

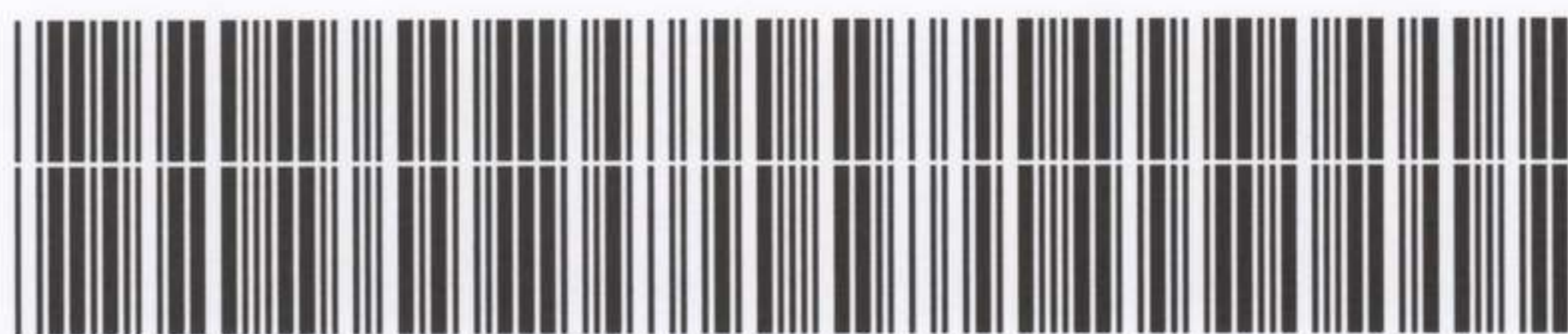
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/50/5 Part 6

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 5th
Australian Division

July 1916



AWM4-1/50/5PART6

SECRET

Copy No. 10

Ga36

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Iron Rations.

- (a) It is suspected that some men have eaten all or part of their Iron Rations.
This is absolutely forbidden. No one eats his iron ration without the direct order of an Officer, and no Officer ever gives the order till there is no hope of supplies being got. While we are in the trenches supplies are always to be got.
- (b) All ranks will be warned that anyone who touches his iron ration without authority will be severely punished and Officers or N.C.O's who do not report cases will not continue in authority. Moreover, those who eat this ration now will find themselves foodless for 24 hours when we attack.
- (c) To prevent this last from happening, Battalions will within three hours of ~~this~~ receiving this order, report how many iron rations are deficient and indent at the same time for them, taking special steps to ensure their coming forward. Battalion Commanders will personally attend to this matter and in their report of deficiencies state that they have done so. Cases of eating this ration up to the present will be condoned, lest men should conceal their conduct and become foodless, but no further condonation will take place, and no further issues made to replace wrongfully used iron rations.

[Signature]
Lieut. Colonel,
A.A. & Q.M.G. 5th Australian Division

Copies issued at 2 p.m. to:-

	Copy No.
C.R.A.	1
C.R.E.	2
Div. Signal Co.	3
8th Inf. Bde.	4
14th " "	5
15th " "	6
5th Pioneer Bn.	7
Div. Train	8
A.D.M.S.	9
"G"	10
"C"	11
Camp Commandant	12

G6

APPENDIX F

XIth Corps.
RHS 1146/7.

~~31st Division.~~
5th Australian Division.

The Corps Commander has made the following remarks
as regards details to be attended to in consolidating
the captured German trenches. A copy is to be issued
to each Company Commander.

for BMR

J.H. Staphord
Capt for

XIth Corps.
18.7.16.

B. G., G. S.

	<u>2</u>	
7th 8 th Inf Bde	25	
14 th Inf Bde	25	
15 th Inf Bde	25	
5 th Pioneer Bn	5	

Copies to CRE 5

✓ Stille

APPENDIX

"Don't let the position go when you have once got it. Above all, look after block and wire the enemy's communication trenches leading into the position and prevent the enemy from bombing you out there. A counter-stroke across the open you can easily repel with rifle and machine gun fire and with your Artillery. Get your communications across to the new line as rapidly as possible in the early part of the night, and have a good fire position along the whole front ready by daylight on 20th. Have this order conveyed to all ranks.

18/7/16

R.HAKING, Lieutenant General,
Commanding XIth Corps.

Chd
3-8

C.R.E. 9
Div. Sig. Co 10
8th Inf. Bde 11-35
14th Inf. Bde 36-60
15th Inf. Bde 61-85
5th Pioneer Bn 86-87
A.D.M.S. 90
Div. Train 88-89

File

APPENDIX 7'

Herewith copies No. to No. of an address
to the Troops by the G.O.C., XIth Corps.

When this has been read to the troops, please ensure
that all copies are burnt.



18th July 1916.

Major,
Gen. Staff, 5th Australian Division.

file

G.6

Stis

APPENDIX 7

BY SPECIAL D.R.

2

XIIIth Corps.
RHS 1146/6.

To the Troops of the 61st Division and 5th Australian
Division.

As you know we were going to have a fight on MONDAY, but the weather was so thick that our Artillery could not see well enough to produce the very accurate shooting we require for the success of our plan. So I had to put it off, and G.H.Q. said do it as soon as you can. I then fixed "Zero" for WEDNESDAY, and I know you will do your best, for the sake of our lads who are fighting hard down South.

R. Hartley

18th July, 1916.

Lieut. Genl.
Commanding XIIIth Corps.

The above order is to be read to-day to all troops who are about to take part in the attack tomorrow. You will arrange for ALL COPIES OF IT TO BE DESTROYED DIRECTLY IT HAS BEEN READ so that no copy is taken forward with the attacking troops.

for files

2. SECRET

235

OPERATIONS.

APPENDIX F.

Ga35.

8th. Infantry Brigade.
14th. Infantry Brigade.
15th. Infantry Brigade.

1. Reference to Divisional Order No.39,para.6, it is to be clearly understood that carrying etc. parties detailed from reserve Battalions of Brigades are to be in the front trenches by the time the last wave leaves them, with their loads beside them, ready to be carried across.

2. Officers in command of such parties must watch the progress of the attack, and send parties on if they see the occasion has come without waiting to be asked.

3. Parties must go forward then required, whether they have to pass through fire or not.

Sturges

18/7/16.

Lt. Colonel.
Gen: Staff, 5th. Australian Division.

Copies to:-

C. R. E.
5th. Pioneer Battalion.

(G6) SIKS.

fu

Ga/38

C. R. A.

5th. Australian Division.

The Divisional Artillery, on the assault taking place, must turn specially appointed Batteries on to certain enemy strong points and keep them under fire day and night till directed otherwise by Divisional Headquarters.

The C. R. A. will make the necessary arrangements for this.

These strong points are:-

- (1) FERME DELAPORTE and its works, together with the trench running eastward from it to about N.15.b.3.7 $\frac{1}{2}$
- (2) The trench junction at N.15.b.1 $\frac{1}{2}$.7 and N.15.b.3.7 $\frac{1}{2}$
- (3) The work S.E. of FERME RELAPORTE at N.15.b.311.3.
- (4) ROUGES BANCS and its works about N.15.b.7 $\frac{1}{2}$.6 $\frac{1}{2}$
- (5) FERME DELAGRANGES and its works
- (6) The trench running from N.10.d.3.4 to where it crosses the RUE DES TURCS at N.16.b.7.8 $\frac{1}{2}$
- (7) Any other known enemy strong points on or S. of the line FERME DELAPORTE \rightarrow ROUGE BANCS - FERME DELANGRES and N. of the line N.15. Central - LES CLOCHERS.

Cum

18/7/16.

Lt. Colonel.
Gen: Staff, 5th. Australian Div.

Ga/ 42

8th Infantry Brigade
14th Infantry Brigade
15th Infantry Brigade.

MEMORANDUM:

Reference 5th Australian Division Order No. 31, paragraph 11, it must be understood that the lifting of the artillery fire to barrage lines at 7.00 may not be apparent to the leading troops.

These will advance into the enemy's trenches at 7.00 working by the watch.

In Division Order No. 31, para. 11 line 4, cancel the words "immediately the artillery lift to barrage lines". The artillery will lift at 7.00, but the troops cannot identify the fact, and no time can be lost.

C. W. Warstat

Lieut-Colonel,

Gen. Staff, 5th Australian Division.

18.7.16.

Copy to C.R.A.
" C.R.E.

21
SECRET.

238
APPENDIX F

Gs/44

8th Infantry Brigade
14th Infantry Brigade
15th Infantry Brigade.

Please send tonight by special messenger reports of patrols of cutting of enemy wire as soon as information is received by you. Please make sure that Battalions send information on to you without delay.



Lieut-Colonel

18.7.16

Gen.Staff, 5th Australian Division.

2
SECRET

Ga/48

APPENDIX
Headquarters,

F 239

18th July 1916.

60th Infantry Brigade.

1. With reference to the proposed explosion of mines on your front on 19th inst: of which you have doubtless been informed, I desire to notify you that the plans to which I at first agreed have now been altered, and that the final arrangement is as follows:-
 - (a) One mine only will be fired,
 - (b) This is the one farthest East and is situated at N.10.d.1.8.
 - (c) It will be fired at 7.00 after ZERO time.
2. You would be of great assistance to my left flank if you would use in the crater when formed both Trench Mortar and Machine Gun fire, to prevent enemy from occupying crater and enfilading my left flank.
3. Would you kindly let me know if you can help me in this way.

Craw

for Major-General,

18th July 1916.

Commanding 5th Australian Division.

5th Australian Div **APPENDIX F** IN
 In reply to your Ga/48
 of 18 July 1916.

1. Noted but — this is the first mention of a mine in connection with these operations which has come to my knowledge.

2. Your para (2) is not quite clear. I will certainly do my best to prevent the enemy by M. G. & mortar fire from occupying the crater. Is this what is meant?

19/7/16
 12.20 AM.

L. Butler
 only to Staff side

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121.
No. of Message

Prefix	Code	m.	Words	Charge	APPENDIX This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at	m.	
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.			Sent	Service.		Date		
SECRET			At	m.	OUT			From
			To		OUT			By
			By		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")			

TO { 6012 Coy Bde

Sender's Number.	Day of Month	In reply to Number.	AAA
* 60-50	1915		

Please refer to your LB.2 of 15-day sent at 12.20 am. Advise if you will arrange to fix at the crater after the mine has been exploded, it will prevent the enemy occupying it and thus inflicting my flank. Advise Regd my 60/48 was not clear.

