISSY on the 13th.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTACK. Instructions for the attack were similar to those given to the 77th R.I.R., except that the objective was LAGNICOURT.

GAS. Prisoner has no knowledge of gas preparations.

MACHINE-GUNS. Two machine-guns per company were detailed for the attack.

Continued.

15-4-17.

- 5 -

No. 259.

COMPANY STRENGTH. 150.

COMMANDERS. Regimental: Major HEROLD. The company commander was ill and an officer "stallevertreter" (deputy) took his place in the attack.

GENERAL INFORMATION obtained from a prisoner of the LEHR Inf. Regt.

Prisoner stated that he entrained at METZ on April 9th (?) and came to CAMBRAI, where he saw a good deal of transport moving West, and was told that three divisions were expected shortly in CAMBRAI from the East, and that these were to relieve divisions in the Battle of ARRAS.

He stated that there a great number of civilians in CAMBRAI, but that the villages in front of CAMBRAI were being evacuated of their civilian population.

INFORMATION obtained from a prisoner belonging to the 3rd Coy., 361st R.I.R., 4th Ersatz Division, captured South of HERMIES.

MOVEMENT. On the 8th April the 1st Bn. was relieved by the 2nd Bn., and went into rest at ANNEUX (near CAMBRAI.). They were called up to the line last night.

ENEMY DISPOSITIONS AND METHOD OF ATTACK. The whole of the 1st Bn. made an attack in two waves. The first wave consisted of the 1st, 2nd and 4th Coys. with part of a M.G. Coy, and the 2nd wave consisted of the 3rd Coy., and part of a M.G. Coy. The attack was made by all the three regiments of the 4th Ersatz Division (360th - 361st - 362nd). The 361st I.R. was the northernmost of the three. Prisoner does not know the order of the other two regiments. The 361st attacked with the 1st and 3rd Bns. both in line, the 3rd Bn. attacking in two waves like the 1st.

The 2nd Bn. was in reserve just South of the Canal.

STRENGTH. Of 3rd Coy. about 140 rifles.

UNITS SEEN IN REAR. Last night (14th), 3 battalions of the 459th I.R. arrived at ANNEUX and CANTAING. Prisoner doesn't know if this Regiment belongs to a division.

ENEMY ARTILLERY POSITIONS. There are 10cm. or 12cm. guns close to the cemetery at HAVRINCOURT. Prisoner saw these guns firing as he passed last night at 12 p.m.

CASUALTIES DURING ATTACK. He says the losses in his company were very heavy, caused nearly all by machine-gun fire.

Continued.

15-4-17.

- 6 -

No.259.

INFORMATION obtained from a prisoner belonging to the 11th Coy., 360th I.R., captured this morning.

MOVEMENT. The 360th I.R. had been in the neighbourhood of HAVRINCOURT since the 15th March, just South of the village. Two days ago, the 2nd and 3rd Bns. were relieved by the 94th I.R. -- the 1st Bn. staying behind -- and moved up just West of the village. Last night they were suddenly moved back into their old sector -- the 2nd Bn. remaining at rest in ANNEUX. Just before the attack the 1st Bn. was withdrawn, and did not take any part in it.

OBJECT OF ATTACK. HERMIES was the objective of the 360th I.R.

METHOD OF ATTACK. In three waves, the first being about two companies strong.

STRENGTH. Of the 11th Coy.: about 110 men in the line.

RELIEFS. The 1st and 2nd Bns. had relieved one another recently, whereas the 3rd Bn. had been continuously in the line since the 15th March.

MACHINE-GUNS. Two machine-guns per company sector were detailed in the attack.

HEADQUARTERS. Regimental: Just South of CAGNICOURT.

GAS. Knows nothing re Gas.

TRENCH SYSTEMS. There are three lines: (i) The first runs just in front of HAVRINCOURT. (ii) The second just behind HAVRINCOURT. (iii) And the third through FLESQUIERES.

These trenches are well built with wooden dug-outs, but there are no camouflaged trenches.

ENEMY'S INTENTIONS. He heard from N.C.O's that the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG was to be held at all costs.

(Annexe to 1st ANZAC Corps Intelligence Summary, No. 258 dated
14/4/17.)

-----ooOoo-----

ENEMY OBSERVATION POSTS.

The locations of the Observation Posts given below have been
taken from a captured German map:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Co-ordinates</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Co-ordinates</u>
120	U.15.b.10.60	128	U.30.b.70.60.
121	U.15.b.25.35	129	V.25.a.00.50
122	U.15.b.45.10	130	V.25.d.80.75
123	U.16.c.70.30	131	V.25.d.70.75
124	U.16.c.80.20	132	V.26.c.80.95
125	U.17.d.50.40	133	V.26.d.00.90
126)	U.24.a.00.20	134	V.26.d.90.90
127)			

From 6.30 p.m. 15th April to 6.30 p.m. 16th April 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

The following prisoners have been admitted to Corps Cage during the last 24 hours.

	<u>O.R.</u>
15th R.I.R., 1st Bn.	2
" 3rd Bn.	3
Garde Fusiliers Regt., 2nd Bn.	1
360th I.R., 3rd Bn.	1
	<hr/>
	7

Further wounded prisoners passed through Field Ambulances -- 1 Officer, 68 O.R. To these should be added 11 O.R. slightly wounded evacuated from the Corps Cage. This makes the total number of prisoners captured in the enemy attack of the 15th up to 3 Officers and 358 O.R.

ENEMY POSTS.

The enemy was observed digging posts along the ridge in D.21 d., D.24.a., and across the valley in D.29.b.

ENEMY TRENCHES AND WIRE.

Wire cutting from BULLECOURT to U.30.d. appears to have been excellent. The HINDENBURG Line between BULLECOURT and U.30.d. is very much damaged, especially at U.28.a.3.1 - U.28.b.20.95 - U.29.a.8.7.

EXPLOSIONS.

A mine crater is visible at K.2.a.0.8.
An explosion took place recently at cross-roads at K.27.c.2.7 -- HAVRINCOURT. Craters are visible at K.27.c.6.8 and on the road at K.27.d.3.0.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

During the past 24 hours below normal. G.15. was shelled intermittently by 77mm. guns and 10.5cm. Hows. from RIENCOURT, BOIS de BOUCHE and CAGNICOURT and by 15cm. How. from the direction of BUISSY. MORCHIES was shelled at intervals by 10.5cm. Hows. from PRONVILLE and 15cm. Hows. from CAGNICOURT; also by mixed calibres from an unknown direction. BAPAUME again received attention from the 24cm. naval gun which was firing from W.11.b.1.6. BULLECOURT sector was shelled by 77mm. from QUEANT and by 77mm. guns and 10.5cm. Hows. from an unknown direction. Other places shelled were NOREUIL by 10.5cm. Hows. from CAGNICOURT; LAGNICOURT by 10.5cm. Hows. from QUEANT; BOURSIES by 15cm. Hows. from BOURLON, BEAUMETZ by 15cm. How. from the same direction.

R

CAPTURED ORDER.

A captured order, dated 30th March, which was found in METZ-en-COUTURE, details 4 light minenwerfer to the advanced posts for action against Tanks.

Continued.

16-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 260.

L ENEMY RUSES.

It is reported that two hostile aeroplanes put up a sham fight with M.Gs., and having induced thus the infantry to look up, one of them suddenly planed down and dropped a red light on one of the posts, which was promptly shelled.

New German FUSES. (G.H.Q. Summary)

The percussion fuze used with H.E. shell fired from the light field howitzer is now marked either H.Z. 14Fb. or H.Z. 14 Flihb. Fb. and Flihb, are abbreviations for Flihbolzen (centrifugal bolt), and refer to an additional safety device provided in fuzes thus marked.

MISCELLANEOUS.

30 lbs. of explosive were removed from a mine at the cross-roads at J.30.a.6.8.

An apparatus for producing a flash has been found in a dummy emplacement near FREMICOURT.

From the base of a shellfound at SAPIGNIES it is established that the size of the gun that fired into this place on the 13th is a 380mm. naval gun.

GENERAL INFORMATION obtained from prisoners captured on the morning of the 15th April.

ARTILLERY. Three 21 cm. Hows. have been moved from the grounds of the Chateau at QUEANT, owing to our heavy artillery fire, but the guns have not been damaged.

SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. One of the captured officers who has a considerable knowledge of the portion West of INCHY states that there is much concrete work, and that in parts of the line there are concrete chambers 10 metres square. He also states ~~that~~ there is a continuous trench 30 to 40 feet underground. In his battalion sector there were 3 underground trenches, leading to the support line. He has seen no emplacements in or near the SIEGFRIED or BALKON STELLUNGEN for light field guns against Tanks. He thinks that the presence of a large number of trench mortar emplacements in the vicinity of PRONVILLE and QUEANT may indicate the intention to use trench-mortars with flat trajectory against Tanks. There is no concrete work in the BALKON STELLUNG.

There is a battalion Headquarters at D.15.b.8.7 in the support trench.

S. S. BUTLER. Major.
for Brigadier-General.
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

Continued.

16-4-17.

- 3 -

No.260.

FURTHER INFORMATION obtained from prisoners captured yesterday morning during the German attack.

15th R.I.R.

METHOD OF HOLDING THE LINE. Previous to yesterday's attack the line was held by two battalions as follows: 1st Bn. - 2 coys. in front line and support, 2 coys. in PRONVILLE; 3rd Bn. - 3 coys. in front and support line, one coy. in reserve; 2nd Bn. - was moved away three or four days ago, it was rumoured to ARRAS.

NAMES OF OFFICERS. O.C., 15th R.I.R.: Oberst Lt. von GOTTEBERG. Divisional Commander: von PETERSDORFF (2nd Guard Res. Divn.). 3rd Coy. Commander: Lt. PETERSEN.

TRENCH NAMES. Prisoners stated that the BALKON STELLUNG was sometimes spoken of as the JUNGSIEGFRIED STELLUNG.

INFANTRY DEFENCE BATTERIES. The light Field Gun Batteries, according to one prisoner, are equipped with four 7.5cm. guns and a personnel of 20 per battery. They are attached to the Regtl. Sturm Battalions and are intended to be brought up close to the first line to assist assault companies with direct shooting on infantry.

NEW LIGHT MACHINE-GUNS. Not yet arrived but allotment believed to be 6 to 8 per company.

ADDITIONAL OFFICERS' NAMES. 1st Bn. 15th R.I.R.: Capt. von FURSTNER; 2nd Bn. - Cpt. SCHAFER.

LISTENING APPARATUS. Prisoners state three are to be placed in the line shortly. It is said that considerable information is gained in this way.

COMPANY STRENGTH. Average rifle strength of companies is about 150.

OBJECT OF YESTERDAY'S ATTACK. Prisoners seemed to think that the object of yesterday's attack was as much to enhearten the somewhat dispirited soldiers by the capture and destruction of guns and taking of prisoners, as it was to gain any actual tactical or material advantage.

ENEMY'S INTENTIONS. Prisoners of this regiment do not think that another attack will be made, as they say that reserve troops are some distance away, and some of the guns in the front area have been withdrawn to positions in the rear. As far as they know, troops in this sector are only normal in number. CAMBRAI is still full of civilians.

GENERAL. All prisoners seem satisfied to remain in the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG and not to be relieved as it was feared that if they went to rest it might mean the ARRAS battle for them.

77th R.I.R.

The following information is principally given by an intelligent officer.

DISPOSITIONS OF 77th R.I.R. The officer confirmed the normal sector of the 77th R.I.R. to be approximately D.16. central to D.23.b.5.0. Until recently the front line only held by two Coys. with six in support, but now the arrangement has been reversed. There are two platoons in the front line and one in support per coy.

ORDER OF BATTLE. For the attack on the 15th the 77th R.I.R. was moved from its normal position to in front QUEANT whence it launched its attack, the order of battle being 91st -- 77th - 15th.

