

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/80/9

Title: 5th Australian Sanitary Section

April 1918



AWM4-26/80/9

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

5th Aust. Sanitary Section
~~APRIL~~

FOR

April 1918

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.
Date

Signature of Officer compiling

W. J. ... Major

Signature of Officer Commanding

W. J. ... Major

280

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.
Date.

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ARQUÈVES (Lens Map)	April	12 th - 2 nd	Slight shelling of village. Reports made during period on water supply of Scalvelles, Vauchelles, Souvignour, Acheux.	
"	"	4 th	Orders received 5 pm to proceed to Vauchelles and embark at 7.30 pm 7.30 pm. Marched out 6 pm arrived Vauchelles 7.15 pm. Buses left 8.45 pm - arrived Douars (Amines Map.) 10.5 th (Biller at Archives Barn & Biller off. at Mme Choquet. Sévin.)	
Boves.	"	5 th	marched from Douars to Bussy les. Douars arrived 4.30 pm. Orders received 5.30 am to proceed at once to vicinity of St Nicholas - left Bussy les. Douars with 8 th Field Amb. proceeded via Douars - Sa Motte - Glisy - St Nicholas. Biller arranged at Chateau Brandt Boves for unit & 8 th Field Amb. Arrived at St Nicholas at 10.25 am. marched to chateau at 5.6 & 2.5. - Station at Boves being shelled en route - arrived Chateau Brandt 11 am - Men put into billets - fed & rested. Chateau vacated by inhabitants evidently hurriedly several days previously.	
Boves	"	6 - 8 th	Nothing to report.	
Glisy	"	9 th	Marched out Chateau Brandt, Boves to Glisy at 2 pm - still attached to 8 th Field Amb.	
"	"	10 - 11 th	Testing & Sabotaging of all water in village of Glisy - Glisy evacuated for most part by civilians.	
Glisy	"	12 th	8 th Field Amb receive orders to move to Douars. Unit remained Glisy for further instructions	
Douars	"	13 th	Marched out 1.5 pm to Boves Boves Mills, Douars, same location as 8 th Field Amb. 150R evacuated chicken. box.	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A8004) W1 W1771/32031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Form C/2118/14

WAR DIARY

AUSTRALIAN DIV.

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

No.
Date

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Douars	April 14 th	-	Permission obtained from ADMS 5 th Austr Div to proceed to Steenwerde to get rid of small unit dump at Steenwerde, threatened by German advance near Bailleul - Unit to be under orders of C.O 8 th Field Amb. during absence of O.C. Sanit. Sect. Dump cleared from Mine Sweeper's house Steenwerde - all records records etc brought back to Unit Typewriter left home to 14 th Austr Field Amb. Remaining stores, stationery handed over to ADM Steenwerde, ev. of material to Salvage Dump.	
"	15 th		Ford Box Car unwatered. O.C. Sanit. Sect. returned to Unit.	
"	16-20 th		Unit in area of 45 th Sanit. Sect. III rd Corps - arrangement made with O.C. 45 th Sanit. Sect. for this Unit to be responsible for all units in 5 th Austr Div area & sanitary supervision, until rearrangements made by Corps.	
"	21 st		Instruction received DDMS Corps & ADMS 5 th Austr Div that Unit will be come to be under orders of ADMS and will come under orders of DDMS Austr. Corps. - area allotted.	
"	22 nd		Arrangements made for ^{3 parties of} INCO & 2 men to be killed and returned at Aubigny with 8 th Field Amb ADS. at Sa Neuville at 8 th Field Amb ADS and Bloyuy. Trunelle with 14 th Field Amb Post. Party dispatched to Aubigny Sa Neuville.	
"	23 rd		Parties dispatched to Aubigny & Bloyuy. Trunelle. Heavy gas shelling of Aubigny during afternoon. ADS evacuated by 8 th Field Amb. Party withdrawn back to Douars - heavy	
"	24 th		Heavy HE, gas & shrapnel shelling of Douars, Sa Neuville & Aubigny & forward villages commencing 2.30 am ^{am} accompanying enemy attack on Poles Bretonneux Port withdrawn from Sa Neuville.	
"	25 th } 26 th }		Many dead horses lying all area - report & list of our ADMS 5 th Austr Div & DDMS Corps - Subunit Company 20 men attached division for purpose of buying these horses.	
			Monthly report rendered DDMS. Austr Corps 27 th . Copy attached.	

280

20

280

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
0th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>Wooln Milk</u> <u>Douars.</u>	April	30 th	<p>Box Car reported. Side car sent to Workshops.</p> <p><u>Resumé.</u></p> <p>During month difficulties has been with Transport. At one time establishment provided for unit to be self contained and to have a three ton lorry attached. This however was changed and transport was reduced to motor bicycle & side car, and ten hundredweight Box Car - this car however was never issued but a 750 lb Ford Box car instead. Units were attached in B.E.F to Army & in most cases detached to Corps - but no consequent provision was made to have transport available either with Army or with Corps. Divisions have only transport available for their own units. At time of first move 26/4/18 practically all equipment including mob. stores were returned to DADOS & Salvage - reducing equipment status etc to 750 lbs. - during latter period of month the Box Car broke down and no transport could be obtained to replace the loss for ten days.</p> <p>During the month there has been a large good deal of movement and it was found that the work of the Sanitary Section was practically reduced to reporting to Division on locations of water supplies, labelling & testing of same. On becoming more settled Sanitary Section resumed its former duties but no construction is being done by the Unit.</p>	<p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>30</p>

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A8004) W1 W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Form C/2118/14

780

WAR DIARY

OF

5th Aust Sanitary Section

FOR

April

1918.

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.
Date.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	DDMS Instructions No 15.
2.	Letter Col. Manifold
3.	Scale Map of Unit Area (approximate)
4.	ADMS 5 th Aust Div 05/35
5.	Commdr Memo. 56 5 th Aust Div. 10-4-18
6.	Telegram. ADMS 5 th Aust Div.
7.	ADMS 5 th Aust. Div H 19/35 12-4-18
8.	ADMS 5 th Aust Div 16/35 12-4-18
9.	do do L 10/35 12-4-18
10.	do do H 20/35 12-4-18
11.	H 10/35 12-4-18 ADMS 5 th Aust Div Admin. Memo No 63. 10-4-18.
12.	Medical Arrangements 5 th Aust Div Sect.
13.	" " Instructions No 11 DDMS Insp 19-4-18
14.	Canteen. Balance Sheet. 30-4-18
15.	ADMS 5 th Aust Div H 2/40.
16.	" " " " Memo No 13.
17.	" " " " ADMC Under No 11.
18.	General Staff Memo No 218 (5 th Aust Div.)
19.	Monthly Sanitary Report, for April
20.	Reg. Funds, Cash Statement for month
21.	Unit Orders for month
22.	Int. Summary. 14/15 th to 30 th April

ORIGINAL

280

Appendix, 1

5

SECRET

Appendix, 1

Copy No.....

A U S T R A L I A N C O R P S

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....

Medical Instructions No.15.

Owing to the alteration of Corps Boundaries, Sanitary areas will be as follows :-

- i. 4th Australian Sanitary Section - A1.Divisional area.
- ii. 5th Australian Sanitary Section - A. Divisional area and Corps area within boundaries formed by prolongation of Divisional boundaries to Amiens, Villers Bocage, Doullens Rd.
- iii. 1st Australian Sanitary Section - B. Divisional area and Corps area within boundaries formed by prolongation of Divisional boundaries to Amiens, Villers Bocage, Doullens Road.
- iv. 3rd Australian Sanitary Section - C. Divisional area and Corps area within boundaries formed by prolongation of Divisional Boundaries to Amiens, Villers Bocage, Doullens Rd.

2. The Officer Commanding 4th Australian Sanitary Section will hand over above mentioned Corps area, to respective O.C. Sanitary Sections and take over "A.i" Divisional area forthwith, and notify D.D.M.S. Australian Corps of completion.

Headquarters
28th April 1918

Coleridge Chapman ^{Major} COLONEL
D.D.M.S. Australian Corps.

Distribution :-

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| O.C. 1st Aust. San. Sect. | D.M.S. Fourth Army |
| O.C. 3rd Aust. San. Sect. | "G" Aust. Corps |
| O.C. 4th Aust. San. Sect. | "Q" Aust. Corps. |
| O.C. 5th Aust. San. Sect. | A.Ds.M.S. Aust. Divisions. |
| "AQ" Aust. Corps | 48th Sanitary Section. |
| H.Qs. Australian Divisions. | War Diary. |



280

6

Appendix, 2

A.D.M.S. Aust. Corps MS/70.

A.D.M.S. 5th Australian Division.

Appendix, 2

In handing over the Medical Administration of this Corps, I would wish to express to all ranks of the A.A.M.C. my deep feeling of regret that my close connection with them should be severed.

Over two years of intimate comradeship have aroused in me not only the admiration which bravery, devotion to duty and capacity must always excite in ^{the} breast, but it has also implanted in me the deepest affection for Officers and men of the A.A.M.C. not one of whom I have ever known to fail in any point of the work in which I have been so fortunate as to be associated with them in this splendid Corps.

In thanking them all, I trust it may yet be my fate to meet old comrades again and in circumstances which, though they cannot, I believe, be happier than the two years I have spent with them, may be more propitious as regards a settled life.

In wishing to all God-Speed, I will also add Au Revoir.

Headquarters,
Aust. Corps,
8th April, 1918.

Sgd/ C.A. MANIFOLD, COLONEL.
D.D.M.S. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

To C.O. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance.
C.O. 14th " " "
C.O. 15th " " "
C.O. 5th Aust. Sanitary Section. ✓

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

Forwarded for your information and communication to all concerned.

D.H.Q.
10.4.18.

A. D. M. S.
5TH
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
F 26/24
10.4.18

J.A. Jones
major for COLONEL.
A.D.M.S. 5th Australian Division.

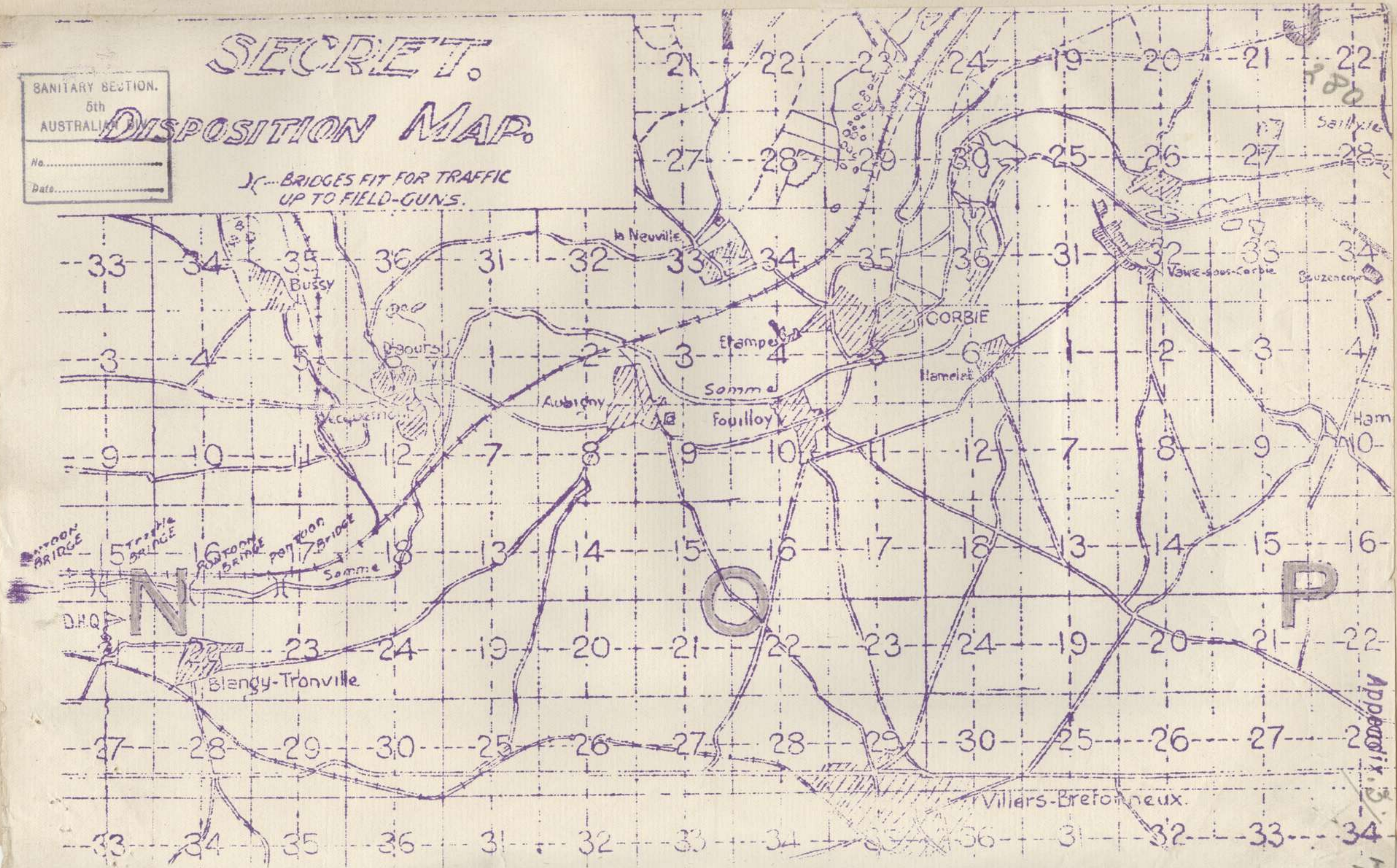


SECRET.

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
No. _____
Date _____

DISPOSITION MAP.

--- BRIDGES FIT FOR TRAFFIC
UP TO FIELD-GUNS.



Appendix 3/4

40
7 SECRET.

Appendix 4

Headquarters,
5th Australian Division,
10th April, 1918.

To C.O. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance.
C.O. 14th " " "
C.O. 15th " " "
C.O. 5th Aust. Sanitary Section.

Reference this office "Medical Arrangements" of 10.4.18.

In view of a possible retirement, suitable sites are being selected on the line of evacuation to Casualty Clearing Station for the future establishment of Dressing Stations &c., and arrangements made for immediate occupation when required.

The following sites have been selected for Corps Medical Units and will not be occupied by Divisional Units unless under instructions from Corps through this office :-

- SCHOOL HOUSE.....SALOUEL.
- SCHOOL HOUSE.....LONGPRE.
- SITE OF 47 C.C.S.....MONTIERS.

In event of the necessity for withdrawal of Advanced Dressing Station and Forward Posts:-

1. The 15th Aust. Field Ambulance will fall back through DACURS to selected site at SCHOOL, M.l.b.l.5. Junction AMIENS-ALBERT-DACURS Rde. This site will in the meantime be held by small party of 14th Aust. Field Ambulance.
2. The present Walking Wounded Collecting Post run by 14th Aust. Field Ambulance at DACURS will become an Advanced Dressing Station and the C.O. will immediately get his bearers in touch with R.M.O's.
3. The C.O. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance will under instructions from this office clear his Divisional Rest Station patients, and his station will become an Advanced Dressing Station.
He will arrange with C.O. 14th Aust. Field Ambulance to clear such of the R.A.P's as may be necessary.
4. The 5th Aust. Sanitary Section will remain at GLISY until further orders.

A.D.M.S.
5th
05/35
10/4/18

E.H. Downey
A.D.M.S. 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION. COLONEL.

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

280

led.
Sanitary Section

9

Appendix 5
A. D. M. S.
5TH
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
No. 112/35
Date 11.4.18

SECRET.

5TH. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Headquarters,
10.4.18.

C I R C U L A R M E M O R A N D U M N O . 5 6 .

The difficulties connected with the transportation of material and foodstuffs and the general shortage of all kinds of stores, make it essential that every possible measure should be taken to prevent avoidable losses in stores and supplies of all kinds.

To this end it is requested that Commanders of all formations and units will bring under review the position of all dumps of R.E. material and other stores and supplies in their areas, with a view to withdrawing or reducing any such dumps.

The question of salvage is of the greatest importance and one that must be carefully considered. Particular attention will be paid to all classes of clothing, equipment, leather goods, rubber tyres, machine guns, machine gun parts, empty ammunition or grenade boxes, petrol tins, petrol cases, R.E. stores, etc. etc.

Units will return all articles as enumerated above to the Supply Dumps by supply wagons, (or other vehicles), proceeding to draw rations. Salvage dumps will be established at the Refilling Points: -

- PONT NOUBLES,
- DAOURS,
- BLANZY-TRONVILLE.

At each of these dumps the Salvage Company will detail 2 men to sort all salvage returned.

Salvage in turn will be returned by supply lorries to main dumps (receiving station), at ALIENS, Supply Railhead.

No salvage will be returned to Railhead until a representative of D.A.D.O.S. or C.R.E. has examined it, as a proportion will, no doubt, be serviceable after being cleaned and repaired.

The C.O., 5th Div. Salvage Co., will supervise all these arrangements.

All underclothing will be handed in to the Clothing Store in the Nissen Hut in the Square at BLANZY-TRONVILLE.

The S.S.O. will arrange for returning to Railhead, from the dumps, all surplus supplies, petrol tins, petrol cases, empty bags, waste-paper, etc.

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

J. H. M. G.
Colonel,
A.A. & M.G., 5th Australian Division.

280

Appendix 6

10

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.			No. of Message.....		
Prefix.....	Code.....	m.	Words.	Charge.	
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.		This message is on a/c of:			Recd. at..... m.
.....		Sent			Date..... 6
.....		At..... m.			..... Service.
.....		To.....			From.....
.....		By.....			By.....
		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")			
TO	O.C.				
	5th Australian Sanitary Section				
Sender's Number.		Day of Month.		In reply to Number.	
* 00/316.		12		A A A	
<p>Arrange to move your unit to DAOURS today where billets are being arranged.</p>					
From A.D.M.S. 5th Australian Division.					
Place					
Time					
The above may be forwarded as now corrected.			(Z) <i>W.A. Downey</i> COLONEL.		
Censor.			Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.		

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ld. (E. 1187.)



280

Appendix. 4. 11

Appendix 7
Headquarters,
5th Aust. Division,
12.4.18.

To. C.O. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance.
C.O. 14th " " "
C.O. 15th " " "
C.O. 5th Aust. Sanitary Section. ✓

The following are the ALERT, READY, and PRECAUTIONARY Zones of the Corps on our left:-

N
ALERT ZONE. HENECOURT - BRESLE - HEILLY - BONNAY - LA NEUVILLE - AUBIGNY (all inclusive).

READY ZONE. BAIZIEUX - FRANVILLERS - LA HOUSOYE - BUSSY - GLISY - (all inclusive).

PRECAUTIONARY ZONE. AMIENS - RAINNEVILLE - PIERREGOT Road.

W.A. Downey COLONEL.
A.D.M.S. 5th Australian Divn.,

A.D.M.S.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
H19/35
12.4.18

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....



280

Appendix 8

12

PY.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

158/562.

Headquarters,
9th April, 1918.

Appendix 8

Headquarters,
5th Australian Division.

During the present phase in the operations the regular supply of fresh meat presents difficulties and it is inevitable that the men will only receive a small percentage in their rations. There is an additional supply of fresh meat available in the form of horses killed by shell fire, and the Corps Commander see no reason why this should not be taken advantage of, and used as is freely done in the French Army. The flesh can be taken into use under Divisional Arrangements and issued as an additional and optional ration.

Sgd/ R.A. CARRUTHERS, Brig. Genl.
D.A.&.Q.M.G. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

A.D.M.S.

With reference to above from Australian Corps - When possible the contents of this memo. will be given effect to. The salvage of horse and mule hides is also a very urgent matter and every effort should be made to salve these. All hides when salved will be returned to Mobile Vet. Section.

Sgd/ G.D. SMITH, Major.
D.A.Q.M.G. 5th Australian Division.

11.4.18.

To C.O. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance.
C.O. 14th " " "
C.O. 15th " " "
C.O. 5th Aust. Sanitary Section. ✓

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

Forwarded for your information and necessary action.

D.H.Q.
12.4.18.

A. D. M. S.
5TH
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
216/35
12/4/18

W.A. Downey COLONEL.
A.D.M.S. 5th Australian Division.



280

Appendix 9

13

H.Q., 5th Aust. Division,
11.4.18.

To C.O. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance.
C.O. 14th " " "
C.O. 15th " " "
C.O. 5th Aust. Sanitary Section. ✓

SANITARY SECTION	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	
Date.....	

Appendix 9

1. On the death of a horse from shell fire or other causes, the Unit to which the horse belonged will take immediate steps for its burial.
2. In the case of dead horses left unburied by Units who have left the Area, Units will take immediate steps for burial in their Area.
3. All carcasses will be opened before burial.
4. When circumstances permit, the carcasses should be skinned, and the skins forwarded to the Mobile Veterinary Section.
5. The Military Police will report to Units in the Area concerned, the location of any dead horses which are known.

M.A. Downey COLONEL.
A.D.M.S. 5th Australian Division.

A.D.M.S.
5TH
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
L10/35
N. J. A.



280

14

Appendix 10

1. DEFENCE AGAINST GAS.

The following are the Precautionary and Alert Zones in the Corps Area -

A. Precautionary Zone.

East of the following line and West of the "Alert Zone" line. The River LA CELLE from CONTY (exclusive) to its junction with the SOLE W. of AMIENS.

Box Respirators will be carried within this Area

A.P.M. will mark the bridges over the river between those points, with Precautionary Zone Notice Boards which will be supplied by C.E., III Corps.

B. Alert Zone.

East of the following line -

Railway crossing T.11.b.5.4, Cross roads T.10.a.0.0. Railway crossing O.25.c.7.4. AUBIGNY cross roads. P.8.b.5.6.

Box Respirators will be worn in the Alert position E. of this line.

A.P.M., III Corps, will arrange to mark the above-mentioned points with boards that will be supplied by C.E., III Corps.

Divisions will arrange to mark intermediate points such as where tracks or roads cross this line in their own Areas. Boards for this purpose will be supplied on Demand from C.E., III Corps.

