

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

Formation Headquarters

**Item number:** 1/44/36 Part 3

**Title:** General Staff, Headquarters 2nd  
Australian Division

July 1918



AWM4-1/44/36PART3

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 5.30 p.m. 19th to 5.30 p.m. 20th July 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Usual harassing fire was carried out during the night on roads and tracks in P.24.c., P.30.a., P.23.c., Road P.22.c.4.0., Road junctions P.28.b.65.38., and P.29.a.2.2., trench in P.28.d., track and trenches in P.33.b., road from P.33.b.7.3. to V.5.a.0.5. At 1.30 p.m., Left Group engaged and silenced hostile batteries at P.30.a.50.10., and P.24.c.80.10., which were active on Left Bde. front.

(b) Machine Guns. Harassing fire was directed on the following targets: - Roads and trenches in U.12., Tracks etc in V.2.a.6.0. to V.2.b.85.52. Tracks in U.6.d.4.3. to U.12.b.95.85. Cross Roads at P.21.d.80.40. and trenches in P.22.b and d. Expenditure 11,500 rds.

(c) Aerial Activity. At 6.30 p.m. bombs were dropped on enemy position in front of WARFUSEE. Hostile balloon was destroyed by one of our planes at 9.15 a.m. Our patrols were active throughout the day.

(d) Patrols. Reconnaissance patrols on Left Bde. and protective and standing patrols on Right Bde. have nothing exceptional to report.

(e) Snipers. Left Bde. claims one hit.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

Quieter than during previous period. At 7 p.m. 50. 4.2s on P.19.c. 8.50 - 9 p.m., 20 rds. from a four-gun battery on P.25. from 97° T.B. from O.29.b.95.25. 9.15 - 9.25 p.m., 120. 4.2s H.E. on O.36.c. and O.36.d. from direction of MARCELCAVE. 9.50 - 10 p.m. a light barrage on front line N of VILLERS-BRETONNEUX Road. At 10 p.m. a 3 minute barrage of 4.2s and 77s and gas fell on O.29. from direction of MARCELCAVE. 2.45 - 3 a.m. a light barrage of 4.2s and 5.9s. on O.36.b. and d., V.1.a. and c., and U.6.b. Between 3 a.m. and 4 a.m. some shelling of O.30., P.25., P.19. From 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. 37 rounds 4.2 on O.23.c. 8.30 - 12 noon, O.28.d., P.26., O.30.a. were shelled at intervals with 4.2s., and U.4.d. and U.6.a. and c. received an occasional 5.9. During the afternoon 4.2s were freely used on O.23.c., O.17.c., U.4.b., P.20. and P.26., U.4.d.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE.

Quiet, except for some unrest N of the main VILLERS-BRETONNEUX: WARFUSEE Road.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work and Wire. A belt of wire extends from approx. P.27.c.70.70. P.27.c.80.50., to P.27.c.50.45., where it is lost in the crops. In P.32.b. there is concertina wire hastily erected.

(b) Posts. Posts were located at approx. U.5.d.7.3., U.6.c.1.2., U.6.d.3.3., (apparent S.P.), U.6.c.40.25. (flare post), P.27.a.5.9. and P.27.a.40.35. Enemy appears to hold posts at further side of MOUND at approx. V.1.b.8.4. SYRIA TRENCH, east of block at U.6.d.0.8. appears in a bad condition, and is probably only lightly held. The Switch Trench running south-west from U.6.d.0.8. is badly battered.

(c) Machine Guns. Active at times during the day and very active at night from following positions:- V.1.c.5.9. (silenced at 3.30 a.m. by our rifle grenades No. 36), P.27.c.7.6. and P.21.d.6.5. Guns were located also at approx. P.27.c.80.70., P.27.d.30.80., P.33.a.40.70.

(d) Rifle Grenades were active from trench system at P.27.c.8.7., firing 85 grenades at post at P.27.c.25.70. All the grenades fell short with the exception of the last, which fell in the post, the enemy having apparently crept forward. 90 grenades were fired at post P.27.c.45.60. Three pineapple bombs were fired at P.27.a.35.50. from an unlocated position.

(e) Snipers. Very active from P.27.c.8.8. and P.21.c.9.5.

P.T.O.

*Max. Diary. Jno.*

**7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.** At 7.30 p.m., two E.A. flew over our front dropping RED and WHITE flares. At 3.15 a.m. and 3.20 a.m. 'planes dropped 13 bombs on O.28.c. and U.1.a. and b. in forward area. Some were also deposited in rear. Hostile 'planes were *(especially)* active during the morning over our lines.  
A great number of balloons were up this morning than usual.

**8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES.** At 6.30 p.m. 3 men appeared to be pushing a truck in W.2.d.8.6. Between 8.30 and 9.5 p.m., 200 men in small parties moved from BAYONVILLERS to the valley in P.35.a., where our artillery engaged them. At 8.50 p.m. a party of 20 men and 6 G.S. wagons traversed road W.3.c. towards HARBONNIERES. Between 2 and 3 a.m. transport was heard on road in V.7.b.9.4. After dawn individual movement was observed in V.7.b.7.5. and at north edge of MORGEMONT WOOD and a few men were seen harvesting in P.29.b. At 6.30 a.m. 200 men and three wagons moved from WARFUSEE along road in P.30.a. A stretcher party was working in P.28.d. at 6.30 a.m. At 10.35 a.m. an ambulance wagon in V.5.b. on BAYONVILLERS - MARCELCAVE Road. Isolated movement also reported on roads in V.5.a., V.6.b. and P.35.c. At 9.55 a.m. an engine travelled from HARBONNIERES to WIENCOURT. At 2.35 p.m. 25 men in pairs at 100 yards distance appeared on road W.9.d. coming from GUILLAU-COURT. Between 4.40 p.m. and 5.10 p.m. considerable movement was observed in P.34.d.

**10. MISCELLANEOUS.** At 1.40 p.m. hostile battery firing at 100° T.B. from O.29.a.95.55. was observed. At 3.10 p.m. another was active 94° T.B. from same O.P., apparently in P.35.b. or P.36.a.

*Gellings* for Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
Second Australian Division.

Addendum.

Between 4.15 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. 80 4.2 BLUE and YELLOW Cross gas shells from direction of WARFUSEE fell on O.24.d.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.....:

*(The following text is mirrored bleed-through from the reverse side of the page and is largely illegible due to the nature of the document and the quality of the scan.)*

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

ENEMY'S INTENTIONS.

From the examination of an officer and O.R. captured during the last few days east of VILLERS BRETONNEUX, it is apparent that no attempt to attack is likely to be made on this front at present.

No preparations for an offensive have been seen, but it is the general talk that an attack will be made both toward AMIENS, ARRAS and in FLANDERS, within the next two months. Preparations for this attack, however, have not yet been begun. (I.S. No. 213).

GERMAN OFFENSIVE NEAR RHEIMS AND FRENCH COUNTER-ATTACK SOUTH OF SOISSONS.

In the sector west of RHEIMS the Germans have reinforced their line with one division. On the whole front near RHEIMS the enemy have now put into the battle 28 infantry and one cavalry division.

The German Crown Prince has now at his disposal 15 fit divisions in reserve, which have not yet been identified in the fighting. (I.S. No. 213).

CLASSES AND DRAFTS.

41st Division. The 41st Division appears to have about 30 per cent 1919 class. A draft of 360 made up of 300 men from the Second Res. Cavalry Regt., and 60 men from the 5th Cuirassier Regt. (which Cavalry Regiments are being broken up) was recently received by the Division. (I.S. No. 213).

RELIEFS.

13th Division. Prisoners of the 13th Division state they expect to be relieved shortly by Bavarians. The rest billets in VILLERS CARBONNEL vacated by the 41st Division about 2nd July were taken over by Bavarians. The 14th Bavarian Division may possibly be the division referred to. (I.S. No. 213).

TRENCH NOMENCLATURE.

(a) The co-ordinate position of CAVE Copse is V.9.a.19.22., and not V.8.b.80.90. The position of this Copse will be altered in the next edition of 62.D., S.E.

(b) Wood in 57.D., S.W. - T.22.c.d. 28.a.b. - This wood has been named BREAM Wood.

(c) NAME. Sheet. Locality. Corps.

BARCOO TR.	62.D.	P.1.a.00.20. - P.2.b.50.00.	Aust.
BURNIE TR.	62.D.	P.2.c.10.40. - P.8.b.20.90.	Aust.
BROOME TR.	62.D.	P.7.c.50.20. - P.8.o.20.00.	Aust.

(I.S. No. 213).

REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF GERMAN DIVISIONS.

Summary of recent changes. The disbanding of 2 Landwehr divisions and the formation of the new Metz Garrison Detachment reduces the number of German Infantry Divisions in the Western Theatre from 205 to 204. No additional battalions are involved in this reorganization, and the total number of battalions which have been disbanded remains at 22. The recent changes may be summarised as follows:-

Decrease. - Disbanded - (4 divisions) - 94th Div., 226th Div., 12th Ldw. Div., 14th Ldw. Div.

Staffs not commanding actual divisions - (2 divisions) - 302nd (z.b.V.) Div., 303rd (z.b.V.) Div.

Increase. - New formation - (1 div.) - Metz Garrison Detachment. These changes make a reduction of 5, from 242 to 237, in the total number of German infantry divisions in the field.

These divisions are now distributed as follows:- Western Theatre, 204; Eastern Theatre, 32; Balkans, 1. = Total 237. (I.S. No. 213).

P.T.O.

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APPENDIX:

5/8/44

2a.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES (Continued).

INFORMATION REGARDING THE 41ST DIV.

ENEMY'S INTENTION

Recent Movements. The 41st Div. expected to relieve the 5th Bav. Div. in the line south of ARRAS at the conclusion of its rest in the GOUY area, but it was not thought that any offensive was in preparation in that sector. The relief was due to take place on the 6th July, but sudden orders to move were received and the division entrained at a few hours notice for PERONNE. (P.S.).

Our attack (17:7:18). Although a few men noticed the registration of some of our guns prior to the attack, the attack was a complete surprise. Prisoners are full of admiration for the dash and courage of our troops and for the promptness with which the barrage was followed. They complain that their barrage appeared to have no stopping effect against our men at all. All are convinced of the efficacy of a short sharp barrage covering the attack instead of lengthy preparation. (P.S.).

Casualties. There had been very few casualties up to the evening of our attack, but many casualties occurred in the great confusion caused at the commencement of the attack. The 3rd Bn. Commander was severely wounded and it was believed that he had been captured. A battery Comdr. of the 79th F.A.R. was also killed. (P.S.).

Signal Organisation. Each battalion has a signal "troup" consisting of 1 officer and 35 men. Half of that number usually remains behind and relieves the other half every few days, varying with the stress of work. All messages except morning and evening reports are encoded by the Adjutant and sent in the form of numbers. The Bn. H.Q. is connected laterally with the battalions on its flanks, but as a rule communication between company and battalion is maintained by runner or messenger dog. (P.S.).

