

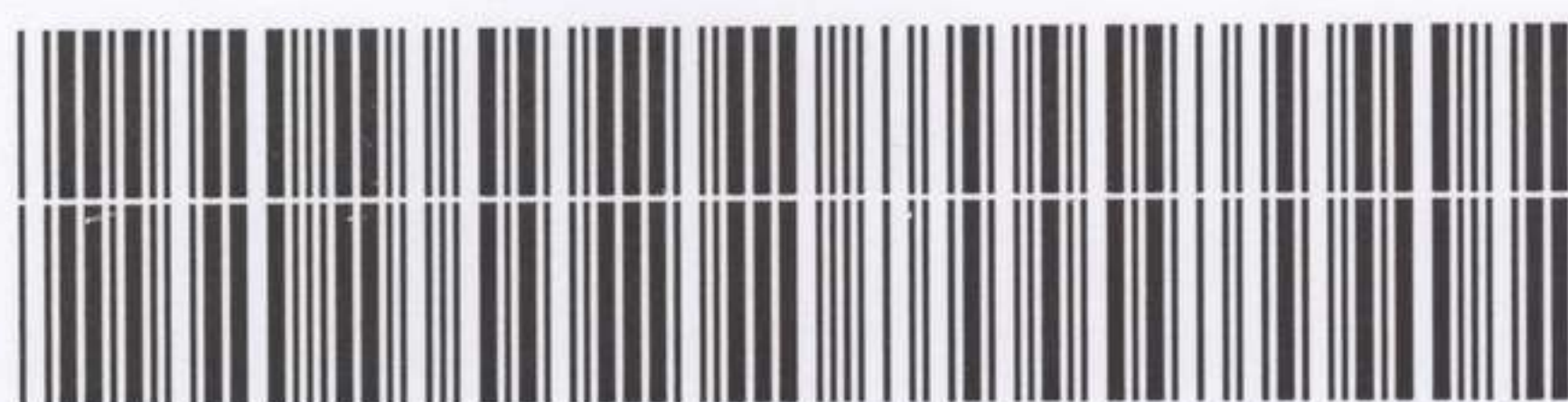
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Artillery

Item number: 13/14/16

Title: Headquarters, 5th Australian
Divisional Artillery

May 1917



AWM4-13/14/16

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol. XV.

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
In the Field. I.26.a.8.2	1917 Apr. 30		<p>Nothing unusual to record. Both Artilleries maintained their usual activity. There is very little movement behind and about the enemy lines, more especially where they can be reached by Field Artillery. Visibility fair.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: 1 O/R Killed in Action. AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 2312 Rounds.</p>	
	May 1		<p>An enemy 77 mm. gun firing on the front line near DEMICOURT from the direction of MOEUVRES was tackled and silenced by a battery of the 6th. (Army) A.F.A. Brigade. The gun was silenced and its ammunition blown up. Quiet day with fine weather and good visibility.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: Nil. AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 1928 Rounds.</p>	
	2		<p>Quiet day. Poor visibility. Nothing to record.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: Nil. AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 1500 Rounds.</p>	
	3		<p>3rd. (Army), 6th. (Army) and 13th. A.F.A. Brigades took part in simulated attacks in connection with the 2nd. Australian Division's attack on the HINDENBURG LINE East of BULLECOURT. No response was made by the enemy on our front. In the HAVRINCOURT Sector particularly the enemy's quiescence was absolute. No flares were sent up, and guns, M.G.'s. and rifles were silent. Visibility fair.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: 5 O/R Wounded. AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 13,399 Rounds.</p>	
	4		<p>Batteries of 6th. (Army) and 13th. A.F.A. Brigades engaged two enemy Field Batteries, S. and S.E. of QUEANT, and were successful in silencing them.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: 2 O/R Wounded. AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 3292 Rounds.</p>	

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In the Field. I.26.a.8.2.	1917 May	5	Very quiet day. Nothing to record. CASUALTIES: Nil. AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 939 Rounds.	
		6	Nothing to record. Activity of both sides about normal. Observation good. CASUALTIES: 1587 Nil AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 1587 Rounds.	
		7	Normal day. Five enemy batteries just South of a line from INCHY to PRONVILLE engaged during the day by 6th. (Army) A.F.A. Brigade. Effect not observed. CASUALTIES: Nil AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 1846 Rounds.	
		8	A large working party was seen South of PRONVILLE and engaged by batteries of the 13th. A.F.A. Brigade; about 50 casualties inflicted. Visibility poor; very wet day. CASUALTIES: Nil. AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 1282 Rounds.	
		9	Batteries of the 3rd. (Army) A.F.A. Brigade paid particular attention to the shelling of the SPOIL HEAP at K.20 Central during the day. They have been successful in silencing several times the "granaten werfer" that fires from this spot. CASUALTIES: Nil AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 2167 Rounds.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field. I.26.a.8.2	1917 May 10		<p>Wire-cutting carried out by 3rd. (Army) A.F.A. Brigade in front of the SPOIL HEAP, with success. Several working parties were seen and dispersed. Activity of both sides only normal. Visibility good.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: Nil AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 2230 Rounds.</p>	
	11		<p>Routine activity. Observation good. Relief of 3rd. and 6th. (Army) A.F.A. Brigades by 1st. Australian Divisional Artillery commenced.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: Nil AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 1960 Rounds.</p>	
	12		<p>Very quiet day. 6th. (Army) A.F.A. Brigade handed over responsibility to 1st. A.F.A. B.F.A. Brigade at 4.30 p.m. Relief of 3rd. (Army) A.F.A. Brigade completed during night 12/13th. May. Defence Scheme issued. Copy attached. Visibility good.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: 110/R Wounded. AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 1739 Rounds.</p>	
	13		<p>Handed over command of Artillery of Right Sector to C.R.A. 1st. Australian Division at noon. Distribution of 5th. Australian Divisional Artillery:-</p> <p>13th. F.A. Brigade - Right Sector, under C.R.A. 1st. Aust. Division 14th. F.A. " - Left Sector, " " 2nd. " " 5th. Aust. D.A.H.Q. moved to MONUMENT WOOD, H.21.a.7.2.</p> <p>CASUALTIES: Nil. AMMUNITION EXPENDED: Nil</p>	