2. STEEL HELMETS.

Steel helmets will be worn by all ranks E. of Alert Zone Line.

3. Traffic control posts and M.H.P. at the points mentioned in B. above will ensure that these orders are complied with.

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....

A. D. M. S.	
5TH	
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.	
No. H 20/35	.....
Date 12.4.18	.....

Lt Daly
7ⁿ

Headquarters, III Corps.
10th April, 1918.

E.G.G.S.
III Corps.

To be sent Sanitary Section .. Distribution ..
P.T.O.



DISTRIBUTION.

18th Division.	(50)	.
58th Division.	(50)	.
5th Australian Division	(50)	.
III Corps H.A.	(40)	.
No. 1 M.M.G. Batty.	(1)	.
1/1 Northd: Hussars	(1)	.
Canadian M.M.G. BCo.	(2)	.
G.O.C., R.A.	(10)	(for Army Bcos).
C.R.E., Corps Troops	(20)	(for R.E. units).
C.E.	(1)	.
Q.	(1)	.
A.P.M.	(1)	.
A.D.O.S.	(8)	(for Ord. units).
Labour Comndt.	(20)	(for Lab. units).
D.D.M.S.	(15)	(for Medical units).
A.D.V.S.	(3)	(for Vety. units).
C.R.O.	(6)	(for Ed. Con. Coys.)
A.D., Signals	(6)	(for Signal units).
S.M.T.O.	(6)	(for H.T. Units).
Camp Commandant	(1)	.
Chemical Advisor	(1)	.



280

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.
Date.

Appendix

11

SECRET.

Copy No.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM No. 63.

Issued in connection with 5th Australian Divisional Order No. 199.

Headquarters,
10th April 1918.

1. REFILLING POINTS.

8th Aust. Inf. Bde.	-	PONT NOYELLES.
14th Aust. Inf. Bde.	-	DAOURS.
15th Aust. Inf. Bde..	-	BLANGY.
Div. Troops, (Artillery)	-	PONT NOYELLES.
Div. Troops, No. 2.	-	BLANGY.

Any alterations will be notified by wire to Staff Captains.

2. AMMUNITION SUPPLIES, (Other than Artillery).

- (a) Each attacking Battalion will have a reserve of 25,000 S.A.A. as far forward as possible at ZERO. The Battalion pack mules will be waiting in a safe place, ready to commence carrying forward.
- (b) Brigades will arrange to keep the Battalion reserves filled.
- (c) 5 G.S.wagons, 5 Limbered wagons from S.A.A.Section, with mixed ammunition - S.A.A., Stokes, Rifle Grenades, Hand Grenades and Fireworks - will be attached to the Brigade transport lines and will be drawn on as required. Each of these sub-sections will also carry 20 pack-saddles, so that extra pack transport will be available should it be required. Immediately any of these wagons have disposed of their loads, they will return to the S.A.A.Section, re-load and return to the transport lines to which they were allotted.
- (d) A reserve of 250,000 S.A.A. for machine guns will be retained at the Headquarters of the 5th Aust. M.G. Battalion at FOUILLOY Chateau, O.10.b.8.8., to meet any emergency.
- (e) Every man will have in his possession 2 red ground flares.
- (f) Rifle Grenade Sections to carry 3 Mills R.G. and 3 No. 24 or No. 35 R.G.. The remainder of grenadiers to carry 3 hand grenades.

3. IRON RATIONS.

An extra Iron Ration will be issued to-day to all Infantry and T.M.Batteries. The position will therefore be -
 Unconsumed portion of day's ration on the man.
 2 days Iron rations on the man.

4. WATER.

Brigades will make all necessary arrangements for storage of water in petrol tins, so that it can be sent forward at once should the necessity arise.

5. KITS.

Kits of all Officers and men taking part in these operations will be stored under Brigade arrangements. It is absolutely necessary that kits should all have proper identification marks.

P.T.O..

6. IDENTITY DISCS.

It is essential that all ranks are in possession of identity discs
Great inconvenience has been caused through casualties having no
marks of identification.

7. DIVISIONAL R.E. DUMPS.

5th Aust. Div. R. E. Dump	AUBIGNY, O.9.a.7.3.
15th Field Coy., R. E. Dump	HABILET.
14th do.	FOUILLOY.

Units will draw from the nearest dump.

J.H. Mucke
Colonel,
A.A. & C.M.G., 5th Australian Division.

Issued to :-

Copy No.

8th Inf. Bde.	1
14th Inf. Bde..	2
15th Inf. Bde..	3
5th H.G. Battalion.	4
5th Pioneer Battalion.	5
C.R.A..	6
O.C., S.A.A. Section, B.A.C..	7
C.R.E..	8
5th Div. Signal Coy.	9
5th Div. Train.	10
5th Div. Sanitary Section.	11
5th Div. Salvage Coy.	12
S.S.O., 5th Div. Train.	13
D.A.D.V.S..	14
D.A.D.O.S..	15
A.P.M..	16
Camp Commandant.	17
A.D.M.S..	18
Div. Bomb Officer.	19
Div. Gas Officer.	20

Copies to :-

III Corps.	21
Australian Corps.	22
"G".	23
War Diary.	24-27
A.D.C. to G.O.C..	28
File.	29

280

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....

Appendix

120
18
COPY No.....

CONFIDENTIAL

Headquarters,
5th Australian Division,
18th April, 1918.

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS IN 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL
SECTOR.

Sheet 62d & AMIENS 17.

In the event of the necessity of withdrawal from front line, the following re-arrangements of medical units will take place.

1. The 15th Australian Field Ambulance will fall back from A.D.S. AUBIGNY and Forward Posts to ALLOUVILLE, where it will open up as an M.D.S.

2. The Divisional Walking Wounded Collecting Post at DAOURS, (14th Aust. Field Ambulance) will become the Advanced Dressing Stn. This will be retired if necessary to a site already selected and where the Unit transport is parked, at N.4.c.8.1.

3. The 8th Australian Field Ambulance will fall back from their present location at WOOLLEN HILL, DAOURS, to a site selected at BUSSY-LES-DAOURS.

One tent sub-division will open up at N.4.c.8.1. as a Divisional Collecting Station. This personnel will be supplemented if required by further tent sub-division personnel from the 8th Aust. Field Ambulance.

4. EVACUATION OF WOUNDED.

As heretofore to Corps Main Dressing Station at ST. AGHTUL and Corps Walking Wounded Station at RUE PORTE DE PARIS, AMIENS.

Should these stations be moved West of Amiens as result of heavy shelling of AMIENS and its environs, cases will be evacuated in Divisional Cars and Wagons to the M.D.S. at ALLOUVILLE, via BUSSY LES DAOURS - QUERRIEU - ALLOUVILLE Road, where they will be evacuated under Corps Arrangements to Casualty Clearing Station.

The bearer sub-divisions and Ambulance vehicles of the 8th Aust. Field Ambulance will be at the disposal of the C.O. 14th Aust. Field Ambulance.

5. The 5th Aust. Sanitary Section will move to BUSSY LES DAOURS.

6. These arrangements will hold good while the Division remains in 3rd Corps, and afterwards until further orders.

7. Field Ambulances ACKNOWLEDGE.

G. L. H. Downey COLONEL.
A.D.M.S. 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVN.

Issued to:-

1. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance.
2. 14th " " "
3. 15th " " "
4. 5th Aust. Sanitary Section.

Copies to:-

5. D.D.M.S. 3rd Corps.
6. D.D.M.S. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.
7. H.Q., 5th Australian Division.
8. 8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.
9. 14th " " "
10. 15th " " "
- 11/13. War Diary.

280
SECRET

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date...19-4-18

Appendix 13

Copy No. 8

13

A U S T R A L I A N C O R P S

Medical Instructions No. 11.

In accordance with Australian Corps Order No. 69, the following medical re-arrangements will take place as from 9 am 21st April 1918.

1. i. The A.D.M.S. 5th Australian Division will take over the Adv. Dressing Station at LA NEUVILLE, 62D/I.33.b.3.O. from A.D.M.S. 3rd Australian Division, and will be responsible for the medical arrangements of the Divisional Sector as taken over by the Australian Corps, under abovementioned order, including all Ambulance posts, medical stores and equipment taken over from IIIrd Corps.
 - ii. The Main Dressing Station will be established west of the river HALLUE and a post maintained south of the river Somme capable of expansion into a Main Dressing Station.
 - iii. A Divisional Collecting Station will be formed in the vicinity of 62D/G.29 or 30.
2. Field Ambulances of Australian Corps will, in future, move with Mob. Table equipment of stretchers and Blankets. Surplus to be handed over to relieving units or returned to dump at No. 3. Motor Ambulance Convoy, VILLERS BOGAGE.
3. Duplicate copy of stores and equipment handed or taken over will not be rendered to D.D.M.S. in future, but filed in A.D.M.S. Office for reference.
4. Sanitary Sections will cease to be under the orders of A.Ds.M.S. and come under the orders of D.D.M.S. as from 9 am 21st April 1918, and are allotted areas as follows :-

No. 5 Aust. San. Sect.	"A" area
No. 1 Aust. San. Sect.	"B" area
No. 3 Aust. San. Sect.	"C" area
No. 4 Aust. San. Sect.	Corps area east of Doullens-Villers Bocage-Amiens Road inclusive of village of Rainville.
No. 48 Sanitary Sect.	Corps Back area west of Doullens-Villers Bocage-Amiens Rd. less villages of St. Ouen and Flixecourt.

5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J.W. Barber

Headquarters
19th Apr. 1918

COLONEL
D.D.M.S. Australian Corps

Distribution :-

Copy No. 1 A.D.M.S. 2nd A/Div.	10-14 "AC" Aust. Corps
2 A.D.M.S. 3rd Aust. Div.	15-17 War Diary
3 A.D.M.S. 4th Aust. Div.	Copies for information to :-
4 A.D.M.S. 5th Aust. Div.	D.M.S. Fourth Army
5 O.C. 1st Aust. San. Sect.	"G" Aust. Corps
6 O.C. 3rd Aust. San. Sect.	"Q" Aust. Corps
7 O.C. 4th Aust. San. Sect.	3rd M.A.C.
8 O.C. 5th Aust. San. Sect.	D.D.M.S. IIIrd Corps
9 O.C. 48th San. Section.	

STATEMENT OF CASES OF "TRENCH FOOT" ADMITTED TO FIELD AMBCES.
 OF 1st ANZAC CORPS DURING 24 HOURS ENDING NOON1917.

UNIT	No. of cases.	No. of cases wearing long gun-boots.	Whether FRENCH PREVENTIVE measures taken.	Whether hot food served in trenches.	No. of days in trenches	Remarks.

H. Q. 1st ANZAC.,
1917.

COLONEL,
 D. D. M. S., 1st. A. & N. Z. Army Corps.

Appendix 132

270

5th Australian Sanitary Section Canteen
Balance Sheet to April 30/1918

Liabilities	Fees	Cts	Assets	Fees	Cts
Unpaid Bills	-	-	Cash in Hand of 34.00 Petty 12.20	46	20
			Section Debts	151	05
			Stock in Hand	10	25
Balance	207	50			
Total	207	50	Total	207	50

W. McPherson Major
W. McPherson S/Sgt

D. Thompson Sgt
Nakowski Pte

5th Aust Sanitary Section Canteen
Cash Statement for month ended 30/4/18

Receipts				Payments			
Day	From Whom	on what of	Fees Cts	Date	To Whom	on what of	Fees Cts
	Brought forward from last		14 00	10/4/18	To Reg. Bonds of		79 85
	Takings		32 20				
	"		79 85				
					Cash in Hand	of 34.00 Petty 12.20	46 20
	Total		126 05		Total		126 05

W. McPherson Major
W. McPherson S/Sgt

D. Thompson Sgt
Nakowski Pte

280

1. From interrogation of the gassed cases, it appears that the casualties caused by the recent gas shelling were due almost entirely to men removing their respirators, whilst in the neighbourhood of ground soaked with Yellow Cross (Mustard) Gas.

2. Respirators were removed, after they had been worn for an hour or less, because in the opinion of the officer or senior N.C.O. on the spot, it was considered that the smell had almost disappeared. In some cases, the facepiece was taken off, while the mouthpiece and noseclip were still worn, with the result that the eyes were affected, and the men became casualties.

In other instances, the troops moved to ground, which was not affected, and the wind blew the gas across the new area occupied, thus causing casualties.

3. Officers must understand that they are responsible for the gas protection of their commands, and that if the ground they are occupying is shelled with Yellow Cross (Mustard) Gas, gas respirators must be worn as long as the men are in the gas.

4. Ground, which has been soaked with gas, should be vacated, and the troops posted on the flanks so as to cover as far as possible the unoccupied area. It is improbable that the enemy will launch a serious attack over ground, which he has already impregnated with gas.

5. Divisional or Brigade Gas Officers, and Battalion or Coy. Gas N.C.Os. should be sent immediately to investigate cases of gas shelling on the spot, so that the troops in the vicinity may get the earliest warning of the presence of mustard gas.

6. Attention is drawn to IIIrd Corps G.O. 8925 of 12th April, 1918 "Notes on Yellow Cross (Mustard) Gas" which must be explained to all ranks, and especially to all new drafts.

H.Q. IIIrd Corps.
19th April, 1918.

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

Sgd/ C.G. FULLER, Brig.Gen.
General Staff.
IIIrd CORPS.

To A.D.M.S.

1 Copy of IIIrd Corps letter G.O. 9126 with reference to casualties caused by recent enemy gas shelling is forwarded herewith. Attention is directed to IIIrd Corps letter G.O. 8925 forwarded under this office G.17/4733 of 13th inst.,

19th April, 1918.

Sgd/ G.F. WOOTTEN, Major.
General Staff.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

- To C.O. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance.
- C.O. 14th " " "
- C.O. 15th " " "
- C.O. 5th Aust. Sanitary Section.

The attention of C.Os. is directed to attached copy of IIIrd Corps letter.

It is recommended in view of the probability of heavy gassing by the enemy, that special attention be paid to gas instruction and gas drill, including exercises during night time, with box respirators adjusted.

D.H.Q.
20.5.18.

A.D.M.S.
5TH
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
AM-40
20-5-18

J. James for
COLONEL.
A.D.M.S. 5th Australian Division.

280

Appendix. 161

22

SECRET.

Headquarters,
5th Australian Division,
20th April, 1918.

Appendix. 161

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

To C.O. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance.
 C.O. 14th " " "
 C.O. 15th " " "
 C.O. 5th Aust. Sanitary Section.

16

Consequent upon re-arrangement of Divisional boundaries and verbal instructions from D.D.M.S. AUSTRALIAN CORPS, the following medical re-arrangements will take place.

1. The C.O. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance will
 - (a) Take over from the C.O. 15th Australian Field Ambulance the A.D.S. AUBIGNY and Forward Posts on 21.4.18.
 - (b) Take over from a 3rd Australian Division Field Ambulance the A.D.S. LA NEUVILLE and Forward Posts.
2. The 15th Aust. Field Ambulance will on relief move to LES ALENCONS where it will open up as a Divisional Collecting Station. (Location of site of station will be notified in 5th Australian Division A.A.M.C. Order No. 11).
3. The 14th Aust. Field Ambulance will move from its present location to BUSSY LES DACOURS and open up as a MAIN DRESSING STATION on 21.4.18. (Location of site of Station will be notified in 5th Aust. Division A.A.M.C. Order No. 11).
4. 5th Australian Sanitary Section will remain at present location until further orders.
5. Medical Arrangements will be notified in due course.

W.H. Downey
 COLONEL.
 A.D.M.S. 5th Australian Division.



270

Appendix, 14

23

SANITARY SECTION. 5th AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

Appendix

17/4

COPY No.....

Headquarters,
5th Australian Division,
20th April, 1918.

SECRET.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION A.A.F.C. ORDER No. 11.

Map reference Ed. 1/40,000.

ALIENS, 17.

In accordance with 5th Australian Division Order No. 201 and D.D.F.S. AUSTRALIAN CORPS Medical Instructions No. 11 the following medical re-arrangements will take place as from 9 a.m. 21.4.18.

1. The C.O. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance will:-
 - (a) Take over from the C.O. 15th Aust. Field Ambulance the Advanced Dressing Station at AUBIGNY, O.9.a.3.7. and Forward Ambulance Posts.
 - (b) Take over from the C.O. 13th Aust. Field Ambulance the Advanced Dressing Station at LA NEUVILLE, I.33.b.2.0. and Ambulance Posts forward of this, between the SOMME CANAL and the Northern Divisional Boundary.
- (2) C.O. 15th Aust. Field Ambulance will on relief, move to PETIT CANYON, G.30.a.6.2. where he will open up a Divisional Collecting Station.
Until the site at PETIT CANYON is vacated by the 15th Aust. Field Ambulance the C.O. 15th Aust. Field Ambulance will remain at DAOURS.
3. The C.O. 14th Aust. Field Ambulance will form his present station at DAOURS into a Main Dressing Station. He will be prepared to move this station in case of necessity to a site already selected at N.4.c.9.1.
4. The Ambulance Post maintained by the 8th Aust. Field Amb. at BLANGY-TRONVILLE, O.22.d.1.9. will be expanded if necessary, into a Main Dressing Station, should the evacuation of wounded via DAOURS become impossible.
5. Stretcher cases will be evacuated by cars of the 3rd M.A.C. from Main Dressing Station, DAOURS, to Casualty Clearing Station at VIGNACOURT.
Walking Wounded will until further orders be also evacuated by cars of the 3rd M.A.C. to Casualty Clearing Station, VIGNACOURT.



-2-

- 6. Field Ambulances will move with Mobilization Table equipment of Stretchers and Blankets, surplus to be handed over to relieving unit or returned to Dump at No. 3 H.A.C. WILLERS-BOCAGE.
- 7. A List of all stores and equipment handed or taken over will be forwarded to this office in duplicate.
- 8. 5th Australian Sanitary Section will come under the orders of the D.D.M.S. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.
- 9. Field Ambulances ACKNOWLEDGE.

J.A. James.
 MAJOR.
 for COLONEL.
 A.D.M.S. 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Issued at 11 p.m. to:-

- 1. 8th Aust. Field Ambulance.
- 2. 14th " " "
- 3. 15th " " "
- 4. 5th Aust. Sanitary Section.

Copies to:-

- 5. D.D.M.S. IIIrd Corps.
- 6. D.D.M.S. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.
- 7. D.I.S. Fourth Army.
- 8. Headquarters, 5th Aust. Divn.,
- 9. 8th Aust. Inf. Brigade.
- 10. 14th " " "
- 11. 15th " " "
- 12. S.S.O.
- 13. 5th Div. Signal Coy.
- 14. A.D.M.S. 2nd Australian Division.
- 15. " 3rd " "
- 16. " 4th " "
- 17. " 8th Division.
- 18/20. War Diary.
- 21. File.

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	
Date.....	



280

25

Appendix

18

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

GENERAL STAFF MEMORANDUM No. 218

FALSE OR ALARMIST ORDERS AND RUMOURS - PRECAUTIONS AGAINST.

1. Instances of the following nature have recently occurred of conduct prejudicial to the success of military operations:-
- (i) Messages have been given by despatch riders and others to parties of men to the effect that other units have been forced to withdraw, when this is not in fact the case.
 - (ii) Messages falsely purporting to be actual orders to retire have been delivered to troops in the field.
 - (iii) Accounts of reverses have been spread among both troops and civilians, when either they have been false or, in the existing military situation, it was not desirable that they should be disseminated.

A number of cases have been substantiated of such reports and messages, at first attributed to enemy agents, having been in fact carried by British messengers, who have either really believed what they said to be true, or else were affected with panic.

In future, therefore, the following precautions will be strictly observed. Whenever a message reporting the withdrawal of other troops, or an order to retire, is brought to a party of men, the bearer, whatever his rank, is to be taken to the Officer in Command on the spot. The latter will not act on the faith of the message or in compliance with the order until he has satisfied himself both as to the bona fides of the bearer and as to the genuineness of the origin of the message or order. If he finds the messenger's conduct to be unjustified, he will detain him in arrest, and take steps with a view to his trial by Court-Martial.

Similar action will be taken with respect to any person spreading false, alarmist, or discouraging statements or rumours. This order is to be promulgated in all units at frequent intervals, so that reinforcements may be made aware of it. The serious and cowardly nature of the offence of using words calculated to create alarm and despondency, which is made heavily punishable by Section 5 of the Army Act, will at the same time be impressed on all ranks.

2. The above extract from General Routine Orders is passed for information and necessary action. Commanding Officers are responsible that these instructions reach all ranks of their commands.

G. G. Lewis Major
Lieut-Colonel G.S.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

9th April 1918.

Distribution (for issue to Companies of Infantry and equivalent units)	
8th Infantry Brigade	Copies 23
14th Infantry Brigade	23
15th Infantry Brigade	23
5th Pioneer Battalion	5
5th Machine Gun Battalion	5
Divisional Artillery	36
Divisional Engineers	5
Divisional Signal Co.	1
Divisional Train	5
A.D.M.S.	5
D.A.D.V.S.	2
D.A.D.C.S.	1

A.D.M.S.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
No. <i>F/14/24</i>
Date <i>9-4-18</i>

A.P.I.	1
D.G.O.	1
D.B.O.	1
Salvage Co.	1
Camp C'mdt	1

Sanitary Report

Appendix 19.

5th Australian Sanitary Section

In the Field. April 1918.

Present Area includes towns of Carrières, Villages, Les Alouettes, Lamotte, Blagny Bonville, Buscy, Dammes, Aubigny, La Neuville, Zoullouy, Hamelat, Vaire, and Sailly Le Sec.

Area divided into subdivisions under area Commandants.

- 1st Area Blagny Bonville - Lamotte
- 2nd .. La Neuville - Carrières
- 3rd .. Aubigny and Zoullouy
- 4th .. Buscy - Dammes.

Western portion of area unoccupied except for Les Alouettes 2nd, 3rd areas. Dammes and forward area have been subjected to intense shelling since 22nd Inst and all towns in these areas practically unoccupied.

- 1. Litter a. Houses, Barns etc. in occupied villages
- b. Dents, dugouts, shelters.