1.20 am
Commanding 5th Australian Coy

From _____
Place _____
Time _____

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

Headquarters
5th Australian Division
18th July 1916

Ga 71.

G.6

SMR

APPENDIX *F*

Headquarters

XI Corps.

With reference to your memorandum dated 15-7-16, giving the allotment of ammunition for operations, I would like to represent my position as regards 18 pdr. ammunition, which is roughly as shown below.

18 pdr. Ammunition.

Allotted and actually on hand on 16/7/16	65000	includes 13000 On wheels
Estimated Expenditure	19000	
Balance theoretically available	46000	
Deduct amount on wheels	13000	
Amount really available for the operation	33000	

I have not been allowed to draw from Railhead ammunition to replace the 19000 expended, and I understand and I understand I am not expected to fire off the 13000 now on wheels.

I do not consider 33000 rounds sufficient for the operation which I am directed to undertake, and would like to ask that the 19000 rounds expended may be replaced with me before or during the operations.

James Kay

Major-General
Commanding 5th Australian Division

(In pads of 50 dupls.)

"C" Form (Original).

Army Form C. 2123

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message 178

Prefix	Code	Words	Received	Sent, or sent out	Office Stamp.
		£ s. d.	From	At	
Charges to collect			By	To	
Service Instructions.			By		

Handed in at 7.45 (11.45) Office 1.50 m. Received 1.50 m.

TO 5th Australian Div

APPENDIX

*Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number	AAA
9.478	18		

Reference Conversation of GOC 5th Australian Div with GOC 11 Corps this afternoon and wire sent you by GOC 11 Div number 6830 settles question regarding your patrols tonight and have arranged with second Army to insure explosion at time you desire tomorrow and regarding your 11th Eleventh Corps park will issue on demand to be carried sent by second Army 10000 rounds mixed for you and second Army are arranging to supply your deficiency of 13000 rounds what wire. If this is all clear

* Extracted

for action
18/8/16

FROM	Eleventh Corps
PLACE & TIME	8.8 PM

* This line should be erased if not required.

W 15600/M 151. 75,000 Pads. M.C. & Co., Ltd., London. 1/16. Forms/C.2123.

"A" Form. **APPENDIX**
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121.

No. of Message _____

Prefix _____	Code _____	m. _____	Words _____	Charge _____	This message is on a/c of: _____ Service. _____	Recd. at _____ m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions. _____			Sent _____			Date _____
			At _____ m.			From _____
			To _____			By _____
			By _____	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		

TO

11th Corps -

Sender's Number. * <u>G. 477</u>	Day of Month <u>18th</u>	In reply to Number <u>G. 478</u>	<u>AAA</u>
----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	----------------------------------	------------

Your message is all clear
 AAA am acting accordingly re
 ammunition. AAA have asked second
 Amzac for 7000 to 10,000
 more to replace normal expenditure
 apart from quantities warned by
 you AAA regarding explosions have
 been Stevenson and made new
 arrangement which will notify tomorrow

From 5th Aust. Div
 Place 10.25 pm.
 Time _____

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

(Z)

Chubb, Lt Col

Censor.

Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

ly/212

ES.

SECRET

8th Infantry Brigade,
14th Infantry Brigade
15th Infantry Brigade.

MEMORANDUM

The following notes are forwarded for your guidance.

1. O's.C. Battalions must understand that stretcher bearers will be properly organized, and must go out after the last wave of the assault.
2. Battalion Commanders of assaulting battalions, as they go forward with their last wave will take signal personnel with them and endeavour to keep a telephone line maintained back to our trenches.
3. Similarly battalion commanders of 3rd battalions, when they go forward to our front line with the carrying parties, to supervise the despatch of stores etc. will take a signal station with them for communication with their seconds in command in the 300 yard line.
4. It should be impressed on all ranks that they must keep sending back information, so that we may help them.

W. H. Murray
 Gen.Staff, Lieut-Colonel
 5th Australian Division.

18.7.16.

2
SECRET

APPENDIX

246
Headquarters,
5th Australian Division
19th July 1916.

Headquarters,
XIth CORPS.

G

The following information regarding the state of enemy's wire was collected last night by patrols.

Left Sector (N.10.c.1.6 - N.10.a.9.1) 8th Brigade reports "Enemy's wire was found to be cut in three places between N.10.c.2.2 and N.10.c.4.3 and parapets immediately behind were also gapped badly. No sign of repair by enemy was noticed. The enemy's wire from N.10.c.0.3 to N.10.c.2.2 is practically intact. Wire here is high and would be difficult to cross. 'NO MAN'S LAND' just in front of entanglements show signs of being much cut up since previous evening. The gaps referred to in enemy's wire are approximately 12 feet wide. On the extreme left of the Sector, i.e. between N.10.c.4.3 and N.10.c.9.6 patrols could not approach because enemy parties were at work, in one case over a front of 60 yards. The inference is that the wire was cut to a definite extent on parts of this front.

Centre Sector opposite 14th Brigade (N.9.c.7.7 to N.10.c.1.6) reports from right half of sector state: Wire about 3' 6" high, and no definite gap was located by an officers' patrol. On left half wire damaged but not sufficiently to allow passage of troops. As no repairing is reported, it seems as if not much result here. Brigade Commander is of this opinion.

Right sector (N.8.d.1.8 - N.9.c.7.7) 15th Brigade reports that patrols were unable to approach wire owing to enemy posts with flares in front about 80 yards in front of parapet.

Major-General,
Commanding 5th Australian Division.

*file in ops file
Cmwr*

This to be kept confidential

247

8th Div
14th Div
15th Div

CRA

CRE

XI. Corps -

APPENDIX

7 Copies

Not to be destroyed
by order of G.O.B.

J.S. Rawlin

You now have ~~permission~~ to

~~use your command~~

Sixty-first Div ^{are reported to} hold apex of
~~are thought to be attacking with AAA~~

~~Super-loaf~~ ^{61st Div} ~~are ordered~~ to take from apex
~~of Super-loaf~~ to junction of German trench with Ruin

LAIES ~~Brigadiers~~ ~~are~~ ^{each} ~~authorised~~
~~to use~~ ~~three~~ ~~Div~~ ^{attalines} ~~for~~

fighting ~~and~~ a half ~~Div~~ for
carrying ~~and~~ digging, ~~breeding~~ our
old front ~~system~~ parapet + 300 yards

line with ~~remaining~~ ~~half~~ ~~Div~~ ^{each} ~~and~~
you are asked to take ~~whole~~ of original objectives ~~and~~
you ~~will~~ however avoid the error

often committed ~~in~~ ~~range~~ ~~of~~ ~~having~~ ~~breeding~~
Captured trenches too thickly as
unnecessary casualties occur and men

cannot dig or consolidate trenches ~~and~~
Corps Comr + I congratulate you on
splendid work done AAA addressed

8th 14th + 15th brigades - repeated CRA. CRE
XI. Corps - 2nd auzac.

11.25 pm

2
CWO HQ 11th Corps

32nd (our extreme left)
32nd report no enemy benches
Consolidate AAA Enemy mg creeping near,
32nd cannot hold on without strong
reinforcements AAA carrying parties
suffering several casualties

31st Bn on right of 32nd reports similar
adding that suffering heavily from
H&E shell

I have tried to get the side to which these
Yns belong that they must ^{for the present} hold on
or retire to where there is a line of enemy benches to consolidate
~~for present~~ but would refer it to
you. ~~I have~~

Read to B.G.G.S. XI Corps

8 a.m.	XIth Corps.	Hour of ZERO 11 a.m.
1.20 p.m.	8th Inf.Bde	Reports our shells landing on enemy's parapets at N.10.4.
1.51 p.m.	8th Inf.Bde	Reports our heavy shells falling behind enemy lines opposite N.10.3 and 10.4 Trench Mortars damaging enemy parapet and wire.
1.50 p.m.	61st Div.	Enemy retaliating with light guns and howitzers. Wire cutting commenced at 1 p.m.
2.12 p.m.	15th Inf.Bde	Reports no hostile artillery fire so long as our aircraft were up.
2.45 p.m.	14th Inf.Bde	Reports that at 2 p.m. no hostile shelling of any consequence.
2.30 p.m. (pigeon)	Lt.Col.COGHILL	Hostile Trench Mortars and 18-pdrs smashing our parapets and trenches to pieces along 31st and 32nd Battalion front. Many casualties.
2.45 p.m.	61st Div.	Reports enemy seen retiring across open to reserve line opposite N.14.1. Enemy fire somewhat decreased. Our heavies doing counter battery work.
3.15 p.m.	C.R.A.	Reports hostile Artillery active against 14 Battery with 5.9. Our observation difficult. Communication cut with left group. 3 very big explosions observed. Hostile retaliation commenced at 12 and finished at 12.45 p.m.
2.30 p.m.	8th Inf.Bde	Our fire making holes in enemy's lines at N.10.d.0.6, also much damage to enemy lines from N.10.d.0.6 to c.7.5. 18-pdrs and Trench Mortars dropping short opposite Section N.10.2. No retaliation.
3.7 p.m.	8th Inf.Bde	Hostile artillery shelling our supports at 2.57 p.m. Our artillery shelling enemy supports about N.10.c.5.2. and d.4.7
3.10 p.m.	8th Inf.Bde	Stokes Mortars opened fire at 1.45 p.m.
3.15 p.m.	14th Inf.Bde	Our Artillery and Trench Mortars cutting enemy wire thoroughly. Forward end of PINNEY'S AVENUE blown in
3.16 p.m.	15th Inf.Bde	Enemy retaliating with heavy shrapnel fire in trenches and communication trenches.
3.24 p.m.	15th Inf.Bde	All wires between PETILLON and front line have cut.
3.26 p.m.	15th Inf.Bde	Assaulting battalions on position of assembly.
3.36 p.m.	15th Inf.Bde	15th M.G.Co. and 15th Mortar Battery in position of assembly.
3.39 p.m.	15th Inf.Bde	Heavy shrapnel fire on front line but casualties only slight.