41st M.W. Coy. At the present time there are only 2 heavy trench mortars available for the company and suitable emplacements are being reconnoitred with a view to bringing them into the line. No medium trench mortars are available at present as many are required on other parts of the front. The number of mortars has always been very elastic. The T.M. Service is noted for its large percentage of officers. As a rule there is one per mortar, but at present companies are very weak and there is only one company commander and one lieutenant. (P.S.)

79th F.A.R. - Anti-tank Gun. The 1st Battery details one gun as an anti-tank weapon. There is a crew of 6 men and 1 N.C.O. On suitable portions of the front one gun per battery is so detached from the battery for this duty. The anti-tank gun is dug in just behind the main line of resistance and is usually camouflaged with netting. The purpose in placing these guns so far forward is to sustain the moral of the infantry in the face of the tanks. The dug-out for the crew is built close to the gun and is connected by telephone with Bn. H.Q.

One man is always on duty by the gun to watch for any sign of attack and observe light signals. There are no special light signals announcing the approach of tanks. The N.C.O. in charge relies partly on Bn. H.Q. for any warning of tanks, and partly on a runner who is sent forward when an attack takes place. Tanks can be engaged at 4,000 metres and anti-tank gunners prefer to fire a few ranging shots at this range.

During a course of anti-tank gunnery in the CAMBRAI rest area, small wooden tanks were made to advance from a distance of 2,000 yards and in order to qualify, gunners had to knock out the tank in less than 8 shots. For practice ordinary field gun ammunition was used, but for actual warfare a delayed action steel-nosed shell is used (armoured shell

No special arrangements are made for destroying the anti-tank guns in the event of our advancing. The N.C.O. is armed with a Mauser pistol with 10 rounds. (P.S.).

Casualties in 13th Div. on 4:7:18

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES (Continued).

Casualties in 13th Div. on 4th July. Prisoners of the 41st Div. stated that it was common knowledge that the 13th Div. lost 1,200 all told in our attack on the 4th July.

Moral. Prisoners are disappointed with small effect their apparently entirely successful offensives in March, April and May have had on the allied strength and moral. (I.S. No. 196).

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TRANSLATION of captured order of the 97th I.R., 108th Div. giving orders for the precautions to be taken against our use of smoke.

1. - If the enemy should employ artificial smoke, patrols should be sent out immediately in front of the main line of resistance. These should give the alarm the moment they catch sight of the enemy and warn the trench garrison. The enemy attacked the 137th Inf. Regt. under cover of a smoke barrage and occupied their forward line. (The 137th I.R. were engaged in our offensive on the 4th July, 1918).

2. - Posts behind the main line of resistance, N.C.O. posts, and light machine guns in the main line of resistance must therefore be on the look out and ready to open fire. No man must remain in his dug-out. (I.S. No. 196).

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TRANSLATION OF captured order of 18th I.R., 41st Div. for the re-capture of positions lost astride of the VILLERS BRETONNEUX - WARFUSEE Road.

Inf. Regt. 18.

Regimental Order.

18:7:18.

1. At 4 a.m. this morning the enemy pushed back the outpost line of "A" and "B" Coys. on to the main line of resistance.

2. The Regiment will retake the outpost line on the front of "A" and "B" Coys. and will push forward their line 300 metres in front of the main line of resistance. Simultaneously the 152nd Inf. Regt. will attack the M.G. strong point "Bussard" on the north side of the main WARFUSEE Road.

3. Execution of the Infantry Attack.

(a) 152nd Inf. Regt. The M.G. strong point "Bussard" will be outflanked on the north by 2 strong assault parties and frontally attacked at the same time by about 3 "groups" (18 - 20 men).

On the trenches north of the main road 2 assault parties with machine guns will make a frontal attack so as to take the garrison of the "Bussard" strong point in flank and in rear. The assault parties will take up preparatory dispositions in the outpost line during the hours of darkness.

(b) 18th Inf. Regt.

I. "E" Coy. which in accordance with to-day's Bn. order placed 2 platoons behind the left flank of "A" Coy. and one platoon as liaison on the right will reinforce the main line of resistance of "B" Coy. with one platoon and "A" Coy.'s main line with 2 platoons.

II. One strong assault party of "E" Coy. (at least one group - 9 men) with a light machine gun will advance on the trenches south of the main WARFUSEE road and essay to take the enemy position on flank and rear.

P.T.O.

III. One assault party each from "A" and "B" Coys. (at least 2 "groups" with a light machine gun) will advance partially against the outpost line that is to be retaken.

IV. One strong assault party of "C" Coy. (2 groups with light machine gun) is to be placed in readiness to-night beside the N.C.O.s. post on the right flank of Coy. This party will advance northwards and will cause the enemy to be taken in the pincers between it and the party on the main road.

The left flank of the assault party referred to in this para. will be supported by special supporting groups of "C" Coy. with machine guns.

Preparatory positions of all assaulting troops in the main line of resistance will be taken up during the hours of darkness.

4. Half a minute before the commencement of the infantry attack the forward group of guns will put down a box barrage on the enemy lines from the divisional boundary northwards through P.26.b., 26.c., 31.b. The M.G. nest at P.26.c.1.4. will be destroyed. Simultaneously the heavy group will engage the eastern edge of VILLERS BRETONNEUX with destructive fire, particularly the observation group at that point. Duration of artillery fire 20 minutes, after which it will gradually die down. If fresh barrage is required it will be called for by the usual light signals.

5. Simultaneously with the artillery all trench mortars of the 152nd I.R. and 18th I.R. will fire a salvo on to the objective.

6. The storming party will remain in the front line on the 17th disposing itself in depth and will only be withdrawn when the defence of the position has been properly organised.

7. "G" Coy. will take over the position of "E" Coy. after dark to-night and will be under tactical orders of Bn. H.Q. All front line and support companies will be ready for action from 4.30 a.m. on the 17th instant onwards.

8. Zero hour for infantry 5 a.m.: watches will be synchronized at 10.30 p.m. to-night and at 3.30 a.m. to-morrow, 17th instant.

9. Reports will be rendered by telephone, message dog, pigeons, or runner to Regimental Battle H.Q.

TRANSLATION of a captured order, apparently by a Bn. of 152 I.R. 41 Div. re our infantry action E. of VILLERS BRETONNEUX.

Battalion Order.

14:7:18.

1. In an attack on the outpost line of the 152nd I.R. (12th Coy.) the British again made use of the tactics of engaging the outpost by a frontal demonstration and took them in the rear meanwhile. Owing to the alertness of the outpost and the skilful action of its leader, Lieut. Bartels, who contrived to fire his guns alternately to the front and to the rear, the enemy only took possession of a portion of our line and that with great losses. He came under the fire of our machine guns posted in rear.

This exemplary conduct will be rewarded specially by the Brigade.

2. Barrage and destructive fire signals: Barrage fire - RED; destructive fire - GREEN; shorten range in front of main line of resistance - WHITE with stars.

Barrage called for by light signals will fall in front of the outpost line. Any post may call for a fresh barrage.

Destructive fire called for by light signals will fall on the front line of the enemy's system. It can only be called for afresh by the leader of the outpost, platoon, company, etc. This will only be done when an unusually strong enemy trench garrison is observed and

thus a hostile....

5a.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES (Continued).

And thus a hostile counter-attack may be nipped in the bud. It must be made clear to the troops that it is not always a good principle to call for destructive fire, for the fire may fall close to or farther from our front line according to the extent of No Man's Land.

If the posts or the outpost line is forced by a strong enemy attack to retire on to the main line, barrage fire in front of the main line will be called for by WHITE lights with stars. This can only be called for by the Company Commander of the company actually engaged or by the Bn. H.Q., as they can only judge whether the outpost has retired or is in process of retiring.

Duration of Barrage and Destructive Fire. Each wave of barrage and destructive fire lasts five minutes at highest firing speed, and decreases thereafter. If continuation fire is required it must be called for by repeated sending up of light signals.

3. A peculiar case makes the following note necessary. The enemy must under no circumstance be allowed to bury his dead or recover his wounded in front of our line, not even under the red cross flag. If the enemy should attempt this again, a warning shot is to be fired for him to desist. If this has no effect the enemy must be thoroughly engaged at once. We require the enemy dead and wounded, not only for identification purposes but by retention of his wounded to keep his fighting strength down.

There is no objection to the enemy's recovering his wounded in his own lines or immediately in front of them, where there is no question of our having to recover them.

4. The enemy on one occasion on this front used gas T.M. bombs. Attention is again called to gas discipline and kindred orders.

(I.S. No. 196).

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App. No 59

SECRET.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

G. 161.

Location of Units at 6 a.m. 22nd July. 1918.

1st Amendment to G. 138. issued 19th July 1918.

23rd Army Bde. R.F.A.		Delete.	
27th Battalion.	-	O.26.c.9.3.	
20th Coy. A.A.S.C.	-	N.14.d.2.9.	LAMOTTE-Brebiere.

*Hollings* Capt  
 for Lieut-Colonel.  
 General Staff.  
 Second Australian Division.

2nd Aust. D.H.Q.  
 21st July 1918.

*War Diary*

## SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 178.

From 5.30 p.m. 20th to 5.30 p.m. 21st July, 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the night tracks in P.30., P.29.a., P.22.d., P.28.a<sup>b</sup> and c., P.27.b and d., and trenches in P.28.b., were harassed. At 1.30 a.m. a gas concentration was fired on trench and road at P.28.b.50.35. Movement in P.30.a. was engaged by 18 pdrs. at dawn. At 12 noon our 4.5s shelled enemy trenches from P.27.c.75.85. to P.27.c.82.45., and at P.27.c.55.25., obtaining direct hits.

(b) Trench Mortars. H.T.Ms. fired 7 rds. between 7.40 p.m. and 8 p.m. and 11 rds. at 11 p.m. on strong points and trenches in vicinity of U.5.d.40.35. 3" Stokes fired 70 rds. on posts at P.27.c.85.50. and P.27.c.5.3.

(c) Machine Guns. Harassing fire was placed on following targets:- Cross roads at P.21.d.80.40., 1,500 rds.; trench system P.22.b.90.80., 2,000 rds.; tracks and trenches in P.22.d. and P.28.b., searched and traversed, 3,000 rds.; Cross roads at V.2.c.15.15., 1,500 rds.; Tracks at V.2.c.7.3., 1,500 rds.; Railway V.2.b.00.30., 1,500 rds.; roads searched and trenches traversed V.2.b.80.80., 1,500 rds.; railway line through V.2.a. received 2,000 rds.; reported movement in areas U.12.a.40.70. to U.12.b.50.20., 1,500 rds.; U.12.a.40.50., U.12.a.22.27. to U.12.a.70.27., U.12.c.50.85., 1,500 rds.; V.2.a.60.00. to V.7.b.85.52., 1,500 rds.; U.6.d.40.30. to U.12.b.95.85., 1,500 rds.; U.12.a.80.60., 1,500 rds.; roads, tracks and trenches in these areas were searched. Total expenditure 21,500 rounds.