- 2. Water Supplies - practically wholly deep wells; in towns of Carrières rain water used in some cases
 - a. Chlorinations. Not carried out. Maps and reports (manuscripts) attached. f test made.
 - b. Water points. Nil in area. Water drawn from deep wells and taken to forward posts, in some cases in water carts, in other forward ~~posts~~ cookhouses. in forward towns near pumps.

Food and Cooking. Food good and augmented by local fresh supplies
Baths.

Latrine utensils. Civilian latrines being used in many cases, in other cases, where no other accommodation is available, shallow trough latrines are being used as laid down in Divisional orders.

Infectious Diseases. None reported.

General Remarks. Many dead horses littered over area. Maps showing locations and numbers of these in various situations at present incomplete will be forwarded separately by P.O. 18. The 5th Australian Division, owing to the situation, are unable to deal with the burial of these horses

C. O., 5th Aust Sanitary Section Major

280

27

During the month, unit has occupied same location, and no definite area was allotted until 21.4.19, until his unit was under orders of H.D.M.S., 5th Australian Division and under III Corps. From 12th to 21st April, unit was located at Arques, in view to be ready to move at any hour's notice. The month's work was solely limited to testing and labelling of water supply in the Divisional area. Labelling of same. Testing and labelling water in the villages of Arques, Vauchelles, Lamencourt, Leschamps and Fathillers (attached map and descriptions of supply in each village) unit left his area at one hour's notice.

6th to 8th April. Unit located at Doves. no area defined.

9th to 21st April. Unit located at G. no area defined. Wells and pumps in village of G. tested and labelled.

13th to 21st April. Unit located at Castle Hill Doves. no area defined. Divisional area in the 45th sanitary section area. During most of his period, Divisional Bandages shifting and uncertain. Unit on 1st April was received with the 1st Sanitary Section that the unit would be responsible for the testing and labelling of all water in Plaquey, Tronville, Bours, Bussif, Lécies and all forward areas, and the sanitary supervision of all 5th Australian Divisional units, until Divisional Bandages were fixed. This unit would not deal with towns, except in regard to water.

22nd to 26th April. Located at Castle Hill Doves. Unit ceased to be under orders of A.D.M.S., 5th Div. and came under D.D.M.S., Australian Corps from 9 A.M. 21st inst. Area and town as Australian Corps Area A. Forward post established at Arques. Gas Avenue on 22nd, with another post at

Bligny Tranchée. Owing to heavy shelling with
 Gas and H.E.C., both at La Neuville - Amigny
 were withdrawn back to Dours, and owing
 to the numerous attacks from 23rd 25th inspection
 of forward area was inadvisable. Work was
 again commenced 26th. As practically
 whole of area is forward with exception of
 Bligny Tranchée & Lanette, it is only at these
 two latter places that anything has been done
 since taking over area. In addition, the
 unit has temporarily lost the use of the 2nd Bn
 Car, and they to side car also.

Owing to this, the attached report includes only
 general features of the area.

Major
 C.O., 5th Aust. Sanitary Section

SANITARY SECTION.
 5th
 AUSTRALIAN DIV.
 No.....
 Date.....

Appendix 90

5th Aust. Sanitary Section

Regimental Funds Cash Statement - 30/4/1918

Receipts					Expenditure						
Date	From whom	Amount			Date	To whom	Amount				
		Pcs	L	S D			Pcs	L	S D		
1/4/18	Cash in hand fund	50.90	1	17	2	4/4/18	Potatoes etc	6.25		4	7
	Balance forward		161	4		10/4/18	Cocoa etc	79.85	2	18	7
10/4/18	Canteen Profits	80.00	2	15	8		Potatoes	6.50		4	9
						11/4/18	Reg. Funds Reserve				
							10% Canteen Profits	387.00	14	3	10
						30/4/18	Chiffonier Typewriter	43.40	15	16	4
						"	Cash in hand	58.10	2	2	7
							Balance		130	9	2
							Total		165	19	10

SANITARY SECTION
 AUSTRALIAN
 INFANTRY FIELD

Major
 C.O., 5th Aust. San. Section

Appendix 90

Major V. M. Coppershaw

4/4/1918

C. O., 5th Aust. Sanitary Coy

107- Looting. As a consequence of the present operations, many French People have been forced to leave their homes and abandon the whole of their possessions. Many of these homes lie in the Area occupied by the British Troops who therefore become trustees to the French People for their abandoned property.

The Army Commander exhorts every Officer, Warrant Officer, N.C.O & man in the 3rd Army to do all in his power to protect the homes and property of our Allies, who are fighting our Common enemy.

The penalty for the crime of Looting is known & the sternest disciplinary measures will be taken to put a stop to it.
(Third Army A/B/3964) 31/3/18-

108 Photography - G.R.O. dated 29/12/17 is republished - no officer, soldier or other person subject to military law is permitted to be in possession of a camera or to take photographs.

109. Bounds - Time at which Troops must be in Bunkers - With reference to G.R.O. 1599 of 30/5/16, the hour by which all Warrant Officers, N.C.O's & men, except those on duty and others with special passes, must be in their bunks, is extended to 9.30 p.m. nightly from 1st April 1918 till further notice. (G.R.O. 3718-28/3/18)

110. Method of Registrations in Hotel Visitors Books in France & Belgium Officers and Other Ranks when entering their names in Visitors Books in Hotels in France or Belgium will not specify the Battalion or other Unit to which they belong. They will, if serving in the Infantry state their Regiment, and in other Cases specify the branch of the service to which they belong. No indication is to be given as to their locations in this Country other than an entry that they belong to the A.I.F.

III. Striking off Strengths A. I. F. order no 777 dated 31st July 1917 is amended as follows. - Delete para. 3 and substitute -

3. Other Ranks will be struck off when they are -
 - a. Casualties in action (killed, wounded & missing except wounded at duty)
 - b. Transferred to or filling a vacancy on the authorized establishment of another Unit or formation (including those accepted on probation for the Australian Flying Corps)
 - c. Sick, 7 days after admission to a medical Unit, if not previously notified by that Unit as evacuated.
 - d. Sentence of imprisonment (unless sentence suspended) to have effect on date of leaving Unit
 - e. Candidates for Commissions undergoing training at Officers Cadet Units in England

SANITARY SECTION
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.
Date

2.

Appendix 21

- * Batmen of Officers who accompany the latter to C.O.'s course Aldershot.
- g. Struck off the Strengths of their Units as deserters in accordance with R.R. para. 673 as amended by Army Order 281 of 1917. (A.I.S. Order No 1171 - 26/3/1918)

[Signature]
 C.O. 5th Australian Sanitary Section

In the Field - 4/3/1918.

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.
.....



by

Major V. M. Copleston.

C.O., 5th Australian Sanitary Sec.

11/4/1918

112. Passes The manive card pass now in force will not be accepted after 31st March 1918. A new Card pass will be issued (in accordance with G.R.O. 3485) for use by Officers of Allied Armies from 1st April 1918, until further orders. This pass may be issued for any period up to, but not exceeding, 3 months. Expired passes should invariably be returned to the issuing officer
(G.R.O. 3712 - 27/3/1918)

113. It has come to the notice of the Divisional Commander that Officers and Other Ranks frequently hear Rumours of impending moves or operations or results of operations and that these are passed on and in the passing on are added to until the final result is that the most fantastic and false reports are circulated among the Troops.
The Divisional Commander wishes to impress on all ranks the serious consequences that may result from the foregoing, which often tends to assist the enemy. It is to be impressed on all ranks that it is their duty to report any case coming to their notice or any rumours being started.
Drastic disciplinary action will be taken against any Officer or man who starts or passes on any unfounded rumour tending to cause alarm or despondency amongst the troops.
A.D.M.S. Memos 456/3423. 1/4/18

114. Identity Discs All ranks must be in possession of identity discs. Great distress may be caused through negligence on this matter. (5th Aust Div.)

115. False or Alarmist Orders and Rumours - Precautions against
Instances of the following nature have recently occurred of conduct prejudicial to the success of military operations.
1. Messages have been given by dispatch Riders and others to parties of men to the effect that other Units have been forced to withdraw, when this is not in fact the case.
2. Messages falsely purporting to be actual Orders to retire have been delivered to troops in the field.
3. Accounts of reverses have been spread amongst both troops and civilians, when either they have been false, or, in the existing military situation, it was not desirable that they should be disseminated.
A number of cases have been substantiated of such reports and messages, at first attributed to enemy agents, having been in fact carried by British messengers, who have either really believed what they said to be true, or else were affected with panic.
Therefore, the following precautions will be strictly observed. Whenever a message reporting the withdrawal of their troops, or an order to retire, is brought to a party of men, the bearer, whatever his rank, is to be taken to the O.P.C.

SANITARY SECTION
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.
Date.

380

2.

on the spot. The latter will not act on the faith of the message or in compliance with the order until he has satisfied himself both as to the bona fides of the bearer and as to the genuineness of the origin of the message or order. If he finds the messengers conduct to be unjustified he will detain him in arrest, and take steps with a view to his trial by Court-Martial.

Similar actions will be taken with respect to any persons spreading false alarmist, or discouraging statements or rumours.

The serious and cowardly nature of the offense of using words calculated to create alarm and dispondency, which is made heavily punishable by Section 5 of the Army Act, will at the same time be impressed on all ranks.

SANITARY DIVISION.
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.
Date

W. G. ...
 C.O., 5th Australian Sanitary Section
 Major

Lube Field 11/24/1918



Major V. M. Coppleson

by

C. C., 5th Aust. San. Sect18/4/1918

116

Strength

The following N.C.O.s and men, having been evacuated sick, are struck off the strength from dates as under:-

No 8687 Sgt Irvine H.H. - 13/4/1918
 " 14611 Pte. Jensen O.P. - 13/4/1918
 " 2085 4/cpl Robertson D.W. - 13/4/1918
 " 1515 Pte Hunter A.A. - 15/4/1918
 " 9157 Pte Hollyer W.A. - 13/4/1918

Returned on Strength, from Hospital.

No 14611 Pte Jensen O.P. - 15/4/1918

Returned to Unit - from attached list

No 14819 Dr Reynolds J.D. to 5th Aust S. S. C. on 15/4/18
 No 3796 Pte Reynolds O.W. to 14th Aust. Field Ambulance

117. Bounds. No one under the rank of Lieut. Colonel is permitted to enter Abbeville without a pass signed by his Commanding Officer. No leave to Abbeville is to be granted.

Amiens is placed out of bounds to all troops, no passes are to be issued to anyone to enter the town except those proceeding on duty.

5th D. R.O. 16/4/18.

The town of Corbie is out of bounds to all officers and men not on duty and provided with a duty pass signed by their commanding officers R.O. No 97. 11/4/18

118 Rum Issue It is notified for information that owing to the ~~Rum Issue~~ shortage of shipping and difficulty of provision, it has now become necessary to limit the issue of rum to very extreme cases, such to be at the discretion of the G.O.C., on the recommendation of the Medical Officer

In the Field

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.	.....
Date	.....

[Signature]
 Major
 C.O. 5th Aust San. Sect

280

Appendix 22.

33-

WAR NEWS.

L. 4670

13th April 1918.

SANITARY SECTION.
 5th
 AUSTRALIAN DIV.
 No.
 Date

Appendix 22.

Wire from Fourth Army "I" begins aas. Strong indications of hostile attack tomorrow from SOME to S. of OREUIL aas. Indications are villages either side ROYE road reported to be full of troops thick columns of dust near FOUCAUCOURT aas. Considerable number tents seen in valley N.E. RAINECOURT aas. Heavy shelling of high ground GENTELLES BOIS LABBE also S. of OREUIL aas. Increased number of scouts S. of SOME late in evening keeping behind enemy's lines aas. Third Army consider offensive W. of ALBERT probable tomorrow aas ends.

5th Aust. Div.



280

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

Appendix 22 36

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 14th April to 6 a.m. 15th April 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. At 4 p.m. a party of the enemy at P.4.a.8.6 were engaged successfully. Concentrations were fired at 9.30 p.m. 11.30 p.m. 5.10 a.m. and 6.15 a.m. including battery areas at P.16.a.2.0 and P.16.d.8.5. and probable enemy points of assembly. M.G's. 7,000 rounds were expended in harassing enemy tracks and communications.

Patrols. Our patrols were active during the night and report the following: Sounds of a large wiring party were heard below road on N.W. side of BOIS de VAIRE (P.14). Enemy post at approximately P.23.c.6.8 is unoccupied, a trip wire was found in front of post. Enemy working party estimated 20 were observed at P.25.a.8.3. Patrol opened fire with L.G. on the party and casualties are believed to have been inflicted. 2 of the enemy were seen in vicinity of P.4.b.4.8, patrol endeavoured to cut them off but were unsuccessful, enemy were fired on but got away.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Wounded prisoner of 1st Coy. 48 I.R. 228th Division who had been lying in NORMAN'S LAMP all day having been wounded the previous night in front of post P.19.d.9.3, also 3 prisoners of 1st M.G. Coy. 478 I.R. 243rd Division captured in P.20.e and one prisoner of the 1st Coy. 478th I.R. 243rd Division captured in P.26.a. Interrogation of these prisoners forms annexe to this Summary.

3. ORDER OF BATTLE opposite our front according to latest identifications.

N. of SOMME	18th DIVISION.
R. SOMME	
1st Gren.R.	} 1st DIV. (probably in line since 6/4/18, Order of regiments unknown. Last Identification (not conclusive) on 11.4.18)
3rd Gren.R.	
43rd I.R.	
P.14.e.0.0.	
479th I.R.	} 243rd DIV. (relieved 228 DIV. on night 13th/14th 4/18. Latest identifications of 478 I.R. and 122 Fus. 15/4/18.
478th I.R.	
P.26.a.0.0.	
122 Fus. Regt)	

14th Bav.R.I.R.) 3th Bav. Res. DIV. (14th Bav.R.I.R. identified 15/4/18 relieved the 11th Bav.R.I.R. 14/15th-4-18. 11th Bav.R. now in reserve.

Order of battle (partial issue only) needs amendment accordingly. Identifications of the 1st Division are urgently required.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Showed slight increase to previous 24 hours. Following areas were shelled: P.2.c and d, P.8.a.80.42 P.25.e, P.30.e, CORBIE, HAMELET. At 11.15 p.m. P.2.e was shelled lightly with gas.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Very quiet during the day. During the night much enemy movement, and a number of working parties were heard. M.G's. Our front line posts were subjected to M.G. fire at intervals during the night. Minerwerfers. At 1.30 a.m. 12 M.M.W's fell on front line posts in P.14 coming from the direction of BOIS de VAIRE. Flares. More flares were used by the enemy opposite left sector, than previous nights.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES. Posts in P.9.a. are occupied. New work observed on trench at P.4.b.7.7. O.P. suspected at P.20.d.6.2.

7. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. Nil.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Much movement observed on road running South from HAMEL. Four times during the afternoon a stretcher was seen being carried by four men from P.8.d.6.1 to BOIS de VAIRE.

9. MISCELLANEOUS. Gun flashes were seen on a T.B. 133° from I.30.a.6.2. Lamp signalling observed at Q.28.d. Visibility. Bad owing to mist. Night very dark with strong wind. Notes of 243rd . German Division opposite right sector accompanies this Summary.

Ernest G. Cooper

Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

280

38

SANITARY SECTION. 6th AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

Appendix 22

ANNEXE TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 15/4/1918.

REPORT on examination of prisoner of 1st Coy. 478th I.R., 243rd Division captured about 62D P.26.a. early morning 15/4/1918.

1. **HOW CAPTURED.** Prisoner was not right forward, but in the close support line. The ration carriers called for a guide so he went out to meet them, took the wrong direction in the darkness and came to our post. In answer to the summons in German HANDE HOCH! he surrendered at once.
2. **IDENTIFICATIONS and personal details.** Prisoner was a Wurtemberger born 1892, has been in the field since 1915. Already premised the Iron Cross for long service of the 1st Coy. 478th I.R. 243rd Division.
3. **ORDER OF BATTLE.** The 479th I.R. is north of the 478th I.R. Nothing known at all of other regiments except that some "Guards" were supposed to be near (probably the GUARD ERSATZ DIVISION).
4. **DISPOSITIONS and DEFENCES.** The 1st Battalion is forward, all four Coys are in line (the 1st Coy. being on the North flank) and they also hold the support line, probably with one platoon each. Both lines consist merely of holes, with a man in each. The Company Commander is in one such, with his orderly. Nothing known of the location of the L.M.G.'s. There were no minenwerfers in line.
5. **COMPANY STRENGTH.** 100 men is the trench strength of the 1st Coy. after receiving drafts.
6. **1919 CLASS.** The Company received a draft of at least 15 men while out of line. They were (all?) of the 1919 class. Prisoner was certain of this, as he had spoken to the newcomers in the hope of finding acquaintances among them and asked them their ages. He remarked that they were a sturdy lot, in contrast to drafts (of older classification) received before.
7. **CASUALTIES.** Stated to have been not exceptional. The usual references were made to losses through our aeroplane M.G. fire and bombs.
8. **ENEMY INTENTIONS.** In this sector quiescent. Prisoner stated that the Company Commander had told them that for the present the war was stationary and that all they would do would be to hold the line and be ready in case we attacked them.
9. **COMMANDERS NAMES.** C.C. 1st Coy. Lieut. HAG. No other officers in the Coy., but only "Officers' representatives" and N.C.O.'s.

ANNEXE TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 15/4/1918.

NOTES on the 243rd Division (opposite our Right Brigade front.

243rd Division. (Recruiting Area: WURTEMBERG).

Composition. -122nd Fusilier Regt.
478th Inf. Regt.
479th Inf. Regt. 238th Field Art. Regt.

Movements. The Division was in reserve in the ARLON area. Went into line on the 28/3/18. 30/3/18, South of MOREUIL. It then moved up to South of DEMUIN.

On the 4th April it was stated to have been relieved by the 54th Division. It relieved the 228th Division on the night 13th/14th-4-18 at 10 p.m. between the VILLERS-BRETONNEUX-VILLERS CARBONNEL main road and BOIS de VAIRE.

Losses. 8/122 Coy. strength was 20 on 5/4/18, present strength 80. (P.S. 15.4.18.)
9th Coy. 122nd Fus. Regt. only 30 strong on 30.3.18. Heavy losses between 26th and 30th, amounting to 50% in fighting at VILLERS CARBONNEL, ESTREES, GUILLAUCOURT, IGNAUCOURT, VILLERS aux ERABLES and in the attack on MOREUIL.

Drafts. 1/478 15 men of 1919 class (P.S. 15.4.18.)
122 Fus. 500, largely of 1919 class received 9.4.18 (P.S. 15.4.18)

Character As a Wurtemberg regiment it ought to be good. At present the Division is still tired, the time out of the line being spent mainly in moving about. Prisoners expect a quiet time in this part of the line.

780

SANITARY SECTION.
5th <i>Appendix. 22.</i>
AUSTRALIAN DIV. <i>40</i>
No.....
Date.....

ANNEXE TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 15/4/1918.

Examination of 3 prisoners 1st M.G.Coy., 478th I.R.
243rd Division captured about P.20.0 night 14th/15th
April 1918.

1. METHOD CAPTURE. Prisoners were sent to the field kitchens to bring up hot coffee- did not know the country- and wandered into one of our posts.
2. RELIEFS. The 478th I.R. relieved the 48th I.R. of the 228th Division on the night 13th/14th April. This confirms prisoners statement of the 478th I.R. published on the 14th April. Prisoners know nothing of the reliefs of the other two regiments of the Division, but take it for granted that the whole of the 243rd Division relieved the 228th Division on the 13th/14th April.
3. MOVEMENTS OF 243rd DIVISION. The 243rd Division was relieved by an unknown Division in the VERDUN sector about the end of January 1918 and went into rest until ^{the} last week in March. During their rest they were trained hard, principally for open warfare. They came into line, after the commencement of the present offensive, further south than their present sector but prisoners are unable to pin point any locality. They remained in line for 12 days after which they were relieved and marched East in order to go into rest billets. These orders however were cancelled and they were marched back again through PERONNE to take over their present sector. With the exception of one day they have had no rest since the commencement of their first tour in line in this neighbourhood.
4. ROUTES TO TRENCHES. Uncertain, but they appear to have used the main ST. QUENTIN-AMIENS Road as far as WARFUSEE ABANCOURT, thence branching off in a North-Westerly direction across country to their position.
5. FIELD KITCHENS. Come to WARFUSEE ABANCOURT, whence the food is carried by ration carriers furnished by the Companies in line.
6. COMPOSITION OF 1st M.G. COY. and DISPOSITIONS. The Company originally contained twelve heavy Machine Guns, three of which were taken away about 3 months ago. Of the nine remaining guns, six are in position at distances varying from 20 to 60 yards from the front line, and three are in reserve with some of the Company. The guns in line are in Machine Gun nests with a crew of 6 men per gun including one loader. Total strength in line is about 50 and two officers.
7. INTENTIONS. Prisoners have no knowledge of future intentions or objectives. They state their orders were to remain quiet in the line and do no shooting unless we attacked. They were quite certain their Division was not going to attack and state the men are all tired and incapable of doing much, and do not consider the offensive can be carried on much longer.
8. LOSSES. Have been fairly heavy during the offensive. The 1st M.G. Coy. lost 40 men out of 130 during their previous tour in line, chiefly from rifle and M.G. fire.
9. MORALE. Although of fair physique prisoners morale was poor and they said they were fed up with the whole war. Two of the prisoners were fairly intelligent but obviously knew little, having been less than 24 hours in line.
10. SUMMER TIME. Is expected to come into force about the middle of 5. April but no definite date could be given.

280

Appendix. 22.

H1

Appendix. 22.

Ig 4687 12

War News AAA French report timed 5.30 p.m. states enemy occupies HANGARD as far as the GACHY-RIFLES ROAD (C.10.11) road AAA Report timed 5.40 p.m. states chateau of HANGARD U.29.c.4.3 more and more closely surrounded and its fall is expected shortly.

5th AUST DIV

Quenkel
Capt.
for Lt. Col. G.S.

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....