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In the Field. I.26.a.8.2	1917 May) 14) to) 17)		CASUALTIES: Nil	
	18		CASUALTIES: Nil 1 O/R Wounded.	
	19		CASUALTIES: Nil	
	20		On Relief of Right Sector 13th. F.A. Brigade came under orders of C.R.A. 48th. Division at 8 a.m.	
			CASUALTIES: Nil.	
	21) to) 22)		CASUALTIES: Nil	
	23		CASUALTIES: 1 O/R Killed in Action.	
	24) to) 26)		CASUALTIES: Nil	
	27		CASUALTIES: 1 Officer Killed in Action 1 " Wounded.	
	28		C.R.A. inspected Wagon Lines of D.A.C.	
			CASUALTIES: Nil.	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field. I.26.a.8.2	1917 May 29		On Relief of Left Sector, 14th. F.A.Brigade came under Orders of C.R.A. 20th. Division at 8 a.m. CASUALTIES: Nil.	H H H
	30		C.R.A. inspected Wagon Lines of 13th. F.A.Brigade. CASUALTIES: Nil	
	31		Nothing to record. CASUALTIES: Nil.	

WEST AUSTRALIAN DEFENSIVE ARTILLERYINTERSECTION REPORT

From 6 p.m. 12/3/1917 to 6 p.m. 1/3/1917

HOSTILE ARTILLERY

AREA TARGETED	TIME	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	REMARKS
NORCHES	6 p.m. to 8 p.m.	INCH	4.3" & 5.9"	50
I. 12. a. 5. 8	1.45 a.m.	PROSVILLE	77 mm.	31
I. 22. a.	5.15 p.m.	-	5.9"	8
I. 23. a.	5.15 p.m.	-	4.3"	1
DOCHES	11 p.m. to 1 a.m.	-	4.3" & 5.9"	300
J. 21. a. 5. 8	12 noon	-	4.3"	15
LOUVERVAL	During period.	-	77 mm. 4.3" & 5.9"	Int'l. 1st.
J. 23. a. 5. 8	During day	-	4.3" & 5.9"	Co.

OUR ARTILLERY

At 6 p.m. last night a 77 mm. gun was located firing from D. 8. d. 8. 2. One of our batteries opened fire on it and succeeded in blowing up ammunition and silencing the gun. Since then it has not fired. PROSVILLE was shelled during the day, also the roads and trenches in the vicinity. Particular attention was paid to strong point at D. 14. a. 4. 8. D. 10. b. 8. 8 and a Battery position at D. 9. a. 3. 3.

Fire at D. 14. a. 9. 6. was cut during the morning. RAVENSCOURT and roads and trenches shelled at various times.

REPORT OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Visibility has been good during the day, but not much movement could be observed behind enemy lines.

During the night a few gas shells were fired in the vicinity of one of our batteries J. 7. a. 8. 9. A HMP of R.A.A. was exploded in NORCHES by hostile gun fire, at 6.30 p.m.

Infantry report much shouting and movement of transport during the night in PROSVILLE. Enemy balloon up during the day at 3.30 p.m. of 19 day. from J. 7. a. 5. 7. Searchlight was seen in direction of 3.17, bearing 25 deg. Mag. from J. 6. a. 2. 1 at 11.30 p.m.

At 8.30 p.m. when there was a good deal of movement at our posts probably in connection with the relief the enemy sent up red flares along the front of this sector, also some yellow clusters and rockets bursting into the red stars. This was followed by shell fire for about a minute on the front, and was repeated about 10 p.m.

A 5.9" Cav. Battery is reported at D. 14. c. 7. 7. All the trees on hostile C.P. D. 24. a. 5. 5. 65. 83. with the exception of one were felled during last night. Hostile aircraft have been fairly active during the day.

