AWM4

Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

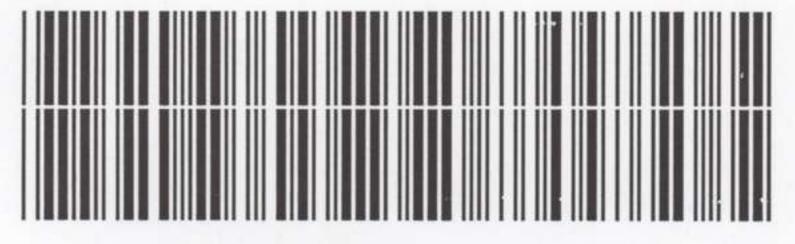
Artillery

Item number: 13/2/3

Title: General Officer Commanding, Royal

Artillery, 3rd Corps

December 1916



AWM4-13/2/3



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1016053

Army Form C. 2118.

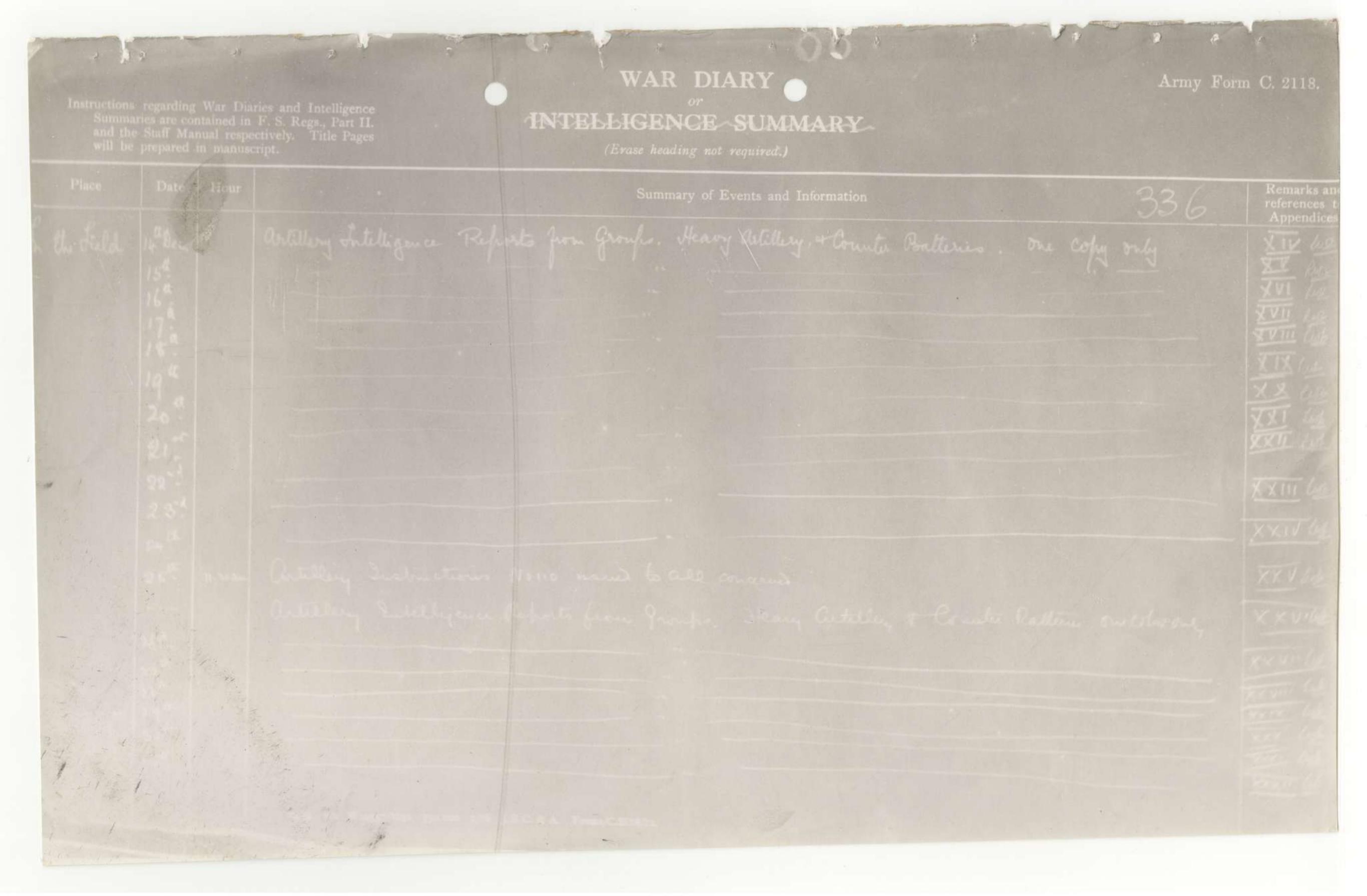
WAR DIARY

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

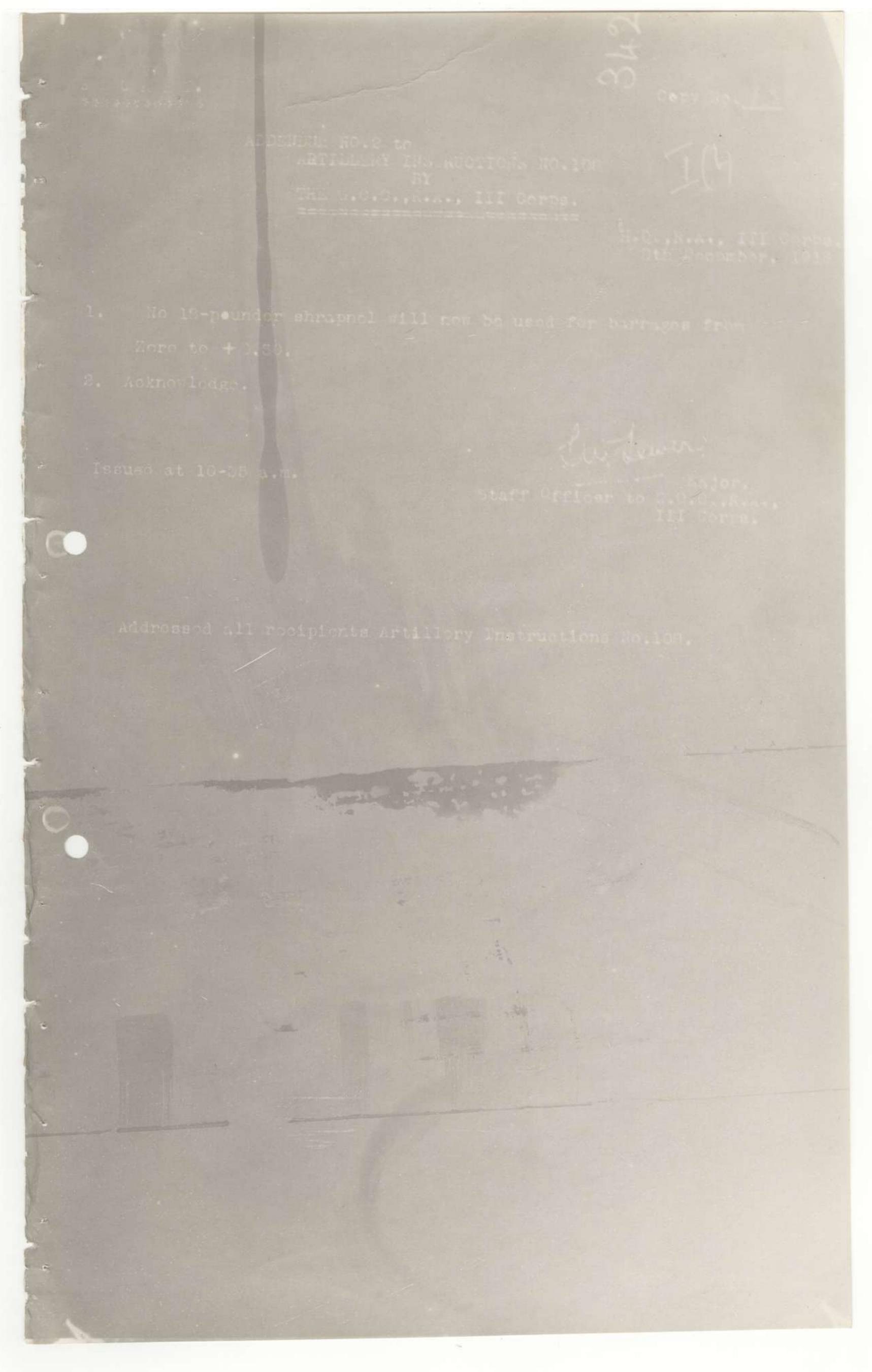
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RIGHT GROUP DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