- 3.45 p.m. 14th Inf.Bde. Both front Battalions have reached their positions as ordered.
- 3.42 p.m. Major King. Colonel Toll 31st Battalion reports very heavy 'strafing' on both front and support trenches, N.10.c.0.6 to N.10.c.6.7. Some flares and ammunition blown up in front dumps, telephone station carried away by shells. Colonel received several pellets in the face and legs but did not go out of action. Observers report heavy damage to wire and parapet by our shells. 'NO MAN'S LAND' also being cut up. Heavy bombardment now continuous on both sides. Enemy firing rifle grenades on section between MINE AVENUE and CELLAR FARM AVENUE. Generally situation on this front well and very cheery.
- 2.45 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde Enemy Trench Mortars on front line from N.10.c.0.6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to N.10.c.5.6. some falling on parapet, majority on 75 yards support line. Enemy heavily shelling support and communication trenches behind section referred to. Many casualties. Our heavy artillery have apparently destroyed some of enemy Trench Mortars. Enemy's parapet and wire between N.10.c.0.3 and N.10.c.6.4. being destroyed in many places.
- 3.48 p.m. Major King 32nd Battalion state 1st Canadian Division report wire well cut in front of N.9.2.a. Enemy's parapet damaged. Div. Trench Mortar Officer observes what appears to be tripping wire on short stakes in long grass opposite N.9.2.
- 4.7 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde 31st and 32nd Battalions now ready.
- 3.50 p.m. 61st Division Right section report enemy parapet in ruins all along their front. Wire cutting report up to 3 p.m. satisfactory. Right section reports at 3.15 p.m. enemy shelling lighter and many blind shells. Artillery report that wire cutting batteries are being heavily shelled and that two ammunition dumps have been blown up. The 32nd Battalion have been temporarily withdrawn. B/305 has received direct hit on one gun but that they are carrying on. Heavy guns are engaging four suspected hostile batteries.
- 4.16 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde Hostile shrapnel fire slightly increased, V.E.AVENUE being blocked in place but that it should be cleared by now.
- 3.56 p.m. C.R.A. Intelligence Summary. Hostile battery shelling 49th and 51st batteries but no damage done to material. Flashes from hostile batteries visible at N.11.a.8.5. Enemy shelling and sweeping our front line trenches at N.8 and 9 but infantry report our artillery fire effective and cutting wire thoroughly. F.O.O. Right Group reports enemy did not appear to man his parapets during the lift.

APPENDIX 7/251

Ammunition on hand at 3 o'clock,
18-pdrs 63,305; Howitzers 1973.

- 4.15 p.m. 8th Inf. Bde. In position at N.10.a.4.8. as also one Company 30th Battalion.
- 4.32 p.m. 8th Inf. Bde. 32nd Battalion report enemy shelling parapet but not much damage done.
- 4.22 p.m. 8th Inf. Bde. Heavy bombardment by enemy near RUE PETILLON and entrance to CELLAR FARM AVENUE Ammunition dump at C.A. on fire but are replacing at once.
- 4.36 p.m. 15th Inf. Bde. Enemy's guns are searching for our batteries around ROUGE DE BOUT.
- 4.35 p.m. Major King Our Artillery has lessened its fire considerably. 32nd Battalion report that enemy parapet opposite our left much knocked about.
- 4.45 p.m. Major King *Cherfus* Only about 20 casualties walking cases - seen at CELLAR FARM AVENUE. Men perfectly ~~careful~~ and no congestion in sap. Telephones O.K. Stores for new dump to replace that fired now on way.
- 4.45 p.m. 15th Inf. Bde. Hostile gunfire still heavy. 58th Battalion in position in 300 yards line except $\frac{1}{2}$ Company now in V.C.AVENUE.
- 4.55 p.m. 56th Battalion Battalion now assembled first position.
- 5.00 p.m. 8th Inf. Bde. 32nd Battalion report our trench mortars and 18 pdrs. firing into our front trench now remedied. Situation satisfactory.
- 5.00 p.m. 15th Inf. Bde. F.O.O. reports our guns doing great damage to trenches and wire. Retaliation is more intense. The enemy is using H.E. much of which has failed to explode and has done no great damage to our trenches.
- 5.10 p.m. 15th Inf. Bde. Enemy shell fire less intense now, mainly H.E. Enemy trenches entirely obscured by dust.
- 5.25 p.m. 8th Inf. Bde. 32nd Battalion reports our heavy guns damaging enemy parapets and wires along Battalion front. H.E. Shells getting our front line, but not much damage so far. MINE AVENUE badly damaged. Enemy still using shrapnel on communication trenches. He has damaged one of our trench mortars. Enemy's parapet being badly hit by trench howitzers along Battalion front.
- 5.10 p.m. 8th Inf. Bde. Our shells still falling in rear of enemy's parapet between N.10.c.0.3. and N.10.c.3.3. Enemy's wire still intact in sector N.10.c.4.3. to N.10.c.7.5. badly damaged also parapet. Artillery advised. Enemy shelling light on front line heavy on support trenches.

- 5.20 p.m. 15th Inf. Bde. Reliable F.O.O. telephones wire from SUGAR LOAF to N.8.d.4.5. completely destroyed. Wire not cut greatly from N.9.c.15.15. to N.9.c.5.-1 F.O.P. reports enemy fire greatly reduced.
- 5.15 p.m. N.Z.Div. Situation normal. Enemy registered semi-permanent bridge B.2.9.b.2.1. and permanent bridge PONT DE NIEPPE B.2.4.c.0.7 $\frac{1}{2}$ this afternoon.
- 5.25 p.m. 14th Inf. Bde. All working and carrying parties reported in position.
- 5.31 p.m. 15th Inf. Bde. 58th Battalion not yet reported in position Officer of 59th Battalion states 58th all reached 300 yards line about 5 p.m.
- 5.47 p.m. 15th Inf. Bde. Assaulting Battalions have not suffered much but M.G.Co has 17 casualties. Wires in advance of PETILLON hopelessly torn up. Garrison of 300 yards line in position, but working parties held up by blocks in V.C.AVENUE, which are being cleared away. Wire opposite left part of Brigade front as already reported does not appear to have suffered greatly. Observation difficult.
- 5.37 p.m. 15th Inf. Bde. Reserve Battalion in position at N.1.a.3.8.
- 5.40 p.m. 8th Inf. Bde. Enemy heavily shelling in rear of 300 yards line
- 5.45 p.m. 60th Division Sections report our trench mortars firing steadily accurately and with good results. Hostile shelling lighter since 4.30 p.m. except on TILLELOY in right section. Our men in front trenches reported in good form. Brigadiers report wire well cut and enemy's parapet badly damaged.
- 5.50 p.m. 14th Inf. Bde. 2 Companies - 55th Battalion passed along RUE PETILLON into BROMPTON ROAD with entrenching tools.
- 6.2. p.m. 15th Inf. Bde. Hostile Artillery fire increasing and attempting barrage of 300 yards line. Our Infantry advancing. Enemy musketry and machine gun fire not very hot. Enemy opened heavy shrapnel fire on our trenches. Musketry fire feeble but increasing.
- 6.3. p.m. 14th Inf. Bde. 56th Battalion moving forward to road in H.26.d.
- 6.8. p.m. Major King Bombardment seemed very effective observed from top of a tree. A little enemy musketry at 5.50 p.m. No news through so communications probably cut. Artillery has done a little searching at our guns this locality.
- 5.52 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde Reserve Battalion now in position on RUE DE QUESNEY with battalion Headquarters at H.26.d.4.6
- 6.15 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde 30th Battalion carriers moving down Communication Trench at correct time.
- 6.17 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde F.O.O. reports infantry still advancing on the right but have not yet reached hostile trenches. Hostile guns heavily shelling V.C.AVENUE.

- 6.16 p.m. 14th Inf.Bde Reconnoitring Officer reports
1. Enemy trenches badly knocked about in very many places.
 2. Their wire also badly knocked about.
 3. Our artillery ^{fire} well placed and distributed.
 4. Enemy occasionally still snipe our lines.
 5. Our casualties comparatively slight as yet. 53rd Battalion 20 so far.
 6. Our trenches still very heavily shelled.
 7. PINNEY'S AVENUE badly knocked about.
 8. Telephone from front line to RUE PETILLON is cut. Brigade forward signal station is on RUE PETILLON.
- 6.15 p.m. 14th Inf.Bde Our third wave moved over open ground from the 300 yards line to front line and the whole line reached front trench at 5.31 p.m. Fourth wave moved forward and both waves reached front line at 5.40 p.m. BROMPTON AVENUE is under machine gun and shrapnel fire at 5.45 p.m. More artillery fire asked for and centre group commander doing his best to arrange.
- 6.34 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde F.O.O. reports infantry still advancing on the right of N.8.d.10.5 but has not observed infantry advancing in region of N.9.c.5.0. He cannot see further to the left. The G.O.C. reports attack appears successful. There is a practical cessation of enemy musketry.
- 6.35 p.m. 14th Inf.Bde Wounded men returning report rather incoherently that first line got safely across, practically untouched, and the L.T.M. Officer corroborates this. No rifle fire audible by advanced Signal Station at N.9.a.3.7. One hostile and one of our own machine guns firing. PINNEY'S AVENUE reported clear. One enemy machine gun blown up by L.T.M. gunners.
- 6.40 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde Major Walker A.171 reports we occupy enemy trenches in front of ROUGES BANCS.
- 6.40 p.m. 2nd A.N.Z.A.C. Advise by telephone that 60th Brigade report our infantry holding communication trench to the right of FARME DELANGRE.
- 6.45 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde 59th Battalion held up half way across 'NO MAN'S LAND'. Heavy casualties. 60th Battalion and others appear to have got across.
- 6.40 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde F.O.O. reports our infantry observed to be in German trenches at N.9.c.1 $\frac{1}{2}$.1. Germans are shelling their own front line trenches at N.9.c.9 $\frac{1}{2}$.1.
- 6.50 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde 32nd Battalion reports that our troops have crossed to position of first enemy lines. Heavy shelling by shrapnel and H.E. Sniping all avenues of approach by machine guns and rifles. They have taken third shallow trenches but want artillery to increase range.
- 6.52 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde F.O.O. reports our infantry were observed to leave our trenches at N.8.d.1.8 moving in direction of N.8.d.5.3. No sign of any assault right of our area, and desiring to be informed of situation there. A later report states that there is heavy musketry fire in the direction of LES CLOCHERS.