38th DIVISION. The officer, a 1st and also a wounded sgt.-major, state that, as far as they know, the 38th Division are still on the left of the 2nd Guard R.D. The moral of this Divn. was looked on as good, but according to the officer it has recently deteriorated a good deal, and during the recent retreat they have on several occasions let down the 2nd Guard Reserve Division.

Continued.

16-4-17.

- 4 -

No. 260.

JAEGER CYCLIST COMPANY. According to the officer, a JAEGER Cyclist Coy. is attached to the 2nd Guard Reserve Division.

DETACHMENT OF BATTALION TO ARRAS SECTOR. A wounded sgt-major states that a battalion of the 77th R.I.R. was sent to the ARRAS sector but has returned.

TANKS. The officer had not seen the British Tanks himself, but had seen a report concerning their use in our attack on the 11th written by the division on his right. His idea was the report was intended primarily to destroy the idea among the troops that the Tanks are invincible, and to show that they can be effectively dealt with by machine-gun fire, as well as by artillery. According to him seven Tanks were captured, but this number includes those in No Man's Land. According to ^{him} three that got through the line were captured by machine-gun fire. Prisoner knows of no Tank traps.

INFANTRY DEFENCE BATTERIES. Prisoner stated that he heard that these infantry batteries had proved very effective in raids.

GAS. The officer had heard that the wind was so strong during our recent gas attack against BULLECOURT that very little damage was caused.

RELIEFS. A prisoner of the 9th Coy. stated that his Coy. was relieved on Saturday night, 14th instant, by men of the 9th Infantry Regt., 3rd Guard Division.

COMMANDERS. Company: Lt. von HULS. Regimental: Oberst FOG. A prisoner of the 2nd Coy. stated that his Company Commander was Lt. LUTZEN.

GARDE FUSILIERE REGT.

Prisoner was a battalion orderly, belonging to the 9th Coy. He was sent out by the Bn. Commander to tell the outpost coy. to return to the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG, but he lost his way and wandered into one of our posts.

MOVEMENT. The 3rd Bn. was at rest in LANDRY from the 3rd to the 11th April; on the 11th it entrained in the vicinity of METZ and detrained near CAMBRAI on the 12th; billeted in a village near CAMBRAI till the 14th, and attacked on the morning of the 15th.

DISPOSITIONS DURING ATTACK. Prisoner states that all 3 battalions were represented in the attack, each sending two coys, over the top with 2 coys. in the line as support.

RELIEFS. In Alsace they were relieved by a Bavarian Regiment, number and other particulars unknown.

STRENGTH. Coy. Rifle Strength - 180.

UNITS SEEN. The day before the attack men of the 9th Grenadier Regiment were seen in a trench occupied by the Garde Fusiliere regt. Otherwise few men were seen behind the line.

COMMANDERS. Regtl.: Graf von der SCHULENBURG. 1st Bn.: Major von DELIUS. 2nd Bn.: Capt. von TAMMS. 3rd Bn.: Capt. Freiherr von WERTHELN.

MOVEMENTS.

LEHR REGIMENT.

Of the 1st Bn. - March 14th 20th rest at ELERINGEN: March 20th in line at LENTRAI relieving 2nd Bn. LEHR Regt.: March 20 to April 1st in line; April 1st relieved by 3rd Bn; April 1st to 3rd in reserve near ELFRINGEN: April 3rd Relieved by 3rd Bn. of their regiment; April 3rd to 6th marched to SPANG (near METZ); April 6th to 10th rest; April 10th to 11th en route by rail to CAMBRAI district; April 11th to 14th billeted in vicinity of CAMBRAI; April 15th attacked.

Continued.

16-4-17.

- 5 -

No.260.

5th Coy., 91st R.I.R.

Captured East of NOREUIL about C.11 central.

OBJECT OF ATTACK. To recapture NOREUIL and capture or destroy our guns.

CASUALTIES. Very heavy and prisoner stated the 5th Coy. was practically wiped out, the due principally to our M.G. fire.

DISPOSITIONS DURING ATTACK. The 91st attacked with the whole of the 2nd Bn. The first wave consisted of a Sturm Truppe, about 70 to 80 strong. The 2nd wave consisted of all four infantry companies with two machine-guns per company. The 5th Coy. was on the left flank of the battalion.

COMPANY STRENGTH. Rifle strength during attack -- only about 70.

MOVEMENT. The 2nd Bn. has been staying at QUEANT since its retreat from GOMMIECOURT some two or three weeks ago. The 3rd. Bn. was lying in front of QUEANT until about 10 days ago when it was relieved by the 15 R.I.R. Prisoners do not know the present whereabouts of the 1st and 3rd Battalions. It was understood that the 2nd Bn. should have been relieved but was kept at QUEANT for yesterday's attack, the relief now being apparently fixed for the 18th instant. Prisoners do not know by whom they are to be relieved, but had heard that it would be by another division.

ORDER OF BATTLE. Confirmed. Prisoners could not say what regiment was on the right of the 91st. One man of the 5th Coy. 91st R.I.R. was captured in a shell hole together with 2 men of the 77th R.I.R. and 1 man of the 15th R.I.R.

DRAFTS. One prisoner was 20 years old and came from a training depot at COBLENZ with a draft of 38 men for the 5th Coy., 91st R.I.R. about 10 days ago. He stated that COBLENZ is a very important training centre. He saw there a large number of men, 19 years old, but understood they were not yet being sent out in drafts.

OFFICERS. 91st R.I.R.: Major von KAISER. 2nd Bn.: Hptmnn. von ECKERSBERG. 5th Coy.: Ob.Lt. NEG.

GAS. Prisoners had seen no operations for a German gas attack.

2nd M.G. Coy., 91st R.I.R.

Captured N.E. of NOREUIL. Prisoners were both with a section of the 2nd M.G. Coy. attached to the 5th Coy., 91st R.I.R. This section consisted of 2 machine-guns each with a crew of 4 men and 1 N.C.O. The whole of the 2nd M.G. Coy. is attached to the 2nd Bn., 91st R.I.R.

STRENGTH. One prisoner believed that the 2nd M.G. Coy. had at the time more than 6 guns, as he knew the strength of the Coy. to be at least 40 men.

TYPE OF GUNS. The guns were of the ordinary 0.8 type.

CASUALTIES. One prisoner stated that the gun he was with never came into action. The N.C.O. in charge was shot before they left the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. He and one other man were captured, and he believes the other 2 men were killed.

REST BILLETTS. The 2nd M.G. Coy. was at rest in BARELLE and came up to QUEANT 4 days ago.

GAS. Know nothing of any proposed German gas attacks.

MISCELLANEOUS. One prisoner was originally with the 64th training school at St. KIRSLING (Belgium) to attend a course. He was attached to the 2nd M.G. Coy., 91st R.I.R., on the 31st April at BARALLE.

From 6.30 p.m. 16th April to 6.30 p.m. 17th April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been admitted to the Corps Cage during the last 24 hours.

ENEMY POSTS.

It was ascertained by a patrol that the trench at J.5.b.8.9 was strongly held with a sentry group posted in front.

Enemy posts were definitely located at approximately D.24.c.0.8, D.23.c. and D.22.d.

ENEMY MOVEMENTS.

Considerable enemy movement in rear of the line in D.10 and D.4 was probably due to a suspected relief. A large working party in the area, U.18.c. - U.18.d., was dispersed by our artillery. Small parties of Germans, leaving the chateau in U.11.d. and walking towards U.6.b.9.3, were also discerned.

EXPLOSIONS.

At 11.26 a.m. an explosion was observed in U.17.a., and at 12 midnight another explosion was seen in the same vicinity.

DUMP.

Two trains and much traffic was observed at a dump at K.23.a. 4o.15. Motor and horse transport has been observed coming and going between this dump and HAVRINCOURT.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

During the past 24 hours about normal, but more noticeable during the morning and afternoon. C.15 and NOREUIL have been shelled intermittently during the day and night by 77mm. guns, 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows. chiefly from QUEANT and PRONVILLE directions. MORCHIES was shelled several times during the evening by 10.5cm. Hows. from QUEANT or PRONVILLE. I.11.c. and d. were shelled on several occasions by 77mm. guns from INCHY and MOEUVRES directions. BAPAUME was again shelled by the naval gun which appears to have changed its position since it was shelled yesterday. ECOUST and the vicinity were shelled by a 10.5cm. gun from HENDECOURT. Other places shelled were K.7.c. by 15cm. How. from GRAINCOURT; U.27.d. by mixed calibres from N.E. direction; D.29.c. by 77mm. guns and 10.5cm. How. from QUEANT; and BEAUMETZ by 10.5cm. How. from QUEANT.

IDENTIFICATION -- 38th DIVISION.

An examination has been made of the dead Germans in front of our right divisional front and a number of corpses of the 95th Regt., amongst those killed on the morning of the 15th have been discovered East of DEMICOURT. This appears to prove conclusively that the attack was on an even larger scale than previously estimated, no fewer than four divisions taking part. In the portion of the front between BOURSIES and DEMICOURT the enemy suffered particularly heavy losses, and in the low ground between these two places the dead are lying in heaps. A more correct estimate of the total losses of the enemy on the morning of the 15th would probably be nearer 3000 than 2000 as previously estimated.

S. S. BUTLER. Major.
for Brigadier-General.
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

From 6.30 p.m. 17th April to 6.30 p.m. 18th April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

Three more wounded prisoners have passed through Field Ambulances during the last 24 hours.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

During the past 24 hours has been above normal. C.15 - NOREUIL and NOREUIL - LONGATTE Road were shelled persistently throughout the period, chiefly by 77mm. guns and 15cm. Hows. from QUEANT and CAGNICOURT. MORCHIES was shelled by 15cm. Hows. from QUEANT and 15cm. and 21cm. Hows. from INCHY. BEUGNY was shelled by 15cm. Hows. from MOEUVRES and LOUVERAL and WOOD by 10.5cm. Gun from INCHY. LAGNICOURT was shelled several times by 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows. from PRONVILLE. D.C.7 was shelled during the afternoon by 77mm. guns from a North-Easterly direction. The BAPAUME - LE SARS Road was searched during the day by the 24cm. railway gun.

DUMP.

A dump is suspected at U.6.d.2.5.

OCCUPIED BUILDINGS.

The ruins of a house at U.27.d.60.35 show signs of recent occupation.

SIGNALLING.

A round construction about 30ft. high has recently been erected close to V.13.d.3.6. This is probably the point from which a flash lamp, previously reported in V.13, usually operates. At 10.30 p.m. an enemy searchlight in the vicinity of C.9.

CAPTURED DOCUMENT.

Extract from the diary of a man of the 77th R.I.R.
"March 26th. 10 a.m. - into the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG to put out wire. At 8 p.m. on the 27th into the sector of the 91st at the sunken road by PRONVILLE. Small attack. In front of us, Australians. April 2nd -- back into the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG. April 3rd -- to EPINOY. April 9th -- to BARALLE. April 10th and 11th -- digging trenches between HENDECOURT and CAGNICOURT. On account of a attack, in reserve at CAGNICOURT. The English in the trenches of the 124th. Prisoners taken, Australians. In the evening, back to MARQUION. April 11th -- 12th, back into the reserve at VILLERS. Trench digging at night."

IDENTIFICATION.

Dead of the 94th I.R. have been identified N.E. of BOURSIES. Endeavours are being made to identify the 96th Regt., which is the only regiment of the 38th Division whose presence in the attack (15th) has not been confirmed.

HOSTILE AIRCRAFT.

At 11 p.m. a hostile plane was heard over the left flank of our left division; six bombs were dropped in the vicinity of the front line without any damage being done.

FLAMMENWERFER.

It is reported that during the hostile attack of the 15th, a Flammenwerfer was used against one of our posts. A machine-gun was destroyed and one man killed. It is almost certain that the Flammenwerfer employed would be of the portable type.

MAPS. (From G.H.Q. Summary).