DAILY GENERAL REPORT.

No. 47.

From 6. P.M. 30th: November TO 6.P.M. 1st: December 16

OUR . ARTILLERY .

owing to the mist night firing was continued through the day on the night barrages.

The 26th: Brigade at the request of the Infantry fired (1) 40 rounds 18-pdrs: and 20 rounds 4.5" Hows: on the GIRD LINE and support at 11.50 P.M. (2) 40 rounds 18-pdrs on M. 18. c. 2. 5. at 11. A.M.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY.

The HIGH WOOD - LONGUEVAL road was shelled intermittently with 4.2"s. - The shells appeared to make come from a long way off and only one at a time.

A 77 mm battery of 3 guns was very active firing from direction of GREVILLERS. - It fired time shrapnel on STAR FISH trench and between HIGH WOOD and MARTINPUICH.

Left Battalion H.Qtrs: was shelled at 11.P. ... = Intermittent shelling of FLERS S.6 and T.1 all day.

GENERAL .

Too misty for observation.

H. Qtrs: 1st: D.A. 1st:December 16.

Brigade Major R.A., 1st: Divn:

Three Copies 3rd: Corps R.A.

One copy 'G' 1st: Division.

Counter Battery Office.

27th: H. A. Group.

LEFT GROUP DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

From 6 P.M. 30th November, to 8 P. M. 1st December.

1. ACTION OF OUR ARTILLERY

No observed shooting was possible .- Roads and tracks were subjected to short bursts of fire at irregular intervals.

2. ACTION OF HOSTILE ARTILLERY.

Enemy shelled MARTINPUICH on evening of 30th with 5.9, but was soon stopped by the Counter-Battery Group. Generally speaking enemy's guns have been active, shooting on MARTINPUICH, LE SARS, roads and the light railways.

N. T. L.

Major,

1. 12. 1916. Brigade Major R.A. 23rd Division.

for Period ending 6-0pm. 1/194/16.

Enemy artillery activity has been normal, MANTIAPUICA received considerable attention at intervals throughout the twenty-four hours.

Fall.

The cross roads in M 28 d were shelled for un hour and a half during which time 50 rounds of 4.2" fell.

The weather has again been too misty for observation.

At 7-Opm. on the 30th.ult. an organized shoot was carried out on

LOUPART MOUD. Mist prevented observation of offeat.

This morning the 5.9" Batteries in the LOUPARY UNOUP were engaged for the shelling of MARTIMPUICH.

11 betteries in all were engaged by 60 Pdrs.

Hostile batteries reported active Nil.

Lieut Col. H.S.A.

1/12/16.

Counter Sattery Staff Officer 111 Corps H. A.

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RIGHT GROUP DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

DAILY GENERAL REPORT

No. 48.

From 6. P.M. 1st: December 16 TO 6. P.M. 2nd: December

OUR ARTILLERY.

The Howitzers of 26th: and 39th: Brigades R.F.A. co-operated in a sheet on Trench Mortars in HOOK SAP from 1.40 P.M to 1.50 P.M. -

The Hewitzers of 252 Brigade R.F.A. registered on LUISENHOF FARM obtaining 12 direct hits.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY.

MARTINPUICH was shelled with 6.2", A.P. 5.9",
4.2", 77mm and gas shells from 6. P.M. to 10. P.M. of 1st:
December 1914, in retaliation to our bombardment at 1.40 P.M. the Left Xacta
Sector and LE SARS was shelled with 4.2"'s

GENERAL

Minenwerfers were active throughout the day. Observation was too poor to see enemy movements.