280

Appendix. 22, 42

Appendix. 22,

Ig 4567 12

War News AAA 31 French Corps report situation at 11.55 a.m. as follows AAA FRENCH are holding line of road from C.5.central to C.4.d.9.3 AAA Enemy holds wood in C.10. and 11 also HANGARD as far as CACHY Road Houses west of road and Chateau in U.29.c. held by us AAA Counter attack by British and French said to have reached wood in U.29.a. AAA 18th Div report that at 12 noon British and French seen moving over rise in U.22.central going well. AAA 29th French Div report 12 noon AAA Line runs approx C.10.central - C.4.c.9.3 - C.5.central - thence along road through HANGARD to about U.29.a.2.4 AAA believed we hold all houses in village west of this line E.A. crashed vicinity N.4. 1 p.m.

5th AUST DIV

F. Merkel

Capt.
for Lt.Col.G.S.

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....



280

43

Appendix 22

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 15th April to 6 a.m. 16th April 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. Working parties were engaged and dispersed at 8.30 a.m. in P.16.b and at 10 a.m. in P.10.d. A body of 20 men moving in P.11.d.05.00 at 9.50 a.m. was scattered. At 4 p.m. small parties wandering in P.10.c were dispersed. At 6.50 p.m. an enemy party approximately 100 strong in P.20.b were dispersed. In the afternoon a hostile battery firing from P.16.d.8.4 was engaged and silenced. Hostile H.G. emplacement at P.14.b.3.9 was bombarded, and hostile T.M. battery at approximately P.14.d.5.5 silenced. During the night sweeping fire was employed back from S.O.S. lines at irregular periods and commencing from different lines, and Howitzer batteries engaged centres of activity and concealed ground. M.G.'s. 7,000 rounds were expended in traversing and searching areas behind BOIS de VAIRE, P.21.a.20.60 to P.15.c.25.80.

Patrols report following:- Enemy patrol about 15 in number seen in vicinity of P.14.b.8.9. Large enemy working party was heard at P.13.b.8.5. Dugouts in chalk pit at P.14.e.8.6 found unoccupied. Much noise was heard during the night in BOIS de VAIRE. Liaison patrols were maintained. Snipers (See MISCELLANEOUS).

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. One of the enemy wandered into our post at P.25.b.95.25 was challenged and on trying to escape was shot. He belonged to 9th Coy. 478 I.R. 243rd Division.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. showed increase to previous period. Following areas were shelled: VAIRE and BOUZENCOURT with 4.2, P.7.a P.25.a and c 9.20 to 11.30 a.m. (heavy), VILLERS BRETONNEUX, 0.28.central, HAMELET, VAUX and CORBIE. Between 10 and 10.40 p.m. 28 4.2" gas shells fell in P.2.c.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet, especially during the night, otherwise no change.

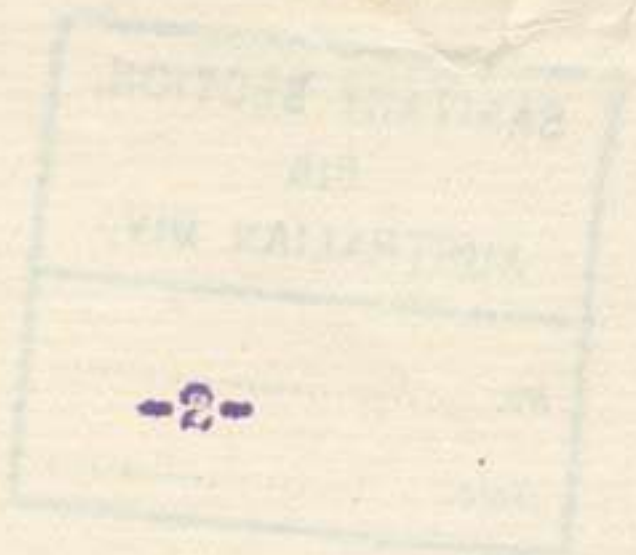
Minenwerfers. A few rounds on P.8.c coming from direction of P.14.b.9.2. Several Granatenwerfers fell on front post in P.13 and 14.

M.G.'s fired on our forward posts and tracks at intervals during the night.

Snipers. Enemy snipers were active from West edge of BOIS de VAIRE

Large numbers of flares were fired by the enemy opposite Right Sector during the night.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES. Wire. New enemy wire exists from P.4.d.1.2 to P.10.d.5.3 also from P.14.d.05.50 to P.14.d.5.5. 2 M.G.'s located at P.20.b.5.6 and one at P.8.b.4.0. Strong points located P.14.c.95.20 (strongly wired) and two at P.21.a.2.9. Two posts that appear to be wireless observed at P.10.d.7.8.



-2-

7. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. Nil.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Movement observed as follows:- Small parties of two and three were seen throughout the day behind HAMEL particularly at P.10.d.7.8. At 7 p.m. party of 150 of the enemy moved from BOIS d'ACCROCHE to BOIS de VAIRE in P.20.b., our artillery were informed and party were successfully engaged. Road running through P.14.a and c was the centre of much movement also AMIENS-PERONNE Road from Q.25 to R.26 consisting of M.T. and horse transport.
Train Movement 2.45 p.m. train moving S.E. in W.15.a.
2.50 p.m. train stationary in W.12.b.
5.30 p.m. train observed travelling in S.E. direction in W.8.d.
6.45 p.m. train moving N.W. in W.15.

9. MISCELLANEOUS. Gun flashes observed at 123° T.B. from P.13.d.3.4. Red lamp flashing in BOIS de VAIRE. Lamp signalling observed at Q.27.b.2.2. Light observed at 114° T.B. from I.24.d.5.1. Visibility fair.
Snipers Our snipers were active during the day and claim to have inflicted many casualties. (No.1 OPERATIONS). Part 2 of this Summary (Information from other sources) is attached.

K.A. Goodland Capt.
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

280

45

Appendix 22

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....

ANNEXE TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 16/4/1918.

NOTES on 1st DIVISION probably opposite our Left Brigade front.

1st Division- Recruiting area- KONIGSBERG.

Composition-

1st Gren. Regt.	16th Field Arty. Regt.
3rd Gren. Regt.	52nd Field Arty. Regt.
45rd Inf. Regt.	

Movements- In November 1917 the Division came from RUSSIA to the Western front. From the middle of January till March it was in line at VERDUN. From there it went to rest in ALSACE, where it remained till 15th March, when it proceeded via BERTRY to a position in rear of the front, arriving on 20/3/18. They came into line on 23/3/18. On the 26/3/18 the objective of the Division was MORLANCOURT. On the 28/3/18 the Division reached SAILLY-LAURETTE.

It was last identified in line at LA MOTTE on 28th/29th/3/18. It was relieved by 228th Division and went to rest. It was identified in reserve on the 8/4/18., close behind the 4th Guard and 228th Divisions, but since then it probably has relieved the 4th Guard Division in line though the documentary evidence on the point is not conclusive.

Losses- The 3rd Grenadier Regt. appears to have had considerable losses in the advance. On the 28/3/18 its average Company strength was stated to be 40. Since then our Artillery have caused them further heavy losses. (P.S.)

Drafts- A draft of 500 men straight from the depot arrived at the beginning of April. They were not put through any training at a field recruit depot.

General- The Division was always considered a good division. Part of its losses have been made good by drafts. It is not considered that the last prisoner's account of bad morale is altogether correct, as he was a convalescent sent straight out from a convalescent depot to the line. It should be classed a good fighting Division.

PART II 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 16/4/1918.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.
(From Summaries of our Corps or flank Corps)

GERMAN SUMMER TIME. A wave shows that the enemy adopted Summer time at 2 a.m. on the 15th instant. German time will therefore be now one hour IN ADVANCE OF English time.

GERMAN DIVISIONS on WESTERN FRONT. (to date 13/4/18).
The arrival of two divisions from RUSSIA one in CHAMPAGNE and the other in LORRAINE increases the total estimated number of German Infantry Divisions on the Western front from 203 to 205.

Three fresh divisions from G.H.Q. reserve have reinforced the battle front South of the SOMME.

Three fresh divisions, two of which are from G.H.Q. reserve, have reinforced the LYS battle front, where 25 fresh divisions have now been engaged. (Concluding paragraph see below)

GERMAN TREATMENT OF PRISONERS. Two Australians captured on the 5th instant near DERNANCOURT managed to escape back to our lines on the 13th. Their report included the following details:

Prisoners were examined in PERONNE in a grey building in the main street. No questions on military matters were asked, only their name, number and unit. They were, however, asked why they had volunteered to come and fight for England. Official post-cards, on which it was stated that they were prisoners in the hands of the Germans, were given to them for sending home to their people. The interrogator could not speak good English.

Food. Breakfast consisted of coffee which looked more like coloured water, at 6 a.m., and about 4 ounces of black bread, the latter being the day's rations. For dinner at 12 o'clock there was a thick soup and at 6 p.m. coffee.

A German Intelligence N.C.O. who spoke to the prisoners stated that the Germans were held up on this front, and that the slaughter of the Germans by our fire was terrible.

Both men are of the opinion that our shell fire is by far more deadly than that of the Boche, owing to the splintering effect of the shells.

GERMAN DIVISIONS on WESTERN FRONT (Continued). Of the 205 German Infantry Divs. in the Western theatre 122 have now been engaged since 21st March and 19 are of poor quality. There are 42 fresh divisions in line, which have not yet been drawn into battle, and 22 which are in reserve, 13 of the latter being probably opposite the British front.

It seems probable that a big offensive is imminent south of ARRAS. The extent of the front to be attacked is not known, but may reach as far south as ALBERT. At the same time attacks will probably be delivered simultaneously south of the SOMME, with the immediate object of capturing the high ground near VILLERS-BRETONEUX and west of MOREUIL.

2. OPINION IN GERMANY. The universal opinion in Germany is that this offensive will succeed. Attacks will be made all along the British front, and the time will come when one of these attacks will end in a decisive victory. A sudden collapse on the part of the British is expected. Questioned as to the effect on Germany of a failure to win a decisive victory during the coming months, prisoner stated that he himself felt certain of victory, but that undoubtedly failure would cause a revolution and the downfall of Germany. Moreover, in view of the coming war loan, it would be necessary to do something striking very shortly (e.g. the capture of AMIENS) in order to induce the German people to subscribe.

3. MORALE. From the examination of prisoners recently it seems that the morale of officers and senior N.C.O.'s is undoubtedly good. They are tired of the war, but are confident of the success of the offensive and trust the ability and leadership of their higher commands. The morale of the men, on the other hand, notably of the Saxons (24th Res. Div.), but also of the other Divisions engaged on this front, is poor, and little enthusiasm is manifested for battle. The prime cause of this is war fatigue, which has been further accentuated by recent hardships; most of the men would prefer to go home than to win the most brilliant victories. The men see no end to the war and are asking themselves what ideas can be worthy of such prolonged fighting and sacrifice.

4. GERMAN REINFORCEMENTS.

(a) 1919 class. Prisoners state that the Field Recruit Depot in RUSSIA, which contained a large number of men of the 1919 class, were transferred to the Western front on the conclusion of peace with RUSSIA. From information from other sources, it appears that the 1919 class will now be regularly included in drafts to make good the losses incurred in the present offensive.

Morale of 1919 Class. On the whole a certain amount of enthusiasm exists amongst men of this class in the Field Recruit Depots and their bearing in battle is perhaps better than might have been expected. The majority have had 9 months training, though some (e.g. of the 19th Div.) have had less than 7. They are undoubtedly a source of weakness to their divisions and in the opinion of older soldiers will not stand a severe strain. Quite a number of these recruits are not yet 19 years of age.

Practically the whole of these drafts received by divisions opposite this front since the beginning of April have belonged to this class, the depots having already been depleted of fit older men and convalescent wounded. It is to be noted that they are distributed as evenly as possible amongst the companies in order to ensure an adequate stiffening of older men. CAMBRAI has so far been the detraining centre for drafts arriving in this area, and from there they march to their unit. "Combing out" in Germany. According to a prisoner (aged 23) who was himself combed out a large comb out occurred in Saxony on January 5th, the following days. LEIPZIG produced 3,000 men and the whole of Saxony 10,000. The comb out was principally in munition factories or other essential industries (e.g. prisoner was making equipment in his father's establishment and the men were replaced by men over military age or otherwise unfit for further military service, by withdrawing men from less essential industries and by girls.

5. GERMAN DIVISIONS ON THE WESTERN FRONT. One fresh division from ALSACE has reinforced the LYS battle front, where 27 fresh divisions have now been engaged. A total of 98 divisions have now been engaged on the SOMME battle front. One division, withdrawn from the SOMME battle front, has released a division holding the line in CHAMPAGNE. Of the 206 German infantry divisions in the Western Theatre, 123 have now been engaged since the 21st March and 19 are of poor quality. There are 41 fresh divisions in line, which have not yet been drawn into the battle, and 21 which are in reserve, 11 of the latter being probably opposite the British front.

280

SANITARY SECTION. 5th AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

Appendix 22. 49

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 16th April to 6 a.m. 17th April 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. At 9.15 a.m. the enemy were reported massing in the Southern edge of the BOIS de VAIRE, and bursts were fired on that area. A hostile battery in P.16.d. was silenced. In the afternoon movement in BOIS de VAIRE and BOIS de HAMEL was engaged, and an enemy party moving in HAMEL engaged and silenced. A M.G. firing from P.11.a.2.0 was silenced. Movement at P.4.c.4.4. was engaged. At 3 p.m. a large body of enemy apparently carrying timber behind the BOIS de VAIRE were dispersed and a further burst put on them after they scattered. The M.G. positions at P.14.d.80.25 and P.14.b.9.2 were registered. At 6.40 p.m. a number of the enemy in P.14.b were put to flight. During the night bursts of fire swept probable points of assembly at irregular intervals, and sweeping fire searched back from varying distances behind S.O.S. lines. M.G's. 6,000 rounds were fired on enemy tracks and routes. Patrols report the following:- Enemy working parties were heard about P.14.b.9.2 and North edge of BOIS de VAIRE. Enemy listening post at P.9.a.50.95 was found unoccupied. Liaison patrols between posts and flank units were maintained during the night.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS Nil.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Enemy artillery was active throughout the 24 hours along the whole front VAIRE, HAMELET, VILLERS-BRETONNEUX, P.19.a and b, P.14.a,b, and d, support line right sector, 0.30.d.central were shelled at intervals. On Right sector by day front posts were harassed, and by night scattered shooting was distributed over the whole of the reserve area. At dawn a concentrated gas bombardment was put down on VILLERS-BRETONNEUX. At 5.10 a.m. to 5.45 a.m. enemy put down barrage on our front and support lines, left sector, with 77mm's, 4.2's and 5.9" H.E. mixed with gas. There was a considerable amount of (SNEEZING) gas used in this bombardment.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Enemy artillery showed much activity throughout the period under review. Scattered shelling was distributed over whole area.

Minenwerfers. At 9.30 p.m. 6 M.M.W's fell in P.13.d from BOIS de VAIRE.

M.G's. showed usual activity during the night.

Enemy snipers were active from P.20.a between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. New wire has been erected at P.10.a thence N.E. over ridge also a belt running from P.16.b to P.11.d.

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. At 4.30 p.m. 3 E.A. flew over our lines in J.33. 2 enemy planes crossed our lines at 1.25 p.m. and were driven off by A.A. fire. Enemy balloons up at 173°, 154°, 160° T.B. from I:24.d.4.1.

7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Small parties of enemy were seen at F 27.c.7.8. At 7.45 p.m. a large enemy carrying party entered BOIS de VAIRE carrying what appeared to be knife posts. At 3 p.m. much movement seen in Q.14.a and near copse in Q.14.b, consisting of wagons men in large numbers and mounted troops.
Train movement. 5.25 p.m. train observed moving from MARCELCAVE to WIENCOURT.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. Smoke was seen issuing from house in BOIS de VAIRE during the day.
 Gun flashes observed 108°, 133° T.B. from P.19.a.4.1. Battery firing from 162° 3" T.B. from I.24.d.4.1. Signalling observed from South corner of wood in P.12.a frequently during the day.
 Visibility fair.
 Part 2 of this Summary (Information from other sources) is attached.

K.A. Goodland
 for Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff.
 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

280

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....

PART II.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

Deserter of 208th Division surrendered S.E. of BOUZENCOURT on April 16th 1918 states:-

His Division is in reserve at PERONNE and 228th Division is in same neighbourhood. Austrian mortars East of ALBERT, these are moving South. Bridges at PERONNE rebuilt for all traffic. Normal gauge line runs to MARICOURT where stores are transferred to narrow gauge. Common knowledge attack to take place shortly but does not know where. Divisions in line to be relieved before attack.

GERMAN DIVISIONS ON WESTERN FRONT (from Army Summary 15/4/18. The arrival of a divisional staff from MACEDONIA increases the total estimated number of German infantry divisions on the Western front from 205 to 206. (Units of this division were engaged on the 21st March). One fresh division, from G.H.Q. reserve, has reinforced the LYS battle front, where 26 fresh divisions have now been engaged. One fresh division, from FLANDERS and G.H.Q. reserve, has reinforced the battle front south of the SOMME, and a total of 98 divisions have now been engaged on the SOMME battle front. Of the 206 German infantry divisions in the Western theatre, 124 have now been engaged since the 21st March and 19 are of poor quality. There are 42 fresh divisions in line, which have not yet been drawn into the battle, and 21 which are in reserve, 11 of the latter being probably opposite the British front. Owing to the formation of the new 303rd Division in ROMANIA, there are now a total of 242 German infantry divisions in the field. The estimated number of German infantry divisions in the Eastern theatre is 35. If it is assumed that the 7 unidentified divisions which are known to have arrived in the Western theatre are good divisions, there are 30 poor and only 5 good divisions which can still be transferred to the Western front. The Germans maintained a force of 2 divisions on the BALKAN front throughout 1917. The 10th Jager Regt. was engaged at LA FERRE on the 21st March 1918. The 9th Jager Regt. was identified by contact in the VOSGES on the 8th April. Reports have also been received of the transfer of the 11th Gren Regt. and of the artillery of the 302nd Div. The German force in MACEDONIA is now at most one division, and the staff of the 302nd Div. has probably been transferred to the Western front. Deducting the 35 divisions in the Eastern theatre, and the 1 division in MACEDONIA, there remain 206 German infantry divisions which are all in the Western theatre.

SANITARY SECTION.

5th

AUSTRALIAN DIV.

No.....

Date.....

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 17th April to 6 a.m. 18th April 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. In the morning small enemy parties in P.8.a, P.14.a and P.11.a were dispersed. Registrations were checked. In the afternoon hostile A.A. M.Guns at F.4.b.1.6 were successfully engaged. Small bodies of enemy moving in P.14.b.7.7 and P.20.b.1.5 were scattered. During the night concentrations were fired on BOIS de VAIRE and FLAT IRON CORSE (I.5.c and d) and bursts of fire swept points of activity or possible assembly at irregular periods. M.G's. were active on enemy track routes, and front trench systems during the night. Patrols report the following:- Enemy working parties were heard in western edge of BOIS de VAIRE. Enemy listening post located at approximately P20.c.5.2. No enemy patrols were seen. Liaison patrols were maintained throughout the night.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.
3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Very active on right sector particularly with gas. From 4.45 a.m. to 10 a.m. VILLERS BRETONNEUX was heavily shelled with H.E. mixed with gas. BLUE, YELLOW, and GREEN CROSS gas was identified. Enemy artillery was active on reserve line during early morning, other areas shelled were P.19.a and d and O.24 a and b. On left sector areas shelled were: Forward posts in P.3.a and P.2.d, VAIRE, BOUZENCOURT. At 11.10 p.m. 5 4.2" Gas shell fell in HAMELET.
4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet except for increased artillery activity. Minenwerfers. A H.M. was active on front line firing from P.14.b.2.6. M.G's quiet with the exception of occasional bursts of fire on our front system.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. M.G's located firing from P.14.d.25.50, P.14.b.8.4, P.14.d.8.2, P.14.d.35.60 and P.14.d.45.95, P.20.b.10.90 and house in BOIS de VAIRE P.14.d.5.5.
6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. Between 2 and 2.30 p.m. 2 E.A. crossed our line, but returned on the approach of our planes.

-2-

7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

Small groups of men were observed in P.27.a.6.4, also four men carrying man on stretcher from P.17.a to P.23.a. Transport observed on road in P.30.d moving towards LA MOTTE ~~en~~ SENTERRE. Isolated movement was seen in P.17.d, P.15., P.21.d and in front of BOIS D'ARQUAIRE.

All enemy movement ceased at 7.30 p.m. when our artillery shoot commenced.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. Lamp signalling observed in P.12.a.

Visibility poor.

Part II of this Summary (Information from other sources is appended).

K. C. Woodland Capt-
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

PART II.

(From Corps and Army Summaries)

1. ENEMY INTENTIONS. A prisoner of the 9th Bav. R. Div. states that the regimental gas officer gave lectures a few days ago stating that VILLERS-BRETONNEUX was to be taken soon. It was to be well gassed first and troops were not to enter it. Prisoner believed their division was to take part but was not certain. On the front south of ARRAS (southern limit of attack not known) with AMIENS as its objective. One prisoner stated Prussian divisions were massed for this attack in NOYON-HAM area; another that preparations for this attack were practically complete on the HEBUTERNE front. In this regard another prisoner stated that an offensive must take place, with AMIENS as its objective, in a few days. AMIENS is absolutely necessary to the Germans, as it forms such an important centre.

780

Appendix 22

54

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 19th April to 6 a.m. 20th April 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front-line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. In the morning hostile working parties in P.4.c., P.11.a., and South of the BOIS de VAIRE were dispersed. In the afternoon a M.G. firing from P.15.b was successfully engaged, and a hostile battery in P.16.b silenced. At 11.35 p.m. a concentration gas shoot on the Western edge of the BOIS de VAIRE was carried out, and at 3.27 a.m. a concentration gas shoot was fired on HAMEL.

