

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

Formation Headquarters

**Item number:** 1/50/19 Part 6

**Title:** General Staff, Headquarters 5th  
Australian Division

September 1917



AWM4-1/50/19PART6

GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DEBRY (Date).....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
	8 p.m.				We issued Division Order No. 162.	
					25th September 1917.	
1.	6.5 a.m.	6th Div. Art.	5th Div.		S.O.S. has gone up on our front at 5.35 a.m. The artillery have been firing on it since that time. Shall S.O.S. continue or programme barrage be started at 6.30 a.m. ?	Phone
2.	6.10	5th Div.	5th Div Art.		G.S.O. 1 says to proceed with barrage as per programme at 6.30 a.m.	Phone.
3.	9.20	15th Bde	5th Div.	S.M. 31	Following from 58th Battalion, begins: Enemy have taken part of the front line of the MIDDLESEX Regt on our right and have several machine guns on the road forming our right boundary. They are using their machine guns freely and aeroplanes very active. I have reinforced my front line with one of my reserve companies. Frequent artillery fire along the road forming our right boundary. I would suggest that one company of 60th Battalion be sent to my reserve position at Battalion Headquarters. Our front line is intact. Ends. I am sending company 60th Battalion as suggested and instructed 58th Battalion to counter attack soon as possible.	wire

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
4.	9.20	PICKET	5th Div	GB 14	PICKET Headquarters arrived H.34.a.5.8. Relief not yet reported complete. Following message received from VETO: Enemy taken front line. Situation on flanks OBSCURE. Message ends. Later message by pigeon timed 7.30 a.m. from VETO who hold line immediately north of YPRES-MENIN Road states front company wiped out and enemy in front line; support holding on.	Wire
5.	9.30	5th Div. (G.S.O.1)	H.G.G.S. Corps		Have received word from 33rd Division that PICKET reports their left company wiped out and the Boche in possession of their front line. Flanks are obscure. We are attacking with the 58th Battalion and one company 60th Battalion, and will push him out. I will report when the situation is cleared up.	Phone
6.	9.35	5th Div (G.S.O.1)	33rd Div		We have received message from right brigade that left company MIDDLESEX Regt. have been driven on our right. Also a message from PICKET confirming this information. The 15th Infantry Brigade will attack using 58th Australian Battalion and 1 company 60th Australian Battalion to drive enemy out. Will the 33rd do anything? Will it be satisfactory if Brigadiers of the 98th and 15th Australian Brigades and the respective artillery get in touch, and make arrangements between themselves? The G.C.C. 33rd Division agreed to this.	Phone

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DEBRY (Date).....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
7.	9.59 a.m.	G.O.C. 5th Div	G.O.C. 15th Bde		I got within 200 yards of your headquarters but could not get forward. General Elliott asked permission to attack on a three-company front instead of a two-company front. General Hobbs replied that it cannot be altered now. "The principle of depth must be maintained. Army and Corps have approved of formation as laid down."	Phone
8.	10.15	C.R.A. 5th Div.	5th Div.		C.R.A. 5th Div. says he has heard from C.R.A. 33rd Division, that enemy are massing in J.10.d. Heavies are put on to them. Lient-Colonel COHEN is in touch with the Brigade.	Phone
9.	10.17	G.O.C. 5th Div.	G.O.C. 8th Bde		Hold 8th Brigade in readiness to march. Men must not be under any tension but just prepared. Boche has broken line on our right (not on our front) and steps are being taken by the 15th Brigade and also by the left Brigade of 33rd Division to attack and turn them out. Also reports of Germans massing in J.10.d.	Phone
10.	10.20	PICKET	5th Div.	-	VERITY will cooperate with AGO on its left in retaking portion of our front line which has been lost.	Wire
11.	10.25	2nd ANZAC	5th Div.	-	We all wish you and your command the best of luck GENERAL GODLEY.	Wire
12.	10.30	5th Div	2nd ANZAC	616/604	We very much appreciate your good wishes.	Wire.

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GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

25th Sept/17

Serial no.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
13	10.55 a.m.	15th Bde	5th Div	S.M. 36	Front line reports enemy attacks repulsed 6.30 a.m. Casualties from shell fire heavy, about 100 at 8.30 a.m. Communication to line battalion gone. Counter battery action urgently required. Our front line still intact. I am sending a second company of 60th Battalion to 58th Battalion and moving company of 57th Bn. to CLAPHAM JUNCTION. Latest message from 58th Bn. 9.30 a.m.	Wire
14	11.15	15th Bde	5th Div	S.M. 40	One company 60th Battalion sent to carry forward STOKES shells which are urgently required. Remainder 60th Battalion at disposal of 58th Bn. 57th Bn. less carrying party of 200 men sent to concentrate near CLAPHAM JUNCTION. 59th Battalion to take over area from 57th Bn.	Wire.
15	11.15	23rd Div	5th Div	C 479	Situation 10.15 a.m. Relief of 23rd Div. reported complete at 9 a.m. Enemy attacked along whole of front about 6 a.m. 1st QUEENS driven out of front line just north of KENNIN ROAD and holds support line 70 yards behind. Arrangements being made for counter attack. Remaining three battalion fronts of 100th Brigade as far north as REUTELBREEK reported intact. The battalion holding 98th Brigade front between REUTELBREEK and POLYGON WOOD have lost front line but is holding support line about LOWE HOUSE. 98th Bde have been ordered to cooperate with Australians and to retake front line.	WIRE

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DEBRY (Date).....

Serial No	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
16.	11.25 a.m.	I ANZAC	5th Div	G612	Following received from 33rd Division: 33rd Div H.Q. arrived H.34.a.5.8. Relief not yet completed. Following message received from 1st R.W. Surrey:- Enemy taken front line. Situation on flanks obscure Message ends. Later: message by pigeon, timed 7.30 a.m. from 1st R.W. Surrey who hold line immediately north of YPRES-REWIN Road states that front company wiped out and enemy on front line, support holding on.	Wire
17.	11.20 a.m.	5th Div.	I ANZAC		ZANDVOORDE Group is shooting at CLAPHAM JUNCTION, from a true bearing of 165 deg. Would Corps arrange for some artillery to neutralise this group? Answer: Yes. Also spoke of possibility of prisoners being taken and giving information of attack.	Phone
18.	11.30	33rd Div	5th Aust. Div.	G480	100th Infantry Brigade report hostile aircraft flying low this morning and greatly annoying our troops. Situation report 10.40 a.m.: - 98th Brigade state that 1st MIDDLESEX which is their only front battalion holds line J.15.a.9.8 - J.15.c.9.8. Line on left of battalion reported intact. Also verbal report that right of battalion is intact.	Wire
19	11.45	33rd Div	5th Div	G 481	Situation quietened down <u>7.55</u> a.m.	Wire

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DELRY (Date) 25th Sept 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
* 20	Soon	I ANZAC	5th Div	8615	No objection section tanks moving through our area provided no grinding up before ZERO. Inform 5th Aust Div as to proposed route. Addressed 2nd Bde Tanks reptd 5th Aust Div.	Wire
21	12.15 p.m.	Corps Commander	S.G.G.S. Corps		Ammunition supply on MENIN ROAD requires controlling "Column of lumps" instead of continuous string of vehicles.	Wire Phone
22	12.20	Div. Art	5th Div		33rd Division reports their right brigade sent up on S.G.S. at 12.15 p.m. Our D.A. assisting by firing down valley J.10, J.12, J.24	Phone. Corps Cdr. present in G. office and informed
23	12.30	C. I. I ANZAC	5th Div		Am attaching 1 officer and 10 men of Tunnelling Co to both 14th and 15th Infantry Brigades. They will report this afternoon. Will you let Brigadiers know that these parties are at their disposal for any tunnelling work required.	Phone
24	12.40	I ANZAC	5th Div	8 615	Reference my S/2899/4 dated 16th September. SKIFF - IVY - APPLE.	Wire. Code for ZERO HOUR.
25	12.48	15th Bde	5th Div	B.H. 42	Enemy have gained possession of right brigade front line who are holding line approximately J.15.c.9.8 to J.15.a.9.8. 98th Brigade are re-establishing original front line from J.15.d.4.8 to J.9.d.4.0 by counter attack by 1st MIDDLESEX to take place at 2 p.m. Artillery barrage will come at ZERO 150 yards in front of present line. Lift 100 yards at ZERO plus three minutes and continue advance 100 yards in six minutes until 200 yards beyond objective. Artillery	Wire

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date)....25th Sept 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
25 (continued)					warned to ensure safety of flank Brigades from barrage. 60th Battalion will counter attack in conjunction with above mentioned attack from our area. You will take charge until Colonel MARSHALL reports. Thereafter he will be responsible for whole area sending two STOKES guns to 58th Battalion. Addressed 58th Battalion, repeated 98th Brigade and 5th Aust. Div.	
26	12.48 P.M.	15th Bde	5th Div	B.H. 43	O.C. 58th Battalion reports his line still intact at 12 noon. Casualties half battalion - probably more. No touch on right flank. Along road forming right boundary absolute nest of machine guns in depth, partially enfilading front line. Enemy connecting pill boxes 400 yards in front right company by trench. Attack on our front repulsed with heavy loss casualties to the enemy. Two companies 60th Battalion already reported 58th Battalion.	Wire
27	12.50 P.M.	5th Div. Art.	5th Div		Our people holding our front line. Left battalion of Brigade on our right driven back. No touch with 98th Infantry Brigade on right. M.G.'s reported thick in depth along right boundary road of 15th Infantry Brigade. Reported to be safe to shoot on J.9.d.5.0. 98th Brigade reported driven back to line J.15.a.9.8 J.15.c.9.8. Right Battalion 15th Infantry Brigade reports 100 enemy knocked out by them. Enemy reported digging line of trench connecting pill boxes 400 yards in front of 15th Infantry Brigade present front line.	Phone
28	12.55	33rd Div	5th Div	G487	Report received from TRUNK that S.O.S. went up on their front 11.55 a.m.	Wire



GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

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Text of message or telephone conversation  
25th Sept 1917

How recd.  
or sent.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.
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29A	2.15 p.m.	5th Div	I ANZAC 4th Div 33rd Div 8th Bde	G16/616
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Following message received from 15th Infantry Brigade begins: Enemy have gained possession of right brigade front line who are holding line approximately J.15.c.9.9 to J.15.a.9.8. 98th Brigade are re-establishing original front line from J.15.d.4.8 to J.9.d.4.0 by counter attack by 1st MIDDLESEX to take place at 2.0 p.m. Artillery barrage will come at ZERO 150 yards in front of present line. Lift 100 yards at ZERO plus three minutes and continue advance 100 yards in six minutes until 200 yards beyond objective Artillery warned to ensure safety of flank Brigades from barrage. 60th Battalion will counter attack in conjunction with above mentioned counter attack from our area. You will take charge until Colonel MARSHALL reports. Thereafter he will be responsible for whole area sending two Stokes guns to 58th Battalion. Addressed 58th Battalion repeated 98th Brigade and 5th Aust Div. Wire

29B	2.13 p.m.	5th Div	I ANZAC 4th Div 33rd Div 8th Bde	G16/617
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Following message received from 15th Infantry Brigade: O.C. 58th Battalion reports his line still intact at 12 noon. Casualties half battalion - probably more. No touch on right flank. Along road forming right boundary absolute nest of machine guns in depth partially enfilading front line. Enemy connecting pill boxes 400 yards in front right company by trench. Attack on our front repulsed with heavy casualties to enemy. Two companies 60th Battalion already reported 58th Battalion. Addressed Liaison Officer on 8th Bde, repeated 5th Div. Wire

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25th Sept 1917

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
29	2.0 p.m.	15th Bde	5th Div	R.M. 45	Message from PRIMAL timed 11 a.m. repeated from VERITY reads: Situation so far as known unchanged. Enemy barrage fairly heavy on LONE TRACK and INVERNESS COPSE also J.14. central apparently from S.E., and enemy shelling with 5.9 principally mixed with 4.2 and shrapnel.	WIRE
30	2.30	5th Div	R.M. 5th Div. Art	-	Will you please let Left Double Bombardment Group have the contents of my letter SG16/27, and also any other Artillery Commanders who may be concerned. Said he would do so.	Phone.
31	2.35	5th Div.	14th Bde 15th Bde	SG31	Chief Engineer is placing at your disposal 1 officer and 10 men of Tunnelling Co. which you will use as you wish. They will report to your Headquarters this afternoon.	
32	3.25	S.O.C. 15th Bde	5th Div	-	Estimated casualties so far about half a battalion. In addition, 60th Battalion are engaged in an attack helping 98th Brigade (33rd Division) to get back their line. My Brigade Dump and two forward battalion dumps blown up. I am using 2 companies for carrying forward stuff now. They are having a bad time and will not be fit to fight. I will let you know later, when I know result of 60th Battalion's attack, what reserve troops I shall want to carry out the Major Operation.	Phone
33	3.40	5th Div	8th Bde 15th Bde	G33	With reference to my wires G16/617 and G16/616. You will hold in readiness one battalion to move at short notice. It may be necessary to allot this battalion to 15th Brigade for the major operation but no movement will be made until orders are received from D.H.Q. Addressed 8th Bde, repeated 15th Bde.	Wire

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

25th Sept 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
34	3.52 p.m.	B.G.G.S. I ANZAC	5th Div	-	Asked about amendment to our order. Informed him amendment sent out. Then informed him of situation - holding 29th Battalion ready for major operation of the 15th Infantry Brigade.	Phone
35	4.10	4th Sq. R.F.C.	5th Div.	-	Asking what situation is. Explained left Brigade of 33rd Division pushed back. No further news of 2.0 p.m. counter attack.	Phone
36	4.12	I ANZAC	5th Div.	-	*Brisk movement of buses reported along roads between GHELLOVELT and MENNIE, and KRUISBECKE and AMERICA. Heavy artillery informed.	Phone
37	4.15	14th Bde	5th Div	IO. 5	Evening situation report. Very heavy enemy shelling all day. on supports, headquarters, and back areas; front line report is satisfactory; telephone and power buzzer communication continually severed by shell fire; our artillery very active all day.	Wire
38	4.20	33rd Div	5th Div	6498	1st Middlesex Regt's line now runs J.14.b.9.3 to J.14.d.9.7 with posts 150 yards in front. AGO line as far as known intact but large gaps between IVORY left and AGO right. One company PRIMAL at disposal of IVORY of which one platoon already sent up to fill gaps. Two companies PRIMAL held in readiness for counter attack. J.14.central has been heavily shelled and the ridge behind it barraged. Shelling slackened at 11.55 a.m.	Wire
39	4.20	33rd Div	5th Div	6500	Following received from VETO timed 12 noon. 2 companies have retaken second line are in touch with COACH on right and ISTEMUS on left. One company is endeavouring to take 1st line. 1 Company OSPREY	

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
39 (Continued)	p.m. 4.20	33rd Div	5th Div	(Contd)	is in support in trench S. of KINTINGBOAB. Enemy attacks seem to be confined to N. of MSHIN Road. Enemy has brought up minenwerfer. Artillery has been informed. About 2 companies are thought to be casualties.	Wire
40	4.26	I ANZAC	5th Div	G 638	Message from 23rd Division begins: Two prisoners belonging to the 231st R.I.R. were captured last night north of the MSHIN ROAD: ends.	Wire
41	4.55	G.O.C. 5th Div	33rd Div	-	Asking if any news yet about the counter attack. G.O.C. 33rd Division replied that the situation is as follows:- <u>LEFT BRIGADE</u> at 2.45 p.m. was seen approaching their old front line between EBBERLEBNEK and POLYGONE WOOD <u>RIGHT BRIGADE</u> . One battalion on the N. of MSHIN ROAD has been pushed back about 70 yards on a 200 to 300 yard frontage. Remainder of Right Brigade believed on their original position. Situation rather obscure. G.O.C. 5th Div. said that he had just heard from our Divisional Artillery that the 33rd Divisional Artillery had said "33rd Division had not been able to launch their counter attack as troops so scattered but they were believed to be edging their way back towards original position.	Phone
42	5.8	Liaison 33rd Div	5th Div	-	Reports all 33rd Division back on original front line.	Phone from Major CHEESMAN
43	5.10	5th Div	Div.Art	-	The 33rd Division line has been made good according to information from our Liaison officer. It is quite likely Boches are massing so get heavies on with aeroplane observation.	Phone

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY

(Date) 25/9/17, ....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
44	5.18 p.m.	Gen. Staff 5th Div.	B.G.C.S. I ANZAC		Repeats information sent by Major Cheeseman as regards 33rd Division situation. Nothing from 15th Brigade owing to interrupted communications.	Phone
45	5.22 p.m.	Liaison with 33rd Div.	5th Div.		Heavies of 33rd Div. on J.16.a.	Phone
46.	5.23 p.m.	5th Div.	14th Bde.		Asks if anything known about situation. B.M. replied that they had heard verbally from our right brigade that all line recovered. 14th Brigade casualties "not too bad" - support line shelled heavily.	Phone.
47.	5.28 p.m.	I.O. 15th Inf. Bde.	5th Div.	I.O.7	Message from 58th Battalion at 3.20 p.m. states Right brigade appear to be making good progress. Am endeavouring to link up with them.	Wire
48.	5.32 p.m.	15th Bde.	5th Div.		Right Brigade are back in their old front line (pigeon message). No indication we are in touch with them. 60th Bn. bit of a "towelling".	Phone.
49.	5.38 p.m.	58th Bn (15th Bde)	5th Div.	B.M.56	Enemy messing near J.16.a.l.8. CAMERON HOUSE 4.10 p.m.	Wireless
50	5.40	Liaison 33rd Div	5th Div		Have you anything about 15th Brigade being in touch with 98th Brigade. Answered "No", but will let you know as soon as we get anything."	Phone

GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DEBRY (Date) 25th Sept/18.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
51	5.40 P.M.	15th Bde	5th Div	B.M. 201	Following from 58th Battalion begins "Enemy massing in large numbers <u>again</u> near CAMERON HOUSE, and artillery barrage needed at once along 15th Bde front and left of 98th Brigade front" Message ends. Artillery informed. Unconfirmed reports indicate that 98th Brigade have re-occupied their front line.	Wire No time given for mess- age from 58th Bn.
52	5.45	4th Aust Div	5th Div	G.A. 357	Evening report. Enemy artillery active on all sides particularly BELLEWARDE RIDGE. P. of W. and material captured NIL.	
53	5.52	33rd Div	5th Div.	G502	Situation as known at 5 p.m. 98th Inf. Bde reports that 2nd A. & S.H. and 1st Middlesex Regt were back on our original front line at 3.10 p.m. as result of counter attack in conjunction with 15th Australian Infantry Brigade. South of RESTELBEEK our original line is held again except for 200 yards immediately north of MENIN ROAD where we hold line about 70 yards behind original front line.	Wire
54	5.53	5th Div	Liaison with 33rd Div	-	Repeating message from 58th Bn. forwarded by 15th Brigade (No. 51)	Phone