(d) Aerial activity. Moderately active patrolling front area.

(e) Patrols. Front was actively patrolled without encounter. Right Bde. patrolled SYRIA TRENCH in U.6.d. for distance of 150 yards.

(f) Snipers. Right Bde. claims two hits at U.5.d.8.2. and P.32.c.20.25. respectively. Left Bde., 5.

(g) Rifle Grenades. Left Bde. fired 75 rifle grenades on enemy posts in P.27.c.7.4. and P.27.c.7.7. with good results.

(h) Infantry action. Right Bde. established without opposition a post at U.6.d.4.7.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Slightly decreased activity. The

following areas received attention:- U.5.b. and d., U.6.a., V.1.a., salvoes of 77's. between 9.40 p.m. and 10 p.m., chiefly from direction of MARCELCAVE and BAYONVILLERS. At 10.50 p.m. 20 rds. 21 cm. fell on P.14.b., and 40 rds. on O.17.b. and d. between 11 p.m. and midnight. At 1.20 a.m. 70 rds. 77's. on VILLERS BRETONNEUX. At 2 a.m. O.27. and O.28. received 30 rds. 4.2's. At 3.40 a.m. 30 rds. 4.2's. and 5.9's. on P.25.c. and d., at same time 30 rds. 77's. on O.23.a. At 10.30 a.m. 10 rds. 4.2's. on O.34. 12.40 p.m. 40 rds. 4.2's. on X. 12.45 p.m. 12 rds. 5.9's. on O.35. and 8 rds. 4.2's. on O.36. 10 rds. 4.2's. on O.8.b. at 1.50 p.m. At 2 p.m. P.31.a. and c. received 30 rds. 4.2's., O.36.b. 40 rds. 4.2's. at 3 p.m. During remainder of period occasional shoots were made on O.25.d., P.31.c. with 4.2's. and 5.9's. on MONUMENT WOOD. X VILLERS BRETONNEUX.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Artillery moderate, M.Gs. active. Inclination to be aggressive on front of Left Bn. of Right Bde.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work and Wire. A post seems to be in course of construction at P.33.a.3.8. and U.6.d.4.7. (sounds of working heard). There are small belts of concertina wire scattered in the crops in vicinity of P.32.b.5.5. A patrol heard enemy wiring near JAFFA TRENCH in V.1.b.

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ENEMY DEFENCES. (Contd.).

(b) Machine Guns. Patrols report posts with M.Gs. at following locations:- P.32.c.5.7., P.32.c.7.8., P.32.c.85.95., P.27.a.6.7. P.27.a.5.5., P.27.a.5.3. (2 M.Gs.). Guns are also active at P.27.d.3.9., P.28.c.7.5., P.22.central (approx.), U.6.c.4.5. (firing on U.6.a.). Guns were very active during the night firing from P.32.c. towards O.36.a.7.4.

(c) Trench Mortars. A few pineapple bombs were fired from near Crucifix in U.6.c. on to our front line.

(d) Flares. At 5.45 p.m. during bombing and M.G. fire on the division on our right flank enemy fired a double red flare which brought down his artillery on that sector. A GREEN flare was fired soon afterwards which caused shelling to cease. At 4 p.m. during H.T.Ms. registration numerous WHITES and GREENS brought no apparent result, but twin REDS brought a light barrage on the front and close supports of Right Bde.

(e) Snipers. Inactive. One was located at U.5.d.7.2. firing towards U.5.c.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Inactive. One E.A. flying along our front at dusk was turned off by M.G. fire. At 6 a.m. and 7.45 a.m. small patrols were over our lines at a great altitude.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. At 6.30 p.m. 14 men were seen in V.3.a., two carrying a stretcher. At 8 p.m. a party of 25 men carrying white bags was seen along sunken road in P.29.a. walking towards WARFUSEE. 50 in parties of 6 to 10 moved from GUILLAUCOURT to W.2.d., thence along track in W.7.a. to V.12. central. Between 8.30 p.m. and 8.50 p.m. 6 wagons travelled along road in W.3.c. towards HARBONNIERES. Between 11.30 p.m. and midnight parties moved east and south of SYRIA TRENCH. Our L.Gs. opened and cries were heard. Two limbers were seen on road in V.14.b. and c. at 9 p.m. At 6 a.m. considerable individual movement was apparent in V.13.b. At 9 a.m. several men carried wire from P.29.central, towards P.23.c. 5 wagons were on LAMOTTE Road travelling towards TAILLOUX WOOD. 10.30 a.m. stretcher bearers carried wounded towards WIENCOURT. 10.45 a.m. movement in P.23.c. 5.4. and P.29.c.4.6. Considerable movement of individuals was observed during morning in vicinity of Q.31.central, where dugouts are suspected. Individual movement is also reported at V.3.d.35.80. V.9.a. and V.2.d.95.50. At 7.55 p.m. a train moved north along line in W.17.d.

10. MISCELLANEOUS. Batteries active during the period were located at W.8.b.15.90.; a 4-gun battery at 92° 30' G.B. from O.29.d.85.42. during morning of 20th instant. At 3 p.m. from same O.P. guns at 94° G.B. were active - approx. at P.35.b.80.80. During noon shoot on trenches in P.27.c. a small dump was exploded.

Enemy Action. At 4 a.m. 5 men approached our block at V.1.a. 6.2 and threw a few bombs at about 40 yards. We retaliated with rifle grenades and it is thought casualties were inflicted as at 9 a.m. stretcher bearers with a white flag were seen in the locality.

*Hollings* Capt  
for  
Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

Daylight operation by Division on our Right this morning resulted in capture of 2 prisoners at about U.16.b.1.9. Identifications - 26 I.R., 109th Div.

Continued.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. (I.G. No. 1489).

GENERAL.

The attitude of the enemy has remained passive, and only feeble attempts have been made to regain ground near the MONUMENT and astride the WARFUSEE Road. The enemy attempted one raid in the MORLANCOURT area.

The number of divisions in the line has shown no change, but the number of divisions in reserve (7) shows a reduction of 2. These two divisions have been identified in the Battle of RHEIMS. The quality of the reserve divisions is only poor. The Army area has been well covered by air photos and shows a very noticeable decrease in aerodrome accommodation. Several aerodromes have been abandoned, while others have been reduced. The enemy also appears to have temporarily ceased work on railway construction. Work on forward defences still remains practically nil. This is curious, as owing to the very passive attitude shown by the enemy, the weakness of his trenches south of the SOMME, and the very active attitude shown by our troops in that area, it would have been more natural for him to have shown extreme activity in erecting new obstacles to a further advance on our part. The reason for this inactivity may possibly be due to the weakness of his regiments, as they have undoubtedly suffered heavy casualties.

The foregoing indicates that for the present the enemy opposite the Army front has abandoned all idea of an offensive. This is further strengthened by the statements of prisoners, both officers and men, recently captured.

With regard to other parts of the front, the German offensive foreshadowed in last week's Summary was launched as anticipated on either side of RHEIMS on the 15th instant.

It was followed by a very successful Allied counter-stroke on the 18th instant south of SOISSONS. To deal with this counter-stroke all the reserve divisions (14) now at the disposal of the Crown Prince are likely to be absorbed, and it is quite possible that further divisions from Prince RUPPRECHT'S Group of Armies will have to be despatched to the Crown Prince's aid.

The effect of this is likely to be felt on this front, as not only have a considerable number of aeroplanes been already probably sent to the battle front, but the reserves of the Second Army are likely to be further depleted.

Hostile activity in the YPRES salient indicates that an offensive is imminent in that part of the field.

(I.G. 1489).

NUMBER OF HOSTILE DIVISIONS ENGAGED IN THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE NEAR RHEIMS AND THE FRENCH COUNTER-STROKE SOUTH OF SOISSONS.

West of RHEIMS, one additional German division has been engaged in the fighting, while two additional divisions have been engaged east of RHEIMS. The total number of hostile divisions engaged on the front of the German attack in CHAMPAGNE is now 33, of which one is a cavalry division.

In the course of the French counter-stroke south of SOISSONS 5 additional hostile divisions have been identified by the French, making 19 in all engaged on that front.

The German Crown Prince now has at his disposal 11 fit divisions in Reserve.

(I.S. No. 215).

RECRUITING IN GERMANY. Calling up of the 1920 Class in the XVIII Corps District. - A deserter from the Ersatz Bn., 87th Res. Inf. Regt., MAINZ, states that about 1,200 recruits of the 1920 Class joined this depot on the 14th June.

Information from captured documents, etc., shows that the 1920 Class was called up in Germany in batches, during April, May and June. The majority of the Class were not, however, called up until June.

P.T.O.

## INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES (Contd.).

ENEMY BOMBING

A study of the enemy's bombing activity behind our lines, coupled with prisoners' statements and captured documents, shows the following points of interest:-

During June the enemy concentrated on the bombing of DUNKERQUE, CALAIS, BOULOGNE, ETAPLES, ABBEVILLE, and the area between ARRAS, DOULLENS and AMIENS.

At the beginning of July there was a distinct change in this policy; a decrease in activity over the ETAPLES - ABBEVILLE areas may be directly connected with the transfer to CHAMPAGNE of the 5th Bombing Squadron, which was mainly responsible for the bombing of these districts. The 6th Squadron, which had also concentrated on these places, has latterly been carrying out scattered bombing on the general line LILLERS - ST.POL - DOULLENS.

On the night of the 13th/14th July, there was great activity over all the target areas mentioned above, excepting the ARRAS - AMIENS district, and it appears probable that the bombing of the Channel ports was carried out by the 3rd Bombing Squadron. It may be mentioned that this squadron has been remarkably inactive and has carried out little work, except for the bombing of DUNKERQUE.

The area ARRAS - AMIENS has not been concentrated on during July; this was the objective of the 4th and 7th Bombing Squadrons (MONS-EN-CHAUSSEE and GUIZANCOURT) and it is probable that these units are now operating on the front in the vicinity of the AISNE, in connection with the CHAMPAGNE offensive; this would not necessitate a change of aerodromes.

It is interesting to note that the standard of efficiency in carrying out bombing operations is not high; the 6th Bombing Squadron, which, according to documents and prisoners' statements, was ordered and claims to have bombed AIRE, LONGPRE, LILLERS and ST.POL on the nights of the 7th/8th, 12th/13th, 13th/14th, and 15th/16th July, respectively, in reality did not reach these places at all. This is particularly noticeable in the case of LONGPRE, no bombs having been dropped within 15 miles of this place: this was a special target, and at a conference, the importance of reaching this target was particularly emphasised by the O.O., 7th Flight.