H. Qtrs: 1st: D.A. 2nd: December 16 Brigade Major R.A., 1st: Division

Whoelsonthee

LEFT. GROUP DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

From 6 P.M. 1st December to 6 P.M. 2nd December 1916.

1. ACTION OF OUR ARTILLERY.

The enemy having been reported at about 11.45 a.m. to have captured a post at M 18 A 5 9, batteries on that more opened on S.O.S. lines, until about 1 p.m. when the enemy were reported to have been driven out again.

Various registrations carriedsus out.

. ACTION OF HOSTILE ARTILLERY.

with 5.9, 77 m/m and gas shell, from about a to 9.30 p.m.
for which our Artillery retaliated in conjunction with
Heavies. Intermittent shelling today or RUTHERFORD ALLEY
and EAUGOURT L'ABBAYE road, otherwise fairly quiet.

* MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Light very bad all day.

2. 13. 1918.

Butcode Mateu D & Dank Disease

for 24 hours ending 6 pm. Dec. 2nd 1916.

HOSTILE FIRE. Hostile fire was not heavy except on MARTINFUIGH which was very heavily shelled from 6 pm. to 11 pm. with all calibres from 21 cm. to 77 mm.; gas shell were also used by the enemy.

The fire came from GREVILLERS, LOUPART & PYS directions.
25 Hostile batteries were neutralized and the 15 cm. and 21 cm.
fire slack ned almost immediately.

The IV CORPS assisted by neutralising batteries in the neigh-

LE SARS & EAUCOURT L'ABBAYE Were lightly shelled and forward communications were shelled intermittehtly with 77 mm.

S 5 was shelled intermittently by a 15 cm. Howitzer from ORMVILLE direction and therewas a five minutes hurricane bombardment of 5 2 a with 10.5 cm.

GUN about 2 pm.; about 12 rounds fell. These were distributed over a large area; the 6 inch Mk.VII's retaliated on ACHIET-LE-GRAND.

The IV Corps reported a 15 cm. LONG GUN shelling AVELUY STATION AT about the same time.

OUR OWN FIRE. 25 batteries were engaged by 60 pdrs.

A five minutes shoot was carried out on the Southern aper of LOUPART WOOD by C.B.guns and howitzers at 6.45 pm.