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
55	6.23 p.m.	5th Div.	15th Bde.		In reply to question G.O.C. states enemy concentrating 58th Battalion have asked for help. 60th Battalion going up with Colonel MARSHALL in charge. In addition General ELLIOTT is sending up a Company of 57th Battalion as support.	Phone
56	6.28 p.m.	5th Div.	I ANZAC	G56	Following from 15th Inf. Bde at 6.23 p.m. begins. Enemy counter attacking 58th Battalion hard pressed. Portion of 60th Battalion being sent forward to support. One Company 57th Battalion being sent to assistance of 60th Battalion. Colonel MARSHALL of 60th Battalion in command of forward troops. ends.	Wire repeated to Major Cheeseman 6.40 p.m. by wire
56	6.44 p.m.	15th Bde.	5th Div.	B.M.62	Unconfirmed report states 98th Brigade re-established in front line. We are still out of touch with them. One company of 60th Battalion in front line. Two companies in GLENCORSE WOOD and one carrying. 60th Battalion casualties believed fairly heavy but information difficult to get. 58th Battalion casualties heavy. 57th Battalion disposed around CLAPHAM JUNCTION 59th Battalion still untouched around ZOUAVE WOOD. Enemy barrage still very heavy and unless it slackens believed heavy casualties will be incurred in moving to assembly positions.	Wire
57	6.43 p.m.	14th Bde	5th Div.		Cannot use M.T.M's.	Phone

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
59	6.48 p.m.	B.M. 15th Bde.	5th Div.		B.M. explains situation to G.O.C. "British Brigade is holding a N and S Line through the third E in VERBEEK FMS. Give Dispositions of 15th Bde. units G.O.C. then spoke to General ELLIOTT who explained that enemy barrage was so thick in GLENCORSE WOOD that Colonel MARSHALL doubted if supports could get through.	Phone
60	6.55	G.O.C. 5th Div.	Capt. Osborne G.S. Corps		" Situation pretty serious on our right. 58th and 50th Battalions severely punished. One company of 57th Battalion has gone up. Colonel STEWART (57th Battalion) now going up with 59th Battalion and all available troops of 15th Brigade to try and hold our line. Position of Brigade on our right (N and S line through third E in VERBEEK FMS) makes 15th Brigade position difficult. I have told General ELLIOTT to refuse that flank and hold on. Suggest G.O.C. R.A. gets counter batteries to try and neutralise Boche guns which are barraging very heavily in GLENCORSE WOOD.	Phone
61.	7.0 p.m.	5th Div. Art.	5th Div.		A Group (5th Div. group Art). British have fallen back to E of VERBEEK. the right flank of 15th Brigade is in the air, but they are holding on and pushing up reinforcements. "A" Group are still firing and two batteries of "B" group are overlapping on the flank.	Phone



## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) 25/9/17

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
62.	7.2 p.m.	5th Div.	Liaison Officer with 33rd Div.		G.S.O. 1 tells him 98th Bde. is withdrawn to a N and S line through third "E" in VERBEEK FME. BLUE LINE is changed to J.15.d.4.1. - J.16.c.4.7 - J.16.a.8.5. - J.16.a.8.9. Our right will be thrown back to J.10.d.14. to join up with them.	Phone
63.	7.8	G.O.C.	B.M. 5th D.A.		Div. Commander told B.M. to get counter batteries on and stop shelling of GLENCORSE WOOD.	Verbal
64.	7.10	G.O.C.	G.O.C. 8th Bde.		"Things are not at all well. 15th Brigade have practically two battalions knocked out. Hold your Bde. ready either to reinforce with two battalions or to take over their job. In all probability BLUE LINE (final objective) will be altered. 98th Bde. have had to fall back. Their present line is N and S through third "E" in VERBEEK FME. In all probability we shall have to refuse our rightflank and the attack will have to be made from the rounded off line. Tell your Bn. Commanders and be ready to either reinforce or take over the whole show. Get a battalion up to HALF WAY HOUSE at once and get other battalions ready to move at a moments notice. Get your H.Q. up to HALF WAY HOUSE, but keep communication with me."	Phone
65	7.15 p.m.	15th Bde	5th Div	B.M.65	Enemy heavily counter attacking on right flank our line. O.C. right company states he is withdrawing. O i/c 60th Battalion has ordered him to hold on and is reinforcing. Amp sending Co. 57th Battalion for word to support 60th Battalion.	Wire

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) 25th Sept 1917.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
66	7.20 p.m.	I ANZAC	5th Div.	G645	Evening Report: At about 5.40 a.m. enemy attacked right Brigade front on POLYGON WOOD. Enemy repulsed with heavy losses. 12 noon, right Brigade Bn. in POLYGON WOOD again repulsed heavy counter-attack with severe casualties to the enemy. At 2 p.m. our right Bde cooperating with Brigade on their right in counter-attacking enemy who had penetrated front in J.15.b. Unconfirmed reports indicate position re-established. 5.40 p.m. enemy reported massing in large numbers near CAMERON HOUSE.	Wire
67	7.22	G.O.C.	G.O.C. 33rd Div.	-	Told him our Bde report British Bde back. G.O.C. 33rd Division said his Bde. back on original line. Asked him to clear up situation. 33rd Division are sending us another battalion.	Phone
68	7.23	15th Bde	5th Div.	I.O. 8	Enemy has been heavily and consistently shelling the whole of our front line areas, CLAPHAM JUNCTION, and HOCHE; all tracks in the area have been constantly shelled both 5.9 and approximately 9-in.H.E. being fired; snipers and M.G's. have caused considerable annoyance all along our front line. Enemy aeroplane has been dropping bombs in HOCHE DUMP and Bde H.Q. 28 J.18.b.2.6; they have also been firing on our stretcher bearers with M.G's. German pigeon fell wounded at J.14.a.7.6 forwarding particulars.	Wire
69	7.26	G.S.O. 1	Capt OSBORNE G.S. ANZAC	-	Explains situation. Our 15th Brigade not in touch with Bde of 33rd Div.	Phone
70	7.27	G.O.C.	B.G.G.S.	-	"Situation rather serious on our right. ELLIOTT says 98th Bde. is back on a line running N. and S. through third "E" in VERBEEK FMR. G.O.C. 33rd Div says he is quite certain his Bde is back on their front line and in touch with Brigade on right of 98th Bde.	Phone

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

25th Sept 1917.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
70 (Continued)					Unless something can be done to neutralise the heavy artillery fire on right of 15th Brigade, the right flank may have to withdraw for lack of supports which cannot pass through barrage in GLENGORSE WOOD. "Have warned G.O.C. 8th Brigade of possible two alternatives. B.G.C.S. suggests two battalions of 8th Brigade be held in readiness to reinforce. General ELLIOTT must hang on.	Phone
71	7.35 p.m.	15th Bde	5th Div.	B.M. 66	Following from 98th Brigade timed 6.15 p.m. begins: Situation on our front obscure. First reports said our original front line had been retaken, later message however states that our troops holding north and south line through third "E" in VERBEEK FME and no further east.	Wire
72	7.36 p.m.	G.S.O.1	B.M. 8th Bde	-	Arranged that 29th Bn. move up at once and two more battalions kept standing by. G.O.C. and a staff officer to go up at once to HALF WAY HOUSE.	Phone.
73	7.40	Liaison 33rd Div	5th Div.	-	The 5th Aust. Div. reports quite correct. 98th Bde disposition as follows: "Their right in front line, their left through VERBEEK FME. The 33rd Division are sending 2 battalions to re-establish, and their artillery is getting on to CAMERON HOUSE and in that vicinity.	Phone
74	7.41	G.S.O.1	G.S.O.2 ANZAC	-	Informs him that our report re 98th Bde. was quite correct. Tells him rest of message No. 73.	
75	7.43	33rd Div	5th Div	-	G.O.C. 33rd Div. has told Brigadiers 98th Bde to get up two battalions and recover lost ground, and gain touch with our 15th Brigade.	Phone.