Captured maps show that the enemy had obtained possession of, had reproduced and issued to his own troops copies of our secret maps showing our trench system in full detail.

S. S. BUTLER. Major.
for Brigadier-General.
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

Report on the defences of the HINDENBURG LINE by Officers who took part in the attack on April 11th with the 14th and 16th Battalions.

TRENCHES.

These consist of two lines of fire trenches, front and support lines, connected by various communication trenches. They are about 8ft. wide at top and about 6ft. deep.

There is a tunnel leading back from support trench at approximately U.23.d.3.0, which it is believed leads into sunken road, running almost due North through U.23 and comes out close to cross-roads at U.23.d.1.7. There were three completed dug-outs in sections of trenches occupied by our infantry, but many others were in course of construction.

Traverses were very massive and thick, but there was no sign of concrete emplacements or anything of that nature. In addition to communication trench leading back from ^{the} support line shown on map in U.23.d., there is also a second one not shown on map leading back along road, starting from U.29.b.8.8, being a continuation of the ~~the~~ communication trench shown on map between front and support lines.

WIRE.

Wire before the front line is very massive, and of an average depth of between 30 and 50 yards. This is supported on heavy wooden stakes, few iron pickets being in use. This was found, on our attack being made, to be thoroughly well smashed up as a result of previous bombardment. Wire between front and support lines is thin, only about 5 yards wide, and supported on ordinary corkscrew stakes. This was found almost untouched by our gun fire, but generally very negotiable.

TRAPS.

One Tank trap was found between the two lines at U.29.b.2.7 (approximately). It consisted of a huge hole about 40 yards square and 25ft. deep, and contained a number of large iron hooks.

MACHINE-GUN EMPACEMENTS.

Besides the emplacements shown on the map, several others were found. These generally were tunnels leading out, and finally opening up in wire, in which were placed guns which fired on our advancing troops until quite close, and ^{the} at last minute were withdrawn. This applies to wire in front of both trenches.

Nothing else was found other than what is usually found in enemy trenches.

Continued.

18-4-17.

- 3 -

No.262.

INFORMATION obtained from two men belonging to the 47th Australian Battalion, who took part in the attack of April 11th, and who, when the attacking party was forced to fall back, took refuge in a shell hole just outside the enemy's line, spending from the 11th to the night of the 16/17th April in No Man's Land.

The first of these two men entered the HINDENBURG Line at U.22.d.85.00, finding the wire well out and passable. On the enemy counter-attacking in large numbers he was forced to leave the trench as his supply of bombs was exhausted, and he took refuge in a shell-hole about 50 yards in front of the trench. He remained in this shell-hole the whole of the 11th and the 12th.

LIGHT FIELD GUN. On the night of the 12/13th he saw an enemy party putting a light field gun, similar to our 18-pdr. in position at about U.28.b.75.90. Shortly after he moved to another shell hole some 20 yards away. At daylight he was joined by the second man.

this latter had a similar experience. He entered the HINDENBURG Line at a little to the right of U.22.d.75.60, and when compelled to retire took refuge in a shell hole about 12yds. in front of the first line. He was unable to return to our lines owing to the vigilance of the German sentries and the continuous star shells that went up.

Both men state:

TRENCHES. The front line trench of the HINDENBURG Line averages 6ft in depth, width at top 4'6", at bottom 3'6". The trench is traversed but not revetted or duckboarded. No parapet but 3'0" parados. No concrete dugouts or emplacements, or any kind of concrete work seen. Two dug-outs of the ordinary type observed. Trench was dry.

WIRE. The wire, as far as they could observe, was generally well cut. No definite lanes were noticed, but wire was badly chopped about, and quite passable to infantry.

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

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

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

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

Continued.

18-4-17.

- 4 -

No 262.

ENEMY DISPOSITIONS. The enemy is holding two outpost lines, one immediately in front of his line, and one immediately in front of his wire. The strength of the garrisons of posts could not be ascertained, as all the men were not actually seen whilst on their posts. From the sounds of speaking and coughing, enemy does not appear to hold his actual front line trench in any strength.

RELIEFS. The reliefs for the machine-gun crews come over the open at dusk from direction of support line, in pairs
The reliefs for the field gun already mentioned at about U.28.b.75.90. mount at 4 a.m.

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

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

From 6.30 p.m. 18th April to 6.30p.m. 19th April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been captured during the past 24 hours.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

During the past 24 hours has again been above normal, and has been confined chiefly to our batteries, villages, roads and back areas. C.15 was shelled intermittently during the day and night by 77mm. guns and 15cm. Hows. from QUEANT. C.7 was shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. from HENDECOURT. LAGNICOURT was persistently shelled during the period by 15cm. Hows. from QUEANT and CAGNICOURT. MORCHIES was shelled by 10.5cm. How. and 15cm. Hows. from QUEANT. C.29 and 30 were shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. and 15cm. Hows. from PRONVILLE. BEAUMETZ was shelled by 15cm. Hows from QUEANT. The NOREUIL - LONGATTE Road was shelled by 77mm. guns from QUEANT and the BOURSIES - LOUVERVAL Road by 10.5cm. Hows. from BOURLON. BEUGNY was shelled by 15cm. How. from QUEANT or PRONVILLE. BAPAUME WAS SHELLED by odd rounds from the 24cm. railway gun from BOURLON and by 15cm. guns from QUEANT, but the shelling ceased on these batteries being engaged. Other places shelled are DEMICOURT by 15cm. How. from BOURLON; VAULX by 10.5cm. gun from QUEANT; DOIGNIES by 10.5cm. How. from INCHY; and BULLECOURT which was shelled subjected to a short bombardment by 77mm. guns from QUEANT.

MOVEMENT.

Small parties of men were observed working on the BULLECOURT - HENDECOURT Road in the vicinity of U.22.b.1.8

SIGNALLING.

A flash lamp in V.13 was again active. From fragments of messages intercepted it appeared that the Forward Observing Officer was directing the shelling of NOREUIL.

EXPLOSIONS.

On the evening of the 17th two explosions were heard in K.1.a. each explosion being preceded by a red flare. An explosion was also heard in MOEUVRES.

CAPTURED DOCUMENTS.

A captured document confirms the fact that the 77th R.I.R. has rest billets in EPINOY.

DUMPS.

A German map shows what is probably a dump near HAWRINCOURT at K.28.c.4.6.

MORAL.

The following is an extract from the notebook of an officer of the 78th R.I.R. (17th Res. Divn.).

"5.4.17. Enemy's serial activity extraordinary and fearless. Own observation planes are chased away at once by enemy's fighting planes. Hardly any fighting planes of ours. At times as many as seven captive balloons, close behind the enemy's lines, were observed."

CAPTURED RUSSIAN 10cm. GUN.

According to a captured document, the 10cm. Russian gun fires the German 1914 pattern 10cm. gun H.E. shell.

This shell is painted yellow, and is fitted with a thicker driving band to make up for the difference in calibre (10.67cm. as against 10.5cm.).

Both the Russian and German charges are used, the ranges being as follows:-

Maximum Ranges

Continued.

19-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 263.

	Maximum Ranges.	
	with German charge	with Russian charge
Small Charge	9,405 yards	8,093 yards
Large Charge	10,608 "	10,827 "

RELIEFS.

During the latter part of the morning large enemy parties moving across country opposite LAGNICOURT were dispersed by our artillery fire. It is supposed that these parties were reliefs for the garrisons of the enemy front line.

S. S. BUTLER. Major,
for Brigadier-General,
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

From 6.30 p.m. 19th April to 6.30 p.m. 20th April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been captured during the last 24 hours.

ENEMY POSTS.

A line of posts was passed by an officers' patrol at D.30.c. 3.2. Patrols pushing out 500 yards in front of our line at K. 13.b.8.8. encountered none of the enemy. Flares were sent up from the Eastern side of the Canal at K.26.d.2.0. A post of 5 men was located at D.23.d.6.5.

OBSERVATION POSTS.

Tall trees at D.23.d.6.5. are apparently used as O.P's.

NEW WORK.

At 6 p.m. a party of about 50 men was seen apparently digging a trench in rear of enemy wire at approximately D.1.d.1.1: the party was dispersed by artillery fire.

AIR RECONNAISSANCE.

Reconnaissance from 3.15 p.m. to 6.5 p.m. reports no movement observed in enemy trenches or on the roads in rear.

FIRES were seen in HENDECOURT at 5.15 p.m.

EXPLOSION.

An explosion took place in the cellar of a house in VELU in J.25.a.5.2. on the morning of the 18th.

CAPTURED DOCUMENTS.

Extracts from a captured outpost order of the 4th Ersatz Division dated 5-4-17.

"The enemy has apparently withdrawn completely from HAVRINCOURT WOOD. Hostile patrols have been encountered only on the Southern edge and West of the Wood.

It is important to deceive the enemy as long as possible into thinking that the wood is held by us, and to put every obstacle in the way of his penetrating it. Companies will work their hardest at the construction of the new position. I lay particular stress on the position of obstacles and the further strengthening of same. Trenches erected as screens in rear of the front line (not more than 80 to 100 metres distant) need not be connected to the front. The positions of individual groups will be allotted.

The water in the canal must not be drunk as it has been made unfit for human consumption.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

During the past 24 hours has been above normal. NOREUIL was shelled persistently during the day and night by 77mm. guns from CAGNICOURT and 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows. from QUEANT and CAGNICOURT. LAGNICOURT was shelled intermittently during the period by 77mm. guns from QUEANT, and by 15cm. Hows. from PRONVILLE and QUEANT. ECOUST was shelled heavily by 77mm. guns from RIENCOURT. Trenches in C.4. and 5 were shelled by 10.5cm How. from PRONVILLE, and the trenches in D.19.c. by 10.5cm. How. from SAINS-lez-MARQUION. C. 16.a. and 17.b. were shelled by mixed calibres from S.E. of CAGNICOURT. A fallen plane in C.7. was shelled by guns from an unknown direction. The road in I.5.a. was heavily shelled by 10.5cm and 15cm. Hows. from INCHY. BOURSIES was shelled by 15cm. How from MOEUVRES. J.12.a. was shelled by 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows from N. of BOURLON C.9.c. was shelled by 10.5cm. How. from RIENCOURT. Other places shelled are I.30. by 15cm. How. from the N.E; St.LEGER by 10.5cm. How. from HENDECOURT; and I.10. by 21cm. How from INCHY.

Continued.

20-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 264.

AEROPLANE PHOTOS.

The following photos were taken on the 13th instant. All requests for copies should be directed to Branch intelligence Section, No.3. Squadron. R.F.C.

3. AE.

556 D.2.a.b.c.
557 V.24.a.b.d.
558 V.23.d., 29.a.b.
559 W.14.d., 15.c., 20.b., 21.a.

3. AE.

560 D.1.a.b.d.
561 W.13.c.d., 19.b.d., 20.a.
562 V.28.

(Sgd). S.S. Butler. Major.
for Brigadier-General.
General Staff.
1st ANZAC Corps.

GERMAN MARKINGS ON AEROPLANES.

At about 3.35 p.m. 13th inst., whilst flying over MESNIL-St-LAURENT, a pilot encountered an enemy plane (Albatross) with distinctive markings on plane as sketch. The circle is coloured red and the cross black. The intervening space is apparently white. The cross however, is so small what even at a short distance the marking would be taken to be that of a British machine.

MACHINE-GUN and TRENCH MORTAR EMPLACEMENTS in the HINDENBURG LINE.

It appears from the statements of those engaged in the recent attack on this line, that the machine-gun emplacements are in many cases situated outside the trenches, in holes, in or near the wire of the front or support lines and approached by underground passages.

The appearance of this type of emplacement on air photographs appears to be that of a hole surrounded by a mound of earth. A sketch enlarged from photo 3 AE. 407, is attached, showing some of these emplacements, identified by comparison with a captured map. Such emplacements are also constructed in rear of the support line, as will be seen from the sketch. Though the approach to these is covered for some distance, there usually seems to be a trench in fairly close proximity. The neighbourhood of the support line wire seems to be a favourite position for these machine-guns.