2

6.59 p.m. 56th Battalion. This Battalion now assembled in second position awaiting orders with Headquarters near 14th Brigade Headquarters.

6.55 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde Left flank of the Australians have got the first two lines and the artillery are still firing on the first line. Advise artillery at once. Artillery advised immediately.

7.0 p.m. 15th InfBde F.O.O. reports 100 of our infantry are in rear of N.16.a.10.9½ with patrols in front. Fire reported blazing in German original front line trench N.9.c.6.1

7.6 p.m. 31st Battalion Report four waves well over 200 yards beyond enemy parapet but no works yet found and therefore digging in. 32nd Battalion report troops all over. Enemy first line of trenches all clear of troops. Supports for 32nd Battalion went over at 6.35 p.m.

7.6 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde 60th Battalion have taken trenches on our left front and are bombing support trenches 59th Battalion on the right still held up.

7.12 p.m. Major King What do you wish me to do now? Suggest going to our old line to ascertain exact situation.

7.15 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde F.O.O. reports that the enemy are forming barrage 300 yards south of their old support line.

- Trench 93 Germans counter attacking and driving us back. Send reinforcements to man trenches.

7.20 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde 59th Battalion state they cannot get on, the trenches being full of enemy. Reports from wounded indicate that attack is failing for want of support.

- C.R.A. x Glad to have earliest information re exact position of infantry so as to be able to arrange night barrage.

7.24 p.m. 61st Division Position at 7 p.m. as follows:- Part of left section in hostile trenches and some of our infantry believed to be in SUGARLOAF. Centre section held up and fresh bombardment being arranged for ~~weak salient~~ WICK SALIENT. Part of right section across in the German trenches some prisoners being brought back down the STRAND.

7.25 p.m. XIth Corps Situation report:- 39th Division report no change in situation on their front, where situation is normal. 31st Division report their front line has been lightly shelled with shrapnel, and situation is quiet. Right and left Brigades, 61st Division reported in enemy's trenches, and enemy is shelling his own front trenches opposite centre Brigade from which inference is that brigade is in enemy's line although no definite report to that effect yet received. 5th Aust.Div.report attack of right Brigade appears successful and musketry fire by enemy practically ceased. Centre Brigade occupy enemy's trenches in front of ROUGE BANCS. Left Brigade reported in enemy's trenches and their left battalion holding German communication trench leading up to FME DELANGRE.

APPENDIX 255

2

7.32 P.M. 8th Inf.Bde At 7 p.m. D.Company 31st Battalion report that they are in the 50 yards trench in rear of German front line and held up by our own fire. There is no one on their right. A few of the 32nd on our left. Casualties fair. Digging in here with our entrenching tools as we have nothing else and no help coming.

7.33 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde F.O.O. reports (message delayed) that enemy observed retreating across the open from N.8.d.4.0 to their support trench.

7.45 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde C. and D. Companies of 32nd Battalion report that they are holding enemy's third line Enemy are shelling them there. Lieut.Walker of 31st Battalion reports being shelled by our own Artillery. His position is 200 yards beyond enemy's front line but cannot locate position exactly.

7.55 p.m. XIth Corps to 61st Division You should endeavour to extend your hold on enemy's trenches at SUGARLOAF so as to join on to right on 5th Aust.Div. As far as can be ascertained at present, the right battalion of 5th Aust.Div. have not got into enemy's trenches and any help from your left would be of great assistance.

8. p.m. 61st Division 184th Brigade report that they have not taken any of the German trenches on their front. Bombardment by Div. and Heavy artillery will be made at 9 p.m. Centre section - 183rd Brigade report that they have only a few men in the German trenches at X 15 and X 16 and their attack will also be resumed at 9. p.m. Right section, right battalion have sent in 27 German prisoners and are established in enemy's lines. Assault on WICK SALIENT will be renewed at 9. p.m. in-stead of 8.10 p.m. as previously arranged. Our attack has succeeded on our right and some men are reported to be in enemy's trenches at X15 and X16. Am renewing bombardment along the whole front. Germans still hold SUGARLOAF.

.15 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde Carrying parties taking stores and tools and have been for some time. No further messages from our infantry since lift to 500 yards was made.

- 2nd Aust.Tunnelling Co. Blew 1200 lbs. CORDONNERIE at 6 p.m. today Map reference 36 S.W. 2. N.10.d.05.75

8.20 p.m. XIth Corps XIth Corps park will commence sending up at once to 5th Aust. D.A.C. TROUBAYARD following ammunition - from Corps Reserve 714 - from OZ 5901 and AX 3385 - A total of 10000 rounds. On arrival of lorries now being sent to OZ by 2nd Anzacs these lorries will continue and complete delivery.

.30 p.m. 61st Division Under instructions from Corps Commander am withdrawing from captured enemy lines after dark.

.33 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde G.O.C. requests additional reinforcements over and above half reserve battalion. Casualties very severe.

APPENDIX

256

2

8.52 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde Have good telephone communication to TROU POST where G.O.C. now is.

9. p.m. XIth Corps Report situation as soon as possible. 61st Division have been instructed to withdraw parties in enemy's front line and to hold and consolidate original front line, with a view to renewal of attack to-morrow. Endeavour to hold and consolidate enemy's trenches captured on your left flank as this would be of great assistance to a renewed attack tomorrow. No further troops are to be used to assault enemy's trenches on your right flank but parties in enemy's trenches will be withdrawn to our front line.

9.10 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde 58th Battalion sent in to support attack Half Reserve Battalion reported in 300 yards line. Am co-operating with 61st Division at 9.0 p.m.

9.30 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde 32nd Battalion report reinforcements urgently needed if front line is to be held. Have replied captured trenches must be held at any cost. 30th Battalion ordered to send any available men. 2 Companies of the 29th Battalion moved to the old front line and 300 yards line.

9.40 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde 8th Field Company report pot holes now across 'No man's Land' on left flank, depth about 2' 6" Digging hard; many casualties.

10. p.m. 15th Inf. Bde Half 57th Battalion have moved to WINDY POST.

10. 10 p.m. XIth Corps Situation now as follows - 5th Aust.Div. now hold enemy's line from about N.10.c.9.6 to N.9.d.8.2 and possibly further to west. Situation at SUGARLOAF uncertain. Aeroplane reports flares at SUGARLOAF and about N.8.d.8.2. at 9.10 p.m. Remainder of 61st Division back in original line. Battalions of 61st Division now being relieved by fresh battalions.

10.16 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde At 10.10 p.m. message received from G.O.C. that latest information indicates that with 58th reinforcements, the 59th Battalion are pushing forward. Colonel Harris completely broken down and Major Layh is in command of the 59th Battalion. Every probability of one sap being got through to the 60th Bn. position tonight.

10.20 p.m. 14th Inf.Bde 1.From about N.10.c.0.0. to N.9.c.8 Present information is not definite. There was at 9.0 p.m. a gap between my left and 8th Brigade right which I am trying to make good.
2.53rd and 54th Battalions with 2 companies of 55th Battalion plus carrying parties = about 400 of 55th Battalion.
3.No.
(P.S. Seven more prisoners just arrived)

10.30 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde Prisoners sent back up to 10 p.m. One Captain and two other ranks.

11.5 p.m. 5th Pioneer Bn. 2 Companies despatched as ordered. Have now 310 men available for working parties.

- 2
- 10.10 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde 32nd Battalion reports the present line enemy is holding is very strong. It dominates our position at present because it is built up. It is 300 yards from the trench our people are holding. FARM DELANGRE must be shelled as enemy has it very strong. Enemy machine gun in farm to our left from DELANGRE. Our men suffered heavily in the advance and we are weak. Not many enemy dead have been noticed lying about. Communication trench is being pushed on and built up, and is getting down. We took the communication trench running to DELANGRE and our left will need help to hold this in night. Enemy snipers are busy, also machine guns. Enemy artillery is busy and causing trouble. Our artillery is searching enemy's area. Trench mortars are being directed against enemy machine guns. CELLAR FARM AVENUE is badly damaged also MINE AVENUE.
- 10.15 p.m. 3rd Canadian Division Third Canadian Division send heartiest congratulations on your success.
- 10.20 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde C.A.(31st Battalion) reports at 8.50 p.m. they have been to front as far as 300 yards in rear of front trenches, but there are no trenches to consolidate, merely open ditches full of water. Part of the battalion is attempting to entrench but owing to heavy casualties from shell fire on front of left flank and our own rear position is untenable. Small isolated parties are digging on our right front apparently straightening front line. Material will be required and communication trenches opened up with our original trenches. We have suffered severe and may require assistance to hold position. Urgently require stretcher bearers and medical assistance as all bearers are casualties. At 8.55 p.m. a thick curtain of smoke in front and cannot observe. Strengthening parados on first captured enemy line. Battalion broken up. Reorganization at present impossible. Send as many stretcher bearers as possible. Ammunition required also picks, shovels, sandbags, duckboards. 20 prisoners being sent in. 30th Battalion reports at 9 p.m. heavy enemy artillery are firing on the trench. A. Company are making from the direction north of FARM DELANGRE. Can you silence them; they are doing a lot of damage. Reports 9.10 p.m. ammunition carriers wanted urgently to carry bombs and ammunition to front line of trench. at 9.20 p.m. A. Company are asking for duck boards for their new trenches. No men are available here. I must have more men to carry forward. 32nd Battalion at 9.45 p.m. report front line cannot be held unless strong reinforcements are sent. Enemy machine guns are creeping up. No star shells. The artillery is not giving support. Sandbags required in thousands. Men bringing sandbags are being wounded in back. Water urgently required.