Operations on the night of the 13th/14th July were especially mentioned in the following day's German G.H.Q. communique. More than half the targets claimed to have been attacked were not reached. (I.S. No. 215).

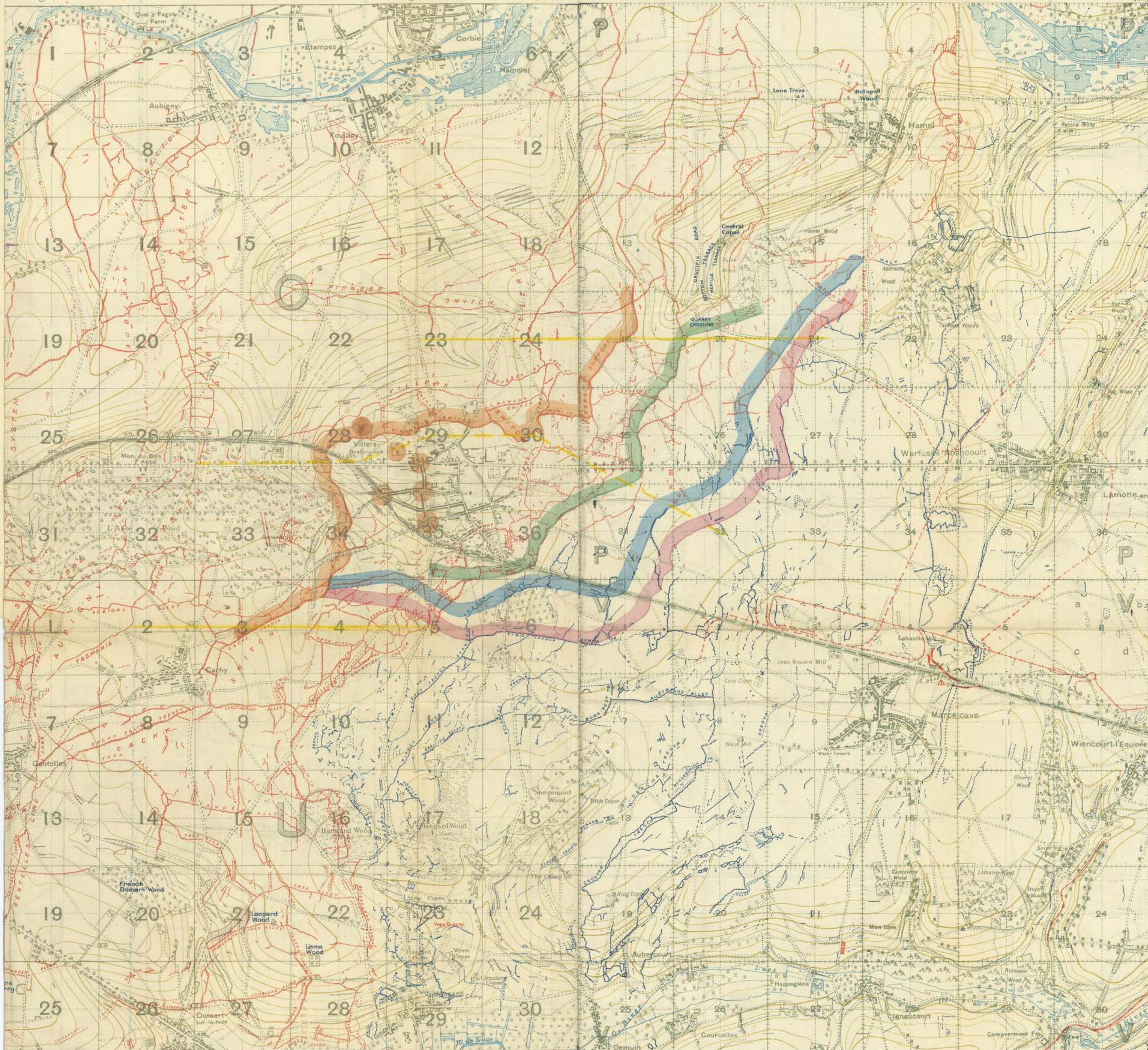
MARNE - SOISSONS FRONT: 10 a.m., 21:7:18.

French hold BRASLES CHATEAU THIERRY, ROCHET WOOD, LANONE WOOD, PLAISANCE SIGNAL PLATEAU between LACROIS and BRENLY. Enemy seems to be withdrawing in this area. French are close up to the main road at TAUX HILL, north of TIGNY. Represents average advance of 10 kilometres. French have lost MERCIN to heavy hostile counter-attack.

\*\*\*\*\*

NOTE CHANGE OF COLOUR.  
Enemy Trenches in Blue.  
British Trenches in Red.

TRENCHES CORRECTED FROM INFORMATION RECEIVED UP TO 7-7-18.



00 Yards  
4000 Metres

Ordnance Survey (O.S.) 1914  
FIELD SURVEY BY R.E. (2941) 9-7-18.

REFERENCE

(Any trench apparently organised for fire)  
Enemy Trenches (important ones are shown by thick line. Old or disused by dotted line.)  
British Trenches  
Wire Entanglement or Other Obstacle

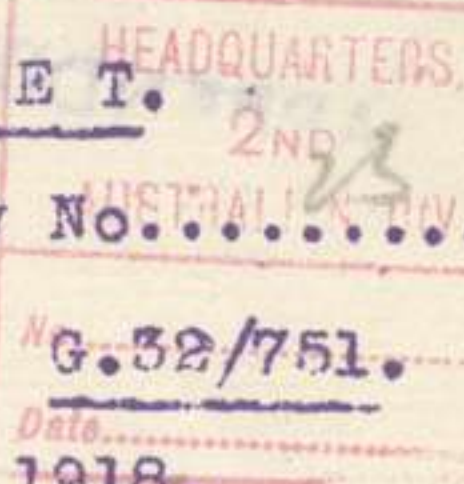
Buried Pipeline or Cable  
Aircraft Dumps  
Ammunition  
Earthworks  
Dug-outs  
Huts  
Works reinforced by concrete

Gun Emplacements  
Machine Gun  
Trench Mortar  
A-A Gun  
Observation Posts  
Listening Posts  
Mine Craters  
Fortified  
Organised Shell Holes

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Copy No. ....

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Headquarters,  
21st July, 1918.INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DEFENSIVE No. 44.Organisation of Defences.

1. Owing to the advances made by the division it is necessary to reorganise the defences of the forward zone. This will be done on the following lines:-

2. The forward zone will be divided into four main lines as shown on attached map.

Front line - coloured RED.  
Support line - coloured BLUE.  
Reserve line - coloured GREEN.  
Intermediate line coloured BROWN.

Communication trenches will be constructed between the reserve line and the front line, at least two in each brigade sub-sector (one for each battalion). These will, where possible, be so sited as to act as switch lines for flank defence. The positions for them will be selected by brigadiers and notified to D.H.Q.

3. In the event of the French on our right advancing to BASILIDE ALLEY to join up with us in SYRIA TRENCH at U.6.d.8.7. a slight re-organisation of our support and reserve lines south of the railway will be necessary. Therefore any communication trench constructed in this area should be so sited as to be available as a support line.

4. Owing to the fact that CACHY SWITCH will still be the French main line of resistance it will be necessary to maintain TORLOTTING Trench and the BOYAU des ALLIES for our right flank protection.

5. Brigades in the line are responsible for the defence of the forward zone; they will provide nucleus garrisons for the reserve and intermediate lines within their own brigade sub-sectors.

6. Work on the front and support lines will be carried out by the brigades in the line.

Any work necessary to complete the reserve and intermediate lines will be carried out by the reserve brigade. The C.R.E. will arrange for a reconnaissance to be made to determine what is required. When work on these lines is completed they will be maintained by the brigades in the line.

A proportion of Pioneers are available to assist in digging communication trenches. Brigades will forward to D.H.Q. requests for these pioneers, stating tasks for which required.

7. The principle to be followed is that each line is to be made a continuous trench and well wired.

8. The order of importance of work is -

- (a) Completing and wiring front line.
- (b) Wiring support line.
- (c) Joining up posts to form a continuous trench of the support line.
- (d) Communication trenches.
- (e) Completing and wiring reserve line.
- (f) Completing and wiring intermediate line.

9. Acknowledge.

*A. H. Miles*  
Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
Second Australian Division.

DISTRIBUTION - P.T.O.

War Diary

DISTRIBUTION.

<u>Copy No.</u>	<u>To.</u>
1.	C.R.A.
2.	C.R.E.
3.	2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.
4.	5th Aust. Inf. Bde.
5.	6th do.
6.	7th do.
7.	2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn.
8.	2nd Aust. M.G. Bn.
9.	A.Q.
10.	A.D.M.S.
11.	Aust. Corps.
12.	3rd Aust. Division.
13.	4th Aust. Division.
14.	5th Aust. Division.
15.	37th French Division.
16.	French Liaison Officer, attached 2nd Aust. Div.
17.	Troop, 13th A.L.H.
18.	Platoon, Corps Cyclist Bn.
19.	8th Tank Bn.
20.	3rd Squad., A.F.C.
21/22.	File.
23/25.	War Diary.
26/30.	Spare.

\*\*\*\*\*

General Staff,  
Imperial War Museum



App No 6247

Brigade Headquarters,  
22nd July, 1918.

Headquarters,  
2nd Aust. Div.  
-----

REPORT ON MINOR OPERATION ON NIGHT 21st/22nd July, 1918.

1. In view of impending operations on our right and the sniping coming from the vicinity, it was considered desirable to occupy SYRIA TRENCH as far east as V.l.c.3.6. and the trench running East of North from that point.

2. To avoid the retaliation which artillery support for this operation might bring down on us it was decided to carry it out silently.

The matter was left in the hands of the C.O., 23rd Bn., to carry out when a suitable opportunity occurred. A copy of his report is given below.

3. The Officer in charge of the Light Trench Mortars, of whose firing Col. Brazenor speaks so highly, was Lt. TOMKIN, M.C. 6th A.L.T.M. Battery.

4. The following is the report of the C.O. 23rd Bn. :-

"1. OBJECT. To secure control of CRAFT TRENCH down to road U.5. d.6.3. on the right, and on the left to enable SYRIA TRENCH east of existing block, along to bend V.l.c.3.6. thence to existing block V.l.a.6.1. to be occupied.

2. Parties and tasks were -

- Right Coy. 1 off. & 12 o.r. to proceed south along CRAFT Tr
- Centre " 1 off. & 10 o.r. proceed east along SYRIA Tr. to U.5.d.6.7. (trench junction).
- Left " 1 off. & 7 o.r. proceed south from block V.l.a. 6.1. along trench to trench junction V.l.c.2.7.

3. OPERATIONS. Right Coy. Party. - At 7 p.m. M.T.M. fired 20 rounds on to enemy post U.5.d.65.30 At 10 p.m. L.T.M. fired on same target. Under cover of this latter fire, party proceeded along CRAFT TRENCH to within 15 yds. of enemy post U.5.d.65.30. Strong opposition was encountered. Party were bombed from both flanks and from CRAFT TRENCH. Party withdrew about 15 yds. and a block was established at U.5.d.65.40.