L. R. Kerr
Lieut.,
For R.Q., 5th. Aust. Div. Arty.

APPENDIX

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

From 6 a.m. 2/5/1917 to 6 a.m. 3/5/1917

HOSTILE ARTILLERY

AREA SHELLLED	TIME	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	ROUNDS
Battalion H.Q.	During	E. 13. c. 2.5	4.2"	-
DOIGNIES Subken Rd.	evening.	D. 11. d. 4.5	77 mm.	-
BRUGNY	7.45 p.m.	-	5.9"	8
I. 18. a. 8.8	11.30 p.m.	QUEANT	4.2"	50
J. 16. a.	1 p.m. to 2 p.m.	-	4.2"	10
	2.30 p.m.			
I. 12. b. & d.	3.30 p.m.	MOEUVRES	4.2"	35

OUR ARTILLERY

Our activity above normal.

From 3.30 a.m. to 6.30 a.m. our artillery carried out a diversion on the Right of our Sector. Our action, however, drew no response from the enemy. He bombarded FROMVILLE from 11.45 p.m. to 12.30 a.m. Enemy trenches K.25.b. were searched and swept from 8.30 p.m. to 8.45 p.m. From 9.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. the following Cross Roads were subjected to rapid bursts of fire:- K.8.b.9.5, K.9.c., and K.15.a. At 2.45 p.m. in response to an aeroplane call we shelled hostile battery position D.16.a.92.06. Target reported by aeroplane E.14.d.5.2 was engaged by our Batteries between 3.20 p.m. and 3.40 p.m. Enemy battery at D.17.a.0.5 was shelled at 5.45 p.m.

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Visibility fair.

There has been aerial activity on both sides during the day.

No hostile balloons were observed.

At 5 p.m. last evening a fire was started in HAVRINCOURT; it lasted for some hours. The enemy appeared to shell this village at 8.30 p.m. with time shrapnel, about 10 rounds fired. Between 5 a.m. and 9 a.m. small parties of men were seen in D.17.a.6.1, D.17.b.1.0, and D.18.c.1.5. Sounds were heard apparently coming from D.16.Central, as if work was being done with iron instruments or machinery. The O.P. at D.24.a.8.8. was in use during the night. The remaining tree there has been cut down, and the timber carted away.

H. S. Churton

Lieut.,
R.O., 5th. Aust. Div. Artillery.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERYINTELLIGENCE REPORTFrom 6 p.m. 1/5/1917 to 6 p.m. 2/5/1917HOSTILE ARTILLERY

AREA SHELLLED	TIME	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	ROUNDS
J. 36. a. 4.7	9.20 a.m.	-	5.9"	8
I. 12. b. c. & d.	5 p.m. to 8 p.m.	QUERANT	5.9"	100
I. 12. d.	2 a.m.	"	5.9"	50
I. 12. b. & d.	3.30 to 4 a.m.	"	5.9"	30
+. 17. d. 5.7	7 a.m.	PRONVILLE	4.2"	15
BRUGNY	6 p.m. to 12 midnight.	-	5.9"	Int'mnt.
DOIGNIES	11 p.m. to 12 midnight.	MOEUVRES	5.9"	50
BOURSIES	10.30 p.m.	"	4.2" & 5.9"	30
J. 4. c. 40.70	6 a.m. to 2 p.m.	"	4.2" & 5.9"	Int'mnt.
J. 15. a. & b.	2 p.m.	INCHY	4.2"	12
do.	5 p.m.	"	5.9"	16
do.	do.	"	4.2"	8

OUR ACTION

Movement was observed at K. 21. a., K. 10. c., K. 3. c. and at a house K. 9. b. 5. 5 and was effectively shelled. Battalion H. Q. at K. 22. c. 6. 4 received considerable attention, and dump at K. 20. /Central was shelled. The trenches between the CANAL and HAVRINCOURT were searched and swept, also the village itself. Points in K. 27. d. and K. 28. c. which are possible O.P.'s. were fired on. Strong posts at D. 14. a. 5. 4 and D. 16. b. 0. 6 and a Battery position at D. 16. a. 15. 45 were shelled, also TADPOLE COPSE D. 18. d. and PRONVILLE and Roads and trenches in the vicinity of the village.

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Observation during the day has been poor.

The day has been quiet and very little movement observed behind the enemy's lines. Enemy artillery was very active between 6 p.m. and midnight but slackened towards morning when it became normal. It was noticed that the two batteries shelling vicinity of I. 12. b. c. & d. used what appeared to be instantaneous fuse.

Aerial activity has been normal. At 4.30 p.m. yesterday our planes forced four enemy balloons to descend.

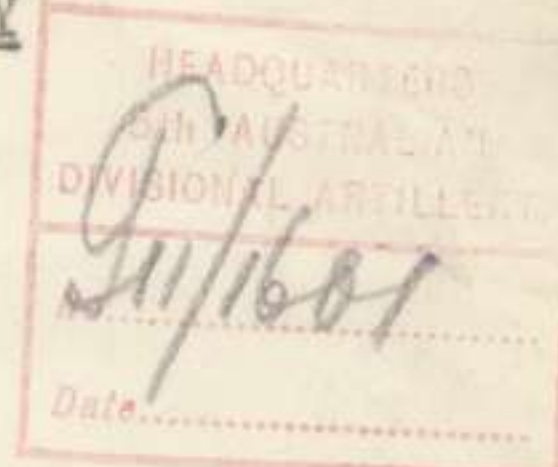
L. K. H.