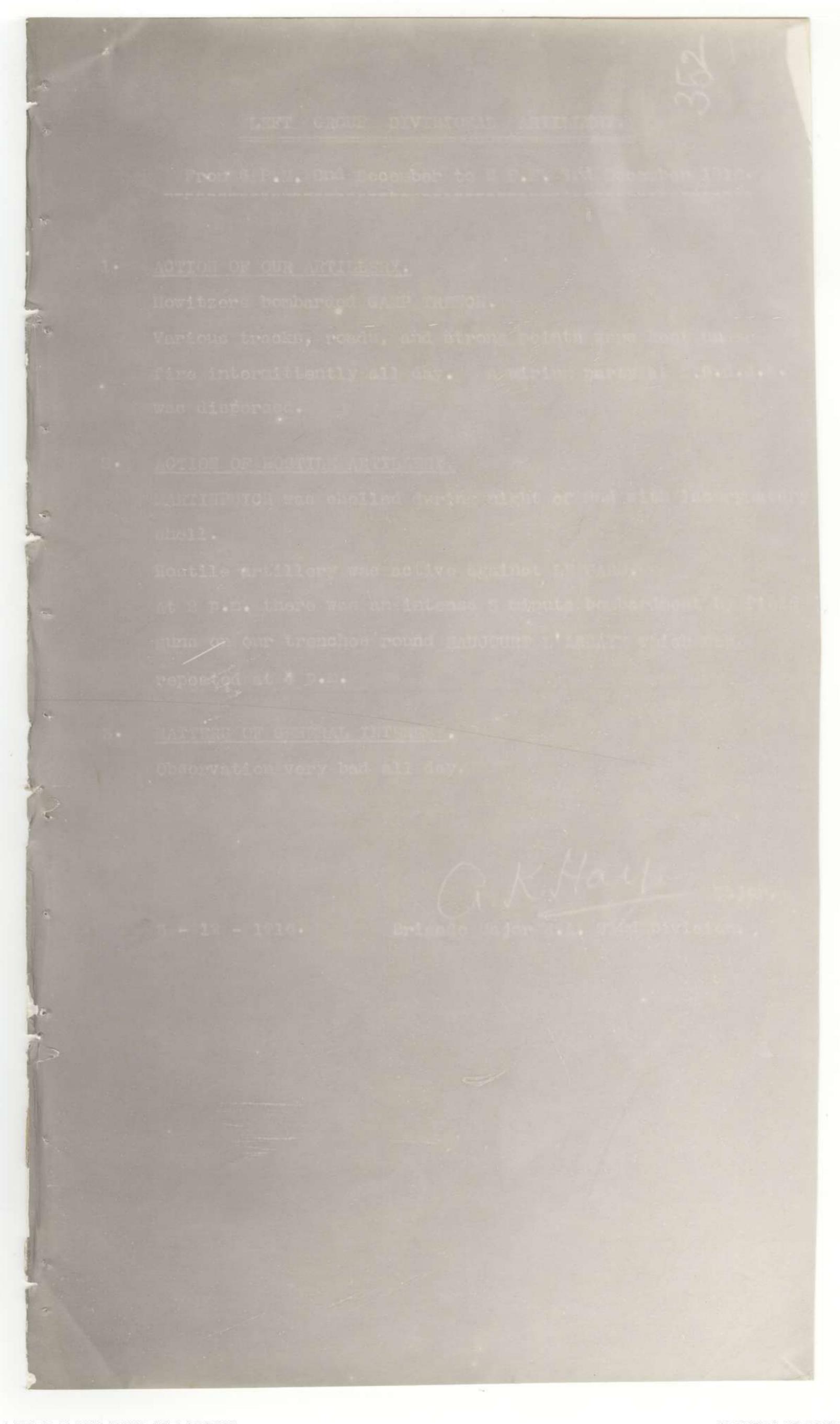
No destructive shoots were carried out as the weather rendered observation impossible.

Hostile batteries reported active - Mil.

Trendronar ****

Counter Battery Staff Officer III Corps H.A.

RIGHT GROUP DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY. DAILY GENERAL REPORT No. 49. From 6. P.M. 2nd: December TO 6. P.M. 3rd: December 18 OUR ARTILLERY. Fire was kept up on the usual night barrages during the whole day owing to the mist. At 11.P.M. at the request of the Infantry 30th: Battery fired on a Hinenwerfer at Junction of HOOK SAP and the GIRD LINE and effectually silenced it. From the front line O.P. registration of the Howitzers of 252 Brigade R.F.A. was checked on LUISENHOF FARM -SUNKEN ROAD in N. 13. d.#6.5 and BAYONET TRENCH in N.13.d.0.3 were subjected to 3 minute sever bombardments about every \frac{3}{4} hour lasting from 11.A.M. till dusk - 77mm and 4.2" only were Captain. 3rd: December 16. Brigade Major R.A., 1st: Division. RCDIG1016053 AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL



for period ending 8 pm. 5/12/1916.

during the last few days. MARTINPUICH was shelled with gas shell between 7 pm and 9 pm. and with 5.9's between 6 am. and 7.30 am. The Area west of HIGH WOOD was also shelled with 4.2's and 77 mm.LAGHRYMATORY shells between 8.50 pm. and 9.15 pm. Our trenches in M 17 a & b were barraged at intervals between 11 am. and 1 pm.

OUR OWN FIRE. No destructive shoots were carried out as mist made observation impossible.

An organised shoot was carried out on the Group of hostile

Neutralising fire was successfully carried out toy stop

14 Batteries were engaged by 60 pdrs.

HOWB

Batteries observed active - Mil.

LT.Colonel.R.G.A.

Counter Battery Staff Officer III Corps H.A.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT.

LEFT GROUP - DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

6 p.m. 30-12-16 to 6 p.m. 31-12-16.