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) 25th Sept, 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
75(b)	7.45 p.m.	G.O.C. 5th Div.	G.O.C. 15th Bde.		<p>"I have been talking to G.O.C. 33rd Div. He tells me your report re 98th Bde is correct. He is ending two battalions along at once with orders to the Brigadier to re-establish the line and get touch with you at once. Corps Commander is conferring with X Corps Commander so hang on. The situation may adjust itself before ZERO HOUR. Am sending you 2 battalions of 8th Brigade. Use 59th Battalion for RED LINE and General FIVEY'S two battalions for BLUE LINE. You can get guides. Corps think they will be able to master the Bosche barrage before long so have your guides ready.</p> <p>I shall know in <math>\frac{1}{2}</math> hour or so what Corps has decided on. I know it is difficult but we have got to do it. Attack has got to go on tomorrow morning. I will tell G.O.C. Corps about your difficulties and what you say.</p> <p>N.B. General ELLIOTT told G.O.C. it was almost hopeless at attack tomorrow morning. All Officers who would be able to guide battalions up have been scuppered.</p>	<p>Phone</p> <p>N.B. Remember previous message 75 (a)</p>
76	7.55	5th Div.	I ANEAC 4th Aus. Div. 8th Bde.	G76	<p>15th Bde reports as follows. Unconfirmed report states 98th Bde re-established in front line. We are still out of touch with them. One company 60th Bn in front line. Two companies in GLENCORSE WOOD and one carrying. 60th Bn. casualties believed fairly heavy but information difficult to get. 58th Battalion casualties heavy. 57th Battalion disposed around ZOUAVE WOOD. Enemy barrage still very heavy and unless it slackens believe heavy casualties will be incurred in moving to assembly position.</p>	

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GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

25th Sept., 1917.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
77	7.56 p.m.	G.O.C.	G.O.C. 8th Bde.	-	<p>Send another Battalion besides the one I have already ordered, making two in all, also arrange for Officers and Guides to report to 15th Brigade Headquarters so that they may be able to lead Battalions up to forming up line.</p> <p>It is established beyond doubt that the 33rd Division are not occupying the whole of their original front line.</p> <p>G.O.C. asked what Battalions were being sent up. The 59th Battalion will be told off to take RED Line and your two to take BLUE Line. The Three shattered Battalions of 15th Brigade will help to form Reserve.</p>	Phone.
78	8.1	C.R.A.	G.O.C.		<p>The 15th Brigade are reported through artillery liaison Officer to be in touch with the Brigade on their right at VERBEEK FMS.</p>	Verbally.
79	8.3	B.G.G.S	G.O.C.		<p>If the 98th Brigade cannot get on then we will refuse our right flank in Echelon so as to connect up with Brigade on our right at the VERBEEK end.</p> <p>G.O.C. repeated verbal instructions he gave to General Elliott, and said we desired to go on with the attack.</p>	Phone.
80	8.3	5th Div.	I ANZAC 4th Div. 8th Bde.	G80	<p>Following received from 15th Brigade timed 6.38 p.m. 98th Brigade report at 6.15 p.m. Situation on our front obscure. Our troops are holding North and South lines through third E. in VERBEEK FARM and no further East.</p>	Wire.

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APPENDIX A

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

5th Sept. 1917.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
81	8.15 P. m.	B.M. 8th Bde.	5th Div.	-	Rang up re move. G.S.O.1 explained situation and told him to get on with the move.	Phone.
			B.M. 8th Bde.	-	Keep connection with 98th Brigade on your right and 14th Brigade on your left. Have another battalion at HALF WAY HOUSE at ZERO TIME. The 4th battalion to be ready to move up at a moment's notice.	Phone.
82		5th Div.	8th Bde. 14th Bde. 15th Bde.	G82	You will move two battalions to HALF WAY HOUSE immediately on receipt of this message. This includes the battalion already ordered forward. Your Headquarters will be established at that place also by 9 p.m. Send Officers to 15th Brigade Headquarters at once to arrange for guides to assist them in leading the battalions to the jumping off line. Report when these orders have been complied with. Also report time units and officers move.	Wire.
83	8.20	33rd Div.	5th Div.	G511	Contact aeroplane 6.20 p.m. reports. Two red flares seen at J.21.b.25.50. White light fired back towards our own front line from J.15.d.2.2. Platoon in trench J.15.c.8.6. (its left on the road). Bright light probably signalling J.21.d.7.9. (corner of wood). Enemy shelling just in front of GLENCORSE WOOD. N.W. movement of troops seen.	Wire.
84	8.20	Adv. Div. Dump.	5th Div.	A D2	HOOGE dump practically wiped out mule load S.O.S. Signals received handed over to BOOK. S.A.A. and Mills grenade urgently required by BOOK. BLOCK reports ammunition supply O.K.	Wire.

GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY

(Date).....

25th Sept., 1917.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
85	8.23 p.m.	G.O.C. 5th Div.	G.O.C. 15th Bde.	-	Discussed situation and emphasised necessity of going on with operations to-morrow.	Phone.
86	8.30	5th Div.	I ANZAC 4th Div. 8th Bde.	G86	15th Brigade report as follows. Enemy heavily counter attacking our right flank. G.C. Company states he is withdrawing. G.C. 60th Battalion has ordered to hold on and is reinforcing. Am sending 57th Battalion to support 60th Battalion.	Wire.
87	8.35	83rd Div.	5th Div.	G516	1st Cameronians is hereby placed at the disposal of 100 Brigade. 5th Scot. Rifles is hereby placed at the disposal of 98th Brigade. 20th R. Fus. and 2nd R.W. Fus. will be ready to proceed at half hour's notice to position of readiness in J.13.d. and J.19.s respectively as already reconnoitred.	Wire.
88	8.35	G.S.O.1	8th Bde.	-	Please place 8th L.T.M. Battery at disposal of 15th Brigade.	
89	8.38	5th Div.	All Bdes.	G89	My G82 should read. You will move two Battalions to HALF WAY HOUSE etc.	Wire.
90	8.40	I ANZAC Intell.	5th Div.	Ig557	Prisoners of the 235th R.I.R. 50th Res. Div. captured by X Corps. 50th R.D. relieved Bav. ERSATZ Regt.	
91	8.50	5th Div.	8th Bde. 14th Bde. 15th Bde.	G91	You will allot two battalions to 15th Brigade for to-morrow morning's attack on the BLUE LINE objective. Your third battalion will be disposed in readiness at HALF WAY HOUSE and remaining battalion at CHATEAU SECARD ready to move at a moment's notice. The 8th L.T.M. Battery is to be also allotted and will report forthwith to 15th Brigade. This confirms conversation.	Wire. (repeated to 14th and 15th Bdes.)

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date)..... 25th Sept., 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
92	8.58 p.m.	14th Bde.	5th Div.	Ig7	Reference G3/598 as far as can be ascertained on account of severing of communication with front line and heavy enemy barrage the S.O.S. Signal was sent up immediately on our right.	Wire.
93	9.5	B.G.G.S. Corps	5th Div.	-	B.G.G.S. has been talking to X Corps and ascertained that G.S.O.2 33rd Division has been up forward and the 98th Brigade line is most certainly in advance of VERBEEK FARM. G.S.O.2 could not say exactly where the line was but quite certain some hundreds of yards forward of the FARM.	Phone by G.S.O.2.
94	9.5	Capt. Buchanan Light Horse.	5th Div.		Captain Buchanan reported:- Lt LADY (i/c of patrols) wounded. Six men of the 4 special patrols wounded. M.G's. believed to have reached Brigade Headquarters (at HOOGE) safely with their crews.	
95	9.15	33rd Div.	5th Div.	G517	96th Brigade reports that only the right of his line is in the original position on BROWN Line. Thence his line stretched back to VERBEEK FARM close in front of which he has some posts. He has been ordered to do all he can to restore the situation and assist the Australians by filling the gap in our line	Wire.
96	9.20	G.S.O.2 Corps	5th Div.	-	Wanted to know if there was anything that the Corps could do for us, also what was the situation. Replied everything was alright.	Phone.



## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

25th Sept., 1917.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
97	9.20 p.m.	8th Bde.	5th Div.	BK19	29th Battalion moved about 8 p.m. Also forward party Brigade Signal Section, G.O.C. and Staff Captain moved at 8.40 p.m. Staff Captain and C.O's. 29th Bn. and 8th L.T.M. Battery and 8th Brigade with an officer per company ordered to report to 15th Brigade as soon as possible. 8th L.T.M. Battery and 8th Brigade moving now 8th L.T.M. Battery ordered to take with them all the smoke shells they brought from back area. About 120. Situation has been explained to Officers concerned.	Wire.
98	9.30	G.O.C. 5th Div.	Corps Commander		Are there any troops told off as reserve to me in case they are wanted to-morrow. Shall have only two battalions as a reserve. Reply: Yes, a Brigade of the 2nd Division.	Phone.
99	9.50	Capt. Finkler	5th Div.		In reference to the work of the wireless tanks in forthcoming operations- I have seen General WHITE re messages which may be handed our Station not of tactical or vital importance and which cannot be despatched by W/T at once owing to "S.O" or "S.B" messages. He suggests that I arrange with you for A.L.H. patrols to call in whenever they might be passing the tank and carry these messages to the nearest Signal Office working to the rear, Can this be arranged please.	Wire.

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) 25th Sept., 1917.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
100	9.36 p.m.	G.O.C. 5th Div.	Corps Commander	-	<p>It has been a little trying but now alright. I am inclined to think the reports are exaggerated. They always are on these occasions. I am not worrying. The main trouble all the afternoon has been to get news from people on our right. Where most of the losses have occurred has been at GLENCORSE WOOD where we tried to get reinforcements up. I've ordered the 59th to go for the RED LINE and two battalions of the 8th Brigade for the BLUE. I've ordered one battalion to HALF WAY HOUSE and the remainder is ready to move at a moment's notice. I won't put in a man more than necessary. I won't ask you for a man until I am absolutely forced to.</p> <p>The Division on the right do not seem to have been getting the information. I told General WOODS all I knew of the situation. Things will be alright as long as artillery can deal with enemy's guns. ELLIOTT is afraid we cannot get up to the position of assembly. Up to the present I've had to tell ELLIOTT the two alternatives (i) in case they establish the front line (ii) in case they do not re-establish themselves.</p>	Phone.
101	9.45	8th Bde.	5th Div.	BM21	<p>Advance party 32nd Battalion (8th Bde. ) have moved to HALF WAY HOUSE. 14th Brigade wire that 55th Battalion (14th Bde. ) will be clear of there by 12 midnight.</p>	Wire.
102	9.50	G.O.C. 8th Bde.	G.S.O.1 5th Div.	-	<p>Reporting that 8th Brigade Headquarters is at HALF WAY HOUSE. One Battalion already there and the other coming up.</p>	Phone.