258
APPENDIX

10. 40 p.m.	8th Inf.Bde	32nd Battalion report they are being driven back from their front line and want reinforcements. Have ordered them to hold on and consolidate.
10. 55 p.m.	Major King	Have been round old line. 32nd Battalion require one company reinforcements due to casualties. 30th and 31st doing well. A well-officered fatigue party of about 30 required to take over ammunition, sandbags, and bombs - this last urgent. Send motor car to TIVEY'S Headquarters to wait for me. Must see you.
11.15 p.m.	15th Inf.Bde	11 p.m. the 60th Battalion is not in touch with the battalion on their left, but it is not known how big the gap is. The 59th Battalion are digging in 100 yards from German trench and are in telephone communication. V.C.AVENUE badly blocked, and there are at present no men available to clear it. Could a small party of Pioneers be lent please.
11.19 p.m.	15th Inf.Bde	11.15 p.m. Total prisoners passed now 10.
11.30 p.m.	15th Inf.Bde	11.16 p.m. G.O.C. states 59th Battalion not yet in. 60th Battalion believed to be still in. Cannot guarantee success of attack with 57th Battalion as enemy machine gun fire is very hot, but is willing to try.
11.30 p.m.	8th Inf.Bde	32nd Battalion reports line held N.10c.9 $\frac{1}{2}$.5 to N.10.c.4 $\frac{1}{2}$.5. Joined up with 31st Battalion on right. Have not yet established communication with 14th Brigade.
11.36 p.m.	15th Inf.Bde	11.35 p.m. Prisoners passed total now 17.
11.46 p.m.	15th Inf.Bde	11.45 p.m. Total prisoners passed now 41.
12.1 a.m.	8th Inf.Bde	Have sent officers' patrol to locate left of 14th Brigade. Their communications broken down.
12.10 a.m.	8th Inf.Bde	Trench on left flank now right across 'NO MAN'S LAND'.
12.15 p.m.	8th Inf.Bde	14th Brigade reports having joined up with our right.
12.20 p.m.	15th Inf.Bde	11.25 p.m. G.O.C. reports following message from Major Denehey. "Such men of the 60th Battalion as actually reached the enemy trench are killed or captured. The two companies of the 58th Battalion were mown down when close to enemy trench and very few came back." Message begins Men of all battalions are coming back from 'NO MAN'S LAND' and fully expect that they will drift back to the line. Many men are wounded, many are not. Many officers are casualties including Majors McCrae, Elliott, and Hutchinson, all of whom are reported dead, and seems impossible to reorganize. Sapping is proceeding but unless more protection is given against enemy artillery this cannot last. Reports seem unanimous that not a single man of this Brigade is now in enemy trench for flares are coming from the whole of the front allotted to the Brigade. Am reorganizing defence on front of PINNEY'S and V.C.AVENUE. Please give instructions

12.00 a.m. 61st Division. 61st Division congratulates 5th Aust.Div. on its success in capturing the enemy's trenches.

1.12 a.m. Major King Colonel CLARKE reports enemy preparing to attack our left flank across 'NO MAN'S LAND'. Have warned 60th Infantry Brigade to fire on that area also asked our artillery to fire EAST of N. and S. line through N.10.d as far as possible.

1.32 a.m. 8th Inf.Bde 30th Battalion reports that the report that trench across 'NO MAN'S LAND' was complete was incorrect. They have communication by a series of pot holes and all available diggers are working hard. We are greatly hindered by artillery bombardment and machine gun fire.

- 14th Inf.Bde Situation of 14th Brigade is:

1. Position of troops in former German trenches is shewn on sketch attached which is made by Major Croshaw 53rd Battalion from personal reconnaissance.
2. Touch with units on left and right has been obtained.
3. Troops in captured position are:-
 On right 53rd Battalion plus 1 company and 3 Lewis Guns of 55th Bn.
 Left. 54th Bn. plus 1 Company and 3 Lewis Guns of 55th Bn.
 On position, but actual emplacements not yet located - 10 Guns of 14th M.G.Co.
4. Distribution of rest of Brigade:-
 H.Q. H.26.c.9.4.
 L.T.M.Battery. In old front line - only 400 round available. Two mortars being sent to new position pending availability of more ammunition.
 6 Guns, 14th M.G.Co. on Front Line of old position.
 55th Bn. (less Lewis Guns and 2 Coys) on old position, doing carrying duties.
 56th Bn. 2 Companies and Lewis Gun Section allotted for defence of old 14th Brigade Sector.
 56th Bn. (less 2 Companies and Lewis Gun Section) Divisional Reserve on RUE DE QUESNES.
5. Supplies of ammunition (except L.T.M.) are ample and are being carried to new position without excessive difficulty.
6. Communication is very bad, by runner and pigeon only.
7. Work of consolidation is being energetically pressed on with.
8. A sap on communication trench is in course of construction at about point shewn on sketch. It is hoped that this will be well forward if not entirely complete by daybreak.
9. Medical arrangements are capable of improvement. Medical officers are required in old Front Line Trench where numbers of wounded are lying. Bearers and stretchers also are wanted, and have been asked for.
10. Two machine guns were taken by 54th Battalion, one of which is being used and the other could be used if more German belts were available. Plenty of ammunition has been taken.

(cont'ued)

APPENDIX

260

14th Inf.Bde
11. About 40 to 50 prisoners taken, and passed to A.P.M. at GRANNY'S POST.
12. Casualties, especially among officers have been heavy. Fighting has prevented even a rough estimate up to now. I very much regret having to say that Lt-Colonel I.B. NORRIS commanding 53rd Battalion, whose work as a commander had shewn very great promise since his coming into service conditions in the field, is reported killed in action.
13. At present, apart from a certain amount of artillery fire, matters on the captured line are comparatively quiet, but it is realised by all that a very strenuous time is probably ahead in holding what we have taken.

2 a.m. 15th Inf.Bde
57th Battalion is taking over front line and 59th and 60th Battalions are being withdrawn. Have issued instructions for a trench to be dug towards 14th Brigade. Hostile shell fire diminishing. Patrol sent to German trenches found only wounded men.

15 a.m. XIth Corps
2nd Anzac has been asked to communicate with 60th Brigade.

15 a.m. 14th Inf.Bde
Rough estimate of casualties of two assaulting battalions 50%, officers casualties high. 3rd other ranks carrying battalion 25%. Remaining battalion intact.

34 a.m. Major King
Have just spoken on the phone to Major Davies, now in front line. He reports our left communication progressing well. At present no apparent threat against our left flank. Ammunition and stores now going up well under good organization. Situation much brighter and he will report again later. Our artillery shells heavily still.

40 p.m. Major King
Stretchers are blocking our communications. Suggest the naval pattern be sent up as they take less room and can be used for most cases.

50 a.m. 8th Inf.Bde
32nd Battalion now report as follows:- Begins at 2.15 a.m. Increased artillery activity on left. Our artillery bursting on left of FARM DELANGRE where it was reported that enemy was collecting.

30 a.m. 14th Inf.Bde
We are drawing on dump of 2,000 rounds as quickly as man handling admits. Noted that bearers will arrive.

45 a.m. 8th Inf.Bde
Repeated wire from 32nd Bn. at 3.35 a.m. Artillery bombardment still in progress, ceasing off slightly.

48 a.m. 8th Inf.Bde
32nd Battalion reports our men retiring to our own front line of trenches.

00 a.m. 5th Pioneer Bn
The Company detailed for work on tramway report unable to complete repairs owing to heavy fire. This company has been split up, one party working in 'NO MAN'S LAND' one party carrying bombs and one party standing by to repair track as soon as fire lifts. C.R.E. has been informed.

APPENDIX 261

- 4.50 a.m. 8th Inf. Bde Following just received from Major Davies: A. Company, 30th Battalion all officers except one wounded, only about 16 men unwounded. Germans got between this company and the left of our line. The 16 men of A Company then retired behind our parapet. The 31st Battalion owing to heavy casualties were driven back by artillery fire and came behind our parapet. The 32nd Battalion were being enfiladed from left flank and are now outside our parapet and beginning to come over. I sent down A Co. of the 29th Battalion as an officer informed me the Germans were coming over our parapet. I could not see any Germans and everything is quite secure. as regards our original front line. I am unable to get free details from the right flank but will phone you immediately I can get further details. Things were a bit unorganized but they have now pulled themselves together and everything is in good order. Will 'phone you again directly I can find out more. Have had to come back to 32nd Battalion to phone this message as everything was disorganized. I have informed General Butler on our left of situation. Later message from 32nd Battalion states Germans bombarding them in old front line very heavily.
- 30 a.m. 61st Division Situation report. All reliefs complete. Situation now quiet. Artillery report no hostile shelling for last hour and a half. Work of repairing parapet and communication trenches proceeding all night. Prisoners taken by 182 Brigade now increased to 29.
- 45 a.m. N.Z. Division Wind south, 2 miles per hour situation normal. Artillery bombardment and raids to assist operations of XIth Corps successful. Enemy trench entered at I.11.a.5.8. and I.11.c No prisoners taken. Identifications helmets and shoulder strap marked 231 R. at latter spot. Many enemy killed. Our casualties 3 officers and 13 other ranks wounded approximately. At 11.50 p.m. enemy raided RUE DE BOIS SALIENT with about 20 men who entered one Coy. and were driven out, leaving 2 dead and one wounded, latter 6th Coy. 229th Regt. 2 killed, 14 wounded 1 missing in enemy raid. Enemy bombardment of our ~~right~~ left was heavy.
- 55 a.m. 14th Inf. Bde Two sandbags containing German books and maps captured by 54th Bn. yesterday and sent with prisoners to G.29.d may contain useful information to artillery if examined.
- 5 a.m. 15th Inf. Bde Estimated casualties during last night's operation are 57th Battalion 5%, 58th Battalion 35%, 59th Battalion 50%, 60th Battalion 50%, and 15th Field Company Engineers 1 officer and 30 other ranks.
- 10 a.m. Adv. 2nd ANZAC Following from 60th Brigade, 5.20 a.m. Enemy has been comparatively quiet on our front. About 2.15 a.m. firing on our right became intense. Our right company reports being told by O.C. Australian Battalion on his right that he believed that the Australians have all been pushed back to old line but situation is still obscure. Our artillery and stokes guns have been sweeping hostile parapet throughout night.

APPENDIX F 262

6.15 a.m. XIth Corps 5th Aust Div. reports that the left Battalion of their right brigade retired about daylight being unable to consolidate their positions. G.O.C. centre brigade reported he could no longer hold his ground and I sent orders for him to be withdrawn to our original line of defence. The night attack on SUGARLOAF SALIENT by 61st Division could not be organized in time to complete it under cover of darkness. 61st Division is now holding its divisional line with three battalions in front line and 3 battalions in support all fresh. Remainder organizing in rear. 5th Australian Division has used up several battalions reinforcing its front line and has $1\frac{1}{2}$ battalions fresh holding the front line and $1\frac{1}{2}$ battalions being used for carrying parties and remainder have been employed in attack or support of attack. In these circumstances I do not think it is feasible to renew the attack with these two divisions though I am of opinion that they are both capable of continuing to hold the line especially with the strong artillery support they have in rear. It is probable that the 5th Australian Division when reorganized will have plenty of men available.