Concentrations, including Heavy Artillery, were fired as follows:

11.35 p.m.	BOIS de VAIRE	- 5 minutes
1.43 a.m.	BOIS D'ACROCHE	- 2 minutes
3.27 a.m.	HAMEL	- 2 minutes

At 9.45 p.m. bursts of fire searched centres of activity or assembly, and sweeping fire was employed at 4.35 a.m.

M.G.'s. 10,500 rounds were expended and following targets engaged:-
Cross roads at P.14.b.90.25, Fork roads P.15.b.05.95, road P.15.b.05.95 to P.15.c.3.5, enemy front line posts.

Patrols. Liaison patrols between posts and units were maintained, in addition patrols report the following: Six of the enemy were seen in vicinity P.8.d.7.7, patrol opened fire on them and they dispersed. An enemy patrol of 1 officer and 20 other ranks was encountered at P.20.a.8.8, a fight ensued resulting in six of the enemy being killed, one wounded and taken prisoner. A party of the enemy estimated ten strong were seen at about P.3.d.9.1.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Wounded prisoner of the 3rd Coy. 43rd I.R. 1st Division captured in patrol encounter in P.20.a. Interrogation of prisoner forms annexed to this Summary.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Showed usual activity. Reserve line in O.24.b and O.24.a was shelled with 4.2" from 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Gas shells fell during the night on P.19.d. Other areas shelled were VAIRE, CORBIE, HAMELET. Cross roads in P.13. Back areas shelled with 5.9" gun were O.27.a and c and N.21.c. VILLERS-BRETONNEUX was shelled all the afternoon.

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....



4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Enemy patrols more active than usual otherwise no change.
M.G.'s were active
Minesweepers 20 M.'s fell in P.14.a during the night. At 2.45 a.m. 4 M.M.'s fell in P.8.a.3.5 coming from T.B. 110° from P.8.a.35.40.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy post at P.8.d.7.7 appears to be held in strength. New post located at P.4.b.4.4. New trenches located at P.24.d.2.5, P.14.b.9.5, P.20.c.5.8.
Wire. More wire and stakes have been erected near enemy posts in P.16.b, P.11.b, P.10.b and d.
6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. At 5.30 p.m. 7 E.A. crossed our lines. E.A. was active bombing back areas during the night. Several bombs were dropped on LAOURS. Balloon up at 118° T.B. from I.24.d.4.1.
7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Increased movement observed in vicinity of MERICOURT also following movement observed during the day. At 5.30 a.m. M.T. and waggons on MARCELCAVE-SARFUSEE Road, MORCOURT-CERISY Road much horse transport. A park of vehicles and horse lines observed in wood P.30.a and c. Ammunition limbers and guns on road in Q.25, 26 travelling East. 8 G.S. waggons travelling towards CERISY on road in Q.26 and much movement of infantry during the day on roads P.16.c.QO.to, P.21.d.7.5, P.21.a.5.0 to P.22.c.4.0.
Train movement. Engine stationary at T.7.c.5.7.
8 a.m. train moving south through X.19.
8.50 a.m. motor engine and light train stationary in P.21.d.
3.20 p.m. train moving North through R. 31.
7 p.m. train shunting in FRAIERVILLE.
8. MISCELLANEOUS. Lamp signalling observed in Q.27. Enemy searchlight active at 122° T.B. from I.24.d.4.1.
Visibility fair.

Frederick Capt

Lieut-Colonel, G.S.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



ANNEXE TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 20/4/1918.

Report on examination of wounded prisoner of 3rd Coy. 43 I.R., 1st Division, captured in 62D P.20.a about 1 a.m. 20/4/1918.

1. IDENTIFICATION. 2nd Platoon, 3rd Coy. 43rd I.R. 1st Division. Prisoner belongs to the 1919 class, born January 1899. He was a munition worker in SPANDAU, and had been exempted from calling up until December 1917. He only joined the regiment on the 4th instant. Prisoner was willing to talk but his statements need confirmation.
2. HOW CAPTURED. Prisoner was one of a party of 20 men under a sergeant who were to capture one of our posts in P.13.d. last night. They came from a reserve platoon of the 3rd Coy. When they reached the terrace in P.14.c in front of the BOIS de VAIRE they were seen by the covering party of one of our fatigues. Fire was opened and prisoner was wounded and captured. The papers of one of the dead were also secured.
3. ORDER OF BATTLE N. to S.
1st Grenadier regt.
43rd I.R.
3rd Grenadiers are in reserve, having been relieved in line, according to the prisoner, on 8/4/18. Prisoner had seen some of the 207 R.I.R. on the South flank on that night, that is to say in the sector now occupied by the 479th I.R.
4. REGIMENTAL DISPOSITIONS. The 1st Battalion of the 43rd I.R. has all four coys. in line in the order from N. to S. 4,2,3,1. Each company has one platoon forward and two in close support. The forward platoon of the 3rd Coy. is in the "wood position" apparently along the road in P.14.d on the W. edge of the BOIS de VAIRE. The reserve platoons are not in the wood but south of it. Compare air photos 35 A.E. B.857-858. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions were stated to be both in reserve in the BOIS d'ACCROCHE.
5. LOCATIONS. (a). The 3rd Coy. Commander is in the BOIS d'ACCROCHE.
(b) The 3rd Grenadiers were billeted in JERISY. when prisoner joined up.
(c) Field kitchens. These come up evening and early morning into HAMEL and pull up behind the CHURCH where they are met by the ration carriers.
See Air photo 35 A.E. B.824. The times of arrival vary according to our artillery fire.

SANITARY SECTION.

5th

AUSTRALIAN DIV.

No.....

Date.....

6. L.M.G's. There are six in the 3rd Company.
7. MINEN WERFER. Prisoner stated that there were three light minenwerfer in regular emplacements (eingebaut) in his sector. He could give no definite locations.
8. COMPANY STRENGTH of 3rd Coy. 100, of the 8th Coy. only 10.
9. CASUALTIES. Very severe since the beginning of the offensive. This is especially the case in the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, which according to prisoner are so weak that they have been kept in reserve ever since the regiment came into line. The 8th Coy. for instance is stated to be only 10 strong. Our artillery and M.G fire takes constant toll in casualties. No numbers could be given. Our gas bombardments on the BOIS de VAIRE recently were very effective. Prisoner knew only of non-fatal cases on the 10th instant, but on the night 17th/18th there were 13 dead in the 1st platoon of the 3rd Coy. alone.
10. DRAFTS. Prisoner was one of a draft of 400 who joined the 1st Division on the 4th instant. Of these, 200 went to the 43rd I.R. The draft consisted largely of returned wounded, but about 100 were of the 1919 class. They came straight from Germany into the field.
11. ENEMY INTENTIONS. Attack at present in this part of the line was considered impossible, at least so far as prisoners division was concerned. Nothing was known of general intentions. (It should be noted that the presence of weak divisions in line is not a decisive index to enemy intentions, seeing that he might attack with entirely fresh divisions passing through those in line.)
12. MORALE. Prisoner was very young. He obviously had little staying power, and looked at things very much from the personal point of view. Questioned as to the offensive for instance he stated that if it were to succeed divisions must not be kept so long in line as theirs and the men must get more to eat. (For a large proportion of the 1919 class this is probably true.)
13. MISCELLANEOUS. He had been told by officers that the English kill their prisoners. He half expected this fate to be his. He had thought that the French were on the front opposed to them. Australians he thought were blackfellows and was astonished to meet some white ones.

280

SANITARY SECTION.

5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.

Appendix. 22.

No.....

SECRET.

Date.....

REPORT OF THE DEATH OF CAPTAIN BARON VON RICHTHOFEN at 62D,
J.19.b.5.2 ABOUT 11 a.m. 21st APRIL 1918.

The following report is based on the evidence of eye witnesses,
written down immediately after the events.

Captain Baron von RICHTHOFEN was flying a single seater triplane painted red and reported to be of a new pattern. When first engaged he was pursuing one of our own machines, reported to be a SOPWITH CAMEL, in a W.N.W. direction, flying towards the wood in J.19.c. Here, according to a reliable witness, he was fired at by an A.A. gun of the 24th Australian Machine Gun Company. RICHTHOFEN's machine seemed to move unsteadily for a moment, but still continued in pursuit of the British 'plane.

He had now left the SOMME valley and come over the high ground north of CORBIE. Both machines were flying very low, being not more than 150 feet up. They were coming swiftly towards the A.A. Lewis guns of the 53rd Battery, 14th Australian Field Artillery Brigade, situated at I.24.b.9.5 and I.24.b.6.5 respectively. RICHTHOFEN was firing into the 'plane before him but it was difficult for the Lewis gunners to shoot owing to the British 'plane being directly in the line of fire. They accordingly waited their time till the British 'plane had passed. RICHTHOFEN's 'plane was not more than 100 yards from each when they opened fire. The 'plane was coming frontally towards them so that they were able to fire directly on to the person of the aviator. Almost immediately the 'plane turned N.E., being still under fire from the Lewis guns. It was now staggering as though out of control. Further effective bursts were fired; the 'plane veered to the north, and crashed on the plateau near the brick-works in J.19.b.5.2.

The aviator was already dead. There were bullet wounds in the knees, abdomen, and chest. The 'plane was badly smashed; it was a triplane painted dull red, and was armed with two air cooled machine guns. It had only been assembled in March 1918.

The British 'plane was undoubtedly saved by the action of the Lewis gunners. It altered its course and circled back over the spot where the enemy 'plane had crashed.

The papers of the aviator were taken to the Headquarters of the 11th Australian Infantry Brigade. They established his identity as Captain BARON MANNHEIM VON RICHTHOFEN, born 2nd March 1892 in BRESLAU, province of SILESIA, PRUSSIA. The machine was numbered D.R. 425.

Captain Baron von RICHTHOFEN was a great adversary. The German official wireless for the 21st April 1918, the very day of his death, contains the notice "Captain Baron von RICHTHOFEN, at the head of Pursuit Flight 11, attained his 79th and 80th air victories". It was fitting that he should have fallen, in old Roman fashion, "with all his wounds in front."

After the machine crashed, a troupe of German 'planes flew over and circled above the spot until driven off by the A.A. guns. An infantry guard was posted over the body and the plane, but they were relieved of their duty shortly after by the German artillery, which placed a ring of shells bursting with instantaneous fuzes, around the 'plane.

The Lewis gunners who brought down the machine were: No. 598 Gunner W. J. EVANS and No. 3801 Gunner R. BUIE, of the 53rd Battery, 14th Australian Field Artillery Brigade, 5th Australian Divisional Artillery.

280

59

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....

Appendix 22

For Official Use Only

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 20th April to 6 a.m. 21st April 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. During the morning hostile battery at P.16.c.2.9 was engaged and silenced. An enemy party at P.16.d.9.5 was dispersed. At 6.5 p.m. enemy movement at P.21.a.2.6 was engaged. Our artillery was active during the night. Two minute bursts of fire on routes and centres of activity were put down at 9.50 p.m., 11.10 p.m., and 12.35 p.m. At 12.40 a.m. and 2.20 a.m. concentrations were fired on the BOIS D'ACCROCHE, including 100 rounds of gas per Howitzer battery on each occasion. From 12.45 a.m. to 2.20 a.m. intermittent bursts of fire swept BOIS de VAIRE, 50 rounds of gas shell per battery being used. Counter preparation was fired eight times between 5 to 6 a.m. on possible assembly points opposite the Divisional front. Heavy artillery co-operated in these shoots. M.G.'s. Our M.G.'s were active on enemy tracks during the night, 7000 rounds were expended. Targets engaged were:- Road P.14.b.5.0 to P.15.a.4.5, road P.20.b.60.05 to P.21.a.3.0, Cross roads P.14.b.90.25, fork roads P.15.c.30.55. L.T.M.'s. At 1.30 a.m. L.T.M.'s fired 110 rounds of special incendiary shells and 110 rounds H.E. on Copse at P.14.central with good effect. 2 fires were caused which burned all night. Patrols report as follows:- Sounds of limbers were heard in BOIS de VAIRE. Enemy listening post at approximately P.4.b.3.3. Enemy were heard digging near road junction in P.9.a. Transport and voices were heard in HAMEL. Liaison patrols were maintained during the night.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Prisoner of the 10th Coy. 3rd Bav. Erz. I.R. 9th Bav. Reserve Division captured in V.2.a by one of our men who wandered in NO MAN'S LAND. Examination of prisoner follows.
3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Enemy artillery was active during the period under review. Chief areas shelled were: CORBIE with 5.9" and 4.2", VAIRE with 77 mm and 4.2" also between 12.5 a.m and 1.40 a.m. 40 gas shells fell in VAIRE and J.31.c and d., HAMELET was shelled with 50 77mm gas shells at 12 midnight. P.18.c, P.19.a, P.13 were shelled with various calibres. The village of AUBIGNY was lightly shelled at 6.30 a.m. and again at 9.45 a.m.
4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Artillery showed usual activity. Enemy snipers were active on left sector. Minenwerfers. 70 MM.7 fell on our front post in vicinity of P.8.c and 3 M.M.W. fell on P.8.a.5.2 coming from the direction of BOIS de VAIRE. M.G.'s. Enemy M.G.'s heavily engaged our low flying planes.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. 20 men were seen during the day working on trenches from P.5.d through P.12.a and c to P.18.a. Wire in front of enemy post at P.8.d.7.7 is in good condition. In front of post at P.20.a.7.1 wire is 3'6" high single apron style on wooden stakes.

-2-

Report on enemy wire in front of the BOIS de VAIRE in P.14. The wire in front of the BOIS de VAIRE is practically continuous with gaps at certain points. Hurdles (probably moveable) and wooden stakes have been used in some portions instead of the ordinary corkscrews. The wire is for the most part low to the ground, concertina wire being largely used. The wire finishes about 80 yards to the southern end of the wood. Four gaps were observed in this stretch of wire. A gap of about 20 yards occurs 50 yards to the left of the southern extremity. A break of 20 yards 100 yards further to the left, and a gap of 40 yards some 20 yards further on. 4 strong posts have been heavily wired in. This has been done by putting out a semi-circular belt of wire with the flanks resting on the edge of the wood. Freshly dug ground observed at P.14.c.6.2 and P.20.b.05.25. O.P. located at P.13.c.5.3.

6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. E.A. were very active. One enemy plane brought down in flames by our airmen and fell in S.E. edge of BOIS de VAIRE. Four enemy triplanes painted red crossed our lines during the morning. Enemy balloons up at 111°, 126° and 145° T.B. from I.24.d.30.05.
7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Movement observed on road in Q.25.d transport moving west also limbers and horsemen on road in Q.25.c moving towards LAMOTTE. At 5.10 pm convy of transport on BAYONVILLERS Road in Q.32.d. Horses grazing in Q.15.a during the afternoon. Considerable movement in P.14.b, P.15.b at 5.5 p.m. Train movement. 11 a.m. train shunting in X.1.d.
8. MISCELLANEOUS. Gun flashes observed at 136° T.B. from I.24.d.30.05. Visibility fair.
- Part II. (Information from other sources) is appended.

for K.A. Goddard Capt-
Lieut-Colonel, G.S.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

PART II.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

From G.H.Q. Summary dated 17th April 1918.

Extracts from Information given by a Corporal of the 15th Royal Scots, captured E. of CROISILLES on morning of 22nd March, who escaped to our lines.

TREATMENT. From the morning of the 22nd March till the evening of the 24th the 750 British prisoners received no food. Only coffee of inferior quality was issued. The first meal received on the evening of the 24th March consisted of a tin of broth made of barley and horseflesh. Thereafter the daily routine was:-

4.30 a.m. Reveille and roll-call. 1 tin of coffee issued.

Work all day without food.

4 p.m. Return to Cage and receive:-

1 tin of broth made with barley and horseflesh.

8 ozs. of black bread

2 ozs. of black pudding.

In order to supplement the inadequate rations, the prisoners were obliged to help themselves to flesh from dead horses on the side of the road. The German guards stripped the prisoners of all such articles as greatcoats, cardigans, jerkins, puttees.

280

Appendix, 22.

61

Appendix, 22

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....

-3-

ACCOMMODATION. At VILLERS 1500 British prisoners slept in the open in a cage for a week without greatcoats or cover of any description. Two small huts were then erected and the prisoners were made to crowd into a totally inadequate space.

WORK. For some 3 days a large party of prisoners were employed at storing ammunition at a dump.

EFFECT OF OUR AEROPLANE BOMBING. The vicinity of VILLERS was bombed on three successive nights and severe casualties were caused to men and horses. British prisoners buried 26 Germans killed by bombs, and 4 others were buried by Germans.



280

62

Appendix 22

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.
Date

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 21st April to 6 a.m. 22nd April 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. During the morning and afternoon registration and calibration carried out by incoming Group, and destructive shoot on SAILLY LAURETTE. During the afternoon considerable enemy movement in small parties engaged. Hostile party at P.14.b, engaged and dispersed. Movement in P.2.c and 15.d. engaged. Shrine at P.10.c.3.2. was registered. Movement about house P.9.d.90.55 engaged. Small party moved from P.15.a.7.1 to P.9.d.4.3. Several N.F. calls received. P.5 central engaged. Night firing, in which Heavy Artillery co-operated, carried out in bursts of fire at irregular intervals and for different periods each time - 12.35 a.m., 1.40 a.m., 2.35 a.m., 3.5 a.m., 3.50 a.m. Gas was fired on BOIS de VAIRE and HAMEL. Harassing fire on work in P.10.b. S.O.S. plus 300 to S.O.S. plus 600 places of assembly and approaches.

M.G's. Our M.Gs were active on enemy tracks and roads 8,000 rounds were expended and following targets engaged with searching fire southern edge of BOIS de VAIRE (P.20.b.10-70 to P.21.a.2-7). Roads P.14.b.5.0 to P.21.a.4.5., P.20.b.60.05 to P.21.a.3.0 Concentrated fire was carried out on cross roads P.14.b.90.25 and fork roads P.15.c.30.55. Patrols report the following. Large enemy party were heard at approximately P.4.c.7.5. Party of the enemy were heard digging at about P.20.a.9.5. Liaison patrols between posts and flank units were maintained throughout the night.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Examination of prisoner of the 10th Company, 3rd BAVARIAN Ers. I.R. 9th BAVARIAN Reserve Division captured on night 20th and 21st April in P.32.c. reported in yesterday's summary is attached.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Less active than previous 24 hours. Chief areas shelled were VAIRE, 30 rounds 77 H.E. and gas along VAUX SAILLEY le SEC road. At 11.25 p.m. 100 rounds 4.2 H.E. mixed with gas fell on HAMELET P.13.c and d. 0.24 a. and b and 0.18 d. During the afternoon 0.10.a was lightly shelled with Yellow Cross gas (4.2 and 5.9 calibre). DACURS was shelled intermittently from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. CORBIE was shelled with 5.9 during the day.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. At 4 a.m. enemy attempted to raid our post at P.2.b.9.0 moving up both sides of the HAMEL road in two waves, strength about 40 men and M.G. Our Lewis Gunners and riflemen opened fire at 60 to 70 yds. range and enemy immediately retired dropping their rifles, ammunition and bombs. A patrol was afterwards sent out but no identification was obtained. Some rifles and a box of M.G. ammunition was found. M.G. fired occasional bursts on our front posts at intervals during the night.
Minerwerfers. Inactive.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy wiring parties were heard in P.14.c. and P.14.d. (our artillery were informed) (patrol) also a large wiring party were heard at P.4.c.7.5. More wire entanglement has been erected at P.16.b.25.50. Wire in front of enemy post at P.9.a.9.9 is strongly staked in, is concertina pattern 4' 6" high.
6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. E.A. were active during the day. EA. was shot down by Lewis gun in J.19 b. (full report attached). At 6.10 am on 22nd one E.A. was driven down by one of our fighting planes in J.26.b.8.3.
7. ENEMY MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES. Movement was seen as follows :-
On main AMIENS road in Q.25 to R.26 much transport. Ammunition limbers and transport in vicinity of WARFUSSE-ABANCOURT road in Q.20 and 26, men moving in the direction of CERISY. Isolated movement along road in P.23.c also at P.28.b and d. and P.34.b. Six motor lorries travelling East from MORCOURT. 300 horses were seen grazing in Q.18, 24 & 30.
Train movement. 2.10 p.m. train shunting in W.12.d.
4.15 pm train travelling South in X.19.
4.25 pm train moving south in R.26.d.
8. MISCELLANEOUS. 10.30 a.m. large cloud of smoke observed in Q.27. Gun flashes observed on T.B. 139 deg. 30", 140 deg 30" and 122 deg from I.24d.30.05. On our planes crossing enemy lines during the night chain flares (white) were sent up.
Visibility fair.

Part 2 (information from other sources) is attached.

K. A. Goddard Capt

280

Appendix, 22.

64

Appendix, 22.

PART II.

(Information from other sources.)

In the attack to-day N. of the LA BASSEE CANAL, regiments of five different divisions were engaged. A total of 29 fresh divisions and two divisions withdrawn from the SOMME front have now been engaged on the LYS battlefield, where a fresh division has been transferred from the WOEVRE to close reserve.

A total of 98 Divisions have now been engaged on the SOMME battlefield.

Of the 206 German Infantry Divisions in the Western theatre, 128 have now been engaged since the 21st March, and 19 are of poor quality. There are 39 fresh divisions in line, which have not yet been drawn into the battle and 20 which are in reserve, at least 15 of the latter being probably opposite the British front.

No fresh divisions have been engaged on the LYS or the SOMME battle fronts.

A division from the VERDUN front is reported to have come into line in the DIKMUDE sector. This reduces the German reserve of fresh divisions from 20 to 19, of which 12 are probably opposite the British front.

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....

280

65

SANITARY Appendix 5th AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....

22

~~ANNEXE TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE~~ - 22/4/18.

Prisoner of
Report on examination of 10th Company, 3rd Bavarian
Ers.I.R., 9th Bavarian Reserve Division captured in 62D P.32.c
in the night 20/21st April, 1918.