/Lieut.,

For R.O., 5th. Aust. Div. Arty.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS.

for
WEEK ENDING 4TH. MAY, 1917



O U R A C T I V I T Y.

Batteries have been very active throughout the week. The visibility has been generally fair and has facilitated the engaging of opportunity targets. On the whole, however, enemy movement has not been so much in evidence lately. Wire cutting has been systematically carried out with a view to creating an impression that an attack was contemplated on the Divisional front.

On the morning of the 28th. April the 106th. Battery took part in a gas operation in conjunction with the Gas Projector personnel. The objective was LOCK 6 on the CANAL DU NORD. The Battery fired 120 rounds of lethal gas shell. So far as could be judged the operation was successful and a good gas cloud was observed to blow back in the direction of GRAINCOURT.

At 3.45 a.m. on the morning of the 2nd. May all Groups took part in simulated attacks in the vicinity of HAVRINCOURT and S.W. of QUEANT respectively, "A" and "D" Groups participating in the former and "B" Group in the latter. Two 18-pr. Batteries and one 4.5" Howitzer Battery from each Group took part, the remaining Battery of each Group being kept to cover the front. Lifts and rolling barrages were initiated, and two heavy batteries and some M.G. co-operated.

E N E M Y A C T I V I T Y.

The hostile artillery has, on the whole, been less busy than usual, noticeably so on the right flank, where the enemy batteries, have, it is believed, been withdrawn a considerable distance. The shelling of our Groups S.W. of HERMIERS, at DOIGNIES and at MORCHIES has decreased to subnormal after a lively period at the beginning of the week, when a 21 c.m. How. Battery was particularly aggressive. The Group S.E. of MORCHIES still received a fair amount of attention from 10.5 gun and 15 c.m. How. Batteries.

The enemy reply to our "Chinese" attack in the vicinity of HAVRINCOURT on the morning of the 2nd. was conspicuous for its absence. During the whole of the operation, which lasted for nearly three hours, no reply whatever came from the enemy lines, from gun, M.G. or rifle, and no flares were sent up. In the light of our last experience of this part of the front, (on the night 23rd./24th. April) when a comparatively light barrage on his line South of HAVRINCOURT produced bouquets of flares and provoked a heavy barrage W. of HAVRINCOURT, his quiescence was remarkable. Later in the morning a section of 77 mm. lightly shelled square K.19 from somewhere between FIE SQUIERES AND GRAINCOURT.

Enemy balloons have been working hard throughout the week, and have apparently carried out a number of organised shoots on our batteries.

J. J. L.

Major,
Bde. Major, 5th. Aust. Div. Arty.

APPENDIX

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERYINTELLIGENCE REPORT.From 6pm 3rd May to 6pm 4th May 1917.HOSTILE ACTION.

AREA SHELLED	T I M E	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	ROUNDS.
J 18 d 3.7.	8pm	-	5.9	5
LOUVERVAL	8 20pm	WINCHY	4.2	6
DEMICOURT	8.25pm	TADPOLE COPSE	4.2	12
DEMICOURT and) BOURSIES)	9pm to 4am	MOBURES	4.2.	-
LOUVERVAL-	1.50pm			
BOURSIES	to 6pm	WINCHY	4.2.	60
BOURSIES	Afternoon	K 2 b.	77mm	40
I 20 c	11 to 3pm	T.B. 90° from J 7 a.	8" H.V.	12

OUR ARTILLERY

Below normal.

From 6 30pm to 9 30pm we shelled TADPOLE COPSE and the Battery position at D 15 a 95 06 and roads in front of PRONVILLE. At 12 55pm we engaged working party at D 16 c 6.2. The Battery positions at D 7 b 6 9 were fired on at 8 3pm and a little later the trenches in D 15 and B 16 came in for our attention. The South end of PRONVILLE was shelled between 10 30am and noon.

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Observation fair. Less aerial activity than usual to day. Two hostile Balloons were up in rear of QUEANT and INCHY and one in rear of MOBURES. During the day a Battery in D 18 a was active. The heavies were informed and succeeded in registering a direct hit. Ammunition was seen to explode and detachment run to a flank. One Gun pit was damaged and the second also appeared to be hit. At 2 55pm a flash of a 5.9 Howitzer firing towards LOUVERVAL was observed at a true bearing of 22° from I 22 b 4.4. The Heavies were informed and engaged the target. At 10 30pm a search light was active from INCHY. Between 11am and 11 25am flash of large Howitzer seen T.B. 88° from J 5 c 2.1. probably in road K 5 d 9e 85. Engine and three trucks in E 20 d 7.2. *was observed during*

*the day**W. S. Christian*

Lieut.