The captured map referred to shows several instances of a type of trench mortar emplacement also illustrated in the sketch attached. It is constructed in a short length of trench forming a loop in rear of the main line.

Machine-gun and trench mortar emplacements of the types referred to above should be carefully looked for. Owing to their isolated positions outside the trench lines, they will require to be specially dealt with, and they are probably sited as much with a view to avoiding damage during a bombardment of the trench line, as to obtaining an improved field of fire.

Continued.

20-4-17.

- 3 -

No. 264.

In the part of the line South of FONTAINE, about U.7, many examples of emplacements may be seen, situated in the fire trench itself or slightly in advance of it. Though some of these have a loop of trench immediately behind them, they would appear more likely to contain machine-guns than trench mortars as they are in most cases protected by a belt of sunk wire at close range, an obstacle which would not be of the same value to a trench mortar as to a machine-gun. The typical appearance of such an emplacement is as in sketch on back hereof.

(Of: Photos 15.AE.1362 1364 1367 1488):-

From 6.30 p.m. 20th April to 6.30 p.m. 21st April 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been captured during the last 24 hours.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

During the past 24 hours again above normal and chiefly confined to our forward positions and villages. The shelling on our left seems to come almost entirely from the QUEANT - PRONVILLE - CAGNICOURT area; that of the centre from INCHY - MOEUVRES; and on the right there is no shelling reported at all. The following places were shelled from the first named area: NOREUIL by 77mm. short barrage and 15cm. Hows, NOREUIL - LONGATTE Road by 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows; MORCHIES by 21cm. Hows.; BULLECOURT and LAGNICOURT sectors by 77mm. guns, 10.5cm. and 15cm. hows.; trenches at ECOUST by mixed calibres.; C.15 by 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows.; D.27.b. and 28.c. by 77mm. guns; VRAUCOURT by 77mm.guns and C.14 by 77mm. guns. Places shelled from the INCHY - MOEUVRES area; MORCHIES by 15cm. How.; BEAUMETZ by 15cm. Hows.; D.27.b. and 28.c. by 10.5cm. Hows.; Road in I. I.11.d. by 15cm. Hows. It is noticeable that nearly all the shelling is 15cm.Hows. The BAPAUME - LE SARR Road received its usual few rounds from the 24cm. gun from BOURLON.

MOVEMENT.

Small parties of the enemy can be seen continually coming from U.17.b. and disappearing into the sap in U.23.b.2.8. The activity here increases towards evening.

EXPLOSIONS.

At 5.10 p.m., two explosions were heard in BULLECOURT.

At 5 o'clock an explosion was observed at FONTAINE-lez-CROISILLES; and at 5.10 at CHERISY (Air observation).

IDENTIFICATIONS

Prisoners of the 3rd Bn., 360th Regt., have been taken by the Corps on our right at about Q.17.a. This confirms the supposition that the 360th I.R. is on the extreme left of the 4th Ersatz Division.

DERELICT TANKS

A sniper is believed to fire from the Tank which is lying derelict on the South-Eastern outskirts of BULLECOURT.

GENERAL.

Smoke was seen rising from the Canal cutting in front of HAVRINCOURT, thought to be probably from cook-houses and dug-outs.

S. S. BUTLER. Major.
for Brigadier-General,
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

From 6.30 p.m. 21st April to 6.30 p.m. 22nd April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

Three prisoners (O.R.) belonging to the 15th F.I.R., 2nd Guard Reserve Division, have been captured during the last 24 hours.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

It appears from the capture of prisoners in D.14 and from their statements that the 2nd Guard Res. Divn. has not been relieved by the 3rd Guard Divn. Prisoners stated there was a rumour about the 38th Divn. being withdrawn to go to the ARRAS sector, but nothing definite on this subject could be obtained from them.

MOVEMENT.

A listening post in C.12.b. reports enemy transport very busy in QUEANT during the night, particularly between midnight and 2 a.m. Apparently the transport came close to the front line in the vicinity of ARRAS ABBAYE FARM (D.7.d. central).

There was considerable movement at the cross-roads at V.25. central throughout the day and in V.26. central where a party was seen unloading timber from the tramway trucks, and carrying it away in both an Easterly and Westerly direction. At 2.40 p.m. a party of 20 men were interrupted in the work of laying out wire from U.30.b.9.3. to U.30.a.5.6. A digging party at V.25.c.2.9 was also dispersed by our artillery.

A limber moving Southwest along the road stopped at U.6.d. 25.75. A small party emerged from what appeared to be a strong-point at V.12.c.4.2.

MACHINE-GUNS.

The following positions are reported to contain machine-guns:- The derelict Tank at U.28.a.05.05; a suspected emplacement in the trench at U.23.b.8.3; also in a post at C.12.b.90.75. It is reported that two guns are seen firing in daylight, approximately U.28.b.6.1. and U. 29.a.4.4 -- this locality will be reconnoitred by patrols.

EXPLOSIONS.

Explosions followed by dense clouds of smoke occurred at the following places:- HENDECOURT - RIENCOURT - BULLECOURT - FONTAINE-lez-CROISILLES - Rear of QUEANT.

A series of explosions resulting in a large blaze were seen near BARALLE. In PRONVILLE large explosions occurred during the night and one explosion was also observed in MOEUVRES.

CRATERS.

The following craters were observed from the air:- K.26.d.9.1 - K.27.c.15.80 - and one in K.33.b. (57.C.). Three craters were seen in TRESCAULT:- Q.4.c.6.2 - Q.10.b.0.8 - Q.4.d.2.0 (57.0).

OPERATIONS.

This morning we captured an enemy strong post at D.14.c. The post was strongly held by a garrison of about 60 with 2 machine-guns. A strong resistance was put up, 19 of the enemy being killed and 3 taken prisoners.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

During the last 24 hours about normal, and the shelling has been confined to villages and back areas. LAGNICOURT was persistently shelled during the day and night by mixed calibres from QUEANT, PRONVILLE and CAGNICOURT; at 1 p.m. to-day it was subjected to half an hour's heavy barrage by 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows. from QUEANT. MORCHIES has also received much attention, having been shelled 10 times for varying periods, chiefly by 10.5cm. Hows. from INCHY and 15cm. and 21cm. Hows. from QUEANT. BEUGNY was shelled by 10.5cm. How. from INCHY. BAPAUME was shelled by the 24cm. gun from BOURLON just after daybreak, and later in the morning by a 15cm. gun from BUISSY. VAULX was shelled by 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows. from CAGNICOURT. DOIGNIES was shelled by 15cm. Hows. from INCHY. Other places shelled have been NOREUIL by 10.5cm. Hows. from RIENCOURT; BEUGNY by 10.5cm. Hows. from INCHY; U.23.c.5. by 10.5cm. Hows. from HENDECOURT.

ENEMY AEROPLANE.

The following is a description, explained by sketch below, of German aeroplane observed over FAVREUIL to-day:-

Fuselage coloured blue-grey - Bottom plane smaller than top-plane - Dark coloured streamers from wing-tips -
- One set of struts each side of nacelle - Very small crosses - Curve of front edge of upper and lower planes very pronounced.

HOSTILE AIR ACTIVITY.

Hostile aerial activity has been above normal to-day.

S. S. BUTLER. Major.
for Brigadier-General,
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM PRISONERS.

4th Ersatz Division.

The 360th I.R. has been identified by prisoners of the 12th Coy. and 3rd M.G.Coy taken Southwest of BEAUCAMP on 21-4-17.

Prisoners state that the 3rd Bn. relieved the 1st Bn. in the early morning of the 20th in and South of TRESCAULT.

The 1st Bn. is now resting and the 2nd Bn. is in reserve in the HINDENBURG Line in front of RIBECOURT.

(The capture of these prisoners indicates that the 4th Ersatz Divn. has taken over the Northern part of the sector previously held by the 50th Res. Divn. This is probably only a temporary measure until the relief of this Divn. by the 236th Divn. is completed.)

-----000-----

2nd GUARD RESERVE DIVISION.

INFORMATION obtained from three prisoners (one, Kriegsfreiwillige -- two, 1915 recruits), belonging to the 2nd Coy., 15th R.I.R., captured in D.14.c.

METHOD OF CAPTURE. Two of the three prisoners were part of a ration party of 5 men; the other was a telephone operator in charge of the telephone from the outpost to Coy. H.Q. in the B ALKON STELLUNG. The former, returning with rations from PRONVILLE and unaware that the Sunken Road was occupied by us, walked into the dug-out occupied by the telephone operator, and all three were captured by us.

ORDER OF BATTLE. The order of battle of the 2nd Guard Res. Divn. from West to East is 91st R.I.R. - 15th R.I.R. - 77th R.I.R. Prisoner stated that the 3rd Guard Divn. had been withdrawn after the attack of the 15th. One prisoner stated he was told by a man of the LEHR Regt. on the night of the 15th instant. that they were to concentrate at OISY-VERGER. The 15th R.I.R. relieved the LEHR Regt. on the night of the 15th inst., in the positions held by the former previous to the attack.

METHOD OF HOLDING THE LINE. According to prisoners, two battalions are in the BALKON STELLUNG with two companies on outpost duty in the salient in D.14. The 3rd Bn. is working on the SIEGFRIED STELLUNG, two companies being quartered in the line, and two companies in SAUCHY-LESTREE. Owing to our heavy shelling no troops are now quartered in QUEANT or PRONVILLE.

POSTS. There is a post at D.14.c.5.6. held by a Warrant Officer and 10 men with a detached post at D.14.c.2.7. occupied by 2 men. A post at D.14.a.05.05. with a garrison of 12 is protected by a machine-gun at D.14.a.45.30.

MACHINE-GUNS.

There are a number of machine-guns in the wood in D.14.d.10.95.

ANTI-TANK TRENCH MORTARS. One prisoner states that there are 6 T.M.'s for firing with flat trajectory in rear of the wood at D.14.d.10.95.

ENEMY DEFENCES. A trench running from D.14.d.25.35. to the road at D.14.b.50.15. is camouflaged.

MINES. The cross-roads at D.8.c.4.1. and D.8.c.8.3 are mined.

COMPANY HEADQUARTERS. A company H.Q. is situated at D.9.c.75.00.

INTENTIONS OF THE ENEMY. Prisoners have no information concerning any future attack of the enemy. One prisoner states that their battalion commander warned them last night to be on the alert as air-men had reported considerable activity behind our lines during the day.

GAS. Prisoners can give no information concerning any preparations for a gas attack.

THE ATTACK ON THE 15th. A prisoner states that the 1st Bn. suffered about 160 casualties in the attack on the 15th instant, his company losing about 50 men. They suffered heavy casualties from our artillery during their retreat. They state a number of casualties were caused by our gas-shells. In the 1st Bn. there were 5 officer casualties.

Continued.

22-4-17.

- 4 -

No. 266.

LISTENING SETS. They know of no listening sets in the battalion sector but state that they were in use in their sector when at GOMMIECOURT.

CLASSES. No 1918 class is 1st Bn. 1919 Class said to have been mustered, but not yet called up.

PATROLS. Every night the 1st Bn. sends out a patrol of from 3 to 4 men in front of the wire.

PASS-WORD. The pass-word "Reichschatz-Amt" has been in use for some little time, and still holds good.

GENERAL. Prisoner stated that the rations were quite good. Their moral seems quite fair. One of them, a Pole, said that he has heard that 30,000 Poles had been recruited in Poland for service behind the firing line. It was said that all the words of command were given in Polish. Prisoners had heard nothing about a relief by another Division.