1. HOW CAPTURED. Prisoner was taken by a private from Headquarters of our right battalion who lost his way during relief and came into the lines of the English troops south of us. According to his own report he thought he might just as well try to get a prisoner for intelligence purposes, (in anticipation of the expected enemy attack on the 21st inst). He accordingly went forward alone on the road in P.31.c and d until he saw an enemy party on the north side of the road. He let out a yell and charged. The Germans yelled and more came up. Being a little excited the Australian ordered them in mixed English, French and Dutch to get back into their trench as he only wanted one prisoner. As he accompanied this order with a bayonet demonstration the enemy obligingly withdrew, except for the prisoner who being last and very frightened was hurried off in the direction of our lines. After passing through further dangers and by varied means of transport private and prisoner arrived safely at last at rear Brigade Headquarters, having reported to the Battalion cooks en route.
2. PERSONAL DETAILS. Prisoner is a Bavarian of the 1919 class, born 3/2/1899. He had been called up during the first half of last year but had been sick in hospital for a long time with heart weakness. Had then been in a Field Recruit Depot in BELGIUM (place unknown), and came thence with a draft to the 10th Company on the afternoon of the 18th instant. He was sent immediately after nightfall to man the outpost where he was captured. Prisoner was very ignorant as well as very much afraid. He thought there were three Companies in a Battalion and did not know the other regiments of his division.
3. ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS. Nothing at all known.
4. ENEMY DEFENCES. The post occupied by the prisoner was on the North side of the road in P.32.c. It consists of a trench just long enough to hold the garrison of one I/Opl. and six men. The trench is covered with branches of trees. On the South side of the road about 10 metres off it there is a Machine gun post, also a trench with a tent cover over it. Number of guns and garrison unknown. It was the duty of prisoner's post to guard the right flank of the Machine gun post.



-2-))

5. CASUALTIES. Prisoner spoke with evident fear of bombs dropped by our airmen on the enemy front lines. He could give no definite instances of casualties. The whole division had lost heavily; he had heard, especially on the 4th April.
6. DRAFTS. Prisoner was one of a draft of 30, all of the 1919 class. Ten of these went to the 10th Company, the remainder (apparently) to the 3rd Battalion.
7. ENEMY INTENTIONS. Prisoner considered that attack by the 9th BAVARIAN Reserve Division was impossible. Common talk said that they would be relieved before any attack took place. From the form of the rumour it seems that the BAVARIANS expected the relieving division to make the attack.

NOTE. Two prisoners of the 93rd R.I.R. 4th Guards Division were taken last night 21/22 in the act of relieving this BAVARIAN Division. The 4th Guards were relieved opposite our left brigade on the 8th instant and have been in reserve since.



780

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 22nd April -to- 6 a.m. 23rd April 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. During the period all guns have been checked. In the afternoon a working party at P.14.b.9.2 was dispersed. Enemy strong points in P.15.b., P.10.d and P.11.c were bombarded. At 7.30 p.m. a body of 100 enemy, evidently waiting for rations, was seen at P.14.b.4.2 and engaged, a minimum of twenty casualties being estimated from observation. At 9.45 p.m. a two minute burst of fire was put down on possible points of assembly. At 12.25 a.m. a five minutes concentration was fired on the BOIS de FAMEL. At 12.33 a.m. area P.15.d (shell hole positions) was bombarded for two minutes. At 2.5 a.m. a two minute burst on possible assembly points was fired. At 3.30 a.m. searching from S.O.S. plus 100 yards to S.O.S. plus 300 yards for two minutes. M.G's. Harassing fire was maintained on road at P.14.b.90.25 to P.15.b.05.95, Fork roads at P.15.b.05.95 to P.15.c.30.50. Concentrated fire was directed on road at P.20.b.45.10 and P.21.a.55.00. 10,000 rounds were expended. Patrols report:- Working party heard at about P.3.b.3.3. BOUZENCOURT was thoroughly searched also the outskirts of the village patrolled, no sign of enemy were seen. Wiring parties were heard in P.20.a. Five of the enemy were seen at approximately J.35.d.4.2. Liaison patrols were maintained throughout the night.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Pilot and observer (killed) of enemy aeroplane brought down by one of our fighting planes in J.26.b.9.4 belonged to 219 Reconnaissance Flight. Machine No.D.F.W. 7752.
3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Enemy artillery maintained usual activity Areas shelled were as follows:- J.28., SAILLY-le sec. front line posts in J.35 and 36., VAIRE cemetery J.31.d., J.33.c and d., P.3.a., VAIRE, FAMELET, O.12.d., P.19.b., P.13.d., P.7.d. About 100 gas shells (Yellow Cross) were fired on our battery position in O.10.c.
4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet with the exception of artillery. Minerwerfers. Several "Pineapples" were fired on P.13.d about 11.45 a.m. coming from the direction of P.20.a.9.5. M.G's were active on road running East and West through P.2.c and c.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. M.G's reported firing from K.19.d.6.4, K.25.a.5.5. New wire observed at P.20.c.6.3.
6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Hostile planes crossed our lines at 6.20 a.m., 11 a.m., 1.30 p.m. and 7.45 p.m. One hostile plane was seen to fall well behind enemy lines during the morning. One E.A. was brought down by one of our fighting planes in J.26.b.9.4, both the observer and pilot were killed.
7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Following movement was observed:- 10 men walking along trench in P.21.c. Enemy working party of 15 seen in P.23.b. Two men carrying stretcher along track in P.12.a and b. This track (South of the road) is used considerably. 30 horses grazing in field at Q.9.d. Two Field Kitchens in Q.25.a.

68

~~TRAIN & MOTOR VEHICLES~~

1.50 p.m. train moving East in W.S.c.

2.10 p.m. train moving West in W.S.c. and again at 6.24 p.m.

train moving East in W.S.c.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. Gun flashes observed at 112°, 161°, 141° T.B. from I.24.d.30.02.

Three yellow lights seen at South edge of HAMEL at 8.30 p.m.

Visibility fair

Ground dry.

K. A. Goodland

for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

PART II.

(INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES)

1. GERMAN DIVISIONS ON WESTERN FRONT. 19/4/18. No fresh divisions have been engaged on the LYS or the SOMME battle fronts. A division from the VERDUN front is reported to have come into line in the DIXMUDE sector. This reduces the German reserve divisions from 20 to 19, of which 12 are probably opposite the British front.
- 21/4/18. A division from CHAMPAGNE has come into line north of the River OISE, and a total of 99 divisions have now been engaged on the SOMME battle front. As the withdrawal of a division from the VERDUN front is reported, the engagement of another division on the SOMME battle front makes no change in the number of fresh divisions in reserve. Of the 206 German infantry divisions in the Western Theatre, 129 have now been engaged since the 21st March and 19 are of poor quality. There are 39 fresh divisions in line which have not been drawn into the battle, and 19 which are in reserve; at least 12 of the latter probably opposite the British front. In addition, there are 25 divisions which have been refitting for 10 days or over, and are considered to be available for immediate operations.
2. GENERAL 21/4/18. Little movement was observed yesterday behind the German lines. The order of battle between ALBERT and the SOMME has now been cleared up. The Germans have strengthened their line by one division, thus enabling regiments which formerly held the front with two battalions in line to be organized in greater depth. There is no reason to regard this as indicating an offensive. Prisoners captured in the SAILLY LE SEC and HAMEL sectors formed part of large drafts (400 to 500 each) which arrived direct from Germany, thus showing that the recruit depots of their divisions are exhausted. A considerable percentage of the 1919 class were included in these drafts. The division holding the HAMEL sector is extremely weak, having suffered very heavy losses. No offensive action is considered probable in this sector.

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

ANNEXE TO 5th AUSTRALIA DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 22/4/B.
Particulars of enemy attack on VILLERS BRETONNEUX on 24th inst.
from evidence as furnished by prisoners.

1. ORDER OF BATTLE. As published in Summary of 25th instant.

2. OBJECTIVE. On all evidence the objective was the village VILLERS BRETONNEUX and the high ground (Hill 104) to the north of it. The BOIS d'AQUEINE W. of VILLERS was also included in the attempt. A captured map gives the objective line approximately as follows :- from U.2.d.0.0 along road in U.3.a, O.33.c and a and O.27.d to the railway crossing, thence along a line curving N.W.E. to P.19.a.0.0 to P.20.a.0.8. The operation was thought to be a limited one though a battalion signaller of the 461.R. had gathered from phone conversations that the XI and XIV Corps were both to carry out operations at the same time. All prisoners were questioned as to the number of days' rations carried; most seemed to have carried one, but the 228 Div. (immediately opposite the village) had issued two days' rations. Possibly they expected that it would be difficult to bring up the field kitchens to the village (if captured) owing to our artillery fire.

3. ACTION OF INDIVIDUAL REGIMENTS. 478 I.R., 243rd Div. This regt was apparently on the northern flank of the attack. The 2nd Bn. were to advance and adjust the new line to the old in P.19.a.20, joining also with the 48 I.R. in the assault on Hill 104. They failed from the very start in this effort owing to the heavy M.G. fire which met them. A 2nd Battalion Signaller whose duty it was to keep up communication between the Bn. battle H.Q. and the H.Q. in LA MOTTE said that ^{only} one message was got through (stating the above fact), and then the lines were out. They remained down for a long time, as our artillery fire was very intense. Another man, a runner of the 2nd Bn, lost and captured next day, said that the Battalion Staff was very dissatisfied with the result of the attack, so far as they were concerned. 228th Division, 48 I.R. This regiment had 1 Company of the 1st Battalion N of the main road into VILLERS BRETONNEUX and 3 companies S of it. Their task was to advance through the village on the main road and N. of it as far as the CHURCH, then to face right and take position on the slope about O.29.a and b. They were to be relieved here later by the 2nd Battalion. The 3rd Battalion followed on the 1st, faced right and was to storm The Hill 104 on the W of the village. The 1st Battalion had two flame throwers with them. The advance to the edge of the village was accomplished almost without casualty. Prisoner of the 2nd Company stated that they only lost 1 man up to this point. He was surprised surprised at the slowness of our artillery fire. Later they suffered more heavily and the 3rd Company was reduced from 100 to 26 (the prisoner heard the Company Commander say this). The 2nd Battalion was caught while advancing by M.G. fire and suffered heavily. Prisoners of this Bn also complained that their own artillery was shooting on to them and still further increased the losses. Some accordingly went back and were pushed up again on the evening of the 25th. In our counter attack the 48 I.R. suffered again, especially from our rifle and M.G. fire.

-2-

One prisoner noticed that many N.C.Os were dead in the village. Of the remainder there passed through the cage of this Division alone 4 Officers, 26 N.C.Os and 215 men of the 48 I.R. Of the 2nd Bn alone 2 Officers, 13 N.C.Os and 118 men were taken.

It is safe to say that the whole battle strength of the 48 I.R. was either killed or captured in and around VILLERS BRETONNEUX. 207 R.I.R. This regiment (of the same division as the above) was to storm the centre sector of the village, with the railway as their left flank, and then assemble in the village. They had few losses in the attack and were assisted by men of the 595 Pioneer Coy carrying flame throwers on their left. Later they were caught by our counter attack and cut off in the village. Our captures from them included 4 Coy Commanders and 4 other officers.

35 Fusiliers were in reserve. On the night 23rd/24th they came up behind the 48th and 207th in line and followed on after them on the morning of the attack. They passed easily through the village and were billeted down in cellars. They were pushed into support the 207 R.I.R. early on the night 24th/25th, found their flanks in the air and gave way.

They had few losses in the attack.

93 R.I.R. 4th Guards Division. Their line of advance was parallel to and South of the railway. They were to advance as far as the BOIS L'ABBE in O.33.b, and dig in with the Right flank 30 to 40 yds. south of the main road. For this they had the support of German tanks. Losses in attack were slight, as the tanks dealt with difficult points. They felt little from our artillery. They gave up the position in the wood at 2 am on the night 25th/26th, as the German artillery was firing on to them.

The 5th Guard Grenadiers also had the BOIS L'ABBE as objective and were supported by tanks. They suffered little from Artillery fire but heavily from our M.G's.

The 5th Foot Guards apparently relieved the Grenadiers towards evening and were stated to have suffered severely from our artillery.

FURTHER information from Prisoners.

1. GERMAN TANKS. One prisoner stated that 7 of these were attached to the 4th Gds. Division for the operation. Only 5 came into action. They were greenish in color, larger and longer than ours, and more like armoured cars. The front was square and blunt nosed. The cars were equipped with a periscope, about 30 ins. high, something like the submarines.

CASUALTIES. In addition to casualties mentioned in the preceding notes following were reported. On the 4th inst. the 48 I.R. suffered heavily in the German attack on HAMEL. From our M.G's and artillery the 2nd Coy. of the 48 I.R. lost the equivalent of a whole platoon. Apparently all Coys. of the 1st Bn. now have only two platoons each. Officers' diary of 1st Coy. 207th R.I.R. :-

4.4.18. Stand to. Heavy fighting. Our division broke through the English position S.E. of HAMEL. Unfortunately very heavy losses. Officer casualties since 30.3.18 Killed; 6 Lieutenants; Wounded; one Major, 10 Lieutenants. Sick; one Captain, one Lieutenant.

71

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....

-3-

ATTACK by 207 R.I.R. From officers diary :-
 23.4.18 : Had a good sleep. Sitting outside in the open during the day.

In the evening after the meal moved further to the front close behind the fighting battn III/207 and there dug in.

24.4.18: (Rittmeister von RICHTHOFEN brought down after having destroyed 80 planes).
 Attacked at 7.00 in spite of heavy fogs, with tan's and Flammenwerfers.
 Advanced through the village of VILLENS BRETONNEUX. At the beginning difficult going. We reached the West and Northwest end of the village towards mid-day and there dug in. We salvaged a lot out of the village; canteens and clothing. Losses fairly light. During the day and night very heavy enemy art. fire. Our accommodation was quite tolerable.
 During the night patrols very active on both sides. The English penetrated our line on the left but were repulsed again.

25.4.18: Heavy fog. Alarm. Stand to.

LOCATIONS. FRISE village on the SOMME. 48 I.R. was in rest here in an old Prisoner of War cage.

ECLUSIER. Rest village of the 93 R.I.R. from 6/4/18 to 21/4/18.

CAPPY. Rest billets of 207 R.I.R.

Battle H.Q. 478 I.R. in WARFUSEE, in the school house.

Reserve Bn. H.Q. (of 3rd Bn. 478 I.R.) corner house in WARFUSEE (P.29.c.9.4: see 35 A.E. B829 12.4.18).

Battle Bn. H.Q. (2nd Bn. 478 I.R.) A trench about 50 yds. long and about 500 yds. behind the front line (probably in P.21.c or P.27.a).

EXAMINATION of prisoners of 5th Coy/11 Baw. R.I.R.

9th Bav. Res. Div. captured about 5 am in P.20.a 27/4/18.

1. HOW CAPTURED. Prisoner was wounded by a rifle shot and went for medical assistance. He came thus into our lines.

2. DIVISIONAL RELIEF. The 9th Bav. Res. Div. came into line last night 26th/27th at 10 pm in P.20.a. It is not quite certain which Division has been relieved. Prisoner is not very intelligent, but is quite sure that the Company Commander said they were relieving the 148 I.R. (NOT the 48, I.R.). If this is correct, it implies that the 41st Div. has been for several days in line unidentified. The 79th F.A.R. belonging to this Division was identified by prisoner N of HAMEL on 5.4.18.

3. ENEMY INTENTIONS. The 9th Bavns. were described by prisoner as a "Trench warfare Division", and said it could not be used in attack. He said also that it was very tired, in spite of the few days out of line, (it was relieved on the 21/4/18).

4. COMPANY STRENGTH. Trench 70-80. Ration 170.

5. MORALE. Poor, cheerfully indifferent as to the result of the war.

280

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

Appendix, 22, 72

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 23rd to 6 a.m. 25th April, 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into Front Line Trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. At 3.45 am, on 24th April, 1918 the enemy opened a heavy bombardment on Support and Reserve line of the right Brigade, the bombardment extending southwards. At the same time the enemy shelled with Blue Cross gas all battery positions, Left Brigade Headquarters, Right Brigade Headquarters and FOUILLOY. H.E. was also fired onto Battery positions. Right Infantry Brigade Headquarters were moved to cellar at O.5.c.5.8 at 5 am, Headquarters at O.5.c.5.7 having been destroyed by fire as result of enemy shelling. At 6.40 am it was reported that the enemy were attacking VILLERS BRETONNEUX. No attack developed against 5th Aust. Division front south of the SOMME. A defensive flank was formed from P.20.a.0.0 running west to face enemy who had penetrated into VILLERS BRETONNEUX. Two small attacks (enemy estimated 300 strong) were made by enemy in J.35.c between 7 and 8 am but were both repulsed. At 10 pm in conjunction with an attack from south of VILLERS BRETONNEUX the Reserve Brigade under orders of Right Division attacked in a south-easterly direction towards P.31.b.6.0 and established a line running from O.36 central - P.25.c.6.3, P.20.a.0.0. One company Reserve Brigade assisted troops of Right Division in mopping up of VILLERS BRETONNEUX. Detail of prisoners captured is given in para 2. A number of machine guns and minenwerfer were captured - particulars not yet available.

Patrols. Under MISCELLANEOUS.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Prisoners captured in attack on VILLERS BRETONNEUX up to 4.50 pm 25/4/18 as shown hereunder.

<u>Regiment</u>	<u>Division.</u>
48 I.R.	228 Division.
207 R.I.R.	228 Division.
35 Fus. Re gt.	228 Division.
478 I.R.	243 Division.
93 R.I.R.	4 Guard Division.
5th Guard Gren.	4 Guard Division.
5th Foot Guard	4 Guard Division.
77 M.G. Marksmen Detachment.	?
395th Pioneer Company.	attached 228th Division.

<u>Prisoners Captured.</u>			<u>Remarks.</u>
<u>Off.</u>	<u>N.C.O.'s</u>	<u>O.R.</u>	
12	55	540	Killed on route) by two direct hits Wounded on route) from enemy artillery fire.
1		12	
		30	
<u>13</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>582</u>	

Analysis of prisoners is attached.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY. At about 5 pm on 23rd April enemy shelled the following areas heavily with gas :- J.25, 26, 27, I.24, 30, 36, CORBIE, FOUILLOY, VAIRE. Shelling slackened at 8.30 pm and from then on shelling was intermittent. At 3.45 am enemy artillery opened heavy barrage on right Brigade Reserve and Support Line Right sector, being heaviest on Right Battalion sector, also all battery positions were shelled with sneezing gas. FOUILLOY and CORBIE were also heavily shelled with gas (Yellow Cross). Other areas shelled were J.25.a, SAILLY le SEC, J.22c, HAMELET, VAIRE, SOMME valley from J.25 to CORBIE, VAUX sur-SOMME. The bombardment lasted until 6.45 am after which intermittent fire was continued with varying intensity throughout the period. At 3.20 am heavy bombardment with Minenwerfers and Pineapples on P.13.b coming

73.
Appendix 22

280

from the direction of BOIS DE VAIRE.
Prior to attack by the enemy on our post in J.35, enemy artillery put heavy barrage down on front line left sector, smoke shells were used.

- 4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. See Operations.
- 5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy working on trenches in P.8.d. also at K.31.c.6.6. Minenwerfer reported firing from sunken road in J.36.c.
- 6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. Inactive.
- 7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Much movement observed throughout the period. Chief areas where movement was seen are as follows:- Men in full marching order in P.20.a and c, P.16.a P.15.a., P.17.a and P.23.b. Wood in K.51.a. many stretcher bearer parties between BOIS DE HAMEL and BOIS D'ACCROCHE. Edge of wood in P.17.c.
- 8. MISCELLANEOUS. On two red flares being fired enemy Minenwerfer P.13.b barrage (reported under papa. 5) was put down on our front line in/b At 12 noon on the 23rd April a man wearing a British uniform and carrying a rifle slung, rode a bicycle from SAILLY le SEC to SAILLY LAURETTE. 8 p.m. large enemy dump was set on fire by our artillery in LA MOTTE en SENTERRE. Visibility bad.
- 9. Patrols Our patrols were active and report the following:
Enemy working parties heard at P.4.b.2.1., P.5.a.2.1., P.4.b.4.4. Liaison patrols were maintained throughout the period.

K.A. Goodland Capt-
for Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

PART II.

Information and material wanted.
1. Prisoners evidence shows that special ointment called "Gelbolin" is issued to troops as preventative against injury from yellow cross gas. It is most important it be obtained if possible.

280

SANITARY SECTION. 5th AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

Appendix 22. 74

For Official Use Only

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 25th April to 6 a.m. 26th April 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

OPERATIONS. Artillery. Our Artillery has been very active during the period, both in bombardment of areas and of personnel. A large amount of fire by direct observation has been employed. In addition to counter preparation shoots, the following were carried out:-

- 2 p.m. Enemy advancing in large numbers in P.26.a & c, P.25.d and on to VILLEPS BRETONNEUX. Scattered and broken up with heavy casualties, and small parties left of them swept with shrapnel, further heavy casualties reported.
- 3.15 p.m. Enemy concentrating in P.9 and P.14 were broken up and took cover in BOIS de VAIRE and HAMEL.
- 3.50 p.m. Enemy massing in P.20.c. This was engaged and broken up with heavy casualties; fire being employed on broken parties with good effect till 4 p.m.

During the entire afternoon hostile parties of varying strength were observed all along our front, and engaged with excellent results.

At 5.50 p.m. 10 enemy ammunition wagons observed on road in P.12.a and b and were bombarded on reaching cross roads in Q.7.a. Several were blown up, thr drivers and horses lying in road killed and wounded.

Various zone calls were answered. During the night areas of assembly and activity were heavily bombarded at irregular periods, gas being employed. Searching fire swept roads and tracks, and rolling fire was employed back from S.O.S. lines. At 3.15 a.m. a rolling barrage was fired in conjunction with infantry operation on the right, and bursts of fire on points of assembly continued for an hour.

Patrols report:- 2 of the enemy were seen at J.34.d.5.2. Large enemy party about 40 strong were seen at approximately P.20.d.0.4 fire was opened on them and party dispersed. Enemy hold post at P.20.a.3.6 (cross roads). 2 enemy posts were located about P.8.d.3.8. Liaison patrols were maintained during the night.