Reconnaissance Officer 5th Aust Div Artillery.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.INTELLIGENCE REPORTFrom 6 p.m. 4/5/1917 to 6 p.m. 5/5/1917HOSTILE ARTILLERY

AREA SHELLED	TIME	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	ROUNDS
DEMICOURT	6.15 p.m.	INCHY	4.2"	20
LOUVERVAL	6 p.m. to 7 p.m.	"	5.9"	12
J.21	8 p.m.	"	4.2"	20
BOURSIES	8 to 8.15 p.m.	"	5.9"	20
J.10.b.9.5	9 p.m. to midnight	"	4.2"	35
LOUVERVAL &) DEMICOURT)	1 a.m. to 3 a.m.	GRAINCOURT	4.2"	30
J.15.b.95.05	11 a.m. to 1 p.m.	MOEUVRES	4.2"	40
BOURSIES	11.15 a.m.	INCHY	77 mm.	-
J.15.b. & J.16.a.	12 p.m. to 1 p.m.	"	5.9"	25
J.12.a.7.5 &) LOUVERVAL.) WOOD.)	2 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.	"	77 mm & 4.2"	16

OUR ARTILLERY

Activity below normal.

From 7.30 p.m. to 8 p.m. we engaged the following Battery positions:- D.17.b.15.05, D.11.d.28.20 and D.18.a.88.68. Between 7.45 and 8 p.m. we cut wire at K.20.c.50.95. At 9 p.m. we shelled D.18.a.0.8. The Machine Gun at K.20.c.9.4 was fired on from 10.30 p.m. to 11 p.m., and did not operate again during the night. The BUMP and approaches to K.20 Central received some attention between 4.15 a.m. and 4.30 a.m.. From noon to 2.30 p.m. we shelled at intervals D.16.b.92.72 D.16.a.80.20 and D.16.a.05.50.

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Visibility fair to midday, but good from then on.

Usual amount of aerial activity on both sides. About 9 p.m. an enemy 'plane flying low dropped several bombs on BEUGNY; rifle fire and machine guns engaged it. At 9.20 p.m. a hostile aeroplane fell at J.6.b.5.5 and burst into flames. Seven enemy balloons up during day behind MOEUVRES, PRONVILLE, and QUEANT. At 1 p.m. a large working party was reported at K.1.a.9.8. Except for individuals in back country there was an absence of movement on enemy front.

W. H. Christian

Lieut.,

R.O., 5th. Aust. Div. Artillery.

APPENDIX

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERYINTELLIGENCE REPORTFrom 6 a.m. 5/5/1917 to 6 a.m. 6/5/1917HOSTILE ARTILLERY

AREA SHIELDED	TIME	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	ROUNDS
BOURSIES	6.40 p.m.	MOEUVRES	4.2" E.E	-
"	11 to 11.15 p.m.	"	77 mm.	-
"	12.15 a.m.	"	77 mm.	20
LOUVERVAL WOOD	"	"	77 mm.	30
J.11.a.4.0	12.30 a.m. to) 12.45 a.m.)	-	4.2" E.E.	12
CHADFOUR WOOD	10.45 a.m.	MOEUVRES	5.9"	20
J.9.d.	12 to 12.20 p.m.	INCHY	5.9"	10

OUR ARTILLERY

Activity normal.

At various intervals during the day we shelled TAIRFOLE COPSE. From 6.30 to 8 p.m. the valley in B.16.a. and battery positions in B.11.d. 6.2 came in for some consideration. PRONVILLE was fired on at the following times :- 8.30 p.m., 10 p.m. to midnight, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and again at 3.35 p.m. Trenches in B.15 and 16 were searched at 7.16 p.m. and again at 3.26 p.m. The following targets received our attention at 9 p.m. :- B.11.d.6.5, B.11.d.7.5, B.16.a.0.5, B.16.b. Central and B.16.b.6.0. At 10.25 a.m. battery position at B.11.d.38.20 was shelled. From 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. our guns were active on target at B.25.c.2.5.

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Observation good.

Several hostile planes were over our lines this morning, but there was less aerial activity than usual.

Very little movement can be seen behind enemy lines. A party was observed at B.15.a.8.5 about 4 a.m. and fired on by our guns. At 3.10 p.m. a train was observed steaming West, bearing 52 deg. 30 mins. from J.3.c.2.1. An explosion occurred in MOEUVRES at 6.30 last evening. The town was enshrouded in smoke for a considerable time. Several Zone Calls were received during the day, and necessary action taken.

W.B. Christian

Lieut.,

R.O., 5th. Aust. Divisional Artillery.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERYINTELLIGENCE REPORT

From 6 p.m. 6/5/1917 to 6 p.m. 7/5/1917

HOSTILE ARTILLERY

AREA SHELLLED	TIME	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	ROUNDS
LOUVERVAL	7 to 8 p.m.	INCHY	4.2"	30
I. 12. c. 2. d.	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.	E. B. 68 deg.) from I. 12. a.)	4.2"	200
LOUVERVAL	11 a.m.	INCHY	4.2"	30
Front of) FRONCOURT)	Intermittently during day.	Extreme range	9.45"	-
Post in J. 8. b.	2.30 to 3.30 p.m.	E. 39. b.	5.9"	-
J. 16. a.	3.15 to 3.30 p.m.	-	4.2" H.E.	12
J. 16. b.	3.30 to 4 p.m.	-	4.2"	12
Balloon up at) I. 26. b.)	4.30 to 7.30 p.m.	-	Shrapnel	30

OUR ARTILLERY

Activity normal.