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).... 25th Sept., 1917.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
* 103	10 p.m.	5th Div.	"G" ANEAC.	G103 <sup>and 150</sup>	Please authorise issue urgently 150 Daylight "S.O.S" grenades. Deliver BRIDGE HOUSE DUMP H.23.d.l.O.	Wire.
104	10 p.m.	8th Bde.	5th Div.	BM 22	Reporting that Brigade Major 8th Brigade now moving (9.50 p.m.) to HALF WAY HOUSE.	
105	10.15	33rd Div.	5th Div.	Copy 41a	33rd Division Order 231. (Amends Objectives RED and BLUE LINE). RED LINE to start about J.15.d.55.30. thence N.E. to a point on the REUTELBEEK and joining original RED LINE about J.16.c.3.8. immediately S of JUT FARM, from this point to the new RED LINE will follow the original RED LINE due NORTH to the Divisional boundary at J.10.c.3.0. The BLUE LINE will be considerably altered, as follows:- It will only start where the new RED Line crosses the REUTELBEEK, and will continue in a north-north-easterly direction to the Divisional boundary at point J.16.a.7.9., whence it will continue in a north-easterly direction to join the original BLUE Line about point J.10.d.1.4.	Acknowledged by wire.
106	10.25	G.S.O.1	5th Div.		Reports that line held by 98th Brigade no uncertain. As near as known 200 yards East of VERBEEK FMS.	Phone.
107	10.25	15th Bde.	5th Div.		Identification "155" on shoulder straps, white badges on shoulder straps. Button with crown on it.	

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) 25th Sept., 1917.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
* 108	10.25 p.m.	15th Bde.	5th Div.	HM 72	Gap between 98th Brigade and our right is now entirely linked up and held by companies of 60th Battalion and 57th Battalion with about 1½ companies 57th Battalion still in support.	Wire. X
109	10.30	5th Div.	I ANZAC Intell.		Wiring identification (message 107).	Wire.
110	10.40	Liaison Officer 4th Div.	5th Div.	-	Reports our right Brigade reports unusual activity on our front. Right Brigade are strengthening their patrols.	Verbal. Communicate d by phone to 14th Bde. by G.S.O.1 10.45 p.m. 14th Bde. have heard nothing.
111	10.42	5th Div.	33rd Div. and all Bdes.	G111	Reference Order 162 para 4, for J.16.b.30.95 read J.16.a.7.9.	Wire.
* 112	10.51	I ANZAC Corps	5th Div.	G673	33rd Division BLUE LINE now slightly altered and will meet you at J.16.b.0.3. No need for any change in your plans.	Wire.
113	10.56	B.M. 8th Bde.	5th Div.	-	The Second Battalion now getting into HALF WAY HOUSE.	Phone.
114	11.8	15th Bde.	5th Div.		8th Brigade advance parties of Officers and Guides have arrive d at Brigade Headquarters.	Phone.

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) 25th Sept., 1917.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
115	11.8 p.m.	METEOR	5th Div.	-	Forecast.- Wind nearly calm, at first between SE and SW 10 to 15 mph, later misty morning fair warm day with some haze. Visibility bad early, indifferent later, wind midnight and 4 a.m. nearly calm. NOTE. Conditions becoming gradually less favorable for fine weather. (Reference 107:	Wire.
116	11.15	Corps Intell.	5th Div.		(Identification is 10th Reserve Division from CHAMPAGNE (RHISIMS Sector).	Phone.
117	11.30	G1	"G" Staff Corps		Guides of 6th Brigade have reported O.K. Shelling light.	Phone.
118	11.30	33rd Div.	5th Div.		19th Brigade will send 20th R. Fus. and 2nd R.W. Fus. on receipt of this order to assembly areas already reconnoitred in J.13.d., J.19.a. On arrival Commanders will report to Headquarters 98th Brigade in J.19.a., also reporting to Headquarters 100 Brigade.	Wire.
119	11.35	Intell. I ANZAC Corps.	5th Div.	Ig674	Continuation my 657. 50th R.D. relieved 16th Bav. Div. not Bav. ERS Div. as stated. 3rd Battalion 231st R.I.R. holding shell hole zone astride MNNIN ROAD. End Support in shell holes 500 yards behind. Reserve Battalion in dugouts further back. Losses have been heavy. Battalion Headquarters near Church. CHEBUVELT about J.22.c.53.48.	Wire
120	11.35	5th Div.	33rd Div.	G120	Acknowledged.	Wire.
121	11.36	C.R.E.	5th Div.		14th Field Co. Report tape lines out in NO MAN'S LAND. No casualties.	C.R.E.

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) 25th Sept. 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
* 122	11.55 p.m.	33rd Div.	5th Div.	G.525	Situation on our front fairly quiet.	Wire
<u>WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 26th 1917.</u>						
123	12.5 a.m.	5th Div	All Bdes	G.123	33rd Div. report at 11.30 p.m. situation on their front fairly quiet.	Wire
124	12.32 a.m.	4th Aust. Div.	5th Div.	Ig.689	One prisoner 49th R.I.R. captured by right Bde.	D.R.
125	12.43 a.m.	G.O.C. 15th Bde.	G.O.C. 5th Div.		All quiet and O.K. 59th Bn. to take RED LINE. 29th and 31st Bns. to take BLUE LINE. 57th Bn. will watch right flank. 58th and 60th Bns. in Bde. Reserve.	Phone
126	12.55 a.m.	5th Div.	I ANZAC 33rd Div. 5th & 14th Bdes.	G.126	Our right Bde. reports all quiet on their front. Assembly proceeding well and ammunition etc. going up alright. 29th and 31st Bns. of 8th Reserve Bde. will not capture BLUE LINE. 57th Bn will be held ready to hold right flank. 58th and 60th Bns. have been reformed as Bde. reserve. 31st Bn. will be on our right flank for capture of BLUE LINE.	Wire
127	1.3 a.m.	S.M. 8th Bde.	5th Div.		Head of 29th Bn. reached 15th Bde. H.Q. at midnight. Head of 31st Bn. passed HALF WAY HOUSE 12.30 a.m. Very little shelling. All going well. O's.C. Bns. have seen General ELLIOTT (15th Inf. Bde.) and all arranged. 8th L.T.M. Battery has reached 15th Bde.	Phone

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) 26th Sept. 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
128	1.8 a.m.	33rd Div.	5th Div.	G. 526	2nd R.M. Fus. now proceeding to J.13.d. and 20th R.Fus. to J.19.a. One company of 2nd R.M. Fus. is placed at disposal of 98th Inf. Bde. to act as carrying party but this coy. must rejoin its unit by 5.30 a.m. Situation on our front reported fairly quiet but situation on 98th Inf. Bde. front east of VERBERK FARM still obscure as enemy are parties are reported near LORE HOUSE and parties of our men on original front line south of CARLISLE FARM.	Wire

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) ... 26th Sept. 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
129	1.30 a.m.	5th Div.	Div. Sig. Co.		Rang up Major Stanley to ascertain why 14th Bde. had not received the correct time. Major Stanley stated that motor cyclist left at 10.30 p.m. and should do the round in 2½ hours. B.M. 14th Bde. given correct time over phone by G.S.O.2 at 1.42 a.m. Major Stanley ordered to send an Officer down at once to 14th Bde. or else go himself.	Phone
130	2.15 a.m.	8th Inf. Bde.	5th Div.	I.O. 1	31st Bn. 29th Bn. 8th L.T.M. Batt. under orders 15th Bde. 8th Bde. H.Q. 32nd Bn. HALF WAY HOUSE 30th Bn CHATREU SEGARD.	Wire
131	2.30 a.m.	33rd Div.	5th Div.	G.529	Message from 1st Middlesex received 12.25 a.m. from C.O. "A" Co. reports our line now runs immediately west of LOBE FARM in a N and S direction. 1st Middlesex left slightly in rear of 15th Inf. Bde and right slightly in rear of 4th Kings.	Wire
132	2.30 a.m.	8th Inf. Bde.	5th Div.	B.M. 23	Head of 29th Bn. arrived 15th Inf. Bde. H.Q. midnight. Head of 31st Bn. left HALF WAY HOUSE for 15th Inf. Bde. H.Q. at 12.30 a.m. Both C.O's. have received orders from 15th Inf. Bde. H.Q. 8th L.T.M. Batt. has arrived 15th Inf. Bde. H.Q. and has received orders. All apparently going well. Very little shelling.	Wire.
133	2.38 a.m.	D.M.G.O.	5th Div.	M.C. 26	Reporting S.C.S. and Creeping Barrage groups in position. Reserve mobile guns moved up.	Wire.
134	2.43 a.m.	14th Inf. Bde.	5th Div.	B.M. 134	Front quiet. Nothing to report. Progressing favourably.	Wire
135	2.45 a.m.	5th Div.	I ANZAC	G.135	Repeating 14th Bde message. Above serial 134	Wire



## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY

(Date) 25th Sept. 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
136	3.35 a.m.	Div. Sig. Offr. at 14th Bde.	5th Div.		Asked if he would give the time from the watch he was ordered to take out to 14th Bde. with correct time to Signal Office. Replied ordering him to give it to a Staff Officer.	Phone
137	3.45 a.m.	8th Bde.	5th Div.	B.M. 24	32nd Bn. complete HALF WAY HOUSE.	Wire
138	4.57	B.C.S.S. I ANZAC	5th Div	-	Asked how everything was going. Answered that everything was O.K., and told him of the situation as we knew it.	Phone
139	5 a.m.	G.S.O. 1	14th Bde 15th Bde	-	Asked how things were going. 14th Brigade reported ready; 15th Brigade reported that they were waiting for a report.	Phone
140	5.3	G.S.O. 1	33rd Div	-	Asked the situation, and said he would advise them when our "ready" reports came in.	Phone
141	5.22	14th Bde	5th Div	B.M. 135	"Situation quiet until about 4.45 when enemy opened barrage on GLENCORSE WOOD. Brigade officers who come from forward units say things are all correct.	Wire
142	5.30	5th Div	I ANZAC	G142	Repeating the above message, No. 141.	Wire
143	5.40	G.O.C. 15th Bde	5th Div	-	News he has received from the Brigade on his right indicates a failure in the major operation this morning. They failed to regain old front line. In addition, half at least of the assaulting Bns. are lost, and there will be some difficulty in assembly. He has arranged for 57th Bn. to protect his flank, and will have remnants of 58th and 60th to assist. G.O.C. told General ELLIOTT he would give him another Battalion.	Phone

GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY

(Date).....