During bombing operations nine men were seen to leave CRAFT TRENCH at U.5.d.6.3. and run eastwards. Lewis Gun fire brought to bear on these. Four seen to fall. No. 36 rifle grenades were also fired. Estimated strength of enemy garrison 20 men at least and 1 M.G.

4. OPERATIONS. Centre Coy. Progress was effected without much difficulty. No enemy were encountered and no casualties suffered. M.G. fire from southern end of JAFFA TRENCH.

Left Coy.

- (a) At 1 a.m. party of 1 n.c.o. and 7 o.r. as bombing squad, and blocking party 1 n.c.o. and 3 o.r. - both under command of Lieut. A. BAKER, left our trenches at V.l.a.6.2.
- (b) Crossing of road south of block was difficult owing to bright moonlight and close observation of this section by enemy from hostile trench, but this was successfully accomplished by 12.50 a.m.

(c)

*W.D. King*

Left Coy. (Std.)

- (c) Telephone connected up with supporting T.M's. was carried by assaulting party.
- (d) 2 Stokes Mortars each fired 10 rounds on to targets V.l.c.50.95 ( enemy block - M.G. position ) and V.l.c. 7.7. - M.G. position at V.l.c.50.95. was also engaged. Fire on these was controlled by Lieut. BAKER and shooting was accurate and most satisfactory.
- (e) Party penetrated to V.l.c.4.7. M.G. fire was very active, both from attacked trench and from JAFFA TRENCH. Their shooting was high. Block was established at V.l.c. 4.7. and manned by L.G. and supporting bombing party. Trench 70 yds. forward of this was also blocked.
- (f) Enemy resistance was slight because of speed at which our party worked, and extreme accuracy of mortar shooting. No. 36 grenades as well as hand bombs were used.
- (g) L.G. team co-operated with bombing squad keeping up a steady fire in advance of part of trench being bombed, and until a minor stoppage placed it out of action, must have inflicted considerable casualties on enemy who fell back towards JAFFA TRENCH.
- (h) Enemy flares. Red flares were sent up by enemy almost immediately our Stokes opened. These were later followed by orange. M.G. activity commenced about five minutes after red flares. Artillery commenced after five minutes, becoming most intense at Zero plus 20. Areas shelled were U.6.b. and V.l.a., old trench system U.6.a., railway line V.l.a. and western ~~edge-of-woods~~ section of MOUND. At Zero plus 30 switched on to East of VILLERS BRISTOUREUX and about 3 a.m. crept back to U.4. and O.35., mainly from BARGELCAVE area.
- (i) Captures. 2 prisoners 2nd and 4th Coy. 148 I.R. Prisoners stated that they had only come into the line on night 20th/21st; they were to wire trench they were captured in last night.

3 machine guns.

A considerable amount of rifles, etc. not yet specified."

(Sgd.) W. BRAZNER, Lt. Col.  
Commanding 23rd A.I. Battalion.

Additional report

" After dawn, success of night was further exploited - our parties pushing down to junction at V.l.c.3.6.

A further machine gun was captured, also 1 prisoner.

Trench is in good condition. C.T. running east from junction towards JAFFA is also in good order.

An estimate of enemy casualties is :-

Killed 1 off. & 25 c.rs. Prisoners 3 c.rs.

Badly wounded - still in trench 2.

Further reconnaissance of area V.l.c.3.6. will be made with a view to occupation and establishing of line from V.l.c.3.6. through V.l.c.7.7. - V.l.central - thence to V.l.b.7.4. "

(Sgd.) M. WEIR, Lt.

(Sgd.) J.C. ROBERTSON, Brig. Gen.  
Commanding 6th Aust. Inf. Brigade

63

Appendix 63/149

APP. No 63

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS  
2ND  
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.  
(GENERAL STAFF.)

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.  
\*\*\*\*\*

G.32/751.

Copy No. 3

Headquarters,  
22nd July, 1918.

1st AMENDMENT TO INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DEFENSIVE No.44.

Owing to the fact that the Right Brigade established posts in SYRIA Trench last night the position of the front line between U.6.d.0.8. and V.1.b.6.5. as shown on the map issued with Instructions for the Defensive No.44 will be altered to run from U.6.d.0.8. along SYRIA Trench to V.1.c.3.6. thence through V.1.central to V.1.b.6.5.

Acknowledge. (Bdes. and M.G.Bn. only).

*[Signature]* Lieut. Colonel.  
General Staff.  
Second Australian Division

Distribution as for Inst. for Def. No.44.  
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*[Handwritten signature]*

## SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Copy No.....21

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G.32/752.Headquarters,  
22nd July, 1918.INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DEFENSIVE No. 45.Right Flank Liaison.

"Instructions for the Defensive No. 43" is cancelled and the following substituted:-

1. The following arrangements will be made for maintaining liaison with the 37th French Division and for the protection of our right flank.

2. An international garrison consisting of 2 officers and 50 O.R's. from the right brigade and 2 officers and one section from the 37th French Division will be maintained in the trench U.6.d.0.8. - U.5.central.

The garrison in that portion of the trench from trench junction at U.6.d.0.8. to junction of STAMBOUL and SYRIA trenches at U.5.d.8.6. (exclusive) will be under the command of an Australian Officer.

The trench from the junction of STAMBOUL and SYRIA trenches at U.5.d.8.6. (inclusive) to our present front line at U.5.central. will be dug by the French and its garrison will be under the command of a French Officer.

3. International posts will be maintained as under:-

(a) Trench Junction U.4.a.9.6.

One officer (French speaker) one N.C.O. and 10 men of the Right Brigade, and one N.C.O. and 10 men of the 37th French Division.

The whole to be commanded by the Australian Officer and to be regarded as one post.

(b) In the AUBIGNY System at U.1.a.9.3.

One N.C.O. and 6 men from the Reserve Brigade and one officer and 6 men from the 37th French Division.

The whole to be commanded by the French Officer and to be regarded as one post.

4. The Right Brigade will maintain nucleus garrisons in the TORLOTING Trench and BOYAU des ALLIES.

5. The necessary alterations in dispositions will be made on the night 22nd/23rd July, and completion will be notified by wire to D.H.Q.

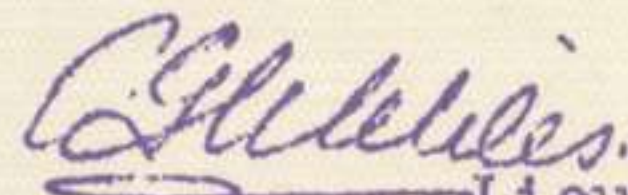
6. Acknowledge.

DISTRIBUTION.

To all recipients of -

"Instructions for the Defensive No. 43."

\*\*\*\*\*



Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
Second Australian Division.

*W.P.*

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.From 5.30 p.m. 21st to 5.30 p.m. 22nd July 1918.

No. 179

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the night harassing fire on tracks with bursts of fire at 8 p.m., 9.30 p.m., 1. 15 a.m., and 3 a.m. JAFFA TRENCH and MARCELOCAVE were also shelled. During the day tar gets were engaged and WARFUSEE and its approaches shelled.

(b) Trench Mortars. 3" Stokes fired 15 rds. on trench at P.27. o.5.3. and registered on V.1.b.9.5., V.1.c.5.9., V.1.c.7.8., posts at U.5.d.central., and U.5.d.50.35. At night 5 rds. were fired on U.5.d.central and U.5.d.50.35. respectively. SYRIA TRENCH at V.1.c.5.9. was engaged during infantry operation with excellent results, 20 enemy dead being counted by party. 10 rds. were fired on post at V.1.c.7.8., and 10 rds. on JAFFA TRENCH at V.1.b.9.5.

(c) Machine Guns. The following targets were engaged. - Trenches and tracks in P.22.d. and P.28.b. - 5,000 rds.; Roads and trenches V.2.b.80.80., Railway V.2.a.60.30., Trenches and tracks at V.2.c.60.80., - 4,000 rds.; Trenches P.22.b and d., P.28.b and d 5,000 rds.; Roads and tracks V.2.a.60.00 to V.7.b.85.52. - 1,500 rds.; Roads and trenches U.12.a.95.85. - 1,500 rds. Total expenditure - 17,000 rds.

(d) Aerial activity. Quieter during day but more active at dusk. At 7.35 a.m. an enemy balloon was destroyed North of MARCELOCAVE.

(e) Patrols. There was active patrolling along whole front. The clearness of the night prevented use of large patrols.

(f) Snipers. Right Bde. claims 4 certain hits. 2 men of Left Bde. crawled out to P.21.d.7.6. and fired on enemy trenches in P.22.a. 10 hits are claimed.

(g) Lewis Guns. Right Bde. fired 500 rds. on enemy M.G. positions in JAFFA TRENCH. Left Bde. expended bursts on tracks and trenches and engaged at 2.30 a.m. two ration parties. Subsequently 5 stretcher cases were carried away.

(h) Infantry Action. In conjunction with M.T.M. and L.T.M. one officer and 12 O.Rs. of Right Bn. worked along CRAFT TRENCH U.5.d., overcame opposition which was strong, and established a block at U.5.d.65.40. At the same time one officer and 10 O.Rs. left our trench at V.1.a.6.2. carrying a telephone, connected to the Stokes mortar co-operating, and penetrated to V.1.c.4.7., where a block was established. Later this party pushed down to V.1.c.3.6. and established a post there. Total captures were 3 prisoners and 4 M.Gs. Enemy casualties are estimated at 1 Officer and 25 O.Rs. killed.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 2nd and 4th Coys., 148th I.R., 41st Div. normal.

3. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS, ETC.  
N. to S. - 152 I.R., 18th I.R., 148th I.R.

Dispositions. All four Coys. of 1st Bn. in line; 2nd Bn. in support somewhere near MARCELOCAVE; 3rd Bn. resting 12 km. behind.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Principal areas shelled were front line in P.21.c., P.27.a., O.35., O.36., O.29. were kept under scattered fire of 4.2's. and 5.9's. from direction of WARFUSEE and MARCELOCAVE. At 2.10 a.m. 4.2's. and 5.9's. fired on support lines of Right Bde. for two hours. Trench and track in P.20.c., P.26., P.19.c. and d., P.25. and battery positions were harassed.

P.T.O.

War Diary

HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY (Contd.)