6.55 a.m. XIth Corps 61st Division reports as follows:- All reliefs now completed and situation quiet. No hostile shelling since 4 a.m. Work of repairing parapets and communication trenches proceeded with all night. Prisoners taken by 182 Brigade increased to 29.

7.25 a.m. XIth Corps In order to cover reorganization of our front line and prevent hostile counter stroke. Artillery will bombard enemy's front line parapets during morning, easing off in afternoon if situation permits.

8 a.m. 8th Inf. Bde Later reports indicate losses in 59th and 60th Battalions probably greater than 50%

8.26 a.m. 15th Inf. Bde Major Layh reports in addition to the 57th Battalion, the following unwounded troops were mustered in our firing line. 54th Battalion, 7 other ranks; 59th Battalion, 5 officers 59 other ranks; 60th Battalion 1 officer 57 other ranks; 58th Battalion 6 officers 189 other ranks, but this battalion must have over 100 men in rear on working parties etc. There is no doubt a few more and some of the 60th Battalion may be with 14th Brigade. Can Major DUGAN or other senior officer be spared for the 60th Battalion please.

8.55 a.m. 8th Inf. Bde 32nd Battalion reports enemy massing their men in first line trenches and are reported to be bringing up men to second and third line trenches.

9 a.m. 8th Inf. Bde Intelligence Officer 31st Battalion reports as follows:- Unless we have heavy artillery retaliation and silence enemy's guns practically the whole of the Brigade will be wiped out. Hundreds of stretcher bearers are required.

9.14 a.m. XIth Corps Heavy artillery have been directed to take action and are arranging to do so with aeroplane observation as soon as possible.

APPENDIX

9.18 a.m. 14th Inf.Bde All are now withdrawn from German trenches whom it is possible to move. There are, however, many wounded left in their trenches.

10.50 a.m. 14th Inf.Bde 9.45 a.m. 52nd Battery reports our trenches being heavily bombarded, 54th and 56th in firing line, 55th in support.

10.50 a.m. 29th Battalion Enemy massing on division front. (Report from front line trench).

11.10 a.m. XIth Corps Following from G.H.Q., timed 9.10 p.m. last night. North of the SOMME heavy fighting is still in progress in LONGUEVAL village and DEVILLE Wood. In both of these places we have already gained most of the ground lost last night. South of DEVILLE Wood this afternoon we dispersed with our fire a large body of Germans massing to attack. WATERLOT FARME from the direction of GUILLEMONT.

1.35 a.m. 15th Inf.Bde 58th Battalion now on way to WINDY POST Strength about two companies. Situation as follows:- 57th Battalion in front and support lines. 58th Battalion on way to WINDY POST. 59th Battalion about 8 officers including Q.M. and transport officer and 100 other ranks at SAILLY. 60th Battalion about 3 officers including Q.M. and 70 other ranks, at ROUGE DE BOUT.

2.2 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde 30th Battalion at CROIX BLANCHE in formed bodies.

2.10 p.m. R.E.Stores Erquinghem The following message from O.C. 8th Field Co. begins "Number of officers killed 1, 2/Lieut TENBOCH; number of other ranks killed 3; number of other ranks wounded 23; number of missing 10 other ranks. Total casualties 1 officer 46 other ranks. These figures are approximate only.

2.40 p.m. XIth Corps 5th Australian Division will return to 2nd Anzac Corps from 2 p.m. today.

2.5 p.m. XIth Corps Advanced H.Q., XIth Corps will close at 3 p.m. today, and will reopen at HINGES at same hour.

th July.

-35 a.m. C.R.A.

For localities refer also to Division Order No.31 arranging sections of enemy's front to Infantry Brigades.

Left Sector, 8th Brigade, reports "Enemy's wire was found to be cut in three places between N.10.c.2 $\frac{1}{2}$. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and N.10.c.4.3 $\frac{3}{4}$, and parapets immediately behind were also gapped badly. No sign of repair by enemy was noticed. The enemy's wire from N.10.c.0.3 to N.10.c.2.2 $\frac{1}{2}$ is practically intact. Wire here is high and would be difficult to cross. 'NO MAN'S LAND' just in front of entanglements shows signs of being much cut up since previous evening. The gaps referred to in enemy's wire approximately 12 feet wide.

As to the extreme left, i.e. between N.10.c.4.3 $\frac{1}{2}$ and N.10.c.9.6 patrols could not approach because enemy parties at work, in one case over a front of 60 yards. The inference is that the wire was cut to a definite extent on parts of this front.

Centre Sector opposite 14th Brigade reports on right half of sector wire about 3' 6" high, and no definite gap was located by officers' patrol. On left half, wire damaged but not sufficiently to allow passage of troops. As no repairing is reported, it seems as if not much result here.

Right Sector opposite 15th Brigade reports unable to approach wire owing to enemy posts in front of about 80 yards in front of parapet.

.40 a.m. 8th Inf.Bde
14th Inf.Bde
15th Inf.Bde
C.R.A.
C.R.E.

At 7.00 after ZERO time, a mine will be fired at N.10.d.1.8. It is probable that a crater and mound will be formed which will protect the left front of the attack from fire from the flank. The moral effect should also help the attack. 8th Brigade will ensure that the flank of the attack does not form up EAST of the road which marks its left.

.40 a.m. 8th Inf.Bde
14th Inf.Bde

Reference wire cutting reports. Can you say whether parts cut wire cut by Trench Mortars or by artillery. Reply by bearer.

a.m. C.R.A.
14th Inf.Bde
15th Inf.Bde
8th Inf.Bde

Watches will be synchronised at 9 a.m.

Div.T.M.Officer

.10 a.m. C.R.A. C.R.E
Div.Sig.Co
2.Aust.Tunn.Co
8th,14th,15th Bdes.

Hour of ZERO will be 11 a.m. Acknowledge by wire.

5th Pioneers
AD.M.S. Div.TRAIN

.10 a.m. C.R.A.

1. As it is most important for the Heavy Artillery to complete accurate registration on the morning of the 19th. it is desirable that Divisional Artillery should not commence wire cutting or deliberate registration before 9 a.m.
2. Heavy artillery have pe mission to carry out registration at any time before ZERO.
3. The bombardment of the GIVENCHY portion of the front will commence at plus 1 hour.
- 4.1 Corps will commence to bombard South of LA BASSEE CANAL at the same time.
5. ZERO is foxed for 11 a.m.

.52 a.m. XIth Corps

Attached hereto copies reports for night 18/19th July of patrols sent out to ascertain the condition of enemy wire opposite this Division.

Nos. 1 and 2 refer to the left Sector - 8th Australian Infantry Brigade: from N.10.c.9.5 $\frac{1}{2}$ to N.10.c.1.2 $\frac{1}{2}$

No. 3 to the centre sector - 14th Australian Infantry Brigade: from N.10.c.1.2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to N.9.c.7.1

No.4 to the right Sector - 15th Australian Infantry Brigade: from N.9.c.7.1 to N.8.d.9 $\frac{1}{2}$.1 $\frac{1}{4}$.

No.1

"A" Co. 32nd Battalion reports:- "My patrols approached within 40 yards of enemy wire but could get no closer as there were three (3) enemy working parties at work on the wire in addition to an observation party. They estimated that the parties were working over a length of 60 yards wire which had ~~been~~ presumably been cut. This wire was directly in front of the left sector held by "A" Co.

O.C. "C" Co. reports:- "Patrols report enemy working parties repairing their wire. Enemy wire on right of our sector destroyed but on left of our sector wire in a little dip of the ground not destroyed.

No. 2

Enemy's wire was found to be cut in three (3) places between N.10.c.2 $\frac{1}{2}$.2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and N.10.c.4.3 $\frac{3}{4}$ and parapets immediately behind were also gapped badly. No sign of repair by enemy was noticed.

The enemy's wire from N.10.c.0.3 to N.10.c.2.2 $\frac{1}{2}$ practically intact. Wire here is high and would be difficult to cross. 'NO MAN'S LAND' just in front of enemy's entanglements shows signs of being much cut up since previous evening. The gaps referred to in enemy's wire approximately 12' wide.

No.3

Officers' patrol which covered right half of sector reports having made very slow progress owing to enemy machine gun fire. Wire about 3' 6" high and no definite gap was located. Patrol of left sector found wire damaged but not sufficiently to allow passage of troops. Both patrols were constantly fired upon, the moonlight and enemy flares showing them up.

No.4

Patrol unable to approach wire owing to enemy posts in front. These posts are sending up flares from about 80 yards in front of his parapet.

19 July.

0.50a.m. 8th Inf Bde G.O.C. relies on you to get constant
 14th Inf.Bde information back from front immediately events
 15th Inf.Bde happen and to send it on at once. Also please
 report as units or parts of units get into prescribed
 positions for operations, stating exact
 position of reserve battalion.

.55 a.m. C.R.A. 61st Division report being shelled by our
 own guns at 8.20 a.m. and 9.6 a.m. Square N.13.b
 ROTTEN ROW. C.R.A. 61st Division reports none
 of his guns fired before 9 a.m.

*refer to
18th
C.A.*

1.35 a.m. XIth Corps Herewith distribution of batteries as requested
 by your telephone message this morning.

2.13 a.m. 8th Inf.Bde Approved. Have wired Pioneers to send fifteen
 men.

2.10 p.m. C.R.A. Machine Guns have been located at:
 N.10.c.5 $\frac{1}{2}$.4
 N.10.c.4.3
 N.10.c.1 $\frac{1}{2}$.3
 Can the T.M's do anything with them as well
 as guns.

17 a.m. 5th Pioneer Bn. Send fifteen men at once to report to 32nd
 Battalion Headquarters to construct a dugout.
 Map reference N.10.a.1.9

2.15 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde Machine Guns have been located N.10.c.5 $\frac{1}{2}$.4
 14th Inf.Bde N.10.c.4.3
 N.10.c.1 $\frac{1}{2}$.3.
 Artillery informed. Try also Stokes.