At 6.5 p.m. we engaged working party at J. 24. b. 3. 9. The T.M. emplacement at B. 17. a. 4. 1 was fired on at 6.9 p.m. PRONVILLE was shelled on three occasions during the past period. FAIRFOLD COPSE was also included in our operations to-day. Battery position in B. 16. a. was engaged at 6.10 p.m., and again at 9.50 p.m. Enemy trench K. 15. c. 0. 6 to K. 21. a. 4. 0 was searched in short bursts of fire at 9 p.m. At midnight K. 27. a. 00. 75 to K. 21. a. 35. 00 and trench, also approaches to SPOIL BANK were shelled. From noon to 4 p.m. the SPOIL BANK and wire in front were fired on. At 12.30 p.m. the Bridge at K. 20. b. 3. 3 was shelled. Effective wire cutting was carried out at K. 20. c. 7. 7 this evening.

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Observation only fair.

Hostile aircraft have been very active during the day, flying well over our lines. At 3 a.m. an enemy aeroplane flying low from direction of LOUVERVAL dropped a bomb at J. 9. c. 9. 9. Balloons were observed up behind PRONVILLE, INCHY and CUSANT.

In response to our call the Heavies on several occasions successfully neutralised fire of batteries that were outside our range.

Smoke was seen rising from buildings in MOUVRES and also from trenches in E. 13. d. during the early morning hours. There is what appears to be a dug-out in SUNKEN ROAD at E. 19. c.; men have been seen entering and coming out of this place. A party of the enemy seen at K. 17. c. 0. 8 at 5 p.m. was dispersed by our fire.

W. H. Christian
Lieut.,
R.O., 5th. Aust. Div. Artillery.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERYINTELLIGENCE REPORTFrom 6 p.m. 7/5/1917 to 6 p.m. 8/5/1917HOSTILE ARTILLERY

AREA SHELLLED	TIME	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	ROUNDS
MORCHIES	7 30 to 8pm	-	5.9	25
BOURSIES	12 30am	-	77mm	12
J 11 b	1 10am to 1 30am	-	5 9.	10
BOURSIES	7 30am	-	77mm	5
J 5 a	3pm	-	77mm	6
BOURSIES	3 50pm	-	77mm	5
J 12 a	4pm	BOURLON Wd.	4 2.	20
J 18 d	5 30pm	BOURVRES	5 9	3
J 12 a	5 35pm	do	4 2.	6

Hostile action during the last 24 hours below normal.

OUR ARTILLERY.

Our activity normal.

From 8 to 9pm trench K 20 d 4.1. CANAL K 14 d 65 95 and Lock No 7 were shelled. At 11pm E 12 a 7.5 and D 18 59.8. were fired on. From 4am to 4 30am SPOIL BANK and approaches were engaged, we again shelled these targets from 4pm to 6.30pm. The following Battery positions were shelled from 6 30pm to 9pm. D 11 d 28.20, D 11 d 65 20, D 16 b 92 72 D 16 b 50 50 and D 18 a. TADPOLE COPSE was on five occasions subjected to fire from our Guns. PRONVILLE and Roads leading to it received considerable attention. During the afternoon Roads and Road Junctions facing our Right Sector came in for Searching and Sweeping fire in short rapid bursts.

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Visibility poor.

Rainy conditions prevailed.

Aerial activity nil.

At 4.20pm a working party of 300 was seen at and to the left of D 15 b 0.5. Two Batteries of our "B" Group engaged this party and succeeded in inflicting about 50 casualties. The party when fired on apparently could not locate gaps in wire to escape by. Between 11pm and midnight enemy Pineapple Mortars fired on K 26 a and K 26 c but did no damage.

Hostile Machine Gun fired last night from D 17 b 9.2.

A Battery has been located at E 20 a 5.5.

There were very few hostile flares last night.

W. Christian
Lieut
Reconnaissance Officer 5th A.B. Artillery.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERYINTELLIGENCE REPORTFrom 6 p.m. 8/5/1917 to 6 p.m. 9/5/1917HOSTILE ARTILLERY

AREA SHELLLED	TIME	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	ROUNDS
J. 5. c.	8.45 to 12.30 a.m.	INCHY	5.9"	61
LOUVERVAL	10.15 p.m.	"	4.2"	5
J. 4. c.	10 to 11 p.m.	"	4.2"	18
J. 12. b.	11 to 11.35 p.m.	"	4.2"	26
J. 12. c.	1 to 3.30 a.m.	FACTORY E. 29. b.	5.9"	8
LOUVERVAL	2 to 3 a.m.	INCHY	4.2"	20
J. 12. c.	9.30 to 10.5 a.m.	FACTORY E. 29. a.	4.2"	8
J. 18. b.	10.25 a.m.	"	4.2"	7
J. 36. a. 3. 7	11 a.m.	"	5.9"	5
J. 6. c.	11.20 a.m.	"	77 mm.	22
J. 6. c.	2.15 to 3.30 p.m.	"	4.2"	8
J. 6. c.	2.45 to 3.5 p.m.	INCHY	77 mm.	16
J. 5. c.	3.25 p.m.	MOEUVRES	77 mm.	12
D. 27. b.	5.30 p.m.	INCHY	4.2"	10
MORCHIES	12 p.m. to 4 p.m.		4.2" & 5.9"	30

OUR ARTILLERY

Activity normal.