West edge of MONUMENT WOOD and STAMBOUL TRENCH were heavily shell-  
ed with 4.2's. between 4 and 5 a.m. This was probably in retaliation  
for our trench mortar activity. From 1.20 a.m. to dawn fair activity  
on front of Right Bn. of Right Bde. Between 8.45 and 8.55 a.m.  
four 5.9 H.E. fell within 50 yards of bridge on main AMIENS -  
VILLERS BRETONNEUX Road at O.25.c.8.4. Between 8 a.m. and 10.15a.  
50 - 5.9's. dropped in O.25.c. This area has come in for special  
attention and the enemy seem bent on blocking the main artery or  
putting the batteries in the vicinity out of action. Between 3.15pm.  
and 4.30 p.m. 30 rds. fell on O.36.b. and d.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Generally quieter.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Posts and Wire. A post is located at P.32.c.2.3. Patrols  
report that work was proceeding on posts at P.27.a.5.4. and P.26  
P.27.a.5.4. Fresh earth is reported near crucifix at U.6.c.4.4.

(b) Trench Mortars. A few rounds were fired from positions at  
P.33.a.8.2., TAILLOUX WOOD and P.33.c.1.8.

(c) Machine Guns. M.Gs. are at V.1.b.90.75., V.1.b.90.85.,  
P.32.c.2.2., P.32.c.65.65. Guns at V.1.d.5.4., V.1.d.5.8. and  
V.1.d.9.3. fire parallel to the railway. One gun at U.6.c.4.4.  
sweeps road in direction of U.6.a.

(d) Snipers. Enemy sniper firing across French front was located  
at U.5.d.6.4.

(e) Flares. Single GREENS caused enemy artillery which was  
falling short to lengthen range. At 1.5 a.m. double REDS brought  
down a M.G. barrage, and ORANGE flares an artillery barrage.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. At 8 p.m. 7 E.A. painted Red and marked with  
a black cross and ring, crossed our lines in direction of HANGARD WOOD;  
At 2.15 p.m. E.A. destroyed one of our balloons near CORBIE.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION in AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. During the night  
transport was heard on road at V.2.c.5.2. 7.15 p.m. men carried  
timber from P.23.d.5.4. towards WARFUSEE CEMETERY. 8.55 p.m. 34 men  
in small parties appeared on railway at V.2.a.80.25. moving to V.3.c.  
90.75. 20 men at V.3.c.90.75. hurried to shelter when our artillery  
opened fire. There was normal transport movement on roads Q.31.d.  
to BAYONVILLERS, WIENCOURT to BAYONVILLERS, Q.33.a. moving north,  
LAMOTTE to BAYONVILLERS, P.19.c. moving West, W.1.a. to BAYONVILLERS,  
W.2.c. to BAYONVILLERS, HARBONNIERES to BAYONVILLERS, P.35.c. to  
MARCELCAVE, W.1. to WIENCOURT.

From 9am. to 11am. transport and foot traffic at intervals in  
W.7.a., Q.31.a. and Q.31.central.

At 6.20 p.m. smoke from a stationary train was seen in W.1.a.  
At 6.54 a.m. engine moved on line in W.17.d. 7.25 a.m. train moved  
south in W.17.d. Between 10.40 a.m. and 10.55 a.m. trains travelled  
N. and S. respectively on line in W.17.d.

10. MISCELLANEOUS. At 6.35 p.m. a signal lamp was observed at 121° 65.  
from P.19.c.15.95.

Coy. strengths. Average one Off. 50 - 60 O.Rs., 4 L.M.Gs.

Reliefs. 1st Bn. relieved II Bn. in line two days ago, having  
just completed a short spell near CAPPY. Expect relief after 5 days  
in line.

Losses. 2 or 3 per day evacuate from each Coy. with Influenza.  
Arty. fire caused losses on night of relief in some Coys.

Work. Deepening of trenches is the only work done. Coys. are too  
weak to allow of large fatigue parties. (between 11pm. and 12 mn.)

Food. Food is brought by limbers each night to a point on road  
from V.9.c.30.50. to V.9.b.30.70. near a clump of trees.

Reinforcements. Each Bn. received a batch of about 100 newly  
called up in June, in addition to small cavalry drafts.

Snipers. Within last two days in 2nd Coy. 1 N.C.O. and 1 man  
killed, and 1 wounded by snipers. (P 5)

*Kellaway*  
Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
Second Australian Division.

App No 66

SECRET.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Location of Units at 6 a.m. 24th July 1918.

G.178.

2nd Amendment to G.138 issued 16th July 1918.

- 5th Bde.A.F.A. - 0.19.d.5.8. part of Right Group.,
- 17th Battalion. - 0.24.c.25.30. Line Right.
- 18th do - 0.24.c.25.30. Support.
- 6th Aust.M.G.Coy. - 0.27.c.1.4. Line Right.
- 22nd do - 0.27.c.1.4. Line Centre.

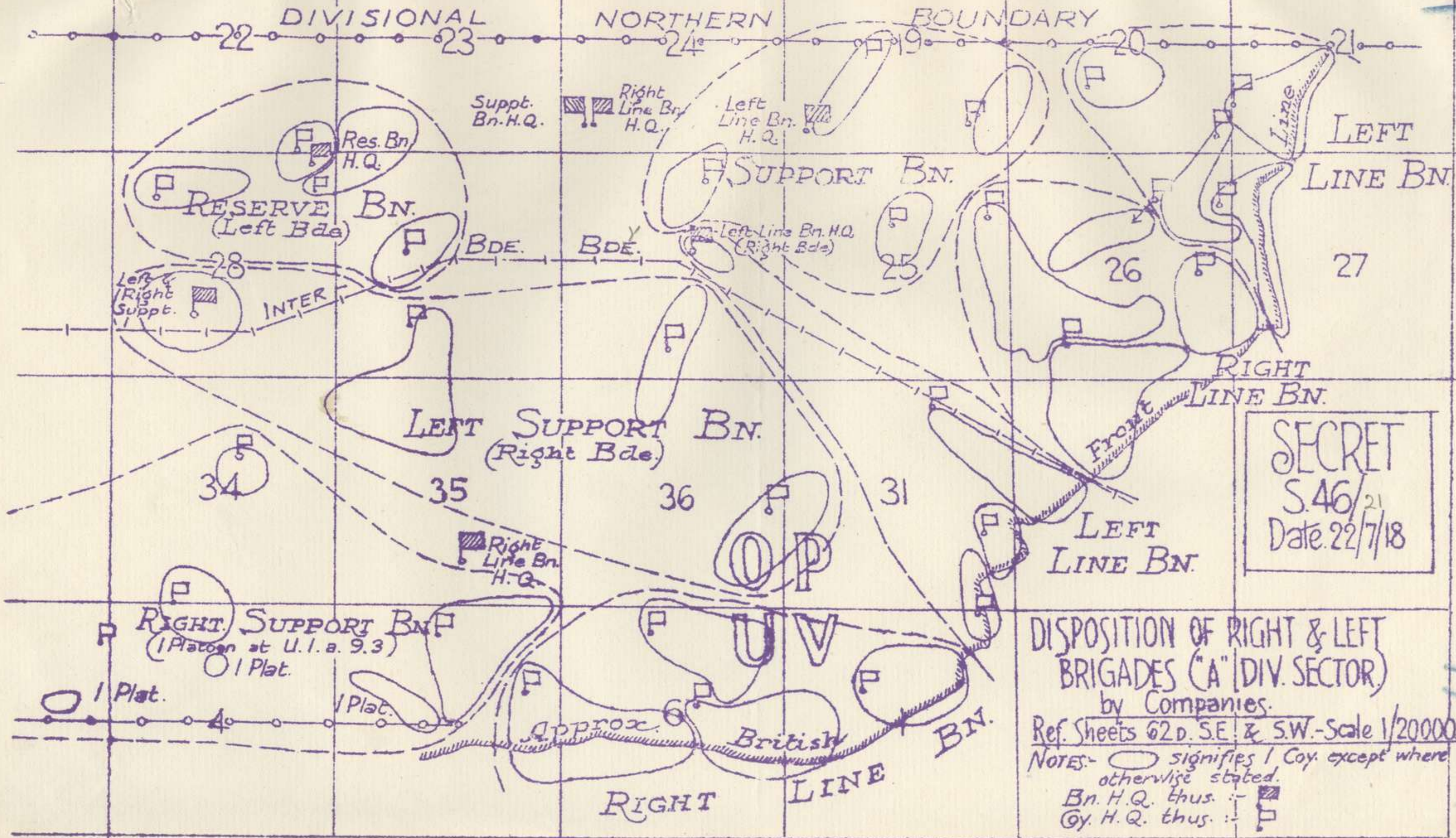
2nd Aust.D.H.Q.  
23rd July 1918.

*Hellingius Capt*  
for Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff.  
Second Australian Division.

*War Diary*  
*EB*

NOTE :- LEFT BDE. H.Q. AT O.25c. 6.4, RIGHT BDE. H.Q. AT O.25c. 5.3.

App. 67  
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SECRET  
S.46/21  
Date. 22/7/18

DISPOSITION OF RIGHT & LEFT BRIGADES ("A" DIV. SECTOR) by Companies.  
Ref. Sheets 62d. S.E. & S.W. - Scale 1/20000  
NOTES:- signifies 1 Coy. except where otherwise stated.  
Bn. H.Q. thus: .  
Coy. H.Q. thus: .

APPENDIX

App. 67  
154



SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 5.30 p.m., 22nd, to 5.30 p.m., 23rd July, 1918. No. 180

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

OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the hours of daylight 18-pdrs. were active sniping at movement which presented itself in the enemy's forward area. 4.5" Hows. obtained direct hits on a suspected H.Q. at V.14.d.10.40. and enemy O.P. in Water Tower in V.9.d. At 8.50pm. T.M. at P.28.c.65.65. and at midnight an active T.M. at P.33.a.60.50. were silenced. This latter target was engaged again at 2.20am. An enemy Bn. relief being suspected opposite the Left Bde. Front, the batteries of the Left Group, between 10.50 p.m. and 11.20 p.m., searched the enemy forward zone. Roads, tracks and trenches opposite the divisional front were vigorously harassed throughout the night, attention being given to road from V.9.c.30.50. to V.9.b.30.70., which is used by ration limbers between 11pm. and 12 midnight. 4.5" Hows. fired gas in OARD Copse V.3.a. and on road and trench P.28.b.60.40., at 1.45am. and 3am. respectively.

(b) Trench Mortars. Right Bde. 3" Stokes registered on enemy positions in U.6.c. Left Bde. fired 40 rds. on enemy trench P.27.c.7.6.

(c) Machine Guns. The following targets were engaged:- Road in V.2.d. enfiladed, 3,000 rds.; Fork roads V.2.b.90.75., searched, 3,000 rds.; cross roads V.2.c.15.15., 1,000 rds.; Tracks in V.2.c.70.30., 1,000 rds.; Railway at V.2.b.00.30. searched, 1,000 rds. Roads and trenches, V.2.b.80.80., 1,000 rds.; P.22.d. and P.28.b. harassed, 5,000 rds.; trenches at P.22.b. and d. and area in front searched, 2,500 rds. Total expenditure 15,500 rds.