-----000-----

From 6.30 p.m. 22nd April to 6.30 p.m. 23rd April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been captured during the past 24 hours.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

Slightly above normal during the last 24 hours. Villages and back areas have again been the chief targets. MORCHIES was shelled persistently by 10.5cm. Hows. from INCHY and PRONVILLE, by 15cm. Hows. from PRONVILLE, and by the 21cm. How. from BOURLON. BEAUMETZ was heavily shelled several times during the afternoon by 10.5cm. Hows. from PRONVILLE and 15cm. Hows. from BOURLON. BEUGNY was shelled by 15cm. How from QUEANT and a 10.5cm. gun from PRONVILLE. During the evening HERMIES was heavily shelled by all calibres from GRAINCOURT and HAVRINCOURT directions. C.13 and 15 were shelled very heavily for about 5 minutes by all calibres from QUEANT, PRONVILLE, CAGNICOURT. LAGNICOURT was shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. from QUEANT, and DEMICOURT by 10.5cm. How. from BOIS de BOURLON. During the morning NOREUIL - VRAUCOURT Road was shelled by 15cm. How. from QUEANT, and 10.5cm. gun from CAGNICOURT, both registering by aeroplane. Other places shelled were C.23.d. by 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows. from RIENCOURT; C.24.c.2.0 by 15cm. How. from RIENCOURT; and C.24.d. by 10.5cm. How. from QUEANT.

MOVEMENT.

A party of 60 men were seen in V.26. central apparently shovelling up earth from trenches. Movement was seen all day around the chateau in U.12.c; there is every indication of the presence of dug-outs in this locality.

At 10-45 a.m. a body of about 100 infantry marching in column of fours with intervals, followed by 6 loaded limbers was seen proceeding in a Northwesterly direction along the road at U.11.c.4.7. Owing to telephone lines being cut, they were not fired on.

STRONG POINTS.

A strong point at U.28.d.3.0 was being worked on.

A party was at work during the night at U.20.d.9.4 where possibly a strong point is being made.

DUMP.

A dump is suspected at U.6.c.3.8.

EXPLOSIONS

Between 10.30 a.m. and 11.30 a.m. two explosions occurred in HENDECOURT.

Air reconnaissance reports a large explosion at 2.25 p.m. in the Southern end of HENDECOURT, and at 2.55 p.m. a large explosion followed by a fire in FONTAINE-lez-CROISILLES.

MACHINE-GUNS.

Machine-guns were seen firing from the following positions:- U.23.d.05.70 - U.23.b.75.35 - the Mill at U.30.b.25.25.

HOSTILE AIRCRAFT.

Enemy planes were very active throughout the day. They were apparently for the most part observing for their batteries.

PRISONER'S STATEMENT.

One of the three prisoners taken yesterday was a company signaller. He states that the Germans are using telephones in the front line, but only officers may use the instrument within a belt of 3,000 yards. When important operations are in progress the Company Commander must be present when the telephone is used. All the lines to Company H.Q. with which the prisoner has had anything to do are earth returns. Linesmen working en route may only use calls. No conversation is allowed. Prisoner knows of no ~~list~~ screening buzzers, power-buzzers or amplifiers in the line.

S. S. BUTLER. Major,
for Brigadier-General,
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

From 6.30 p.m. 23rd April to 6.30p.m. 24th April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

One prisoner belonging to the 9th Battery, 5th Guard Field Artillery Regt., 3rd Guard Divn., has been captured during the last 24 hours.

The two occupants of a hostile aeroplane brought down in J.2.d. were taken, both being wounded.

MOVEMENT.

Two wiring parties at K.2.b.8.8 and K.15.a.2.C were dispersed by artillery fire. A party was seen working on the railway track at K.27.a.7.3. Movement was again frequently seen in D.4.a. - D.5.b. - V.28.b. and c. - V.29.c. and d. - V.26.d. - and V.27.b. Between 5 and 7 p.m. a large party were seen carrying material from the suspected dump at U.6.b.5.0 to the wood at U.5.a.6.9; waggons were seen at the former place on several occasions. The tracks in U.6.d.2.8 to the wood in U.12.a. was used by transport waggons. Throughout the day considerable movement was noticed around the wood at the Chateau in U.12.c. Between 4 and 6 p.m. transport was seen moving in rear of HENDECOURT and along the road in U.6.c. d. and b. Transport can be distinctly heard in QUEANT intermittently between the hours 9 p.m. and 2 a.m.

Work has been done on the line in K.20.c.8.1 to K.20.c.3.4.

At 5.30 p.m. parties of the enemy were seen retiring from U.13.b. and U.10.a. towards HENDECOURT.

MACHINE-GUNS.

Guns have been located at K.8.d.8.2 and E.25.a.1.9, and are suspected at U.23.b.4.1 and U.28.b.1.6.

EXPLOSIONS.

An explosion followed by several minor ones followed the bursting of one of our shells in RIENCOURT.

Air reconnaissance reports large explosions in RIENCOURT, and between CHERISY and FONTAINE-lez-CROISILLES.

HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

Hostile activity yesterday was distinctly above normal. Several strong hostile patrols were working over and behind the HINDENBURG Line and a certain amount of reconnaissance work was done by hostile machines over our forward areas. Few of these dressed our lines for any distance, and one which was apparently intent on a long bombing raid was brought down by one of our machines near VRON.

There were numerous other combats, in the course of which two hostile machines were driven down in flames, two collided with one another and were destroyed, and eleven others were driven down out of control.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

Hostile shelling has again been above normal during the past 24 hours. During the morning our batteries were ranged on by hostile planes. Shelling has been confined mostly to back areas and villages and has come from the usual groups, but there is much more activity from the groups Southeast of MOEUVRES and around FLESQUIERES. BEUGNY was persistently shelled by 15cm. Hows. from INCHY and 21cm. Hows. from QUEANT. MORCHIES was shelled throughout the period by 10.5cm. gun from QUEANT and 15cm. Hows. from CAGNICOURT, and by an unknown calibre from MOEUVRES. NOREUIL was shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. from RIENCOURT and 15cm. Hows. from BOIS de BOUCHE. Hermies was shelled by 10.5cm. gun from direction of GRAINCOURT. C.22. was shelled by 10.5cm. How. from RIENCOURT. C.15. was shelled by 15cm. How. from QUEANT and LONGATTE by 10.5cm. Hows. from BOIS de BOUCHE.

Continued.

24-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 268.

A

HINDENBURG LINE.

Photographs taken yesterday show that no attempt has been made to join up the disconnected portions of trench Northwest and Southeast of RIENCOURT (3.AE.563 - 568, 3.AE.582).

A new, shallow communication trench is in course of construction from Northeast of QUEANT, close to the cross roads at D.2.central, Northwest towards the HINDENBURG Line; it has reached the point N.27.c.01. (3.AE.576).

Northwest of MOEUVRES the communication trench at E.13.b.22. has now been continued in a Northeasterly direction as far as E.8.d.23, where the photograph ends. (3.AE.387).

MISCELLANEOUS.

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

A man picked up a pencil at THILLCY from the ground and started to sharpen it. The pencil exploded and blew off his thumb and one finger.

S. S. BUTLER. Major.
for Brigadier-General.
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

INFORMATION obtained from a prisoner belonging to the 9th Battery, 3rd Section, 5th Guard F.A.R., 3rd Gd. Divn.

METHOD OF CAPTURE. Prisoner was sent forward to examine the country. He walked past his front line and was captured by one of our outposts.

COMPOSITION of 5th Guard F.A.R. This regiment has the normal organisation of sections; each section has 3 batteries each with 4 guns -- the 1st and 2nd sections with 7.7cm guns and the 3rd with 10.5cm. Howitzers.

It is rumoured that the 6th Battery has remained behind in LORRAINE.

ORDER OF BATTLE. Prisoner states that the 3rd Guard Divn. are still in the line. He saw this morning men of the 11th Coy., Garde Fusilier Regt. in the second line. He gives the order of battle from West to East as, 9th Grenadier Regt. - LEHR Regt. - Garde Fusilier Regt.

Prisoner, being an artilleryman, does not necessarily know the dispositions of the infantry, and his information is only hear say from men of the Garde Fusilier Regt. whom he met in D.18. approximately. In view of the fact that the 9th Guard Grenadier Regt. has been identified opposite the 3rd Army, it seems possible that resting battalions from the 3rd Guard Divn, have been sent North to the ARRAS sector, as prisoners lately captured from the 2nd Guard Res. Divn. stated had been done with some battalions from that division.

Prisoner stated that the 2nd Guard Res Divn. had moved up to the right. This statement may be correct, as both the 27th Divn. and the 2nd Guard Reserve Divn. are holding somewhat large sectors. There is also, however, the possibility that the 3rd Guard Divn. have taken over the sector held by the 38th Divn., which, it is reported, is now in the DOUAI area.

Continued.

24-4-17.

- 3 -

No. 268.

RELIEFS. On the night of the 14/15th prisoner's battery relieved a battery of the 20th Res. F.A.R., and on the following evening were relieved themselves by the latter. They then went into HORDAIN and remained there until the night of the 18/19th, returning to the same positions that they had left on the night of the 14/15th and relieving the same battery. This latter, it was said, was going about 2 kilometres further North.

POSITIONS OF BATTERIES. The 9th Battery, is about 1,000 metres South of INCHY Station and 400 metres North of INCHY - BOIS de BOUCHE Road. The 4th Battery is in line with the 9th, and about 200 metres South of the same road. The 8th Battery is about 200 metres North of the 9th. The 7th is about 100 metres N.E. of the 9th.

UNITS SEEN. Prisoner has seen men of the 2nd Guard Res. Divn. on the night of the 18/19th.

STRENGTH OF BATTERIES. About 120 men.

SIGNALS. Red: ENEMY attacking. Yellow. Lengthen range.

ENEMY'S INTENTIONS. To the best of prisoner's belief, no attack on us by the Germans is contemplated in his sector, neither is one expected from us.

GENERAL. There are 1,500 rounds with Howitzer batteries, but prisoner states none of them are gas shells.
Rations come from EPINCY, where the horses are also kept.

-----oOo-----

From 6.30 p.m. 24th April to 6.30 p.m. 25th April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been captured during the past 24 hours.

MOVEMENT.

There is every indication from the movement seen that the trench ~~is~~ in U.17.c. - U.23.a. and b. is garrisoned. Movement was seen between U.5.b.2.5. and U.5.b.9.7, where an earthwork is plainly visible. Small parties were seen entering and emerging from the dug-outs in D.2.a.2.3.

HEADQUARTERS.

An overhead wire running from U.12.c.5.3 towards CAGNICOURT and movement seen in the vicinity, suggest a headquarters at this spot.

SIGNALLING.

Enemy was observed signalling with a flash lamp from QUEANT, at 5 a.m. He asked for GUEMAPPE.

CAPTURED MAP.

A map taken from the airmen who were brought down yesterday in J.2 shows the following divisional boundaries:-

220th Division - Southern Boundary - U.15.c.6.3, through U.16.a.central, to the road in U.16.b., dropping then South to include HENDECOURT, and meeting the HENDECOURT - DURY - LECLUSE Road in U.11.b. It follows this road as far as DURY and then runs off just South of RECOURT and North of ECOUST-St-QUENTIN.

Northern Boundary - Q32. c.central to the SENSEE River in O.28.a., and then along just South of the River through O.27.d. central, O.23.central. P.14.a.central, just South of ETERPIGNY.

35th Division - Northern Boundary - Along the COJEUL River to P.3.a.

A HINDENBURG LINE.

Photographs, S.AE.362, taken on the 24th, confirm the O.P.'s in D.5.d. (West of INCHY) which were given on a recently captured map. There is apparently a third O.P. at D.5.d.12.20. The track leading to the O.P.'s can be plainly seen on the photograph.

Photos taken yesterday show a considerable amount of new work both on communication and fire trenches on the line between GRAINCOURT and PRONVILLE (3.AE.632.633.634. 637.638). On the other hand no work appears to have been done recently in the BULLECOURT sector.

A DROCOURT - QUEANT LINE.