During the past 24 hours the guns of our Right Group gave considerable attention to the shelling of the SPOIL BANK and vicinity; HAVRINCOURT and approaches also came in for a share of our activity. At 8 p.m. and again at 2 a.m. from 9 p.m. to midnight machine gun positions at K. 8. d. 70.25 and K. 8. d. 60.95 were engaged. Enemy trenches in K. 21, K. 26 and K. 27 were constantly fired upon during the night and this morning. At 2.5 a.m. and again at 3.30 a.m. parties reported working on wire at K. 8. b. 70.85 were shelled. About 4.15 p.m. another working party at D. 15. a. 3.7 was engaged with satisfactory results. TADPOLE COPSE and PROUVILLE received the usual attention. Command post at D. 11. c. 2.7, Supply Dumps D. 12. d. 1.7 and D. 17. d. 8.8 also enemy works at E. 26. a. 7.8 were on several occasions the targets for our artillery. Enemy posts at D. 24 a. 1.3 and D. 23. b. 0.4 also received some attention. Dugouts at E. 13. a. 7.5 were shelled at 5.30 p.m.

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Observation good.

Considerable aerial activity on both sides.

At 10.25 a.m. a train proceeded from DOURLON to SAUCHEY LES TREES. A fire started in MOEUVRES at 12.45 p.m. and is still burning. Very few flares were fired by enemy during the night.

W. R. Christian
 31 Lieut.,
 R.O., 5th. Aust. Div. Artillery.

APPENDIX

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERYINTELLIGENCE REPORT

From 6 p.m. 9/5/1917 to 6 p.m. 10/5/1917

HOSTILE ARTILLERY

AREA SHELLED	TIME	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	ROUNDS
I.26.a.	9 to 10 p.m.	-	4.2" H.V	6
J.10.b. & J.11.a.	10 to 12 a.m.	INCHY & PRONVILLE	77 mm.	25
J.4.d.	1 to 2 a.m.	INCHY	77 mm. & 4.2"	12
J.6.c.7.7	9.30 a.m.	E.27 Central	77 mm.	10
J.6.c.3.7	9.30 to 11 a.m.	"	77 mm.	32
VELU WOOD	9.50 to 11 a.m.	GRAINCOURT	5.9"	10
BOURSIES Cemetery	1 to 1.15 p.m.	E.27 Central	4.2"	12
J.11.a. & J.12.a.	3 to 4 p.m.	"	4.2"	40
& J.12.b.				
I.12.c.	3 to 4.30 p.m.	-	4.2"	25
MORCHIES	4.45 p.m. to 6 p.m.	INCHY	4.2 & 5.9" Hcws.	15
J.16.b.	4.30 to 5.30 p.m.	MOEUVRES	4.2"	40

OUR ARTILLERY

Activity normal.

Between 6 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. last evening we carried out wire cutting in front of SPOIL BANK, fired on enemy in HINDENBURG LINE in K.15 and K.16 and Trench Mortar in K.14.d. Central; also dispersed with casualties working parties at K.22.a.9.7. We also fired on CHATEAU HAVRINCOURT - effective bursts and direct hits obtained. The trenches in K.21 K.26 and K.27 received a considerable amount of attention during the night. The SPOIL BANK and vicinity were heavily shelled at 1.20 a.m. and again at this afternoon. As usual, TADPOLE COPS came in for a fair amount of attention. The command post at B.11.c.2.7 Supply Dump B.17.a.8.8 and Dugouts in E.13.a. and b. were shelled at various times during the past 24 hours. At 5 p.m. a working party was engaged at B.30.a.5.9. On several occasions PRONVILLE received attention from our guns. At 9.13 a.m. Battery positions in E.11.d.6.2 and B.11.d.28.20 were shelled.

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Observation fair to good.

Aerial: Hostile activity rather pronounced. Enemy 'planes flying over our back area at intervals throughout the day. Two balloons up at bearing 51 deg. Mag. and 76 deg. Mag. from C.24.b.4.1. Very little movement observed behind enemy lines today.

Patrol located T.M. firing from K.14.c.7.3 in SUNKEN ROAD. A Machine Gun was in the same place, and before T.M. fired it would open up and continue until just before T.M. projectile detonated, seeming to cover the sound of the Mortar firing.

Wm. Christian
 7 Lieut.,
 R.O., 5th. Aust. Div. Artillery.