(d) Lewis Guns. Enemy posts were harassed, and Left Bde. reports 10 stretcher cases from one post and 3 from another. Right Bde. L.G. at V.1.b.55.62. fired repeated bursts on JAFFA TRENCH.

(e) Aerial Activity. Boisterous weather prevented activity during day. During evening of 22nd our lines were protected by big patrols.

(f) Patrols. Right Bde. Party from V.1.c.7.9. moving along trench to V.1.c.7.8. saw a hostile party of 50 strong. Four other reconnoitring patrols did not see any movement. Enemy M.Gs. were on the alert. Left Bde. sent out 5 patrols. One sighted a big enemy patrol, and returning to one of our posts, directed fire on the enemy party.

(g) Snipers. Each Bde. claims three definite hits.

(h) Infantry. Left Bde. established a new post at P.32.b.00.60. Another post was dug at P.26.d.92.38., but not occupied. Right Bn. of Right Bde. occupied SYRIA TRENCH without opposition as far east as post at junction V.1.c.3.6.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. 148th I.R. (normal). One wounded hun from V.1.c.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTION

During the day hostile batteries were quieter than usual 0.36. receiving 45 rds. 10.5 cm. during the early afternoon. There was scattered shelling in 0.17.a., 0.23., 0.24. 0.35.b. and 0.35.d. U.7.b., U.9.a. and U.6.a. At 5 p.m. a 15 cm. battery commenced a shoot on the road, railway cutting and bridge in 0.25.c., and continued until 7 p.m. - about 70 rds. were fired. 150 rds. 7.7 cm. fell on our front line system in V.1.a. between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m., and 50 rds. 15 cm. on P.20.a. and P.25.d. at 7.30 p.m. Between 7.15pm. and 9pm. 200 rds. 7.7 cm. were fired into VILLERS BRETONNEUX. At 10.5 p.m. 7.7 cm. and 10.5 cm. and 15 cm. batteries from the direction of WARFUSEE and MAROELGAVE concentrated a heavy fire of gas shell on VILLERS BRETONNEUX and vicinity, which shelling continued till 11.30 p.m. Again, at 11.45 p.m. these batteries opened on a similar bombardment, fire continuing at a rapid rate till 1am., then gradually slowing down, but it did not cease altogether till 4.30 a.m. YELLOW Cross gas was principally used and some H.E. was intermixed. Approx. 6,000 rds. in all were fired and the areas affected are as follows:- 0.22., 0.23., 0.28., 0.29., 0.34. and 0.35. Our trenches in 0.20 and 0.26. were shelled at 3am. with 100 rds. 7.7 cm. and 10.5 cm. and an additional 100 rds. at 6.15am. At 11am. 7.7 cm. fired a few rds. in 0.36.a. and between midday and 1pm. 60 rds. 10.5 cm. fell in the same locality, and 18 rds. at 1.46pm. 2.5pm. approx. 150 rds. 10.5 cm. and 7.7 cm. in 0.36.a. and d. and VILLERS BRETONNEUX. From 2.30 p.m. to 3pm. heavy shelling of right Bde. support lines south of railway. There was scattered shelling of Left Bde. area during remainder of period.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Watchful; especially with M.G's.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work and Wire. Digging is suspected across road at V.1.c. 9.8. What appears to be a fairly continuous trench line lightly wired runs from P.27.a.70.15. to P.27.c.60.75., P.27.c.75.40., thence by P.27.c.45.25.

(b) Posts. Posts are located at approx. P.32.a.2.3., P.32.c.2.5. U.6.d.8.5. Post at P.27.c.5.3. appears to be strongly held but patrol could not approach very close on account of wire and M.G. fire. Pot holes P.32.a.8.1. to P.32.b.5.5. are strongly held.

(c) Machine Guns. Located at U.5.d.7.3., U.5.d.2.0. (CRAFT Trench) Gun at V.1.b.9.5. was very active and gun at V.3.a.3.3. (CARD Copse) and V.3.a.2.9. fired at night very accurately on our post at P.31. b.25.80. Railway station (0.35.d.) and GASOMETER received attention during night.

(d) Trench Mortars. A T.M. at P.28.c.6.5. was silenced by our artillery. A M.T.M. fired on our Right Bn. sector from approx. P.33 .central.

(e) Flares. GREENS were used when enemy shells fell short. Gas bombardment was preceded by a YELLOW flare bursting into a double RED.

(f) O.P's. Suspected O.P's. at WATER TOWER (V.9.d.35.40.), Mill at V.3.d.3.1. CARD Copse V.3.a.3.3.

P.T.O.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

(g) Snipers. Showed increased activity. Snipers were located firing from U.5.d.65.35., to U.5.d.8.8., from V.1.d.5.9. to V.1.a.6.2., and from V.1.c.7.8. to V.1.c.4.8.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Low-flying E.A. crossed our lines at 8.30 p.m. and 4.30 a.m. At 7.20 a.m. on 22nd instant a low-flying plane with two streamers on lower planes (red, white, black) crossed V.1.b. dropping RED and WHITE flares. No apparent action followed.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. At 9.5 p.m. party of 30 men and 1 wagon came down road in Q.31.a. to LAMOTTE. Three parties of 20 men each on track in W.7.a. towards V.12.central. At 6.20 a.m. 20 men on road in W.7.b. travelled towards BAYONVILLERS. At 6.30 a.m. about 100 men were seen on road in P.29.b.0.5. and were dispersed by our 18-pdrs. Between 5.30 p.m. and 9 a.m. several G.S. wagons travelled the BAYONVILLERS - HARBONNIERES and WIENCOURT BAYONVILLERS road. Agriculture parties with wagons worked in Q.31.c., W.1.d., W.2.c.1.3., Q.27.b., Stretcher parties were busy in the forward area during early morning, enemy making frequent use of the WHITE flag. At 1.35pm, 8 lorries went north on road in X.22.d. At 2.15 p.m. 8 transports travelled N. to R.19.d.

10. MISCELLANEOUS. At 6.30 p.m. on 21st and 22nd instant 3 pigeons flew over U.4.a. towards the enemy lines. At 9.30 p.m. a lamp at 43° T.B. from P.26.b.85.50. sent groups as under -  
N - N - N - R - T B - S A B - M E M O - V I R G B B - T 4 6 - S A U X -  
L R D - E R W - Y D E - A.

The 15 cm. shelling of road in O.25.c. from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. was carried out with aeroplane observation, and the wireless calls were intercepted. Call of hostile battery - N.R.D. It was noticed however that the enemy aeroplane several times sent "SSS" (Fire) without any response - on one occasion 3 times in succession.

*H. C. ...*  
Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

NUMBER OF HOSTILE DIVISIONS ENGAGED IN THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE NEAR RHEIMS AND THE FRENCH COUNTER-STROKE SOUTH OF SOISSONS.

No fresh Divs. have been identified in the fighting east and west of RHEIMS. Six additional divs. from reserve were put into the fight to withstand the French counter-stroke. On this front (south of SOISSONS) 25 divs. are now reported to have been engaged.

The CROWN PRINCE has at his disposal 6 fit divs. in reserve in his group of armies which have not yet been identified in the fighting.  
(I.S. No. 216).

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## SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 181.

From 5.30 p.m., 23rd, to 5.30 p.m., 24th July, 1918.

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

## 1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the night harassing fire on centres of activity, main routes of approach, etc. was continued by 18-pdrs. and 4.5" Hows. of each Group. Movement as follows was engaged and dispersed:- 4pm. to 5pm. U.12.d.central, Wood in U.18, and reported massing of enemy at U.19.d.00.45. 4.15pm. road V.7.c. and V.13.b. 6.25pm, track P.33.d., 8.15pm. road P.23.a., 8.30pm. P.23.c. At 9pm. 40 rds. 18-pdrs. were expended on trenches in V.3.a. and c., also 50 rds. 18-pdr. on GARD COPSE. A Trench Mortar at P.22.b.20.50. was silenced at 8.25pm. and again at 9.15pm. Gas concentrations were fired on to activity areas - P.3.b. and P.3.a. at 1.30am. and 2.30am. respectively. Area P.34.c.2.7. was also gassed. At 3.40pm. our heavies firing on W.8. apparently set fire to a dump.

(b) Trench Mortars. M.T.Ms. registered with 4 rds. on JAFFA TR.

(c) Machine Guns. The following targets were engaged:- Cross roads P.21.d.80.40. and tracks in vicinity searched, 2,000 rds.; Road junctions P.28.b.80.40., 2,600 rds.; Roads and tracks in P.34.a., 5,000 rds.; Roads, tracks and trenches U.6.d. to U.12.b. harassed, 1,500 rds.; U.12.b.6.2., road and trench, 2,000 rds.; U.12.b.00.80., roads and tracks, 2,000 rds.; U.12.a.4.1., tracks, etc., 1,500 rds.; U.12.a.6.2., trenches and tracks, 1,500 rds.; U.12.a.85.40., roads and tracks searched, 2,000 rds.; V.2.a., railway line and tracks, 3,000 rds.; V.2.b.30.22. to V.2.b.30.10. light railway, subjected to 3,000 rds.; 26,100 rds. expended.

(d) Lewis Guns. Left Bn. guns of Right Bde. fired 1,100 rds. on enemy posts and JAFFA TRENCH. Left Bde. fired bursts throughout the night along tracks and trenches.

(e) Aerial activity. Active patrolling of enemy forward area.

(f) Snipers. Left Bde. claims 5 definite hits.

(g) Patrols. Right Bde. patrol heard enemy wiring at U.6.d. 2.2. and U.12.b.0.9. L.G. fire was opened on enemy party. Another patrol at V.1.c.8.9. covered establishment of posts. A wiring party at V.1.c.7.7. was engaged by this party. Posts in vicinity of P.32.c.15.30. were examined, but do not show signs of recent occupation.

Left Bde. patrol of 3 men engaged a hostile patrol of 8 men in vicinity of P.21.d.4.5. One bomb dispersed the party. Both Bdes. sent out the usual liaison patrols.