How recd.  
or sent.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
144	5.45 a.m.	14th Bde	5th Div	I.O. 8	Enemy artillery very active over intermediate areas GLENCORSE WOOD and round HOOGE from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. remainder of night very quiet; enemy barrage on GLENCORSE WOOD opened 4.50 a.m. Situation satisfactory.	Wire
145	5.47	5th Div	8th Bde	-	Ordering battalion of 8th Brigade to be ready to move up from HALF WAY HOUSE at a moment's notice.	Phone
146	5.48	5th Div	I ANZAC	-	Reporting that all was clear with the 14th Brigade, and that the 15th Brigade reports that to the best of their knowledge all was O.K.	
147	5.51	15th Bde	5th Div	B.M. 208	Following in from our right Liaison: Brigade on line N. and S. of LONE HOUSE at J.15.a.5.3. Three companies left attacking battalion lost their way. One company in position and attacking at ZERO.	Wire
148	5.55	G.O.C.	33rd Div	-	Asked if it was correct that some of their people had failed to reach their assembly. They told G.O.C. that their information was that all was correct.	Phone.
149	6.5	G.O.C.	O.C. Double Bombdt Group.	-	Was told that as far as can be ascertained everything is O.K. A quiet night. He is unable to say how the question of ammunition stands.	Phone
150	6.6	G.O.C.	C.R.A.	-	Was informed by C.R.A. that all batteries had their allotment of ammunition, and in some cases were over.	Phone
151	6.10	5th Div	8th Bde	G151	The battalion at present at HALF WAY HOUSE will be held ready to move at a moment's notice. Bn. at CHATEAU SEGARD will be moved to HALF WAY HOUSE at once and disposed in such a way as to avoid shell fire. This confirms conversation with G.S.O.1 this morning. Acknowledge.	Wire

APPENDIX

GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).... 26th Sept 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
152	5.11 a.m.	G.O.C.	G.O.C. 8th Bde	-	General TIVEY reports that both battalions, 30th and 32nd, have reconnoitred front. 32nd is ready to move at once. 30th has left CHAPEAU SEGARD.	Phone
153	5.13	O.C. Double Bombdt Group	5th Div.	-	Asked us to tell G.O.C. that he need have no qualms about ammunition. Everything is O.K.	Phone
154	5.15	4th Aust Div.	5th Div	IG691	Situation report: Exceptionally quiet night in forward area. Both Brigades reported in position.	Wire
155	5.16	15th Bde	5th Div	B.M. 78	Following from 98th Bde timed 5.30 a.m.: Situation unchanged at 5.0 a.m. Very heavy barrage reported on J.14.b about 4.45 a.m. Also very thick mist.	Wire
156	5.17	G.O.C.	G.O.C. 8th Bde	-	Was informed by General TIVEY: 30th Bn. only 2 companies strong. G.O.C. have him orders to collect all the details he possibly can to strengthen that battalion.	Phone
157	6.35	G.O.C.	Div. Art.	-	Asked if there was anything to report, or if infantry had asked for help. Answered: No.	Phone
158	6.37	5th Div	I ANEAC	6158	With reference to map accompanying plan of attack 26/49 of 22nd Sept. Battalions are disposed as follows: "B" Bn. 59th, Lieut-Col. C.C. MASON. "D" Bn. 29th, Lieut-Col. H. PURSER. "C" Bn. 31st, Lieut-Col. F.W. TOLL D.S.O. "A" Bn. composed of remnants of 58th and 60th Bns. commanded by Major W.H. FREEMAN and Lt-Col. H. MARSHALL M.C. respectively. 57th Bn. under Lt-Col. J.C. STEWART D.S.O. specially detailed to protect right flank. "F" Bn. 53rd, Lt-Col. G.H. CROWSHAW D.S.O. "G" Bn. 56th Lt-Col. A.H. SCOTT D.S.O. "H" Bn. 55th, Lt-Col. P.R. WOODS M.C. "E" Bn. 54th Lieut-Col. F. STREET.	Wire

CROWSHAW

26th Sept 1917

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
159	6.38 a.m.	Liaison 33rd Div	5th Div	-	Reports that right battalion of 98th Brigade rests not much in front of J.34.b.2.4	Phone
160	6.45	14th Bde	5th Div	B.M. 137	Bury to cable head intact. P.B. forward and visual. No reports as yet.	Wire
161	7.15	14th Bde	5th Div	B.H. 138	No news as yet. Artillery retaliation on back areas has eased considerably.	Wire
162	7.15	I ANZAC	5th Div	G.10	Morning report. Situation quiet during night until 4.45 a.m. when enemy opened barrage on GLENCORSE WOOD. Believe assembly carried out exactly to programme. No report so far except that enemy retaliation believed to be light.	Wire
163	7.16	Liaison 4th Aust Div	5th Div	A.J.G.S.	From front line 6.10 a.m. begins: Attack well started All Battalions well under barrage. Counter barrage not yet down. 10 prisoners 49th R.I.R.	Runner
164	7.20	Div. Art	5th Div	-	Their Liaison Officer reports 15th Bde going well - 100 prisoners. Artillery O.P. reports 50.	Phone
165	7.25	I ANZAC 33rd Div 4th A. Div.	5th Div.	G165	Artillery liaison officer with Brigades reports attacking going well and that 15th Bde have got 100 prisoners. Artillery O.P. report 50 prisoners have gone by. Confirmation will be wired when received.	Phone Wire
166	7.30	Div Art	5th Div	-	53rd Bn. gained objective on left and are consolidating now at the BUTTE. Casualties slight.	Phone.

GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

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Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
167	7.35 a.m.	15th Bde	5th Div.	B.M. 80	59th Bn. reports 6.45 a.m. on RED LINE consolidating Batch of prisoners at least 100 coming in. English Division on right does not appear to be in touch.	Wire
168	7.35	33rd Div	5th Div	G.535	98th Brigade reports 6.40 a.m. that situation on their front obscure. Their men caught in a very heavy barrage in J.14.b and it is thought very few have got through it.	Wire
169	7.40	8th Bde	5th Div	B.M. 29	Acknowledged. Auger ready to move at once on receipt of orders. Askew ordered to move at once. (Auger - 32nd, Askew - 30th).	Wire
170	7.40	3rd D.A.	5th Div	-	Artillery liaison officer right brigade reports RED line captured, and 100 prisoners. Brigade in touch with English Division on right.	Phone
171	7.42	G.S.O.1	33rd Div	-	Informed 33rd Div. of message No. 170	Phone.
172	7.40	5th Div	I ANZAC I ANZAC "I" 33rd Div 4th A.Div.	G172	Right brigade reported RED line captured. 53rd Bn. reported to have captured RED line and are consolidating at the BUTTE. Later right brigade reported in touch with Division on their right. Later reports shew that 15th Brigade is only in touch with about a platoon of 33rd Division. 33rd Div. Art. state their troops held up east of LONE HOUSE J.15.a.	Wire

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APPENDIX 4

GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....  
25th Sept 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
173	7.45 a.m.	4th A.Div	5th Div.	G.A.263	Message from front line timed 6.10 a.m.: Attack well started, all battalions well under barrage. Counter barrage not yet down. 10 prisoners 49th R.I.R.	Banner
174	7.46	15th Bde	5th Div	S.M. 79	Following from 98th Brigade timed 6.40 a.m.: Situation on our front obscure. Our troops caught in very heavy barrage in J.14.b and it is thought very few got through it.	Wire
175	7.46	I ANZAC	5th Div	G12	Continuation morning report. Left Division reports troops left tape with good start and going well. Small batch prisoners coming in. Right Division have had reports that all was correct there at start.	Wire
176	7.40 a.m.	Liaison 33rd Div	5th Div.	-	They are held up just east of LONE HOUSE and one platoon has been in touch with our right brigade all the time. This accounts for the report that our right Bde is in touch.	Phone
177	7.40	33rd Div.	5th Div.	-	Above message No. 176.	Phone
178	7.55	5th Div	I ANZAC	G178	Reference G.103 and your G362. You only authorise S.O.S. grenades. Both daylight and night urgently required. Try and deliver this a.m. to H.23.d.1.0	Wire
179	7.55	Capt. Robinson I.C.	5th Div.	-	Prisoner 7th Co. 229th R.I.R. 50th Res.Div. captured being forwarded by English; Order of Battle north to south 229, 231 R.I.Regts.	Wire
180	7.56	4th A.Div.	5th Div	IG.692	50th Bn. mopped up dugouts at J.3.b.3.3 capturing 2 M.G's and 19 prisoners.	Wire