2.25 p.m. 2nd Aust. Understand you have instructions to fire mine at
 Tunnelling N.10.d.1.8 at 7.00 after ZERO time. Please check
 Co. watches with OC. 32nd Infantry Battalion
 Headquarters at N.10.a.2.9. Officer who is to
 fire mine should be in close touch with the O.C.
 32nd Battalion. Please acknowledge.
 (Copy of this wire sent to 8th Inf. Brigade)

F

3.18 p.m. Adv.XIth Corps Centre Brigade reports no enemy retaliation of any consequence.

3.40 p.m. C.R.A. 8th Brigade report 18-pdrs and Trench Mortars dropping short opposite N.10.d.5.7.

3.45 p.m. 14th Inf.Bde Repair PINNEY if possible.

- 15th Brigade (phone) Use messengers owing to wires being cut between PETILLON and front line.

3.55 p.m. Adv.XIth Corps 61st Division Left Brigade report some enemy retaliation with few heavy shell on front line. No damage. Centre Brigade reports some damage to communication trench, and enfilade fire on front line. Our artillery doing good work, and Trench Mortars cutting wire well. Right Brigade heavy shrapnel retaliation on trenches but all damage repaired and casualties slight. All wires between PETILLON and front line cut.

4.10 p.m. 14th Inf.Bde Following from 32nd Battalion begins at 3.22 p.m.: First Canadians reports wire presumably well cut in part of N.9.2 Divisional Trench Mortar Officer reports what appears to be tripping wire on short stakes in long grass opposite N.9.2, probably N.9.c.7.2.

4.30 p.m. Major King 8th Brigade Use next motor cyclist who comes to you. Send anything very urgent by 'phone.

4.30 p.m. Adv.XIth Corps Two leading battalions of each Brigade now in position by 4.7 p.m.

5.43 p.m. C.R.A. 15th Brigade report wire not cut greatly from N. 9.c.15.15 to N.9.c.5.1. Rather late to do anything now.

.55 p.m. XIth Corps
61st Division
2nd ANZAC
Reported 6.10. Infantry of right Brigade still advancing. 6.12 p.m. reported attack on right appears successful musketry ceased. 6.30 p.m. report we occupy trenches in front of ROUGES BANCS. 6.45 p.m. reported from 60th Brigade that our left Brigade holds communication trench to right of FARM DELANGRE 6.45 p.m. 59th Battalion on our right reported held up half way across. 60th Battalion on left of Right Brigade apparently in.

.0 p.m. C.R.A.
8th Brigade on our left have asked for artillery to increase the range.

.34 p.m. 14th Brigade
(Phone) G.O.C. authorised G.O.C. 14th Brigade to use rest of 55th Battalion for the assault and part of 56th Battalion to move up to occupy front line and 300 yard line.

7.45 p.m. 15th Inf.Bde
G.O.C. authorised G.O.C. 15th Inf. Brigade to use rest of 3rd Battalion to stiffen and go on with the assault bringing up $\frac{1}{2}$ of his reserve battalion to hold his front and 300 yard line.

7.10 p.m.
Aeroplane reports Flares seen at N.9.c.7.1

7.45 p.m. 8th Brigade
Have your carrying parties gone forward with ~~tools~~ tools.

- 8th Brigade
Instructed in similar terms to the 14th and 15th Brigades.

7.54 p.m. C.R.A.
Further message from 8th Brigade on left that 32nd Battalion on left are holding enemy's third line about 200 yards beyond enemy's front line. Position cannot be located exactly. They are being shelled by our guns.

- 7.56 p.m. 8th Brigade Reference repeated messages from front for artillery to lift. C.R.A. reports he has lifted 500 yards. Are the infantry sure that firing is not from enemy.
- 8.5 p.m. 8th Inf.Bde Please report which portions of attack are
14th " successful, which doubtful, and which portions
15th " of enemy trenches still hold enemy so that a fresh
C.R.A. bombardment can be arranged in order to gain
the whole. Give exact boundaries for artillery
guidance. The portions captured will be held on
to.
- 8.38 p.m. 15th Brigade.61st Division left ha failed to get in.
Fresh bombardment of SUGARLOAF N.8.d.5.2 and
line to South west being carried on and will
continue till 9.0 p.m. when fresh attack will
be made by 61st.
- 8.50 p.m. 8th Brigade (phone). 8th Brigade instructed to send forward
machine guns and get them into position to repel
any counter attacks. Cannot have any more
troops to assault with. Must hold their line
with what is there.
- 8.50 p.m. Rear half Bn.29th Following moves will take place:-
Rear half Bn.56th Half Battalion 29th. from RUE DU QUESNES
Rear half Bn.57th to CROIX BLANCHE (H.33.a.4.2)
Half Battalion 56th.will occupy line of
RUE DES QUESNES in N.32.a
Half Battalion 57th to WINDY POST and vicini-
-ty (N.1.b.3.5)
These half battalions will move into
positions at 9.0 p.m. and report their
arrival to their respective Brigade
Headquarters.
- 8.50 p.m. 15th Brigade You cannot have any more troops to assault with.
You have three battalions to assault with.
Half battalion to hold our own front line, i.e.
front trench and 300 yard line for defensive
purposes only.
- 9.35 p.m. XIth Corps As far as can be ascertained though there is a
good deal of doubt about some of the information
as communication is very difficult and interrupt-
ed, the position on my front is from right to
left - 59th Battalion (reinforced (right Bn)
still attacking. Second Battalion 60th Bn.
mostly holding enemy line. Third Battalion -
53rd Bn. partly holding enemy line although
previously reported to have retreated. Fourth
Battalion -54th Bn.apparently holding enemy line

(contd)

Fifth Battalion - 31st Bn. holding enemy line having taken nearly all of assigned objective. Sixth Battalion - 32nd Bn. holding enemy line beyond assigned objective. The connecting trench on our left back to our present line is being dug.

9.25 p.m. 14th Brigade Message received from 54th Battalion by pigeon. 'We are short of shovels and sandbags and are holding the support trench the other side of the railway tram line. We need reinforcements at junction of 54th and 53rd Bns. Require more birds. C.H.HURST Lieut.'

9.30 p.m. 14th Brigade 61st Division are withdrawing from the elements they have taken tonight with a view to fresh bombardment and attack tomorrow. 5th Australian Div. will hold on to the parts of enemy's trenches which is held continuously from the left which is firmly established. Please send by bearer a reply to the following questions.

1. What extent of front does 14th Brigade hold continuously from right of 8th Brigade.
2. What Battalion or parts of battalions holds this portion.
3. Are there any other isolated bits of front held by you.

9.25 p.m. 15th Brigade 61st Division not attacking tonight. General Elliott may withdraw 59th Battalion and its reinforcements if he thinks attack is not likely to succeed.

9.53 p.m. 14th Brigade Please ^{our} try to make connecting fire trench back to line from the point in captured trenches up to which your line is in unbroken connection with 8th Brigade. Start with any men available. Will send you some Pioneers.

10.30 p.m. 15th Brigade. Now learn 61st Division hold apex of SUGARLOAF. They are endeavouring to take tonight from SUGARLOAF to right of your objective. Has 59th Bn. got in or have you had to withdraw them. Is 60th still in and is 53rd in on its left. Can you seize and hold all your objective if I give you your Reserve Battalion.

10.30 p.m. 5th Pioneer Bn
C.R.E.
14th Brigade

One Company will proceed to RUE PETILLON for work on tramway under C.R.E. One Company to report at Headquarters 14th Brigade for work in communication trenches; this Company will receive orders as to destination. Both Companies take tools. Addressed 5th Pioneers, repeated C.R.E. and 14th Brigade.

10.56 p.m. C.R.A.

Any order to cease shelling FARM DELANGRE is cancelled. This place is to be strongly shelled.

11.0 p.m. C.R.A.
(phone)

Continue shelling FARM DELANGRE.

- 2nd ANZAC
XIth Corps

15th Brigade report that up to 10 p.m. prisoners:- 1 Captain and 2 other ranks. Probably they have gone through the Collecting Station at GRANNY POST G.29.d. 14th Brigade report that 14 more prisoners have gone through probably to same place. Further information at present not available.

11.40 p.m. 8th Brigade
14th Brigade
15th Brigade
C.R.A.
C.R.E.
XIth Corps

Sixth first division are reported to hold apex of SUGARLOAF and are tonight attacking. 61st Division are ordered to take from apex to junction of German trench with River LAIES. Brigadiers are each authorised to use three battalions for fighting, and half a battalion for carrying and digging, holding our old front system parapet and 300 yards line with remaining half battalion each. You are asked to take and hold whole of the original objectives. You will, however, avoid the error often committed in France of holding captured captured trenches too thickly, as unnecessary casualties occur and men cannot dig or consolidate trenches. Corps Commander and I congratulate you on splendid work done.

11.25 p.m. XIth Corps
15th Brigade

14th Brigade in centre report that following front held continuously from N.9.c.8.1 to N.10.c.0.0. Small gap on left which is being filled. No isolated bits held.

20th July
2.15 a.m. 15th Brigade.

Understand 59th Bn. is digging in 100 yards from enemy's front line parapet. This appears unsound. If 59th and 58th can gain objective in conjunction with attack of 61st Division on SUGARLOAF, you may try to do so. If you do not do so, the 59th and 58th should fall back to

2
20th July.

-10-

273
APPENDIX 'F'

(continued)

the trenches in middle of 'NO MAN'S LAND'.
in front of your old front line and connect up
~~with~~ left of that sap with with the right
of the 60th Battalion in the German trenches. It
is left to your discretion which course you take.

0.35 a.m. 8th Brigade

You must get up water in petrol tins supplied
to you. A.D.M.S. is being directed to supply
you with 24 stretchers. Stretcher bearers
must be found from carrying parties. Left of
14th Brigade reported about 40 yards from your
right. Can you connect with them.

0.45 a.m. XIth Corps
(phone)

15th Brigade is no further use for attack. Am
I to hold on with the rest of the Division.
B.G.G.S. answered that the rest of the Division
(8th and 14th Brigades) were to hold on.

0.55 a.m. C.R.A.

Put barrage east of SUGARLOAF across enemy
trenches about North and South line between
N.8 and N.9

1.10 a.m. 15th Brigade

Abandon attack and organize defence of your
sector of our original line. You have half Batt-
alion there now. Rally the rest in rear. 14th
Brigade is connecting from its right in
German trench back to you. Please assist to dig
this connecting trench if possible as it is
vital to the 14th.