A photo taken yesterday shows that the DROCOURT - QUEANT Support Line has been wired with a single bolt from the CAGNICOURT - HENDECOURT Road at V.7.d.32 to the CAGNICOURT - VIS-er-ARTOIS Road at V.1.d.87. (18.V.523).

HOSTILE SHELLING.

During the past 24 hours slightly above normal, and shelling has been confined to back areas and villages, and batteries. MORCHIES and neighbourhood were persistently shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. from PRONVILLE and 15cm. Hows. from QUEANT, CAGNICOURT and MOEUVRES. NOREUIL was shelled by 15cm. How. from QUEANT. BEUGNY and roads were shelled by 10.5cm. How. and 15cm. Hows. from PRONVILLE. LAGNICOURT was shelled by 10.5cm. How. from QUEANT.

Continued.

25-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 269.

HOSTILE SHELLING (Contd).

The BULLECOURT sector was barraged by 77mm. guns from CAGNICOURT for a short time. C.22. was shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. from QUEANT and by 15cm Hows. from CAGNICOURT. C.15 and 29 were shelled by 77mm. guns from PRONVILLE, 10.5cm. Hows. from QUEANT and 15cm Hows. from PRONVILLE. DEMICOURT was shelled by 77mm. guns from MOEUVRES. C.2 was shelled by 15cm. Hows from RIENCOURT and D.23 by 10.5cm. Hows. from INCHY.

PATROLS.

From information received it appears that patrols in the QUEANT sector go out at about 10 p.m. British time.

ORDER OF BATTLE.

Prisoners captured yesterday give the order of battle as: North to South - 362 I.R. - 360th I.R. - 458th I.R. - 457th I.R. - 94th R.I.R.

All the prisoners state that orders were to hold on as long as possible. There is a strong rumour prevalent that the 4th Ersatz Division is to be relieved and go to rest on the 28th April.

HEADQUARTERS.

The headquarters of the 3rd Section, 5th Guard F.A.R. is, according to the prisoner captured yesterday, at INCHY.

DUMP.

There appears to be a small dump on either side of the DROCOURT - QUEANT light railway Northwest of CAGNICOURT Wood extending from V.1.d.40 to V.7.b.35 (18.V.523).

BALLOON COUCH.

On the Northern edge of BARALLE Wood at W.7.d.45.55. (18.V.521).

S. S. BUTLER. Major.
for Brigadier-General.
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

EXAMINATION of Pilot, belonging to the 26th Flieger Abteilung (Flight Section), attached to the 220th Division.

PREVIOUS NUMBER OF ABTEILUNG. This Abteilung up to two months ago bore the number, 56.

METHOD OF CAPTURE. Prisoner, accompanied by an observer, was making a flight for the purpose of reconnaissance and taking photographs. While flying against the sun, they were attacked by a Sopwith Scout. Both pilot and observer were wounded. The petrol tank was perforated with machine-gun bullets and the machine was forced to descend.

TYPE OF AEROPLANE. The aeroplane was a D.F.W. biplane fitted with a 200 h.p. Benz engine, and carrying wireless apparatus and camera.

LOCATION OF AERODROME. The aerodrome of the 26th Abteilung is at EMERCHICOURT (Map 51.A. - G.17.central).

Continued.

25-4-17.

- 3 -

No. 269.

PARTICULARS OF THE 26th ABTEILUNG. The Abteilung consists of 5 machines, all D.F.W. The Pilots are all N.C.O's, and the observers, all officers. There are only 5 pilots in the Abteilung, i.e., one for each machine.

The O.C. of the Abteilung is Hauptmann DENERT.

The 26th Abteilung was previously at MORCHINGEN in Lorraine and moved to EMERCHICOURT three weeks ago.

SIGNALS. Signalling from the aeroplane was performed by means of coloured lights, the direction in which they were fired from the aeroplane forming part of the signal code. Prisoner did not know the code used.

PERSONAL HISTORY. Prisoner was a mechanical fitter at the commencement of the war. On applying to become a pilot, he was sent to a pilot school at KOSLIN (Pommerania), where he remained for five months. He then went to an observation school at GROBSENHEIM (Saxony), where he acted as pilot till November, 1916. He was then attached to the 26th Abteilung, at that time at MORCHINGEN.

PRISONER'S OPINIONS. Prisoner seemed very bitter that in the German Flying Corp pilots are not credited with being as intelligent as observers, and said he thought they should be allowed to do observation work. He considered the British airmen more daring^{than} the German, and thought our best machine to be the Sopwith Scout, but had heard it said that the German fighting squadrons did not consider it fast enough to be effective. He was of opinion that their best machine was the Albatross Scout.

FURTHER EXAMINATION of a prisoner belonging to the 9th Battery, 5th Guard F.A.R., captured yesterday, 24th April.

AREAS SHELLED BY 9th BATTERY. The arc of fire of the 9th Battery extends approximately from G.18 to J.29. Since the Battery came into position on the night of the 17/18th, it has fired very seldom. During two days the battery did not fire a single shot. The average daily expenditure of ammunition of the battery since arrival in this area has been about 60 to 80 rounds, the range varying from 6,100 to 6,300 metres, and this prisoner thinks was at LAGNICOURT. The range for barrage fire was 4,300 metres.

DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY. Since December last one battlaion of the 2nd Guard Foot Art. Rgt. has been attached to the 3rd Gd. Divn.

AMMUNITION etc. Ammunition is brought up from railhead in horse-drawn vehicles.

Ammunition, according to prisoner, can be used freely when necessary. The life of a howitzer is considerably shorter than it was in 1914, and those at present in use require a new bore after 4,000 to 5,000 rounds. This he attributes to the fact that the worn-out linings of bores are melted and recast to make new linings.

24cm. GUNS? Prisoner states that he believes that BAPAUME is shelled by three 24cm. guns from somewhere near MORQUION.

COMMANDERS. 5th Guard F.A.R.: Lt. Col. DIETZ. 1st Section: Capt. MACKENSEN. 2nd Section: Major BERTHOLD. 3rd Section: Major DERLOHS. 5th Battery: Capt. GRIMM. 7th Battery: Capt. FRICKE. 8th Battery: Lieut. GASP. 9th Battery: Capt. BLUMK.

Continued.

25-4-17.

- 4 -

No.269.

OPINION ON BRITISH ARTILLERY. British artillery is considered by German gunners superior to their own on account of the longer range possessed by the former. Prisoner stated that it was due to this fact that their artillery suffered so heavily on the SOMME. As a consequence they did little counter-battery work, their batteries generally being outranged. Our ammunition is said to be good, and of late we have fired very few blinds.

ACTION during attack. During an attack and while under our neutralisation fire, the personnel of the batteries take refuge in their dug-outs unless they have received special orders for barrage fire.

CONCRETE EMPLACEMENTS. Prisoner has seen no concrete emplacements, and knows only of the ordinary type being in use.

TRENCHES IN REAR. During the night of the 17/18th prisoner saw, when passing through ABANCOURT, a line of trenches running North and South on both sides of the ABANCOURT - EPINOY Road, just West of the former place. The trenches were about 5ft. deep, and there were about 2 metres of wire in front of them. Prisoner did not see any dug-outs or revetting.

UNITS SEEN. Prisoner saw about one squadron of the 20th Hussar Regt, in PAILLENCOURT on the night of the 17/18th.

ATTACK OF THE 15th. Prisoner had heard that 48 machine-guns had been captured by the Germans and 22 guns blown up.

3rd. GUARD DIVISION. Prisoner is of opinion that the 3rd Guard Divn. or the best part of it has remained in this area in addition to the troops already holding the line, and that it has not replaced units which have been taken away. He believes that the 9th Guard Grenadiers, or a portion of them may have been sent to the ARRAS Sector, but he had heard nothing of this before he was captured.

From 6.30 p.m. 25th April to 6.30 p.m. 26th April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been captured during the last 24 hours.

ENEMY POSTS.

An enemy post at D.30.c.5.2. previously reported unoccupied, was approached by a patrol who saw Very lights being fired from it.

R A post is suspected at about Q.3.a.6.8.

MACHINE-GUNS.

Machine-guns were seen firing from between U.29.b.5.9 and U.29.a.25.95. A gun firing from K.20.a.6.0 searched the valley in K.19.d. and K.20.c. during the day. Another gun is reported firing from D.24.d.2.0.

R Machine-guns have been reported firing from about K.27.d.8.4 and K.26.d.9.9.

MOVEMENT.

About 50 men were seen working on the main road in U.6.c. and b; a light railway is suspected here as on several occasions men were seen to jump on trolleys and disappear from view in the vicinity of U.6.b. A party was seen digging a trench in the vicinity of U.10.d. central. About 200 men started working on the wire in W V.25.central. Dug-out timber is being carried to D.1.c.6.8 where digging is going on.

Enemy's transport was heard on the HEMIES - HAVRINCOURT Road East of the Canal. The road from GRAINCOURT through K.4.c. and d. is frequently used by infantry parties. Work was seen in progress in D.14.b.2.7.

ROADS.

The NOURSIES - CAMBRAI Road is reported to be in good condition by an officers' patrol, except just West of the cross-roads at K.1.a.9.4 where a rough trench is dug across it.

EXPLOSIONS and FIRES.

A large explosion was seen in FONTAINE followed by large fires. A fire was seen in BULLECOURT (Air Reconnaissance.)

OBSERVATION POSTS.

Two observers were seen climbing on to the roof of PRONVILLE Church. Action was taken by artillery. A German sniper is suspected of firing from a window of the Church.

AMMUNITION.

On examination of a belt of M.G. ammunition taken from an enemy aeroplane brought down on the 24th, every 10th round was found to be of the "Tracer" tupe.

A CANAL DU NORD.

From recent photographs the Canal appears to be waterless: (a) for about 1000 yards North and South of the MOEUVRES - GRAINCOURT Road; (b) for about 1000 yards North of the SAINS-lez-MARQUION - BUISSY Road. (Photos 3.AE. 580, 636, 18.V.533).

DUMP.

The large dump on the railway at RIRECOURT IS still being used. There is a large amount of material dumped on each side of the line, (L.24.a.0.8.).

Continued.

26-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 270.

NOTES ON RECENT AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

The road from ~~BIENCOURT~~ BIENCOURT to the cross-roads in V.23.b. and d. shows signs of frequent use especially in V.19.c. and V.25.b. (4.AE.1765, 1772).

The cross-roads at V.20.d.3.7 are the centre of a good deal of activity; tracks meet here from many directions and a light railway goes through. The sunken road from this point running Southwest is also a good deal used. (4.AE.1770)

A buried cable runs to the dug-outs at V.20.c.7.3, which may contain a H.Q. (4.AE.1770.)

From tracks perceived it is probable that there is a headquarters in the dug-outs or huts at V.10.a.2.9 on the Western edge of the BOIS de LOISON. (16.V.18c)

HOSTILE SHELLING.

Hostile shelling during the past 24 hours has been below normal. The usual groups have been active, but several cases of shelling from the BOURLON - GRAINCOURT † and FLESQUIERES groups have been reported. The road in C.29.a. has been persistently shelled with 15cm. hows. from QUEANT, PRONVILLE, and 21cm. Hows, from QUEANT. The enemy appeared to be trying to destroy the road. MARICOURT WOOD was shelled during the morning and afternoon by 15cm. Hows from INCHY. MORCHIES was shelled by 10.5cm. How. from East of PRONVILLE. DOIGNIES was shelled by 21cm. How. from BOURLON. HERMIES was shelled by 10.5cm. How. from FLESQUIERES. Trenches near DEMICOURT were shelled by 77mm. guns from MOEUVRES. METZ was shelled by 15cm. How. from PRONVILLE. ST. LEGER was shelled by 15cm. How. from INCHY. FLESQUIERES. LAGNICOURT was shelled by 10.5cm. How from PRONVILLE. ST. LEGER was shelled by 15cm. How. from INCHY.