1. ACTION OF OUR ARTILLERY.

DAY & NIGHT. As yesterday, 18-pounders rired battery salvees every 15 minutes, howitzers section salvees every 30 minutes on German front and support lines throughout the 24 hours. A barrage creeping back for 500 yards from 8.0.S. lines was effected. Enemy movement was also engaged, and the chief tracks were searched at odd intervals.

2. INTELLIGENCE.

post in M.9.d.7.1., and filing over crest towards

WARLENCOURT. These were fired on. A party of men moving

from G.33.c.1.4. to G.34.c.2.8. was engaged, and a party

of 12 was dispersed and driven into trench at M.B.d.8.6.

A party of 6, 4 of whom were carrying timber left trench

M.4.a.90.45., and disappeared in trench junction M.3.d.8.8.

They were engaged, and the trench junction bombarded. A

working party at M.4.a.45.45. was fired upon with some

success.

3. MISCELLAREOUS.

No hostile aircraft was seen. Light fairly good for observation at intervals during the day.

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ency latent to like

Intelligence Officer, 15th Divisional Artiller

Illrd. Corps Counter Battery Report for Period ending 6-0pm. 51/12/16.

HOSTILE FIRE. BORWARD A

Villages LE SARS, EAUCOURT, COURCELETTE, FLERS & MARTINPUICH were shelled during the day. 400 rounds of 77mm., 10.5cm. & 15cm. fell in MARTINPUICH between 11-0am. & 4-50pm.

Battory pasitions

How. from LE BARGUE direction, and by 10.5cm. Hows. from LOUPART WOOD & IRLES. AWZAG CORPE successfully dealt with the first and the IVth. Gorps with the last. He deed found which fallengy yesterday have deen definitely dealified at 21cm.

Trenches

77mm. The trenches in M 16 a were shelled with 77mm.

GOOSE ALLEY was shelled intermittently with 10.5cm. & 15cm. & MAXWELL Trench with 77mm. & 10.5cm.

Roads and Tranways

8-0 to 9-0am. Road in S 18 a & b 10.5cm. 9-0am. to 3-0pm. Sunken Read M 30 b 15cm.

1-10 to 1-20pm. Switch Dump Tramway

During day BAPAULE Road in M 28 10.5 & 15cr

Other Localities.

about 20 rounds into 5 11 b during the morning.

5 7 b was shelled by a 10 cm. H.V. Gun at 11-50cm. 20 rounds fell.

Five more rounds fell at 1-55pm. 24 40 rounds of 15cm. were

fired into 5 11 a during the day from a Northerly direction.

100 rounds of 10-5cm. fell in M 20 c between 5-15 and 4-50pm.

HIGH WOOD, 5 2, 5 2 4 5 6 d were shelled during the day.

BACK AREA

No shelling of the back area was reported.

GENERAL INFORMATION

observations. That the heavy fire of all natures on MARTINPUICH & M SV c. during last few days was not pre-arranged but has been due, probably, to the fact that a large number of German batteries, taking advantage of the clear weather, have used that village for registration purposes, as fire on MARTINPUICH during the last few days has come from all directions between PYS & LE TRANSLOY.

OUR OWN FIRE

A concentrated shoot was carried out on battery positions in the orchards S.W. of GREVILLERS from 8-40 to 8-43am. I on the Southern apex of LOUPART WOOD from 9-0 to 9-3am. A lien. battery at H 51 d 9.8 was seen active, engaged & silenced, by a 60 Pdr. battery during the morning.

A Field Battery at H 6 o 3.5 was seen active & engaged by a mattery of the 15th.D.A. An explosion of amountaion was observed in the hostile battery.

No aeroplane work was possible but the Counter Battery Howitzers co-operated in the concentrated shoots.