1.15 a.m. 14th Brigade

The 15th Brigade is no longer on your right
but back in original trenches. Please connect
your right in German trenches with our
original line digging in as much as possible.
Have asked 15th Brigade to assist you in this.
Acknowledge by wire.

1.35 a.m. C.R.A.

Enemy threatening to counter attack in
'NO MAN'S LAND' against new trench connecting
left of Eighth Brigade with original British
line N.10.c.9.9. Can you put barrage without
danger to 60th Brigade on 'NO MAN'S LAND' or any
part of it, East of north and south line through
N.10.d.2.0 Our troops are in NO MAN'S LAND
from N.10.c.9.6 to N.10.c.9.9 In any case if
possible put barrage on enemy front line system
on a north and south line through N.10.d.2.8

10th July.

1.40 a.m. XIth Corps. Have directed 15th Brigade to cease attack and organize defence of its original sector, and also asked it to assist 14th. in connecting right of 14th. in German trenches with our original line. Have ordered 14th to make above connection. 8th and 14th Brigades now linked up. Connecting trench on our left is completed across NO MAN'S LAND? Enemy reported preparing counter stroke against this trench. Eighth Brigade has asked 60th Brigade for fire across NO MAN'S LAND to east of our left. Would you ask 2nd Anzac also to communicate with 60th Brigade in case direct request does not get through.

1.55 a.m. XIth Corps Just informed that previous statement that trench across NO MAN'S LAND on my left was complete is incorrect. Series of pot holes, digging proceeding but under much fire. Consider this trench will be untenable in daylight unless SUGARLOAF taken or silenced. SUGARLOAF Salient flanks most of trench occupied by me.

2.16 a.m. 14th Brigade Have you received typewritten message Gall2 authorising you to use three battalions for fighting and half battalion for carrying and digging holding our old front system parapet and 300 yards line with remaining 1/2 battalion. Acknowledge.

2.27 p.m. 14th Brigade Reference L.T.M. ammunition understand you are already drawing from dump where there is plenty. Doctors bearers, and stretchers being sent to old front line via cross roads near you. Suggest you meet them and direct them on.

2.36 a.m. A.P.M. I have receipts for two sandbags full of maps and documents forwarded by 14th Brigade. They are signed by D.A.Nelson M.M.P. and R.J.PORE respectively. Could you inform me if they have yet been handed to Intelligence Officer at Collecting Station. If not, would you please forward immediately as they may give very valuable information.

2.40 a.m. XIth Corps Would be glad if Heavy Artillery could join in bombardment of SUGARLOAF especially its apex and eastern flank. My right in German trenches is about N.9.c.7 1/2.1

2.46 a.m. XIth Corps 14th Brigade in centre have captured about 60 prisoners two machine guns, of which one is in use by us, and large quantities ammunition. Estimated casualties in two assaulting battalions 50% with large proportion officers. Third battalion used for carrying. 25% remaining battalion practically intact.

- .15 a.m. C.R.A. Please arrange to bombard now and at daylight the area contained in N.8.d.4 $\frac{1}{2}$.0 - N.8.d.4 $\frac{1}{2}$.3 - N.8.d.8.3 and N.8.d.8.0
- .25 a.m. Major King
c/-8th Bde Will do all that is possible to get other stretchers. Communication trenches must not be blocked however.
- 30 a.m. 15th Brigade
14th Brigade The 14th Brigade now occupies German trenches with its right not further west than N.9.c.7 $\frac{1}{2}$.1. 15th Brigade will be prepared to support that exposed flank from earliest dawn with M.G. and rifle fire on the enemy trenches in front of 15th Brigade and to right of 14th Brigade. Addressed 15th, repeated 14th Brigade.
- .45 a.m. C.R.A. The 14th Brigade occupies enemy trenches with its right not further west than N.9.c.7 $\frac{1}{2}$.1. As soon as ever it is light enough to train you will bombard enemy front line system of trenches and support trenches from the SUGARLOAF east as far as is safe with the 14th Brigade and especially form thereby or therewith a barrage west of the right of 14th Brigade.
- .50 a.m. 60th Brigade
2nd ANZAC Request continuance of your support of my left flank till position well consolidated. Approximate position of my left N.10.c.9.9. Kindly communicate direct with 8th Brigade. Addressed 60th Brigade repeated 2nd ANZAC.
- .0 a.m. 8th Brigade
14th Brigade
15th Brigade
C.R.A. We are getting artillery and heavy artillery support on SUGARLOAF and our right and our artillery and 60th Brigade support on our left. This is in addition to barrage. 8th Brigade will communicate direct with 60th Brigade for its support. 8th and 14th Brigades will be ready to send S.O.S. signal for barrage using flares if telephone not available and reliable. Addressed 3 brigades, repeated C.R.A.
- .27 a.m. C.R.A. Our right may be farther west than N.9.c.7 $\frac{1}{2}$. Do not fire further East than north and south line between N.8 and N.9. It is possible that we are occupying trench ranning east from FARM DELAPORTE. You will assume we are occupying till advised otherwise.

Oth.
 4.35 a.m. Div.Train Corps Commander congratulates you all on
 A.D.M.S. your splendid work.
 A.P.M.
 Pioneer Bn
 C.R.A.
 C.R.E.
 8th Brigade
 14th "
 15th "

.18 a.m. 8th Brigade
 15th "
 14th Brigade are lrdred to withdraw to our
 /own line. 8th and 15th Brigades will cooperate
 with fire fromtheir respective flanks in the
 case of the Germans following up or counter
 attacking. Brigades will occupy the fronts
 from which they started as given in
 Division Order No.31. In each Brigade one
 strong battalion will hold the front line
 and 300 yard line with proportion of machine
 guns. Remainder will be reorganized under
 instructions whlich will be issued shortly.
 Acknowledge by wire.

.53 a.m. C.R.A.
 Messengers to the two battalions of 14th Brigade
 in German trenches apparently failing to get
 through and no sign retirement observeable.
 Can your O.P's or F.O.O's give any information.
 Be careful not to talk over telephones in a
 waythat would disclose the situation to
 enemy listening posts.

7.55 a.m. Colonel Wagstaff
 c/- 14th Bde
 Have 8phones General ANDERSON and asked for
 weroplane reconnaissance to clear up problem.

8.55 a.m . Adv.XIth Corps
 8th Brigade reports enemy heavy artillery
 shelling head of CELLAR FARM AVENUE. Interfering
 with withdrawal of Brigade troops to rear of
 our lines. Suggested that aeroplane observation
 with our heavy artillery could silence the
 enemy.

9.15 a.m. 11th Corps
 2nd ANZAC Corps
 Eighth Brigade reports enemy heavy artillery
 bombarding its front line heavily and states
 immediate retaliation essential. Addressed 11th
 Corps repeated 2nd ANZAC Corps.

20th.

-14

APPENDIX

277

- .25 a.m. Adv. 2nd ANZAC
14th Brigade
60th Brigade
- Eighth Brigade reports enemy massing opposite it and heavy bombardment by enemy artillery on its front line. Can you assist in repelling attack if any attack is made.
- .40 a.m. 8th Brigade
14th "
15th "
- Reports from portions of our front line state heavy bombardment and suggest massing of enemy. Suggestion doubtful but in case correct you must have a formed body of troops available about the CROIX BLANCHE JUNCTION POST WINDY POST line to support our front line if attacked. This should be for each Brigade a battalion which has suffered least of those being withdrawn. Report when arrangements completed by wire. Heavy artillery is about to engage enemy.
- .40 a.m. C.R.A.
- Reports received enemy troops massing on our front. Be ready to put up a barrage.
- .45 a.m. XIth Corps
2nd ANZAC
Div.Art.
- All troops this Division returned to old line. Addressed 11th Corps, repeated 2nd ANZAC, and C.R.A. of Divisional Artillery.
- .57 a.m. XIth Corps
Adv.2nd ANZAC
- Reports which appear reliable indicate that enemy is massing in his front trenches. Have ordered artillery to barrage enemy front and support trenches. At moment have only 2 and a half formed battalions available in front system.
- 0.00a.m. 8th Brigade
14th Brigade
15th Brigade
- Use all efforts to station a battalion or equivalent for each Brigade on CROIX BLANC JUNCTION POST WINDY POST Line.
- 0.4 a.m. 8th Brigade
0.6 a.m. 14th Brigade
0.10a.m. 15th Brigade
- (by 'phone) Warned by telephone to keep up its supplies of ammunition and bombs.
- 0.15 a.m.C.R.A.
- (by 'phone) C.R.A. informed to cut out barrage and give slow fire on wire until enquiries made regarding situation.

"F"

2
201
10.18 a.m. 8th Brigade
15th Brigade

Please report as soon as you can whether you left any wounded in enemy trenches.

10.20 a.m. Adv. XIth Corps
" 2nd ANZAC

Have stopped barrage on enemy trenches and firing slowly on his wire.

0.25 a.m. 8th Inf. Bde
14th "
15th "

Working parties on enemy parapets today afford an excellent opportunity for practice in sniping.

5.0 am.
20 July

1. Telephone message from Colonel Pope, Commanding 14th Inf. Brigade, that things were very desperate in the German trenches with the 54th Battalion. I told him that the orders were to hang on and he could use half the 56th Battalion for reinforcements.
2. Rang up Colonel Tivey to find out latest situation. Gained the news that 8th Brigade had all retired back to their ~~trenches~~ old line. This was confirmed by Major King. Immediately wrote a note to General McCay, who had gone to a conference at the CHATEAU, note delivered by Capt. Boase. Was called up by Colonel Pope who had just received the news of withdrawal of 8th Brigade. Colonel Pope raised the question whether it was wise for him to hang on any longer.
3. Called up General McCay at CHATEAU stated case to him and asked for decision re Colonel Pope. General McCay consulted the Army Commander, who was present, and obtained permission to withdraw. Colonel Pope. General McCay directed that Colonel Pope should be informed that he might withdraw, that the operation was to be conducted by him, that he was to save his machine guns if possible, and that he could ask for any Artillery support he wished.
4. Then called up General McCay again who stated that Artillery were to be warned, and that fire on SUGAR LOAF was to be kept up. Immediately sent Gen. Staff Officer to C.R.A. with a description of the situation and instructions to be prepared to cover the withdrawal and to keep up bombardment on SUGAR LOAF.