2 IDENTIFICATIONS as hereunder.

Coy.	Regt.	Div.	N.O.O.	Men	Place of capture.
9	78 IR	19	L/Cpl.	-	U.6.
8	207 IR	228	-	1	VILLERS BRETONNEUX
12	207 IR	228	-	2	" "
3	48 IR	228	-	2	P.25.d.
5	478 IR	243	-	1	P.20.a. (attached to II Bn Signal platoon)
12	478 IR	243	-	1	P.20.a.
	478 IR	243	L/Cpl.		P.20.a (runner from En. Hdqrs. wounded).

Report on enemy operations on 24/4/18 as related by prisoners and further / evidence is attached.
prisoners

3. ORDER OF BATTLE. opposite our Divisional front and on the Battle front (according to prisoners' evidence)

	1 Gren. Regt.)	} 1 DIV. into line 6/4/18.
	3 Gren. Regt.)	
	43 I.R.	
S. of BOIS DE VAIRE.	479 I.R.	} 243 DIV. (into line 13/14-4-18)
	478 I.R.	
Astride AMIENS-PERONNE Road.	48 I.R.	} 228 DIV. (into line 19-4-18)
	207 R.I.R.	
	93 R.I.R.	} 4 Guard DIV. (into line 21/22-4-18)
	5 Foot Gds.)	
Opposite BOIS DE HANGARD and HANGARD	78 I.R.	} 19th DIV. relieved 77 Res. Div. Night 25/26-4-18 .
	91 I.R.	
	74 I.R.	
	7 Guard I.R.	} Guard Ers. Div. (into line 10/4/18).
	6 Guard I.R.	
	399 I.R.	

280

appendix. 22. 76

SANITARY SECTION
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

- 2 -

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY continued active over the whole area with the exception of a quieter period between 8 am and 1 pm. Front line systems, valleys, roads, and villages, Battery areas were intermittently shelled. At 5.50 pm enemy artillery put down a heavy barrage of all calibres H.E. and shrapnel just west of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX, this was again repeated at 5.45 pm and 6.45 pm lasting about 5 minutes in each case. At 7 pm a barrage of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX extended along our front system as far as the SOMME. Other areas shelled were P.13.e. and a, P.19a, P.7.c, O.12.d, SAILLY le SEC, BOUZANCOURT, V. IRE, HAMELET, COKEIE, P.8.a, O.6.c. and d, J.21.b, J.27.b, J.22.d. J.29.a, J.28.b.
5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Enemy artillery was very active throughout. At 3.15 pm and 3.50 pm enemy concentrations in P.19d, P.14 and P.20c were reported. Our artillery were informed and both bodies were successfully dispersed and casualties caused to the enemy. Minenwerfers were active on our front line in P.2. Machine guns were fired intermittently on our front line system during the night.
6. ENEMY DEFENCES. Concertina wire has been erected in front of enemy post at P.3.c.3.3. to P.3.c.2.9.
7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. One E.A. was brought down in I.16.d. at 11.15 am and one E.A. brought down in flames in J.35.a. during the morning.
8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. There was considerable movement of enemy infantry all day between BOIS DE HAMEL and BOIS D'ACROCHE. 16 ammunition wagons on road from Q.7.b. to P.12.a engaged by our artillery; three direct hits observed. Much movement observed in P.20.c.
9. MISCELLANEOUS. Enemy fired two red followed by two green flares opposite right sector, this was immediately answered by heavy enemy artillery barrage. At midnight large fire broke out in HAMEL, apparently caused by our artillery. Visibility poor.

G. H. ...
Lieut-Colonel, G.S.,
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

From 6 a.m. 24th - to - noon 26th April, 1918.

Reg.	SUMMARY	Div.	Officers	N.O.O's	Men.
1.	479 I.R.	243	-	-	1
2.	478 R.I.R.	243	-	1	18
3.	47 I.R.	228	4	26	215
4.	207 I.R.	228	6	11	66
5.	35 Fus. Regt.	228	-	4	19
6.	93 R.I.R.	228	-	4	15
7.	5th Ft. Gds.	4 Gd.	-	1	1
8.	5 G. Gds.	4 Gd.	-	5	8
9.	78 I.R.	19	-	-	1
10.	395 Pioneer Company.	Attech. 228	-	1	1
11.	77 M.G. marksmen detachment.	-	-	-	3
			12	53	343 Total through Div. Oag
12.	Killed Wounded		1	-	12
			13	53	54 Through Field Amb.
			13	53	414

280

Appendix 22

98

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....

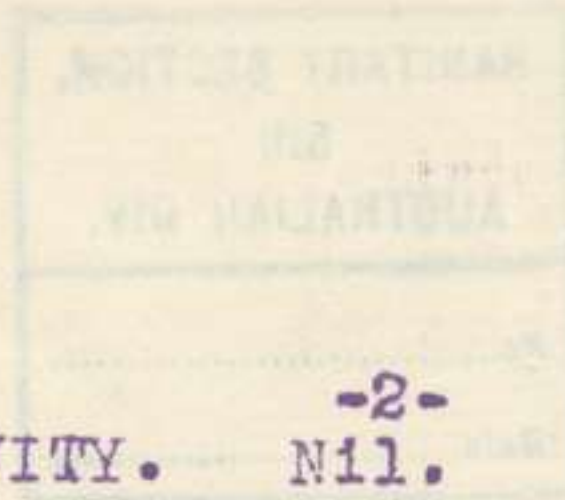
For Official Use Only

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 26th April - to - 6 a.m. 27th April, 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. Our artillery was active in engagement of live targets, bombardments of occupied positions, and in assisting on Right flank against enemy attacks. Strong enemy party near trench in P.11.b was dispersed at 12.20 pm, and later a party in P.16.b scattered. At 9.40 pm points of assembly and roads were bombarded for two minutes. At 11.10 pm HAMEL and approaches was swept for two minutes by all guns. At 11.25 pm areas of activity were bombarded. At 1.25 am the BOIS de VAIRE was searched for five minutes, and the BOIS D'ACCROCHE gassed. At 4.50 am a concentration was put down on points of assembly for five minutes. At 5.25 am a rolling barrage swept back from S.O.S. lines to S.O.S. plus 500 yards. A burst of fire was also put down on transport and movement in and behind HAMEL at 11.5 pm.
CORRIGENDUM. In Summary dated 23rd to 25/4/18 under para.1 Operations, line 15 for "between 7 and 8 am" read "between 4 and 5 am".
Patrols/report 10 of the enemy were seen at J.35.d.6.8, 7 men were seen to enter S.F at P.20.b.2.4. No enemy patrols were seen. Liaison between posts and flank units was maintained throughout the night.
M.Guns. Our M.G. were active on enemy communications and tracks during the night. 6000 rounds were expended.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 7th Coy.11 Bav.R.I.R, 9 Bav.Res.Div. relieved 148 I.R. (?) on Right 26/27th (Prisoner captured in P.20.a). 253rd P.1 Coy attached to the 243rd Div. Identification is not certain, the sole evidence being an ordinary field grey shoulder strap with no piping, bearing the number 253, taken from a man killed on night of the 25th. Annexe containing information obtained from prisoners captured in German attack on 24th inst is attached.
3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Enemy artillery has been quieter during the period, except from P.19 to the south where it has been intermittently active both in area searches of all calibres and barrages to the N.W. of VILLERS BRETONNEUX.. On the left front 50 rounds 5.9 fell in CORBIE, the front line system was intermittently shelled by 77mm. Other areas shelled were FOUILLOY, SAILLEY LE SEC, V. IRE.
4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. With exception of artillery fire enemy was quiet. M.G. were inactive.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. New posts reported at P.3.d.8.9, P.20.b.2.4. Post at J.35.d.4.5 is held by day. Post in J.35.d.4.5 is a night post only. M.Guns reported firing from P.20.d central, P.20.b.00.80, P.20.b.40.70, P.14.b.5.0. O.P. is suspected at P.17.a.42.50.



6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. Nil.

7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES.

Movement observed at HAMEL, HAMEL-MARCELCAVE road. Small groups of men between P.16.c.6.1 and P.15.d.2.8. Small bodies of men along road from J.56.c.8.4 to SAILLY-LAURETTE.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. 77mm battery observed firing from P.6.d.25.15. Lamp signalling was observed at Q.8.b.0.8. Visibility bad owing to mist.

K. A. Goodland-Capt-
Lieut-Colonel.
General Staff.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. Some words like 'movement', 'observed', and 'visibility' are faintly visible.]

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

ANNEXE TO 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 28/4/18.

REPORT on examination of one wounded prisoner of 8th Coy. 35th Fusilier Regt., two of 4th Coy. 48 I.R. 228th Division, captured early 28/4/18.

1. HOW CAPTURED. Prisoners had been for four days in cellars in VILLERS BRETONNEUX and surrendered under stress of hunger.
2. ACTION of REGIMENTS in ATTACK 24th April 1918.

48th I.R. Prisoner's evidence was mainly confirmatory of that already given in yesterday's summary. There were Pioneers attached to them on attack with Flame Throwers, but it now seems certain that the 228th Div. had no tanks, though they know that some were to take part in the battle. Losses were slight until they were through the village, when they were caught by M.G.'s. also our Artillery inflicted losses during the afternoon. Losses of the 48 I.R. in the attack on the 4th instant were heavy and came mainly from flank M.G. fire on the north.

35 Fus. Regt. As already related the 35 Fus. Regt. followed on during the attack behind the 48th and 207th I.R. Prisoners stated that they thus came under our artillery barrage (which apparently, on all evidence, missed the first waves) and suffered badly. Prisoner was buried by a shell and only came on into the village at 3 p.m. with other stragglers. At the same time he noticed the heavy M.G.'s and at least two Medium Minenwerfer being carried forward by hand. In the village they were worried by our low flying aeroplanes. Prisoner had holes punched in his steel helmet and 4 men were killed or wounded out of those near him. At 8 p.m. the 8th Coy. went forward but later went back owing to our fire into their flank. Prisoner stated that very many of the English prisoners taken were wounded men.

EXAMINATION of L/Cpl prisoner of 77th Reserve Cyclists Coy. attached to 77th Reserve Div., captured night 27th/28th 4-18 probably in 62D U.17.b.

1. PERSONAL DETAILS. Prisoner's history is interesting. He is an Alsatian born 13-6-97. He was called up on the 5th day of mobilization though only 17 years old, worked with a Labour Coy. till October 1914. Was discharged but called up again in February 1915 for service with a Landsturm Battalion, and afterwards 16 weeks with the infantry. He was sick in hospital and then sent to the Jagers and joined the 77th Res. Cyclists Coy, with whom he had done two years service in RUSSIA. Five brothers were also serving.
2. MOVEMENTS of the 77th Res. Cyclists Coy. The Coy. left DORPAT in RUSSIA about 4-3-18. They travelled many days on their cycles and reached ROSIERES en SANTERRE about the 23rd instant. Here they left their cycles and marched up to the front, relieving a Coy. of the 257th R.I.R. in the support line on the evening of the 24th. Last night (27th/28th) they were themselves relieved by a Coy. of the 257th R.I.R..

3. HOW CAPTURED. Prisoner with a Lieutenant and two other men lost their direction on relief and came on an Australian post who opened fire. The lieutenant was probably killed and the two others wounded. Prisoner was captured while trying to carry off one of the wounded.

4. COMPANY STRENGTH: trench 90, ration 124.

5. CASUALTIES. Prisoner knew no details about the enemy attack and our counter attack. In their support position they were badly shelled by our Artillery. On the 25th instant also an English tank (apparently of ordinary pattern) came right over the front line and nearly on to the support line. It was met here however by heavy machine gun fire, so turned and went back safely. It was firing case shot busily.

... the village, when they were a part of the 1st...
... in the village they were worried by our firing...
... or wounded out of those...
... At 8 p.m. the 8th Coy. went forward but later went back owing to our fire into their line. Prisoner stated that very many of the English prisoners taken were wounded men.

EXAMINATION of 1st Coy prisoner of 7th Reserve Coy...
attached to 7th Reserve Div., captured night 24/11/41...
probably in 8th B.I.A.

PERSONAL DETAILS. Prisoner's history is interesting. He is an Australian born, 15-8-27. He was called up on the 25th day of mobilisation, though only 19 years old, and worked with a labour Coy. till October 1941. He was discharged but called up again in February 1942 for service with a Labour Battalion, and afterwards 10 weeks with the 1st Coy. He was then in hospital and then sent to the 8th Coy. and joined the 7th Reserve Coy. with whom he had done two years service in 1941. Five brothers were also serving.

MOVEMENTS of the 7th Reserve Coy. The Coy. left TONGATIA on 25-11-41. They travelled east days on their cycle and reached ROBINSON on 28-11-41. They were then in the front line. They left their cycle and marched up to the front, believing a Coy. of the 8th B.I.A. in the support line on the evening of the 24th. Last night (24/11/41) they were themselves relieved by a Coy. of the 8th B.I.A.

280

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....

Appendix 22

82

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 27th April to 6 a.m. 28th April 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches,

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. Artillery has been very active carrying out bombardments, concentrations on live targets, counter battery work, counter preparation, and have answered various S.O.S. Calls. At 6.17 a.m. an S.O.S. on the Southern Brigade front (P.19.central to P.30.d) was answered. At 2 p.m. large bodies of enemy were observed moving through P.14, P.19 and P.20 and were scattered with casualties. At 2.45 p.m. bursts of fire swept P.27, P.26.a and c. At 3.5 p.m. a working party in P.11 was scattered and five minutes later a small party in HAMEL was dispersed. Between 5 and 5.30 p.m. numerous N.F. calls were received and answered. At 5.20 p.m. two large parties in P.18.a and c were scattered. At 5.30 p.m. eight men in Q.1.a were put to flight. At 6.45 p.m. Right Brigade reported Bosche massing and advancing in waves - sweeping barrage was immediately put down. At 6.47 p.m. S.O.S. went up in U.6. The enemy were reported broken up. Night firing consisted of:- 9.55 p.m. bursts of fire on points of assembly and routes for two minutes; 10.50 p.m. concentration on HAMEL for five minutes; 11.50 p.m. P.15.central to P.21.central in depth two minutes; 3 a.m. P.15.central to P.21.central; 4.25 a.m. rolling barrage from S.O.S. to S.O.S. plus 500. At 5.10 am an S.O.S. was reported on our Right flank, and Right Artillery Group put down a protective barrage on that flank - this seems to have been some distance to the South. H.T.M's. 6" Newton T.M. were in action on 25th, 26th and 27th instant and carried out registrations and minor bombardments. M.G's fired 10,000 rounds on enemy roads, tracks and approaches to BOIS de VAIRE. Enemy infantry attempting to dig in at P.20.e.6.7 were successfully engaged. Patrols were active and report as follows:- Enemy Strong point at P.19.b.9.8 is manned. Large working parties were heard in the BOIS de VAIRE. Coughing and talking was heard about P.8.b.5.4. Noise was heard in HAMEL. A fighting patrol left our lines at J.35.c.3.3 at 9.30 p.m. with a Lewis gun and crew and 2 rifle grenadiers to try and snapper enemy post in J.35.d. When within range R.G. fire was opened on post with good effect, enemy M.G. at once opened fire from a flank, after well engaging post patrol withdrew safely to our own lines.
2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Res 2 prisoners of the 4th Coy. 48 I.R. 228th Div. 1 prisoner of 77 Cyclists Coy. 77th Res. Div. captured in WILLERS BRETONNEUX. Examination of these prisoners forms annexe to this Summary. 1 O.R. wounded belonging to 8th Coy. 35 Fus. Regt. 228 Div.
3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Maintained usual activity throughout the period. Following areas were shelled:- P.13.a, cross roads P.13.c.9.7 Road in P.13.d and c, O.24.a, P.7.c, P.13.a, J.29.b, O.6.a, VAIRE P.1.c and d. At 1.50 p.m. heavy barrage was put down on front line in P.19.d with all calibres. At 5.20 a.m. barrage was put down from WILLERS BRETONNEUX south, at the same time right support area was heavily shelled with 5.9's in O.4.c. Dummy bridge across river SOMME drew considerable amount of artillery fire, approximately 300 shells (4.2 and 5.9 How.) fell in vicinity.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. At 6.25 a.m. strong party of the enemy estimated 1500 strong advanced in open order to within 400 yards of our front line in P.19 and 25 and attempted to entrench. Artillery were informed and our S.O.S. came down. Our S.O.S. line and the line on which the enemy were attempting to dig in were identical, with the result that extremely heavy casualties were caused and the enemy had to give up his attempt. He was seen to flee in disorder in all directions taking the nearest cover available. At 1.50 p.m. enemy massing in P.27 were successfully dispersed with artillery fire, many casualties being caused.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy S.P.'s were located at P.20.a.3.5, P.14.c.9.9, P.14.c.9.8, P.14.c.95.55, and P.20.a.4.6. last mentioned post was being worked on. S.P. at i.20.a.3.5 was garrisoned by about 20 men and a M.G., remaining posts were held with about 5 or 3 men in each. Listening post located at J.35.d.35.45. M.G.'s. At Cross roads i.20.a.3.5 has 2 listening posts on either side of road and 30 yards forward of post. Enemy M.G. post located at J.36.a.4.6 (Quarry). The Quarry at i.4.b.5.9 has a sap leading into S.E. end. What appears to be enemy front line trench runs across front of it. 100 men were seen going into quarry at dawn on 27th instant, evidently garrison of trench live in quarry during the day (artillery informed). A new sap has been dug through ridge at K.25.c.1.9 leading to post on forward slope. Wire. A new belt of wire entanglement runs approximately from P.4.d.3.2. south towards HAMEL. Enemy appears to be holding trench P.26.a.0.0. to P.26.c.0.0. strongly. Corregendum In Summary dated 5 a.m. 26th April to 6 a.m. 27th April under ENEMY DEFENCES for "Post in J.35.d.4.5 is a night post only" read "Post in J.36.a.2.1 is a night post only".

6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. Enemy planes low over our lines during afternoon were successfully engaged with M.G. and rifle fire.

7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Movement observed at :- Party of 10 men at P.19.d, HAMEL and P.11.central. Much transport in the vicinity of CERISY. Small parties in trench at P.10.d.8.7. From midday onwards many stretcher parties left the BOIS de VAIRE moving in the direction of BOIS de ACCROCHE. Transport heard in SAILLY-LAURETTE during the night (patrol). Large party of the enemy working on road in Q.26.c and d. Train movement 9.50 a.m. light railway train loaded with men (4 trucks) moving in P.26.a and b towards WARFUSEE-ABANGOURT.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. Large enemy dump in P.12 was exploded with heavy artillery at 2.20 p.m. At 9.55 p.m. enemy fired two double red flares when his artillery opened for 5 minutes. Visibility fair.

K. A. Fordham Capt
for Lieut Colonel,
General Staff.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

280

84.

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

Appendix 22.

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 28th April to 6 a.m. 29th April 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. At 7.20 a.m. an enemy party in P.14.b was dispersed, at 3 p.m. movement in a trench at P.11.a.1.2 was engaged. Registration was continued during the day. At 9.5 p.m. a two minute burst was fired on enemy points of assembly. At 9.45 p.m. right battalion of right brigade reported: shouting and running were heard along N.W. edge of BOIS de VAIRE as the result of our bombardment. At 10.30 p.m. a two minute concentration was put down between P.14.d.00.15 and P.14.b.55.75, cross roads at Q.7.a.3.8 also being bombarded at the same time. At 11.52 p.m. a burst of fire (two minutes) was put down between P.9.d. 90.35 and P.15.b.30.55; roads in K.26 were swept during the same period. At 3.12 a.m. a rolling barrage was put down for four minutes from S.O.S. lines plus 150 yards to S.O.S. plus 350. At 3.16 a.m. this rolled back from S.O.S. plus 500 to S.O.S. plus 300, in four minutes. On completion of this 8 minute burst, Heavy Artillery proceeded to intense counter battery work. At 4 p.m. a two minute burst of fire was put down on assembly areas and routes. On the report of the infantry, transport in HAMEL was engaged at 10.50 p.m. Trench Mortars. 6" Newtons fired during the night on S.O.S. lines and on targets. Three direct hits were secured on enemy S.P. at J.36.c.5.3. and 10 rounds on the Quarry at P.5.a.1.3. 3" Stokes/ on J.36.b.2.8, enemy post at J.30.d.1.0 and silenced a M.G. at J.30.d.1.1.

Patrols. Active on both brigade fronts. Report as follows: Patrol in P.20.a saw a party of between 50 and 70 enemy digging a trench in front of BOIS de VAIRE. Enemy opened M.G. fire and fired flares. At 3.15 a.m. on our artillery opening up enemy party ran in all directions. Another patrol moved towards an enemy post approximately at P.8.d.35.80. A single shot was fired at patrol and enemy then opened up with M.G. and rifle fire from post.

Left Brigade: Patrol passing the cutting at P.3.e.3.1 saw three of the enemy moving in their direction. They awaited their approach and then opened L.G. fire on to them. On advancing and searching the spot two rifles were found badly shot about. There was no identification. BOUZENCOURT was patrolled as far as P.4.b.0.2 between 11.30 p.m and 2.35 a.m.. No enemy seen or heard. A patrol/ left battalion found and brought in some telephone wire at J.36.a.6.6. apparently running back to occupied German posts. Movement at J.35.d.8.6 was seen, reported to Lewis gunners at J.35.c.8.8 and fired on.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. ORDER OF BATTLE. opposite our front. (probable)

31 I.R.	}	18 DIV. into line 30.3.18, last identified
85 I.R.		20.4.18.
86 Fus.R.		
R.SOLME	}	1 DIV. into line 6.4.18, last identified
43 I.R.		20.4.18.
BOIS de VAIRE		3 Gren.R.

3. ORDER OF BATTLE (Continued)

14 Bav. R.I.R.) 9 Bav. Res. DIV. into line 26/27.4.18.
 11 Bav. R.I.R.) relieving 23 DIV. 3 Bav. Res. I.R. in reserv

P.26.a.

central

26 R.I.R.

376 R.I.R.

2 Gren.R.

} 109 DIV. identified 29.4.18, possibly
 relieved the 228 DIV.