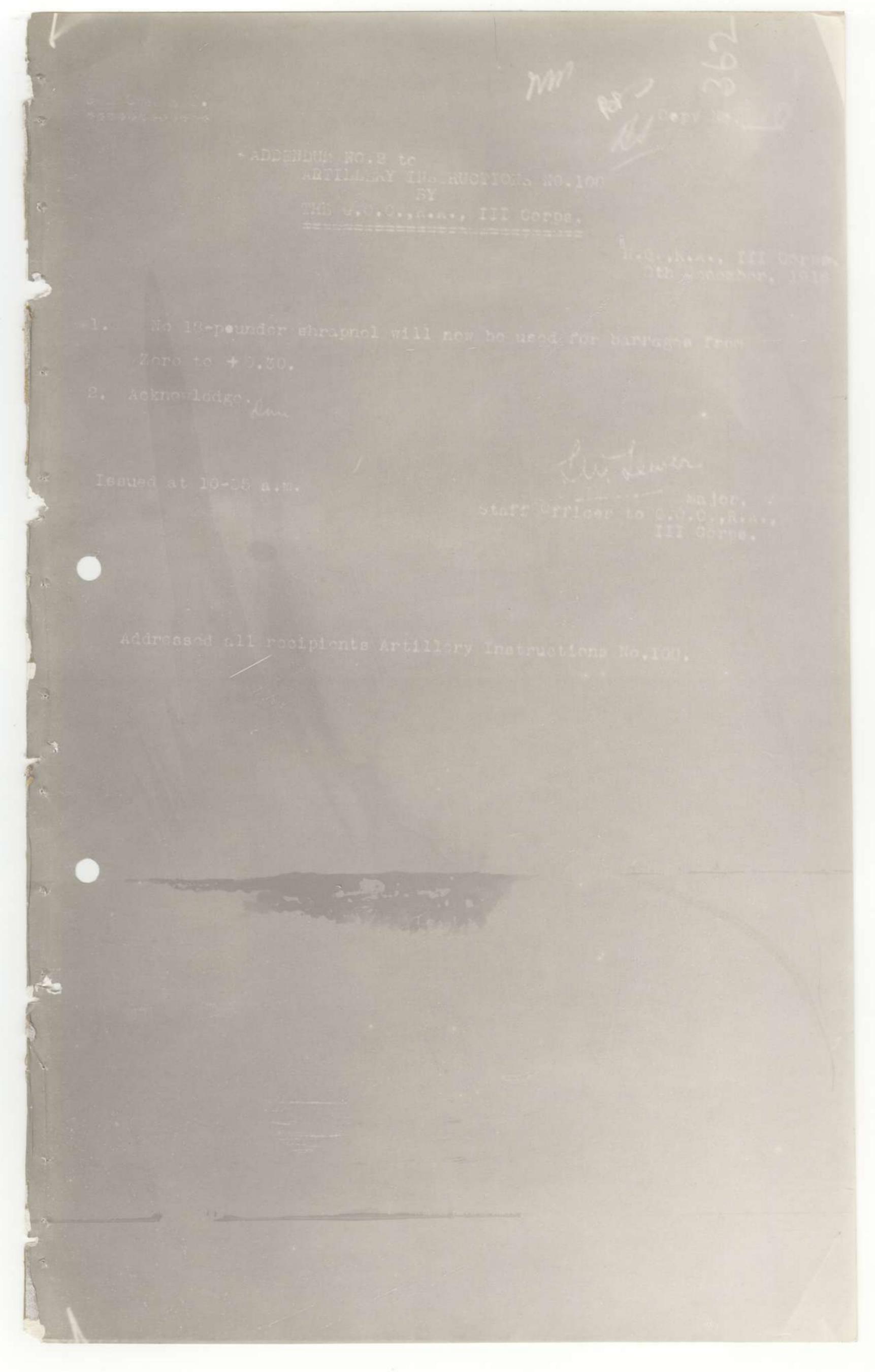
Hostile batteries were engaged by 60 Pdrs. on 55 occasions & 5 by Howitzers.