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
181	8.0 a.m.	Major Cheeseman Liaison 33rd Div	5th Div.		<del>Message just through confirming information that troops of 33rd Division are 80 yards east of LONG HOUSE.</del>	Phone
182	8.2	-do-	5th Div		33rd Div. are sending a battalion to fill the gap between Australians and their present left flank. This leaves them with 1 battalion in Div. reserve.	Phone
183	8.3	4th A.Div	5th Div		Our left battalion Liaison officer reports that everything going O.K. but it is reported that right held up. Message timed 6.38. He asks for protective barrage to be kept down D.28.a.1.1	Phone
184	8.2	14th Bde	5th Div	B.M.139	Report as at 6.35 a.m. 53rd Bn. has reached RED Line on the left and are consolidating. They are at the BUTTE. Casualties slight. Message by battalion runner via "C" Group artillery.	Wire
185	8.8	14th Bde	5th Div	B.M.140	53rd Bn. report direct timed 6.40 a.m. Reached whole objective and am at BUTTE. Am in touch with 15th Bde on right who have reached their objective. Lieut. Patterson 29th Bn. informed 53rd of latter point.	Wire
186	8.23	5th Div. Art.	5th Div	-	Our liaison officer reports 3rd (British) Division (on left of 4th Aust.Div.) have gained RED LINE.	Phone
187	8.35	14th Bde.	5th Div.	B.M.141	14th Inf. Bde. informs at 7.45 a.m. RED LINE held by us. Scotch troops in RED LINE on left. our attack. Message received says C.T. almost through to RED LINE. About 20 prisoners to this Brigade of 49th R.I.R.	

GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) 26th September 1917

Serial no.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
188	8.35 a.m.	4th Aus. Div.	5th Div.	IG.694	Both Brigades have reached the RED LINE and consolidated.	D.R.
189	8.38 a.m.	G.O.C. 5th Div.	G.S.O.2 Corps		Asked that Corps might try and ginger up action on our right flank which was now in the air.	Phone
190	8.40	G.O.C. 5th Div.	G.O.C. 15th Bde.		Colonel Toll (31st Battalion) must push on to BLUE LINE. (Note. Toll wants to stop where he is just in front of the RED LINE and refuse his flank.)	Phone
191	8.45	5th Div.	15th Bde.	G191	You will press on to the BLUE LINE. Our Artillery will put up flank barrage to protect your flank.	Wire.
192	8.46	33rd Div.	5th Div.	G536	98th Inf. Bde reports ground mist very thick in their area. 50 German prisoners seen coming west along track just south of GLENCORSE WOOD. One of our tanks lost its way in mist and returned to J.14.b.2.3 but has been put on right direction again. 2nd R.W. Fus. has now been placed at disposal of 98th Inf. Bde. This leaves us with 20th R.W. Fus. in reserve. 98th Inf. Bde. reports its line held up 80 yards east of LOWE FARM but 15th Inf. Bde. report being in touch with one platoon of 98th Inf. Bde. on RED LINE. 100th Inf. Bde. is now trying to help from south. Situation on its own front appears favourable.	Wire



## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date) 26th September 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
193.	8.50 a.m.	G.O.C. I ANZAC	G.O.C. 5th Div.		Corps Commander says. Message from Army Commander:- "He is very pleased indeed with what Division has done, but he (Army Commander) is very anxious about our right flank owing to 33rd Division being held up. Corps Commanders says we will have to provide our own protection and Corps Commander gives Divisional Commander a free hand.	Phone
194	8.52	15th Bde.	5th Div.	B.M.82	Lieut. PRITCHARD of 15th Field Co. with Lieut. PENTREATH of 59th Bn. states 7.30 a.m. We seem to be only officers. Am consolidating at J.I.C.S.8.6 German dead in hundreds.	Wire
195	8.55	15th Bde.	5th Div.	B.M.81	Received from 98th Inf. Bde. Untimed message received 7.25 a.m. from 4th Staff. Regt. Line held about 80 yards east of LONE HOUSE by 4th Staff. Regt. and 5th Scot. Rifles mixed. Do not appear to have reached 1st Middlesex front line. Casualties 4th Staff. Regt. approx. 60 per cent.	Wire
196.	8.55	I ANZAC	5th Div.	G.31	Message from 2nd Army I begins. Examine prisoners as to whether civilians in towns and villages such as MENIN SERVICE LEDEGHEM DADIZELN GHELORE MOORSLEDE WEVELGHEM etc. have been evacuated.	Wire
197	8.57	G.O.C. 5th Div.	G.O.C. 15th Bde.		Must round off angle from RED to BLUE LINE. 15th Bde. says owing to nature of ground rather difficult.	Phone

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY

(Date) 26th Sept. 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
198	9.0 a.m.	Aeroplane	5th Div.	1	<p>8.10 a.m. Lamp from CAMERON HOUSE seen calling up machine. "G" sent on KLAXON but no result.</p> <p>8.23 a.m. N.W. sending "A"</p> <p>Heavy M.G. fire from mound in POLYGON WOOD. We appear to be held up here. Our troops seen on racecourse and marked X on map. Ground mist and smoke of barrage made observation bad. Enemy shelling moderate. Flares as on attached map.</p>	Aeroplane
199	9.1	I.O. 5th Div.	5th Div.	F.W.R.2	<p>Order of Battle 3rd Reserve Division north to south 34th Fusiliers 2nd Reserve 49th Reserve. Prisoners of 11th Co. 49th Reserve said third Battn relieved first last night at 10.30 p.m. in POLYGON WOOD one platoon in wooden dugouts in the BUTTE surrendered at once. The 8th Co. of 49th Reserve ordered to assist attack yesterday but refused. Counter attack Division in BEYTHEM assembly points not known. Regiments H.Q. 2½ kilos from BUTTE on MOORLEDE Road near some barns heavily shelled by us.</p>	Wire
200	9.1	15th Bde.	5th Div.	B.M.83	<p>Following received from 31st Bn. timed 7.20 a.m. begins. Troops on right have not advanced. Am not advancing further than first objective. Have detailed two companies to support right flank of 58th Bn. Also two companies to link up from first objective back to our old front line.</p>	Wire.

GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date)..... 26th Sept. 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
201	9.5 a.m.	D.M.C.O.	5th Div.	H.G.30	Machine gun barrage going well	Phone
202	9.8	4th Aust. Div.	5th Div.	IG696	Prisoners mentioned in IG 695 were captured by Left Brigade. 3 Prisoners of 2 R.I.R. have been taken at right flank of right Bde. State our attack unexpected Support Battrn. 700 metres in rear.	D.R.
203	9.10	33rd Div.	5th Div.	G.538	Pigeon message from 1st Queens says they have got to within 50 yards of their objective (position they held yesterday). 20 prisoners taken. Left Bn. 116th Inf. Bde. on right have gained their objective. Message timed 7.5 a.m.	Wire
204	9.10	5th Div.	15th Inf. Bde.	G.204	Following from 33rd Div. begins. Pigeons message from 1st Queens of 100th Inf. Bde. says they have got to within 50 yards of their objective position they held yesterday. Left Battalion 116th Inf. Bde. on right have gained their objective. Message timed 7.5 a.m.	Wire
205	9.15	5th Div. Art.	5th Div.		C.R.A. has arranged following :- 1 18 pr. battery from J.16.c.45.85 to J.16.d.40.90. $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour from 8.59 a.m. 1 round per gun per minute. 1 18-pr battery from J.16.d.7.2 to J.17.a.1.4. $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour from 9.17 a.m. 1 round per gun per minute, then $\frac{1}{2}$ round per gun per minute. Four 6-in. Howitzers turned on to J.16.d.7.7 to J.17.a.30.35.	Phone
206	9.22	G.S.C.1	B.G.G.S.	-	Message same as No. 209.	Phone

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
207	9.24 a.m.	15th Bde	5th Div	S.M.89	Following from 59th Battalion timed 7.25 a.m.: "As right flank has not advanced 31st Bn. is not going beyond RED LINE. C.O. 31st Battalion has arranged with me to support my right flank with two companies." Have instructed 59th Battalion that 31st Bn. is pushing on protective flank barrage and that 57th Battalion is securing the flank.	Wire
208	9.27	14th Bde	5th Div.	S.M.142	No further news as yet.	Wire.
209	9.27	G.O.C.	B.G.G.S.	-	B.G.G.S. suggests a line of consolidation.	See message No.210.
210	9.35	G.S.O.1	15th Bde	-	15th Brigade will consolidate RED LINE and strong points in vicinity and get touch with 33rd Division on right in vicinity of JERR HOUSE, and with the 14th Brigade on the left. The 14th Brigade is to push forward to BLUE LINE. 14th Brigade is to get touch with 15th Brigade on right and with 4th Australian Division on left and consolidate.	Phone.
211	9.45	Div.Art Liaison	5th Div	-	4th Aust Div have gained BLUE LINE and Boches are surrendering freely.	Phone
212	9.46	Liaison 4th Div.	5th Div	A.J.G.S.	Aeroplans reports flares on BLUE LINE at D.28.a.5.0 D.28.c.6.6, also at J.4.d.2.8. One of BLUE LINE battalions of right brigade reports at 7.10 a.m. "Passed RED LINE going well".	
213	9.50	Corps	5th Div	-	4th Div. say flares reported from BLUE LINE and getting M.G. fire from the BUTTE (or Mound)	