All the above divisions have been engaged twice in the offensive and have had heavy losses, since made good, partly at any rate, by drafts. The Bavarians are very tired. The 109 Division is just fresh from ROUMANIA and has only seen service in the EAST. IDENTIFICATIONS, especially N. and S. of the SOMME are urgently required.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Particularly quiet during the period and limited to a few batteries only, who apparently have taken on different tasks in rotation.

VAUX, CORBIE, HAMELET, SAILLY-LE-SEC were lightly shelled mainly with 4.2's. VAIRE received more attention including about 20 rounds 4.2 in the morning, 13 at 4.40 p.m., 20 at 6.45., 90 at 10.45, 20 at 12.50 a.m. Twenty rounds 77mm gas (nature unknown) fell in VAIRE at 5.10 p.m.

Other places shelled lightly were P.7.d, P.13.b and d, O.17.b, Battalion H.Q. in O.24.a, O.6.d, P.8.a, J.27.b, J.29.a,b,c, J.35.b. Most of the day shelling seems to have been done by one 4.2" How. battery and one 77mm battery in the vicinity of CERISY.

Minerwerfer. Few M.W. fired during the day on right battalion from S.W. corner of BOIS de VAIRE.

M.G.'s fired heavily during the day on our low flying planes and fairly active during the night.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Artillery fire greatly decreased. Patrolling of NO MAN'S LAND continues vigorous and his posts now appear to be pushed well forward. Defensive work on BOIS de VAIRE continues.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES. Sounds of timber being felled in BOIS de VAIRE (patrol)

Enemy digging observed at P.20.a.30.65. He appears to be paying special attention to the defence of the cross roads at this point as our patrols always meet opposition there.

Enemy posts located at J.30.d.1.c (with M.G.), J.30.b.2.8, J.30.d.40.40, (not occupied during day but men seen leaving just before dawn), J.36.b.20.95 (M.G. fire from direction of this post). Small strong posts at K.31.c.25.80 and 75.55 (not occupied by day). Short sap from road at K.31.d.10.65 to K.31.c.90.95.

CORRECTION. The important quarry (used as day resting station for the front line garrison) reported yesterday as being at P.4.b.5.9 has now been accurately located at P.5.a.1.3. All outlets from this quarry are under observation.

7. AERIAL ACTIVITY. Enemy planes were not very active. On two occasions they were prevented from crossing our lines by A.A. fire.

Our planes patrolled enemy lines at low altitudes. At 1.40 p.m. 3 bombs were dropped in P.14.c.9.9 and at 2.30 p.m. 4 on enemy positions in front of the BOIS de VAIRE.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Between 4 and 5 pm

two and threes were seen in P.16.a and P.15.b. Working party of 50-70 men digging a trench in front of BOIS de VAIRE seen by our patrol and dispersed by artillery. Several men wearing white armbands seen during the morning on the road in K.26.a, apparently making observation on our front. Working parties seen at P.10.d (7.30 am), P.12.d (12.20 p.m.), Q.9 (on ridge at 2.50 pm), P.8.d. (5.25 p.m.)

9. **SIGNALLING.** When enemy artillery was firing in vicinity of his own line at 2.45 p.m. several white flares were fired, range was then lengthened. White flares were freely used during the night when our concentration shoots were put down.

10. **GENERAL.** Ground still wet and slippery on ploughed ground. Visibility poor.



Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SANITARY SECTION. 5th AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

PART II.

(Information from other sources)

German Divisions on Western Front. April 26th 1918.

A division from ROUMANIA has been identified in reserve South of LILLE. This is considered to be one of the unidentified divisions which had already been counted in the Western Theatre. Three fresh divisions from VERDUN, MOEVRE, and ALSACE, respectively, have been engaged on the LYS battle front. 36 fresh divisions, and four withdrawn from the SOMME battle, have now been identified on this front.

A fresh division, from CHAMPAGNE has come into line on the SOMME battle front where 101 divisions have now been engaged. It is noticeable that divisions drawn from the VERDUN ALSACE front are being used to reinforce the LYS battle front, while those drawn from the OISE ARGONNE front are being used to reinforce the SOMME battle front.

Owing to withdrawal of a division from the line in LORRAINE, there is a not reduction of three, from 17 to 14, in the number of fresh divisions in reserve.

Of the 206 German divisions in the Western Theatre, 137 have been engaged since 21st March, and 19 are of poor quality.

There are 14 fresh divisions in reserve, and, in addition, there are 36 fresh divisions in line which have not yet been drawn into the battle.



280

87

SANITARY SECTION. 5th AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

Appendix 22.

For Official Use Only.

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 29th April to 6 a.m. 30th April 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS Artillery At 8 a.m. an N.F. call was answered, one O.K. being received. At intervals during the morning a few rounds of 4.5" How. were put into P.14.a and P.11.d. central. A large number of live targets presented themselves in the afternoon. At 3.20 p.m. a large hostile party (approx. 50) in P.14.b were dispersed, a large number of casualties being observed. At 4.10 p.m. parties by trenches in P.14.c and d were scattered. At 4 p.m. and 4.20 p.m. parties in P.11.a and at P.9.b.7.2 were dispersed. Working parties at P.21.a.99.40, P.20.a.99.20 and P.14.d. were also successfully engaged. At 7 p.m. movement in P.15.a.7.2 to P.15.a.0.0. was stopped. At 10.30 p.m. movement was reported at P.14.D.4.0, P.14.b.8.8, P.14.b.95.35 and at P.15.a.75.00 and the area was strafed. M.G.'s firing from P.14.D.7.3 to P.14.b.60.25 were silenced. At 11.10 p.m. a hostile 77mm battery firing from P.11.b.6.1. was heavily engaged and silenced. At 9.30 p.m. a five minutes concentration was fired on HAMEL, 1.55 a.m. road in P.14.D and P.14.d also in road in J.36.c and d were swept for two minutes. At 2.25 a.m. a five minutes burst was put down on the area P.8.d, P.9.a and P.15.a. At 3.10 a.m. a two minutes burst was fired on BOIS de HAMEL and at 3.40 a.m. a five minutes burst on the BOIS de VAIRE whilst possible assembly points north of the SOMME were searched. M.G.'s were active, 13,000 rounds were expended in harassing enemy tracks and communications. L.T.M.'s fired 35 rounds on following targets with good effect: Enemy posts at J.30.d.45 40, J.30.d.1.0, J.36.b.20.95, enemy M.G. position at J.30.d.1.1. Patrols were active along the whole front and report the following: NO MAN'S LAND in P.3.a, D and c, P.4.a was thoroughly searched and no sign of the enemy was seen. The garrison of enemy post at J.35.d.4.5. could be heard talking and is estimated to be about 8 or 9 men. A patrol left our lines and moved forward about 300 yards to P.14.c.2.2 in vicinity of terrace in front of BOIS de VAIRE. The terraces were well covered with M.Gs which opened up bursts of fire at irregular intervals.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Showed decrease in activity. Particular attention was paid to Battalion H.Q. in O.24.a, it was shelled at 1.45 a.m. with 100 rounds of 77mm's and 4.2's, other areas shelled were HAMELET with 4.2's, O.18.d with 47/77mm's, P.8.a with 50/77mm's, P.13.b with 40/5.9's, 130 rounds of 5.9's fell in J.21 between 2 and 3 p.m. Between 10.40 and 11 p.m. 50 rounds of 4.2 and 77 mm's fell in VAIRE. Following areas were shelled with gas: 6 5.9's on GORBIE at 3 p.m. (Blue and Green Cross), 12 rounds (Blue and Green Cross) gas shells in J.19.c.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet but alert. Artillery fire was considerable less than previous 24 hours.

-2-

M.G's fired on our tracks and front line system at irregular intervals during the night, but was not above usual activity. Minenwerfers inactive.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. A.A. M.G observed firing from SAILLY LAURETTE. M.G's reported firing from P.14.b.60.25 along road to P.14.b.7.3. Strong Posts located at P.20.a.5.7, P.20.a.80.85, P.14.b.10.20, P.20.a.6.8, P.14.c.70.95, P.14.b.15.20. New work observed at P.8.d.2.f. New trench approximately 120 yards long located in P.21.central. Enemy working party were observed at P.21.a.4.6 (Artillery were informed).

6. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY. E.A. were active at intervals during the day. Two E.A. were brought down, one by Lewis gun fire in P.14.b.2.5, this plane burst into flames on reaching the ground and was completely destroyed. 1 E.A. was driven down by our fighting planes in vicinity of ST.GRATIEN and crew taken prisoner. Pilot was slightly wounded; observer unhurt. They belonged to 218 Reconnaissance Flight and their aerodrome is at ETRICOURT. 1 E.A. was brought down in P.25.d. by Lewis gun fire from one of our own front line posts on the 26/4/18.

7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. 7.10 a.m. four of the enemy entered dugout in P.13.a. 8 p.m. small parties carrying what appeared to be rations moved along N.E. of BOIS de VAIRE. Continuous movement was observed in rear of HAMEL at P.10.d.7.8; road from SAILLY LAURETTE through K.31.b. c and d is much used. At 6.15 am artillery limbers moved along road between P.18.b.7.9 and Q.8.a.6.8, 7.45 a.m. to 9.45 a.m. bodies of men about 40 strong marched along road South of MORCOURT, about 12 parties were observed. 7.15 a.m. transport moving towards LA MOTTE-en-SANTERRE on road in Q.25.c.

8. MISCELLANEOUS. Lamp signalling continues from Q.9.c.6.3. Pigeons were seen rising from BOIS de VAIRE and flying to enemy lines in rear. A tripod with pole 16 feet high, red flag on top and oblong notice board (painted white) at foot of pole exists at Q.9.d.0.1 (apparently a wireless station). Visibility poor. Notes on enemy defences, aerial annexe and part II (Information from other sources is appended).

Lieut-Colonel, G.S.
5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

PART II.

(Information from other sources)

April 27th 1918. A division, withdrawn from the SOMME front, has been put into line near LOCON. A total of 36 fresh divisions and 5 withdrawn from the SOMME front have now been engaged north of the LA BASSEE Canal. No fresh divisions have been identified on the SOMME battle front, where 103 divisions have now been engaged. Of the 206 German divisions in the Western theatre, 137 have been engaged since the 21st March, and 19 are of poor quality. There are 14 fresh divisions in reserve, and, in addition, there are 36 fresh divisions in line which have not yet been drawn into battle.

780

Appendix 22 89

SANITARY SECTION.	
5th	
AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.....	.....
Date.....	.....

GENERAL NOTES ON ENEMY DEFENCES, OPPOSITE OUR FRONT, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE STUDY OF AEROPLANE PHOTOGRAPHS.

These notes are not complete.

The air photos which are now available present a totally different study to those in FLANDERS.

The main differences which operate are:

1. Change of SEASON. General absence of standing water, sharper contrasts and shadows with increasing sunlight etc. FOLIAGE plays an important part in screening or camouflaging enemy defences and movement. Prisoners report that there are scores of small ammunition dumps among the trees on the main AMIENS-PERONNE road, as well as vehicles and guns parked etc.
2. Change of LANDSCAPE. Open agricultural country, undulating, broken by reentrants from the SOMME. Map contours give a totally false impression of slopes in this part. Slopes here are not regular, but a succession of falls or TERRACES. The latter are not generally shown on our maps but should be marked in. They afford the enemy cover and dead ground in unexpected places which he uses to the full. The direction of fall of a terrace can often be gauged from a photograph (consider direction of light, shadow, movement, which will be generally along the lower edge of a terrace and show white, effect of bushes growing on the slope etc.) In general however, evidence of photos must be supported by study of map contours and personal observation. WOODS. Naturally centres of defensive preparation. They conceal or camouflage well by breaking outlines and shadows. The study of tracks will here often lead to reliable inferences, but other sources of intelligence are necessary.
3. Change of type of WARFARE.

- (a) Generally there is no defined trench system.
- (b) Wire is camouflaged (by approximating to field furrows, using spider web pattern, edges of woods etc.).
- (c) DEFENSIVE LINES. Continuous trenches are deprecated. Chains of rifle pits, containing each one man, or sometimes 2 or 3 are substituted in order to localise the effects of shell fire. They have the appearance on air photos of lines of silkworm's eggs. Compare photos A 3&E A 54, 64, 65 21/4/18. 35 AE B 824 12/4/18 and a good many more; particularly of areas S. and W. of the BOIS de VAIRE. North of SOMME short lengths of trench are common. In front of the BOIS de VAIRE there are a few connected trenches. Plotted on a map (a difficult process) these lines of holes and bits of trench do not suggest their full importance. Also the trenches really occupied are camouflaged by the large number which are not in use but show on the map. It is better to work from the photographs themselves, where the TRACKS made by liaison patrols and parties marching up give "character" to the front line and suggest targets.
- (d) M.G. NESTS. A captured document dated 15/4/18 describes 3 M.G. nests situated S of the AMIENS-PERONNE Road. The following points in the description are valuable.
 1. Position P.35.2.6.8. hardly recognisable because the earth thrown out of the hole is hardly to be distinguished from the heaps of manure lying around.

- Holes 1½ metres deep, covered with tent canvas and corrugated iron. M.G's 20 metres apart.
2. Position P.33.c.9.6. lies 150m. back from 4 trees. Inconspicuous. Cover as above. M.G. 25 metres apart. With both the above there are holes near by for the accommodation of an emergency crew of 4 men. P.32.d.9.9 (roughly). The name "nest" unsuitable since the M.G's are 200 metres apart. All three guns are in the infantry line.
- (e) FORWARD H.Q.s. On the evidence of prisoners and documents, these are as inconspicuous as possible. A map shows two (Battalions and Company Headquarters) in the old G.H.Q. line at P.34.d, 37 and 24 respectively. A prisoner described another: In a trench 200 yards off the main road between WARFUSEE and a farm (apparently about P.28.d.9.5).
- (f) FORWARD AMMUNITION DUMPS. These are small heaps, not more than a metre high dumped in small lots all over the forward area. Their presence in large numbers is a sure indication of an approaching enemy attack. Seven hundred were counted before the 21st March on six miles of front. They appear on air photos as small colonies of "lice", and have been reported by prisoners on this front. Generally there are fairly heavy tracks visible also. Apparently there are such dumps at the following places: P.21.a.4.5 (A 3 AE A63), P.9.c.65.75 (?) (A 3 AE A64), P.22.c.20.25 and 52 (A 3 AE 69), P.29.a.7.8 (48 V 3353)
- (g) GAS PROJECTORS. These present much the same appearance as the above, but the "lice" are in short straight rows, also they should be within 1500 yards of our front line.
- (h) TRACKS. The patient study of tracks and cross country routes is (as ever) of especial value. Routes are particularly numerous in P.22, 23, 28, 29 and unite to pass through gaps in the thick wire on our old G.H.Q. line.

SANITARY SECTION.

5th

AUSTRALIAN DIV.

No.....

Date.....

For Official Use Only

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 a.m. 30th April - to - 6 a.m. 1st May, 1918.

NOTE: Not to be taken into front line trenches.

1. OPERATIONS. Artillery. In the morning registrations were carried out. At 6.30 and 7.40 p.m. enemy parties near the BOIS de VAIRE and moving from P.16.c to P.15.d, were heavily engaged. At 8 pm large enemy parties moving from P.17 and P.18 to HAMEL were engaged. At 9 p.m. a five minute concentration was fired on SAILLY LAURETTE. At 10.30 p.m. a rolling barrage was fired from S.O.S. plus 200 yards to limit of range, lasting ten minutes. At 1.25 a.m. a two minute burst was fired on P.5.b and d. At 2.40 a.m. a two minute burst was fired on possible assembly points and routes. At 3.55 a.m. a barrage in depth rolled from S.O.S. to S.O.S. plus 500 yards, 5 minutes. At 4.15 a.m. the 10.30 p.m. shoot was repeated. At 5.20 a.m. a two minute burst was fired on roads in P.14.b.

On night 26th/27th April the line running through P.19.b.3.7 to road at about P.25.a.4.3 was advanced to a line from 10 to 80 yards East of the VILLERS BRETONNEUX road running N.E in P.25 and P.19.d. The operation was carried out under cover of Stokes Mortars, no artillery preparation being used. Before the advance was commenced a post was worked forward to keep touch with the Right Flank in the original line at about P.19.b.9.0 to form the Left Flank of the new line. This post took up position at approximately P.19.d.9.8. The battalion advanced with two companies in the front line with one company in support and one in reserve. The advance met with very heavy M.G. and rifle fire and an artillery barrage was dropped in rear of the advancing troops. In spite of very considerable opposition the front troops pressed in through wired enemy posts inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy and capturing a number of M.G.'s. The objective was gained and posts dug in. More than 60 enemy bodies have been counted in the posts over which the advance was made.

M.G.'s fired on enemy front line posts, tracks and cross roads during the night.

Patrols report the following: Four of the enemy were seen at J.34.d.5.5. An attempt was made to surround them but was unsuccessful, enemy fled leaving two rifles behind them. Several flares were fired from enemy post at approximately J.36.a.5.5 during the night. Enemy working parties were heard at: P.20.a.central, P.14.d.1.9. No enemy patrols were seen and enemy were very quiet on the whole front.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

3. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. On Left Sector enemy artillery was not as active as usual on forward areas, back areas receiving most attention. Chief areas shelled were SAILLY-le-SEC, VAIRE, J.22.d J.35.b, J.21.c. On the Right Sector the following areas were shelled: P.13.d at 9.20 p.m. support line in P.17 was subjected to short bombardments of 4.2's and 5.9's, 50 77mm fell on HAMELET at 11.45 p.m. Front line with 77mm at 4.20 a.m. and Reserve line with 4.2's and 77mm at 2.45 p.m.

-2-

- 92
4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Enemy artillery was quieter than usual. Front line posts received slight attention. A few destructive shoots were carried out. *ppg*
 Minenwerfers. At 9.15 a.m. 4 M.M.W. fell in J.35.a.
 M.G.'s inactive.
5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Large mounds of new earth are visible on south side of road at K.31.c.8.6. A new trench has been dug across road in P.10.c. New trenches located at P.20.a.6.8, P.20.a.8.9. Wire. Light wire entanglement has been erected in front of trench at P.14.c.8.2.
6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Nil
7. MOVEMENT AND ORGANIZATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. At 5.45 p.m. 10 limbers moving S.W along road between Q.8.a.5.7 and P.18.b.7.9 6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. parties of enemy 50 in all, carrying packs entered the BOIS de VAIRE. 6.30 p.m. two parties of 8 entered HAMEL. At 7.15 p.m. 70 of the enemy carrying packs went from BOIS de ARQUAIRE to BOIS de HAMEL. Stretcher parties with wounded were seen at 7 p.m. at P.15.d. At 5.15 a.m. the last two mornings heavy transport has been heard on road east of SAILLY LAURETTE through K.31. continuous for 30 minutes.
8. MISCELLANEOUS. Enemy fired 1 red flare from P.9.e; this was answered by slight artillery barrage. At 2.45 a.m. 1 double and 2 single reds went up in front of right sector during our shoot on BOIS de VAIRE, enemy guns opened fire on our support line.
 At 4.30 a.m. a tractor was heard in the direction of BOIS de VAIRE. Gun flashes observed 148°30", 156° T.B. from I.24.d.4.1. Explosion observed 151° T.B. from I.24.d.4.1. At 9.30 a.m. enemy S.A.A dump in vicinity of SAILLY LAURETTE was set on fire by our artillery.
 Visibility bad.
 Extracts from diary of German prisoner is appended.

Emmett Capt
 Lieut-Colonel, G.S.
 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

- EXTRACTS FROM DIARY OF GERMAN PRISONER.
- 11.4.18. We left CARTIGNY at 3 p.m. and marched through FERONNE, BIACHES, HERBECOURT to CAPPY- 18 km- very hot - The villages are all destroyed, BIACHES has disappeared from the face of the earth. We spent the night in huts. The artillery kept up firing the whole night.
- 12.4.18. Fine weather- Great aeroplane activity. At 6 p.m. we set out, marched through CHINGNES, CHNIGNOLLES (where there was a pretty French military cemetery) and FROYAST. Then we came on to the AMIENS-PERONNE Road. In front of LA MOTTE the whole Regt. came to a large English ammunition dump. Every man had to seek out his own position - a wretched night.
- 13.4.18. Misty- Heavy artillery fire throughout the night. In the evening we advanced to LA MOTTE-WARFUSEE. We went to the Rectory cellars.
- 14.4.18. Fairly quiet. Heavy artillery fire on our right during the night. English artillery opened on the village LA MOTTE-WARFUSEE.
- 15.4.18. Also heavy fire on the support troops ⁱⁿ the village. In the evening we moved into support in the ^{opposite} English line on the right of the main road.

Appendix. 22

-3-

16.4.18. Some heavy shells on our position. Heavy firing by both sides throughout the night. an

17.4.18. At dawn word came through of enemy attack. From 4.50 a.m. on we stood to with gas masks on. The attack did not materialise as our artillery shelled with Yellow Cross gas shells from 5.30 a.m. Apparently the gas was effective as the enemy remained quiet the whole day, both artillery and infantry. The village of VILLERS BRETONNEUX was very heavily gassed. The enemy showed great aeroplane activity. The night was fairly quiet.

18.4.18. From 5 a.m. gas masks on as our artillery was firing Yellow Cross. In the evening the enemy also sent over gas. Heavy artillery fire on our right and left. We were relieved by the 3rd Co., 478 Regt and went back to rest at the ammunition dump near WARFUSEE. Great aeroplane activity during the night.

19.4.18. Heavy artillery fire. Great aeroplane activity during the whole night.

20.4.18. Great aeroplane activity. A big 28cm railway gun fired on AMIENS. In the evening we marched to MERICOURT.

21.4.18. In the evening we relieved front of VILLERS BRETONNEUX. Heavy infantry fire - later gas and shrapnel.

22.4.18. Great aeroplane activity and artillery fire.

23.4.18. At 3.30 a.m. the English advanced by strong patrols. As we saw them early our light M.G's were easily able to scatter them. The artillery fire kept on all day and night. Aeroplane activity. Warm weather.

SANITARY SECTION.
5th
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No.....
Date.....