J.J.W. HERBERTSON. Lt.
for Brigadier-General.
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

FIRST ANZAC CORPS REPORT ON THE ENEMY FORCES
ORGANISATION, WORK, &c. FOR WEEK ENDING
APRIL 20th 1917.

No. 24.

PRISONERS OF WAR. The following prisoners have been captured during the period under review. -

	<u>O.R.</u>
15th R.I.R.	3
9th Battery, 5th Guard F.A.R.	1
6th Flieger Abteilung (Wounded)	2
	-
	6
	-

ORDER OF BATTLE. From Northwest to Southeast appears to be as follows:- 27th Divn. - 2nd Guard Res. Divn., reinforced by elements of the 3rd Guard Divn. (probably about one regiment and divisional artillery) - 38th Divn. (indefinite reports speak of this division being in the DOUAI area, but no direct information is to hand to show that it has been removed from its original sector astride the BAPAUME - CAMBRAI Road) - 4th Ersatz Divn.

ENEMY DISPOSITIONS. A prisoner of the 120th I.R., 27th Divn. captured yesterday by the Corps on our left, states that the front line in his regimental sector is now held by 4 companies instead of 6 as formerly. It is probable therefore that, owing to our bombardment of the HINDENBURG Line between BULLECOURT and its junction with the DROCOURT - QUEANT Line, the enemy is not holding the front line of the former so strongly as before, in order to avoid losses from our artillery fire. The troops withdrawn from the front line are probably in the second line where there are good dug-outs. Underground galleries are also being worked on in the second line, and this is where probably the enemy intends to make his main stand to defend the HINDENBURG Line.

The dispositions of the enemy opposite the remainder of our front, from the information that can be gathered, have not changed during the past week.

ENEMY ACTIVITY. The enem's attitude during the period under review has been defensive rather than offensive, Prisoners captured during the week state that they know of no preparations for an attack.

The prisoner of the 120th I.R. already referred to, captured by the Corps on our left, stated that the enemy had no intention of withdrawing voluntarily from the HINDENBURG Line to the DROCOURT - QUEANT Line, and from the reports of our observers and patrols, the HINDENBURG Line opposite our front seems to be normally held.

The enemy appears to be alert, and there is no doubt that any attack on our part, if successful, would be met by a prompt and vigorous counter-attack.

ENEMY'S DEFENCES. The enemy appears to have concentrated most of his energy on;

- (a) The digging and wiring of the DROCOURT-QUEANT Line, which is now completely wired as far as VILLERS-lez-CAGNICOURT. North of which no photographs are to hand at Corps H.Q.
- (b) The continuation of work on what is no doubt intended as a support to the DROCOURT-QUEANT Line running Northwards from D.6. towards the Western edge of BUISSY.
- (c) Communication trenches from the vicinity of INCHY to the front line.

No work has been put into the BULLECOURT - QUEANT area, and no attempt has apparently been made to repair the wire in front of the HINDENBURG Line, judging from the latest photographs taken.

Continued.

26-4-17.

- 2 -

No.24.

MORAL. During the week prisoners have been captured from the 2nd Guard Res. and the 3rd Guard ~~Res.~~ Divn. The moral of the ~~man~~ from both these divisions appeared quite good. Several of them stated that the rations were better now than they had been previously. The fact that they are in well dug and strongly wired positions appears to have given them confidence, and they still seem to rely on the submarine bringing the war to a close before very long.

HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. During the first part of the week below normal, ~~both~~ On the 22nd there was a certain increase of hostile machines, both of scouts and reconnaissance planes. Patrols were carried out over our lines as far as ~~the~~ SARS, and our balloons were attacked. The enemy apparently took advantage of the clouds to approach unseen, and then dived down on them. On the 23rd the enemy were still active, but our offensive patrols and raids succeeded in bringing down a large number of hostile machines. On the 24th several more hostile aeroplanes were destroyed, and since then the enemy's aerial activity has been very much below normal and no attempts have been made to interfere with our patrols. The work done by hostile machines during the week seems to have been principally reconnaissance and artillery work.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Hostile shelling during the past ~~24~~ week has been rather above normal, but has slightly decreased during the past two days. The usual groups have been active, but there has been a slight increase in the activity of the groups S.W. of MOEUVRES, GRAINCOURT and FLESQUIERES. Shelling has been chiefly confined to the heavier calibres, and there has been no increase or decrease in the shelling by 77's.

During the past few days the enemy has systematically carried out counter battery work both with, and without, aeroplane observation. It has been noticed that in every case neutralisation and destructive shoots were carried out with H.E.

(Sgd). S.S. BUTLER. Major.
for Brigadier-General,
General-Staff,
1st ANZAC Corps.

From 6.30 p.m. 26th April to 6.30 p.m. 27th April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been captured during the past 24 hours.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

A party of 36 men were seen working on the wire at K.14.b.8.6. 20 men were seen deepening the trenches at K.14.b.1.1. and wire was being put up at K.14.b.2.2.

L No work has been observed on the enemy's defences in or in rear of the BULLECOURT Sector. All work observed has been confined to the DROCOURT - QUEANT Line and North-East of FONTAINE.

A Photographs taken by the Army on our right show a considerable amount of new wire on the HINDENBURG Line about HAVRINGCOURT. The second line system East of FLESQUIERES appears to consist still of a series of dug-outs not yet joined up by a trench. (Photos - 22.N.2749. 2750. 2755. 2757. 2758).

ENEMY POSTS.

An officers' patrol report a suspected listening post at K.14.a.6.8. Other enemy posts are reported at D.24.a.1.3. and D.23.b.0.3.

MACHINE-GUNS.

A gun was seen at U.29.a.15.50; two other positions are suspected just to the right of this point. Machine-guns have been located beside a tree at D.24.a.30.25. Guns were also active during the night from the slag-heap at K.20.b.1.4. and K.20.a.5.0.

OBSERVATION POSTS.

An O.P. is suspected in the tree at K.21.d.5.4.

In BOURLON Wood there are four erections at the top of trees which look like crows nests.

MOVEMENT.

A party of about 40 men ~~were~~^{were} seen carrying timber along the road near the Dump at U.6.b. The main road in U.6.b. and c. and the HENDECOURT - RIENCOURT Road were in use. One waggon was destroyed by our artillery. Large parties of transport are frequently visible in the vicinity of the Chateau and the road just in rear in U.11.d. and U.12.c.

The enemy was seen garrisoning his strong posts at D.1.c.5.1. and D.1.c.7.5, apparently with about 18 - 20 men in each. At 5 a.m. a working party of 50 was seen in D.1.a.

About 20 men were seen entering CHALKY Trenches at E.27.d.5.3. Ground observers report that a working party of 500 left MOEUVRES and proceeded to wards PRONVILLE. It commenced working on a trench at D.16.c.2.8, but our fire made them move along the trench towards D.1.7.central.

Movement was observed on the road to GRAINCOURT at K.9.a.2.7. This road is being used constantly by infantry.

R CRATERS.

There is a crater in the road at K.26.d.85.00.

HEADQUARTERS.

A headquarters is suspected at U.23.b.80.05.

A The following headquarters have been located from prisoners' statements 27th Division - ECOUST St. QUENTIN; 120th I.R. - Probably SAUDEMONT, command post in dug-outs under CAGNICOURT Chateau (V.15.a.75.); 360th I.R. - NOYELLES.

Continued.

27-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 271.

A DEMOLITIONS. (from G.H.Q.Summary).

From an examination of the preparations made by the Germans for blowing up the FORT de CONIE, it appears that:-

- (a) The charges, each of 2,600 - 3,000 lbs. were arranged to be fired independently, after the fort had been captured.
- (b) The electric leads were duplicated, one wire being very apparent, almost on the surface and easy to find, and the other buried $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 feet beneath the first.

A DANGEROUS SHELL (GERMAN). (From G.H.Q.Summary).

The majority of German shell are issued fuzed. The safety device of most German fuses consists of a pellet of black powder.

If, on removal, the safely pin of a fuze is seen to be rusty, it is a sign that the damp has penetrated the interior of the fuze, where it will probably have affected the safety pellet. Such shell are dangerous. They must on no account be fired, and the fuzes should be removed before the shell are transported.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY.

Slightly above normal during the past 24 hours. There has been an increase of activity from MOEUVRES Group but this seems to be confined at present to a few batteries. Trenches near DEMICOURT were shelled at intervals during the day by a 77mm. battery from MOEUVRES. During the early morning batteries in the vicinity of LOWVERVAL Wood were shelled by two 15cm. batteries from MOEUVRES with aeroplane registration. HERMIES was shelled by 21cm. How. from GRAINCOURT. The BULLECOURT Sector was heavily shelled from the North by all calibres for about 5 minutes. MORCHIES was shelled by a 10.5cm. gun from RIENCOURT. C.5. and 6 were heavily shelled by mixed calibres for a quarter of an hour from the direction of CAGNICOURT. The MOREUIL Valley was shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. from HENDECOURT and was generally swept at night by 77mm. guns. After an interval of 4 days BAPAUME was shelled by the 24cm. naval gun from MARQUION, but was successfully silenced by our heavy artillery. J.4.a. was she led at intervals by 10.5cm. How from MOEUVRES. Ecoust was shelled by 10.5cm. gun from South of HENDECOURT.

A MISCELLANEOUS.

The Field Recruit Depot of the 27th Division is at CAUDRY.

There is a Pioneer Park near HENDECOURT Chateau (U.I2.c.01 - see photo 18.V.398).

The rest billets of the 360th I.R. are at NOYELLES and CANTAING.

(Sgd). J.J.W. HERBERTSON. Lt.
for Brigadier-General,
General Staff,
1st ANZAC Corps.

From 6.30 p.m. 27th April to 6.30 p.m. 28th April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been captured during the past 24 hours.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

During the past 24 hours above normal. There has been an increase in the shelling by 77mm. guns and also by 24cm. guns. The MOEUVRES group has shown more activity. DEMICOURT was shelled several times during the evening by 77mm. guns from MOEUVRES and 15cm. How. from GRAINCOURT. BEUGNATRE was shelled by a 24cm. gun from MARQUION. I.4.b. was shelled by a 24cm. gun from L.21.d. and FREMICOURT by a 24cm. gun from MARQUION. HERMIES was shelled by a 21cm. How. from GRAINCOURT. The NOREUIL valley was continually shelled by 10.5cm. How. from CAGNICOURT. LOUVERVAL was shelled by 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows. from MOEUVRES. C.5 and 6 were shelled by mixed calibres from CAGNICOURT during the night. C.2 was shelled by a 21cm. How. from CHENICOURT. C.10.b. was shelled by 15cm. Hows. from HENDECOURT. LAENICOURT was violently shelled by 77mm. guns and 10.5cm. Hows. from QUEANT and PRONVILLE. This afternoon for about a quarter of an hour. J.23.d. and D.24.c. were shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. from GRAINCOURT.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

The enemy was seen working in E.19.a and d. - K.16.c. - and K.22.a. A party of 40 was seen working on the wire about E.13.d.0.0. They were fired on.

A patrol sent out to examine wire at U.29.a.5.7 discovered a party of between 30 and 40 busy mending the wire where it was badly smashed; some could be seen driving in fresh stakes; there appeared to be places freshly wired.

An officer's patrol reports that the wire South of the railway in front of the village of HAVRINCOURT is very strong; the outer layer is thin with several gaps.

R. Work is in progress on trenches and wire in K.36.b.

MACHINE-GUNS.

Machine-guns firing from the slag heap at K.20.b.1.2 and K.20.a.5.0 were active on the valley - K.20.c. and K.19.d.

A position is suspected at U.22.b.c.1.

R. Another positions is suspected at K.26.b.0.3.

An officers' patrol reconnoitring the slag heap reports machine-gun emplacements at K.20.a.8.2, low down in the bank; K.20.a.8.1, on top of the heap; and K.20.a.8.7, low down on the extreme Southern edge.

TRENCH MORTARS.