Hatteries seen active by:-

Other Soumas R

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attache d to IIIrd Corps will return to its Division. on 1st January, 1917, and will come out of action on 1. Section of Divisional Ammunition Park at present at a/Staff Officer to G.O.C., R.A., AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1016053 SECRE Any other Road or Track may be added to t

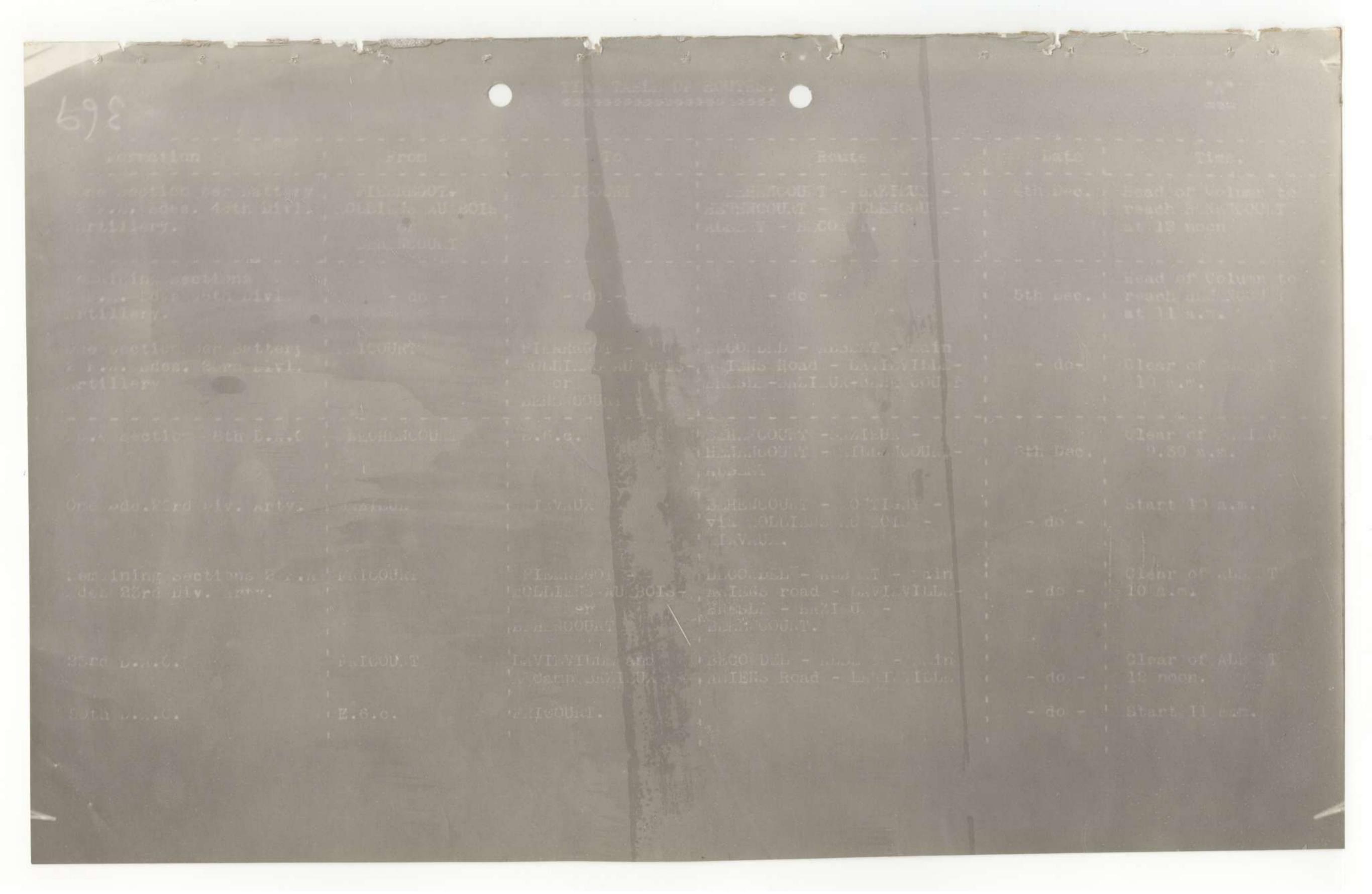


(b) m. 7.d. 1.9 - m. 10.a.4.0 (numerous dug-outs especially in LIT. L. 00)

on year minute.



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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1016053

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1016053 front by 12 noon Lovember Joth.