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERYINTELLIGENCE REPORTFrom 6 p.m. 10/5/1917 to 6 p.m. 11/5/1917HOSTILE ARTILLERY

AREA SHELLED	TIME	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	ROUNDS
J. 17. a. 4.7	During night	-	77 mm.	-
D. 29. a.	11.45 to midnight	B. 11. a.	10 c.m.	-
VELU WOOD	9 to 11.30 a.m.	E. 14. c.	5.9"	50
J. 10. d.	11.50 to noon	INCHY	5.9"	10
MORCHIES	8 a.m. to 11 a.m.	"	5.9"	150
"	10 a.m. to 10.20 a.m.	"	4.2"	60
BOURSIES	2.10 p.m. to 2.20 p.m.	E. 13. b.	4.2"	30
J. 10. d.	3 to 4.45 p.m.	INCHY	5.9"	50
BOURSIES	4.45 p.m.	E. 13. b.	4.2"	6
J. 12. a.	5.45 to 5 p.m.	"	4.2"	12
J. 10. a.	" "	INCHY	77 mm.	10
"	5.10 p.m.	PRONVILLE	4.2"	6
LAGNICOURT	5.30 to 6 p.m.	"	77 mm. & 4.2"	-

OUR ARTILLERY

Activity normal.

At 7 p.m. last evening we shelled O.P. trees at D. 24. a. 5.8. A little later we engaged batteries reported at the following places:- D. 18. a. 8.3, D. 16. a. 8.2, E. 13. b. 7.2, E. 13. b. 4.3. Command post at D. 11. c. 2.7, Supply Dumps at D. 12. d. 1.7 and D. 12. a. 8.8, M.G.'s at D. 17. a. 8.8 and D. 24. a. 9.7, Enemy works E. 13. d. 4.3 and E. 26. a. 7.8. TADPOLE COPSE also came in for a share of our action.

A working party was twice effectively engaged in K. 15. c. 90.30 during the early part of the night. Enemy trenches in K. 26. d. and K. 27. a. and c. were shelled at 9.50 p.m. From 10.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. trenches and approaches to SPOIL BANK received a considerable amount of Artillery attention. The CROSS ROADS in HAVRINCOURT were fired on about 11.45 p.m. PRONVILLE and vicinity was, as usual, shelled on several occasions. House at K. 9. c. 9.4 and SPOIL BANK were fired on at noon to-day. Our batteries engaged traffic on road at D. 9. c. 4.5 and D. 10. d. 6.6.

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Observation good.

Aerial activity above normal. Several hostile balloons up on our Sector during the day. At 4.35 p.m. one was destroyed by our aeroplanes.

An enemy trench mortar located in K. 20. d. was engaged by our guns with satisfactory results.

At 3 p.m. an explosion occurred in enemy lines at a Magnetic bearing of 8 deg. from I. 12. b. 4.3.

Wm. Christian

Lieut.,
R.O., 5th. Aust. Div. Artillery.

W.R.
FIFTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

From 6 a.m. 11/5/1917 to 6 p.m. 12/5/1917

HOSTILE ARTILLERY

AREA SHIELLED	TIME	DIRECTION	CALIBRE	ROUNDS
MORCHIES J.27.d. & J.33.a.	8.30 p.m. to 10 a.m. " "	- T.E. 96 deg. from J.27.d.2.5)	5.9"	100
I.26.a.8.2	10 p.m.	-	4.2" H.V.	5
I.26.a.8.2	4 a.m.	-	4.2" H.V.	5
J.7.a.2 c.	3 p.m. to 4 p.m.	D.18.a.0.8	4.2" & 5.9"	100
J.8.a.3.3	3.15 p.m.	PROVILLE	8"	12
DOIGNIES	5.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.	-	5.9"	20

OUR ARTILLERY

Our activity slightly below normal.

From 6 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. we shelled battery positions B.16.a.80.20; Valley B.16.a., also PROVILLE and TAMPOLN COPSE. Traffic on road at B.10.a. and b. was also engaged during these hours. Trench K.26.b.0.2 to K.26.b.1.6 was heavily shelled from 11 p.m. to 11.20 p.m. At the same time we carried out a minor operation on enemy trenches and works in K.26.b. and d. At 12.30 p.m. we effectively engaged WATER TOWER, K.27.b.5.4. 2.30 p.m. the CHATEAU HAVRIECOURT and vicinity received particular attention. The WOOD K.23.c. was carefully swept and searched at 3 p.m. From 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. movement in K.27 was fired on. The SPOIL BANK, as usual, came in for a considerable amount of our attention.

MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Observation indifferent.

Aerial activity has been very marked during the period. A hostile plane, flying low, fired on camps in vicinity of I.26.a. and b. in the early hours of the morning. At 7.30 p.m. enemy plane brought down in the direction of BOURLON. Another hostile machine was forced down at 6 a.m. just behind our lines, and a third one at 3 p.m. in the direction of BULLECOURT.

About 2 p.m. enemy battery was observed firing from B.18.a.0.8. Heavies were informed and took successful action. A working party was observed early this morning at B.3.c.8.4 and dispersed by our guns. Another was seen at B.19.b.3.0 - B.19.a.7.3 and also effectively dealt with. From 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. a number of vehicles observed on road at B.12.b.2.5 moving in direction of INCY.

W.R. Christian

Lieut.,
R.O., 5th. Aust. Div. Arty.