A trench mortar was seen by a patrol firing from D.7.b.4.5 approximately.

ENEMY MOVEMENT.

At 8.15 p.m. the enemy was seen manning strong posts at D.1.a.5.1 and D.1.c.7.5.

Considerable movement was seen between 8.10. a.m. and noon in the vicinity of the dump on the road at U.6.b.5.0.

The MOEUVRES - INCHY Road was frequently used by transport. Infantry parties march in file on either side of this road at intervals of 100 yards. Transport was again heard on the HERMIES - HAVRINCOURT Road East of the Canal at about 4 a.m.,

At daybreak enemy transport was going along road from PRONVILLE at D.9.d.7.2 in the direction of INCHY.

Continued.

28-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 272.

HEADQUARTERS.

Men were seen laying wire between the dug-outs at U.17.c.6.4 and U.23.b.4.6; both these places are suspected headquarters.

THE CANAL.

An officers' reconnaissance reports that it is possible to cross the Canal at K.26.central as a dam has been formed by the bricks from the broken bridge. The embankment is very steep and deep here.

FIRES AND EXPLOSIONS.

Explosions are reported in RIENCOURT, BULLECOURT and HENDECOURT. A large fire was seen in BULLECOURT and the church in RIENCOURT is reported in flames. At 4.15 p.m. the whole of HENDECOURT appeared to be on fire.

AIR RECONNAISSANCE.

A new trench has been dug from V.24.a.9.4 to V.19.d.9.3.

COMMUNICATIONS

Photos covering the BUISSY - BARALLE - CAGNICOURT area show a well defined system of air lines. One line runs from the Western outskirts of BARALLE, passing just North of the MOULIN d'en HAUT and following the road to CAGNICOURT. At a point just West of the crossroads it turns Southwest to the corner of the wood whence it appears to run towards the DROCOURT - QUEANT Line.

A second line runs from BUISSY to the MOULIN d'en HAUT, which appears to be a Headquarters or exchange. From here it turns in a Southwesterly direction to a point South of the BOIS de LOISON where it joins another air line running almost East to West (18.V.522. 526 and 538.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

Smoke has been seen coming from house at E.14.c.3.4. As smoke has been noticed here before, this place probably is used for cooking.

S. S. BUTLER. Major,
for Brigadier-General,
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

From 6.30 p.m. 28th April to 6.30 p.m. April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been captured during the past 24 hours.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

A strong point seems to be under construction at U.29.a.5.7. The enemy was observed working on his trenches and wire at E.20.b. Digging was going on at E.14.a. A party of 20 was seen working on the Eastern bank of the Canal at E.26.b.8.4, and another party was working in K.17.c.

MOVEMENT.

At 8.45 a.m. a party of about 10⁰ strong was seen working on a road running through U.6.c. and d. Movement was again observed around the chateau in U.12.c.1.2. At this point a small house or large dump covered with green camouflage can be seen.

Men carrying wire dumped their loads at U.30.b.2.1. An object which resembles a water tank on supports is visible at D.3.a.8.3; it attracts considerable movement to this spot.

Considerable movement was noticed along a well beaten track which joins the road towards BOURLON at E.21.d.7.4. The working party at E.26.b.8.4 used this track.

The roads in E.15. and E.16 and in the village of MOEUVRES are much used.

MACHINE-GUNS.

Machine-guns are reported to have been firing on aeroplanes from D.24.a.9.7 and D.18.c.5.1.

FIRES and EXPLOSIONS.

Explosions were seen in K.23 and on the road at U.6.b.9.5 (Air reconnaissance). An explosion on the HENDECOURT - RIENCOURT Road at about U.17.a.7.1 was believed to have been caused by one of our shells.

Fires are reported in RIENCOURT - HENDECOURT - and BULLECOURT.

HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

The enemy appeared very anxious to prevent our planes from flying over their lines. Each machine was engaged as approaching and the enemy's anti-aircraft and machine-guns were active.

AMMUNITION DEPOT.

There appears to be an important ammunition depot in the quarry North of the BOIS de LOISON (Southeast of CAGNICOURT Cemetery). There are a number of dugouts, and cart tracks lead into the quarry. There are also camouflaged dug-outs probably for ammunition, on either side of the road to the West of the quarry (Photo 18.V.526). The existence of an ammunition depot here is confirmed by the statements of prisoners reported in Fifth Army Summary, No. 367 of 4th April.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

During the past 24 hours above normal, villages and back areas, and our batteries being the chief targets. During the early morning in reply to our operations the BULLECOURT sector was rather heavily bombarded. DOIGNIES was shelled by 10.5cm. and 15cm., also by 21cm. Hows. from MOEUVRES and BOURLON. EGCOUST was heavily shelled during the evening by mixed calibres from CAGNICOURT and during the day by 15cm. Hows. from SOUTH HENDECOURT. MORCHIES was shelled several times by 15cm. Hows. from PRONVILLE. A battery in this neighbourhood was ranged on by aeroplane but the hostile battery was silenced after two rounds. BOURSIES was shelled by 10.5cm. Hows from INCHY and 15cm. How from GRAINCOURT. LAGNICOURT was shelled by 10.5cm Hows from PRONVILLE and DEMICOURT by 15cm. Hows. from HAVRINCOURT. BEUGNY was shelled by 10.5cm. gun and Hows. from PRONVILLE. LOUVERVAI was shelled by 15cm. Hows from GRAINCOURT.

Continued.

29-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 273.

A SHORTAGE OF GUNS AND AMMUNITION. (From G.H.Q. Summary.)

A captured German order, dated 21/3/17. issued by German General Headquarters, emphasizes the importance of economizing ammunition, and draws attention to the following salient points:-

- (i) All useless shooting is to be avoided.
- (ii) Gas shells are being demanded in large quantities by the Armies. It is pointed out that the supplies of this nature are particularly limited.
- (iii) Ammunition must be stored in dry pits. A large number of cases of blind shell and fuzes burning wrongly have been brought to notice.

Another captured German document points out that lack of material will probably cause difficulty in replacing with new pieces those in which the bore has begun to wear. The document proceeds to direct all battery commanders to study carefully the problem of shooting at a line of trenches with defective guns.

S. S. BUTLER. Major,
for Brigadier-General,
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

From 6.30 p.m. 29th April to 6.30. ~~p.m.~~^{30th}/April, 1917.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

No prisoners have been captured during the past 24 hours.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

New work has been done by the enemy on his trenches in front of MOEUVRES, and work is carried out during the night on trenches and wire in E.14.d. At 1 a.m. sounds of digging and timbering were heard at the Slag Heap at K.20. central. At 7.15 a.m., 14 men were seen working in the vicinity of D.8.c.30.65.

MACHINE-GUNS.

Machine-gun, firing from near the O.P. at D.24.a.5.8 was silenced by our Lewis guns. A machine-gun is suspected at D. D.15.c.8.3.

TRENCH MORTARS.

Occasional movement was seen in the building at U.23.a.2.8; this is a suspected T.M. position. A trench mortar was seen firing from the trench in the vicinity of D.8.c.30.65.

MOVEMENT.

At 4 p.m. about 40 of the enemy were seen on the parapet of the trench at D.8.d.3.0; they disappeared quickly and our artillery registered on the spot for future occasions. At 3 p.m. our artillery scattered a party of infantry in D.1.d.

DUMPS.

At 5 p.m. a G.S. Waggon drawn by 4 horses was observed in the vicinity of U.6.b.5.0 (a dump has already been reported at this spot), and later 15 men were seen unloading timber from the waggon, which then proceeded in a Northeasterly direction.

Considerable activity was observed at the MARQUION Station dump. Four trains and 40 or 50 trucks were seen in the sidings here. There are dumps beside the railway at BOURLON Station and about 200 yards South of it. (18.V.594).

ROADS.

Three G.S. Waggons were seen to go North along the road from E.3.a.3.0 to E.8.b.3.4. At 8.30 a.m. a party of 30 was seen moving along the road in U.6.c. and d.

Much transport, apparently mechanical, was seen during the morning moving in both directions on the roads leading South from CAMBRAI and Southwest from LE CHATEAU. In the afternoon, a considerable amount of transport was seen on the ARRAS - CAMBRAI Road about MARQUION, moving in the direction of CAMBRAI. These movements were considerably above normal.

HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

There was a considerable amount of hostile aerial activity during the day (29), and several combats took place. About 4-30 p.m. during one of these fights a machine was seen to fall in flames about D.5.b.5.5. About 10.30 p.m. three bombs were dropped on LOUVERVAL.

HOSTILE SHELLING.

During the past 24 hours very much above normal, especially during the afternoon the chief targets being villages, batteries and roads. During the early morning several H.A. were ranging enemy batteries on our positions. DOIGNIES and the neighbouring roads were shelled by 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows. and guns from MOEUVRES. BOURSIES and roads were shelled by 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows from PRONVILLE and GRAINCOURT. MORCHIES and roads were shelled by 15cm. and 21cm. Hows from PRONVILLE and QUEANT.

Continued.

30-4-17.

- 2 -

No. 274.

HOSTILE SHELLING (Contd).

BEUGNY and roads, and battery positions, were shelled by 10.5cm. How. from PRONVILLE. I.4.c. and d. were shelled intermittently throughout the day, the enemy evidently searching for our battery positions. LAGNICOURT was shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. from PRONVILLE. NOREUIL and valley and roads were shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. from the direction of QUEANT, and by 15cm. Hows. from the direction of CAGNICOURT. LOUVERVAL was shelled by 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows. from MOEUVRES. U.26 was shelled by 10.5cm. Hows. from RIENCOURT. BEAUMETZ was shelled by 77mm. guns, 10.5cm. and 15cm. Hows. from direction of MOEUVRES and GRAINCOURT.

FIRES and EXPLOSIONS.

At 8.p.m. a large cloud of smoke was seen rising in the direction of RIENCOURT.

Aerial reconnaissance reports at 7 a.m. a small fire in the Southeastern corner of MOEUVRES; at 7.5 a.m. a small fire in BOURLON; and at 7.35 a.m. two explosions in QUEANT.

RAILWAYS.

During the day enemy was seen working on the Railway about E.14.d.8.4. The enemy seems to be taking up the line; He has been closely observed for two days and has been seen to dig for a time and then carry away objects resembling rails which seven or eight men were required to lift.

An observer reports that a light railway with dumps at about K.3.c.2.2 and K.3.c.5.1 runs diagonally across K.3.c., and then crosses the Canal near LOCK 6, finally joining the old light railway at E.27.c. (This is confirmed by aerial photographs).

SEARCHLIGHT.

During the night the enemy swept our territory with searchlight at half hourly intervals from the rear of BULLECOURT and RIENCOURT.

REDUCTION of RATIONS and BATTALION STRENGTHS. (From G.H.Q. Summary.)

(a) A captured document, issued under the signature of Field Marshal von HINDENBURG, and dated 13th April, 1917, reduces the normal daily bread ration from 1,000 g. to 750 g. throughout the German Army. Certain exceptions are allowed at the discretion of higher commanders, such as for troops in front line and for troops serving in mountainous country.

(b) Captured German documents, issued by the Prussian Ministry of War, dated 7th February and 12th March, respectively, lay down a reduction in the number of ^{effectives} ~~strength~~ in each battalion. The note of February reduces the battalion to a total establishment of 800, of whom 700 are to be men fit for general service. The order of the 12th March reduces the establishment still further to 750 men, of whom 650 are to be men fit for general service. A still further reduction is outlined to 700 men a battalion of whom 650 will be fit for general service, owing to the formation in each battalion of work companies (Wirtschafts-Kompagnen).

S. S. BUTLER. Major,
For Brigadier-General,
General Staff, 1st ANZAC Corps.

... (faint text) ...

... (faint text) ...

... (faint text) ...

... (faint text) ...

... (faint text) ...

... (faint text) ...

DONATED RECORDS LIST
5097
3rd Series

... (faint text) ...