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date)..... 25th Sept 1917

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
214	9.55 a.m.	14th Bde	5th Div	B.M.143	Following received from 56th Bn (14th Inf. Bde) timed 8.25 a.m. : "Message from O.C. "D" Co. timed 6.45 a.m. says 'Am waiting on RED LINE am in touch with Brigade on right (15th Bde) who are reorganising. Very few casualties - mostly from our own shell fire.' "	Wire
215	10 a.m.	4th A. Div	5th Div	Ig 700	Message from Left Brigade forward party timed 8.10 a.m. D.R. "BLUE LINE has been taken. Germans surrendering freely. In touch with British on left."	
216	10 a.m.	14th Bde	5th Div	B.M.144	Following from 55th Bn begins "First objective has been taken. Advance towards BLUE LINE has commenced, my battalion having gained touch with both flanks. Considerable inter-mingling of troops took place but all were rapidly reorganised. Casualties very light. Enemy Aeroplanes have been hovering over our positions"	Wire
217	10 a.m.	Art Liaison officer 14th Bde	5th Div (thro' D.A.)	-	14th Brigade got BLUE LINE. 15th Brigade on RED LINE waiting for 33rd Division. 4th Aust Div ALL RIGHT.	Phone
218	10.4	5th Div	3 Bdes	G218	BOOK will consolidate RED LINE and strong points in vicinity and get touch with 33rd Division on right in vicinity of JEEK HOUSE and with BLOCK on left. BLOCK is to push forward to the BLUE LINE. BLOCK is to get touch with BOOK and with 4th Aust. Div. on left and consolidate. This is not to be taken as limiting the action of patrols as laid down in para. 2 of Division Order 162.	Wire

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
219	10.4 a.m.	Liaison 4th Div	5th Div	A.J.G.S.	14th Bn. reports BLUE LINE gained; in touch with 49th Bn. on left and 15th Bn. on right; consolidation progressing well. 4th Div. advise that in addition to 16 mobile M.G.'s going forward they are sending eight more to vicinity of J.28.c.2.6 to sweep 5th Division front. 3rd (British) Division reports in touch with 4th Aust Div on BLUE LINE holding WINDMILL Cabt. and SONNEBEKE CHURCH. Message from left brigade timed 8.10 a.m. begins: "BLUE LINE has been taken. Germans surrendering freely. In touch with British on left."	D.R.
220	10.3	14th Bde	5th Div	B.M. 145	Following from 56th Bn begins: "At 8.30 a.m. Brigade on right held up on RED LINE. Have gained our own BLUE LINE. Our casualties slight. We gained some prisoners in strong point other side of JETTY TRENCH."	Wire
221	10.3	14th Bde	5th Div	I.O. 10	20 prisoners of 49th R.I.R. reported.	Wire
222	10.3	15th Bde	5th Aust Div.	B.M.93	57th Bn. reports the following identifications. 3rd M.G.Co. and 229th R.I.R. 97 class.	Wire.
223	10.9	14th Bde	5th Div	B.M.446	56th report begins: 19 prisoners from 49th Pomeranians under escort of Scottish left Division state 155th Pomeranians on their left and 2nd Bav. on their right. Morale, 155th fairly good; others rather rattled; ends. timed 9.50 a.m.	Wire.

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26th Sept 1917

## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY (Date).....

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
224	10.16 a.m.	4th Aust Div.	5th Div	GA 366	Aeroplane reports flares on BLUE LINE at D.28.a.5.0 and D.28.c.6.6 and at J.4.d.2.8. Machine gun fire reported from Mound in POLYGON WOOD where we appear to be held up. 14th Bn. reports has gained objective and in touch with 49th Bn. on left, and 15th Bn. on right. Consolidation progressing well. Few prisoners.	D.R.
225	10.20	5th Div	I ANZAC 4th Aust Div. 33rd Div 8th Bde	G225	BLOCK have gained BLUE LINE and have established a strong point east of JETTY TRENCH. BOOK is in red line. BLOCK is getting touch with 4th Aust Div. and with BOOK. BOOK is endeavouring to get touch with 33rd Div. in the vicinity of JERK HOUSE.	Wire
226	10.20	Art. Liaison with 14th Bde.	5th Div thro' D.A.	-	4th Aust Div and 3rd (British) Division have gained BLUE LINE. Prisoners coming in in large numbers at CLAPHAM JUNCTION.	Phone
227	10.23	D.M.G.O.	5th Div	MG 32	Have arranged with Brigadiers to support attack on BLUE LINE with machine guns.	Wire
228	10.26	G.O.C.	G.O.C. 15th Bde	-	Asked General ELLIOTT how consolidation of front and support line was getting on. 59th Bn have taken 2 officers and 40 other ranks prisoners. Suggest Bn. been sent up should fill up gap between JERK HOUSE and your right flank.	Phone
229	10.30	4th Sq. R.F.C.	5th Div	-	At request of Corps we are sending up another contact 'plane for your Division. Is there any special thing you want us to look out for. Replied asking for clear definition situation our right flank.	Phone

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Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
230	10.35 a.m.	15th Bde	5th Div	B.M. 95	BOOK Intelligence Officer reports as follows:- Prisoners by 59th Bn 2 officers, 140 other ranks. Identifications 213 R.I.R. 229 R.I.R. 236 R.I.R. 49th R.I.R.	Wire
231	10.33	G.O.C.	G.O.C. 14th Bde	-	Artillery are not going to fire on JERK HOUSE, <u>but</u> JUP FMS.	Phone
232	10.40	Liaison Officer 33rd Div	5th Div	-	The 98th Brigade are going to work north at 12 noon to fill up gap.	Phone
233	10.45	29th and 31st Bns.	5th Div	-	Owing to failure of unit on right and consequent impossibility of going on to second objective, position very unsatisfactory. Although few casualties in attack are being heavily now from machine gun fire. Consolidation proceeding but line not strong. Urgently require a good supply of stretchers and bearers.	Pigeon
234	11.10	5th Div	3 Bdes	G254	You will consolidate your area including front and support lines and strong points. When this is done you will dispose your troops in depth ready to deliver or beat back counter attacks. Arrangements will be made to cooperate closely with Field Artillery under your control when meeting hostile counter attacks; as far as possible avoid areas which are likely to be heavily shelled. 15th Brigade will organise a series of right flank strong points echeloned to the rear.	Wire



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Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
235	10.50 a.m.	4th A.Div.	5th Div	Ig 702	Following message has been received from 15th Bn. (Right Bn. 4th Bde): "Reached BLUE LINE and consolidating; everything going well. In touch with 14th and 53rd Bns. Digging C.T. It was a short sharp fight - a regular Irish affair. We are digging hard. Bn. R.Q. with 16th Bn. at J.4.c.2.3.	D.R.
236	10.55 a.m.	I.C. 5th Div.	5th Div	PWR 3	BLOCK reports 155th Pomeranians on left and 2nd Bav. on right. Moral 155th fairly good; others rather rotten. Unreliable. I await confirmation from prisoners. Prisoner reports villages east of DADIZELLE still occupied by civilians.	Wire
237	11 a.m.	4th A.Div	5th Div	Ig 703	Following message has been received from I.C. with 4th Bde:- Have succeeded in ascertaining all civilians have been evacuated from HOORSIEDE. At present details from other localities not obtainable.	D.R.
238	11 a.m.	I AN2AC	5th Div	G 44	Put J, K, L batteries at once on line J.17.a.15.80 to 15.00 to J.16.d.0.9 to J.22.b.6.5 barrage rate of fire.	Wire
239	11 a.m.	I AN2AC	5th Div	-	Report from B.M. Tanks to say that Tank with 33rd Div reports (at 7 a.m.) that 33rd Div. and Australians reached BLUE LINE without difficulty and are consolidating. Tank cruised about and then came home.	Phone (This is information of doubtful accuracy)

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## GENERAL STAFF OPERATIONS DIARY

(Date)... 25th Sept. 1917.

Serial No.	TIME	FROM	TO	Senders' No.	Text of message or telephone conversation	How recd. or sent.
240	11.30 a.m.	D.H.G.O.	5th Div	H.G. 33	S.O.S. Group covering 14th Bde. Will support attack of 15th Bde on the right with 24 guns. Arrangements being completed with G.O.C. 15th Bde. Casualties to date 5 other ranks killed, 5 other ranks wounded, 2 guns destroyed - both have been replaced.	Wire
241	11.25	5th Div	14th Bde 15th Bde	G.241	98th Inf. Bde. advanced to RED LINE 12 noon under barrage. On capture RED LINE they in conjunction with you will advance to BLUE LINE. Intelligence wire that probable Guards Div. will counter attack us south of POLYGON WOOD. Enemy now reported massing for counter attack in front of 4th Aust. Div.	Wire
242	11.25	4th A. Div	5th Div	IG 704	Message from I.O. with 13th Brigade: "Officer of 2nd R.I.R. thinks counter attack will be made S. of POLYGON WOOD by Guards Division. No civilians in MORSELEDE.	
243	11.32	G.S.O. 1 33rd Div	G.S.O. 1 5th Div	-	Following orders have been issued to left Brigade of 33rd Division: After taking RED LINE they will go on to BLUE LINE providing security of RED LINE is not jeopardised. Six platoons are starting from a line N. and S. through FITZCLARENCE FHE at 11.5 a.m. In addition one battalion is coming up southern edge of POLYGON WOOD.	Phone

APPENDIX

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