(h) Infantry. Right Bn. Right Bde. established two new posts at V.1.a.7.0. and V.1.a.7.1.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

At 5.55 p.m. guns shelled U.6. central with 40 rds. 10.5 cm. A 7.7 cm. battery firing from approx. V.5.a.2.1. shelled O.35. and O.36. with 20 rds. at 6pm. At 7.5pm. U.6. and V.1.a. received 50 rds. 10.5 cm. Between 8.50pm. and 9.50pm. 60 rds. 10.5 cm. fell in O.21.c. and d. from direction of WARFUSEE. 10 rds. 7.7 cm. YELLOW Cross gas fell in O.19.d. At 9pm. 40 rds. 10.5 cm. fell in VILLERS BRÉTONNEUX and O.23. U.5. and U.6. received 100 rds. 10.5 cm. at 9.20pm. and at 1.30am. 170 rds. 10.5 cm. and 7.7 cm. fell in same areas. Between 9pm. and 10 pm. 100 rds. 10.5 cm. fell in O.27.b. 40 rds. 7.7 cm. fell in O.33.c. at 10.30pm. From 5.30am to 7.30am. 60 rds. 15 cm. fell in T.6.b, and at 5.55am. 80 rds. 10.5 cm. on U.26. and U.31. 40 rds. 10.5 cm. and 15 cm. fell in O.35. between 10.30 and 11am. from direction of MORGENMONT WOOD. 150 rds. 7.7 cm. on O.35. and O.36. between 12.50 and 1pm. At 1.25pm. 35 rds. 10.5 cm. on O.23. 2.15 to 3.25pm. 130 10.5 and 15 cm. E.E. on P.32.a., P.26.c. At 2.30pm. STAMBOUL TRENCH with 10.5 cm. from 139° T.B. from O.35.d.1.4. This was engaged by C.F. 3.45pm. to 4pm. 200 rds. 10.5 cm. on P.26. At 3.45pm. MONUMENT WOOD, U.6. was shelled with mixed calibres.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet though watchful.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work and wire. Earthwork at V.7.b.3.8. is occupied. Patrols report wiring parties at V.1.c.7.7., U.6.d.2.2. and U.12. b.0.9.

(b) Trench Mortars. A few rounds were fired on French front from approx. U.12.a.8.9. An active mortar is located at P.32.d.8. 12 pineapples fell on P.31.d. at 3.30pm. on 23rd instant from V.3.a. 10.75.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. One E.A. flying low crossed our lines 9.30pm. and was driven off by A.A. L.G. fire.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Considerable movement is reported. At 6pm. 8 men were at earthworks in V.7.b. 3.8. 7.25pm. 6 men at CROATES TRENCH (V.13.d.). 6.35pm. 3 men carrying a white flag proceeded along road at P.33.d.6.8. Between 9.30pm. and 11pm. men moved about at enemy S.P. at V.5.d.6.3. At 9.25am. 2 parties of 20 men each were seen in V.15.b. going toward AUBERCOURT. French Bde. was notified and their artillery fired on parties. Between 9am. and 12 noon there was considerable individual movement on roads in W.1.a., Q.31.c., and W.7.a.

At 5.35pm. an engine and two trucks in W.18.c. going south

Between 6.12pm. and 7pm. two trains moved south along line in W.17.d. A light engine travelled north through W.18.a. at 8pm. and another at 8.25pm. At 8.15pm. 8 wagons appeared on road in W.2.d., two going towards BAYONVILLERS, 6 towards HARBONNIERES.

At 7.15 a.m. 5 transports in V.15.b. moved towards MARCELCAVE.

10. MISCELLANEOUS. 7.45pm. 77mm. gun observed firing from V.5.a.1.9. and 10.5cm. bty. from W.10.c.

D. L. H. Collins

*Collins* Capt  
for Lieut-Col

APP. No 69

Part IIINFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. (I.S. No. 217).DISCIPLINE IN THE GERMAN ARMY.

In G.H.Q. Summaries of the 3rd and 7th July, 1918, extracts from captured documents were giving, showing the want of discipline prevailing in the Eighteenth and Second German Armies.

The following extracts from an order of the Seventh German Army, dated 14:6:18, show that a similar state of affairs exists in that Army.

The last three paragraphs are additional evidence of the shortage of food in Germany:-

"It is necessary to depart from the beaten track which has been followed in the utilization of the material and the provisions and stores found in the occupied territory.

"The hopes of utilizing captured food as rations and of distributing a fixed portion of the provisions to the fighting troops have proved to be fallacious, owing to the fact that the troops have taken these provisions themselves and eaten them without treating them as part of the authorised scale of rations.

"In this way, some units which have chanced to have the opportunity to capture booty of this description have lived in abundance, while others were suffering privations. Further, it has not even been the troops in the front line to whom this more abundant supply of food has fallen, but the second line troops, the train echelons, and especially the stragglers who are roaming about behind the Army. It has even happened that men have taken food without authority and by force from the stores under military occupation and administration, and, I regret to say, some officers have not been ashamed to interfere with the guard in the execution of their duty and to insult the officials to whose charge the provisions have been entrusted.

It appears to be necessary for the supply officials to follow the first line troops as closely as possible, and to be accompanied by escorts of cavalry or police, so that the important stores and depots are at least administered by them with as little delay as possible.

If our progress results in the occupation of a new area, this must be placed under a regular system of exploitation as soon as possible.

Order must be maintained in villages by sentries and patrols. Troops must be prohibited and prevented from making requisitions in the fields and taking the crops.

The people at home are so short of all provisions necessary to life that enough can never be done to diminish the amount which they have to supply to the army in the field.

The rapid and complete seizure and economic use of provisions may prove of capital importance for the continuation of the operations.

SECRET.

## SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

G.182.

Location of Units at 6 a.m. 25th July 1918.3rd Amendment to G.138 issued 19th July 1918.

19th Battalion.	-	P.19.c.1.2	Line Left.
20th do	-	O.28.b.8.8.	Reserve.
26th Battalion.	-	O.26.c.9.3.	} To complete during day.
27th do	-	N.34.d.8.5.	
5th Aust. Field Amb.		M.5.c.2.5.	Emergency Main Dressing Stn.
6th do	-	M.14.d.2.2.	M.D.S. (St AUCHEL)
7th do	-	N.26.d.1.3.	A.D.S.

2nd Aust. D.H.Q.  
24th July 1918.

*E J Bayle Capt*  
Lieut-Colonel.  
for General Staff.  
Second Australian Division.

*War Diary 8/18*

CONFIDENTIAL.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

APPENDIX

G.13/367.

Headquarters,  
25th July, 1918.

Aust. Corps.  
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GAS BOMBARDMENT OF VILLERS - BRETONNEUX ON  
NIGHT 22nd/23rd JULY, 1918.  
-----

Reference Sheet, 62.D. 1/40,000.

1. Area shelled. - Gas shells fell in O.22, 23, 28, 29, 30, 34, 35 and 36.
2. An intense bombardment commenced at 10.5 p.m. 22nd July and continued with varying intensity until 4 a.m. 23rd July; during this bombardment the usual harrassing fire was carried out by the enemy.  
Our artillery was informed immediately and counter-preparation opened but without appreciable effect.
3. Calibre of gas shells. - 77 mm., 10.5 cm and 15 cm.  
Type " " " - YELLOW Cross and GREEN Cross with a preponderance of the first mentioned.  
Estimated expenditure - 8,000 shells.
4. The atmospheric conditions were highly favorable to the enemy, there being practically no wind at the commencement of the bombardment, and a light south westerly wind in the latter period.
5. Casualties: - Evacuations up to 10 p.m. 24th - 560 all ranks.
6. The area affected is the centre of much movement by night, ration parties, limbers and working parties all passing through same. Approximately 80% of the casualties were suffered by these troops. This is ascribed to the suddenness and intensity with which the bombardment opened, and to the darkness of the night.
7. In the area there is a large amount of gas proof accommodation, which proved to be an efficient protection to troops who were in the vicinity of the dug-outs.
8. Adequate warning was given to troops in forward positions, towards whom the gas drifted.
9. A further report will be furnished when the Court of Enquiry, just convened, has reported.

(S.M.) *Rawson*  
Brigadier-General,  
T/Commanding Second Australian Division.



Headquarters,  
24-7-1918.

REPORT ON ENEMY GAS SHELLING OF VILLERS-BRETONNEUX AREA ON NIGHT  
22nd/23rd JULY, 1918.

On night of 22nd/23rd July the following areas were heavily shelled with YELLOW CROSS gas:-

O.28., O.29., O.30., O.34., O.35., & O.36.a., b. and c.  
The batteries in O.23. and O.24. also came in for attention.

The bombardment opened suddenly at 10.5 p.m. with H.E. and gas shells and was intense until 11.30 p.m. It then slackened until 11.45 p.m. and from then till about 1 a.m. was again very heavy, when it gradually decreased in intensity, finally dying out about 3.30 a.m. At the commencement some GREEN CROSS shells seem to have been thrown, but after this only YELLOW CROSS, chiefly 77 mm. and 10.5 cm., shells were used.

Weather.

The night was clear and still until about 3 a.m. when a south-westerly wind sprang up which veered and during the morning became a steady S. and S.S.E. wind of about 6 to 8 m.p.h.

About 8 a.m. slight rain began to fall and between 9 and 9.30 a.m. a heavy shower fell. Further rain fell on the afternoon and evening of the 23rd.

Units in the shelled area were -

<u>Unit.</u>	<u>Casualties.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
21st Bn.	139	This unit had several large parties out working and one company on garrison duty in VILLERS BRETONNEUX. The majority of the cases were stated by the C.O. to come from these working parties. Of the company in VILLERS BRETONNEUX only a few became casualties, and these occurred through manning the keep when a tank was heard coming down the railway line. (This tank was salvaging the derelict tank in our lines). The company in VILLERS BRETONNEUX was moved out about 7 a.m. to railway cutting in O.28.c. About 40 men from VILLERS line were evacuated. The crops here were smelling strongly of gas.
22nd Bn.	66	This consisted chiefly of carrying parties. One company was in VILLERS Trench which lies in thick crops. At spots the gas was very strong and these localities were evacuated, the men being moved along the trench to a place clear of gas.
23rd Bn.	88 n	These were all men who were out carrying rations. The limbers with rations reported about 10.30 p.m. when the shelling was heavy and necessitated the movement of men. Two trips were made to the front line by these men. The 23rd Bn. H.Q. is a point at which all transport seems to converge and one man was killed here by a direct hit with a gas shell. Only one man who was got on these parties has been evacuated from this area.

Unit.	Casualties.	Remarks.
24th Bn.	72	These were all men of a party of 30 working on a C.T. in MONUMENT WOOD. A second party of 60 men proceeding to work on this C.T. were recalled before reaching the gas zone. The former party saw the gas cloud and decided to wait till it cleared before returning, when the range suddenly shortened and fell in the area making movement a necessity and forcing them to pass through the gassed area. On account of bad ground and darkness of night, it is stated that men removed eye-pieces, keeping mouthpiece and noseclip on. Most of these cases are only eye cases. (shells)
6th Field Coy. A.E.	22	This was a section mining in the cutting in VILLERS BRÉTTONNEUX. Direct hits were obtained on their huts and men splashed with the liquid.
19th Bn.	85	The shelling was fairly heavy round the area of the reserve bn. The battalion was "stood to" and respirators worn during the whole period. One company in road between O.22.c. 00.20. and O.22.c.30.60. were moved immediately shelling ceased to ground near Bn. H.Q. in O. 28.b.8.8. which was on higher ground and free from gas. The C.O. tried to find accommodation free from gas further forward in support bn. area. None could be located. The wind veered to S.S.E. between 8 and 9 a.m. on 23rd and continued to blow in that direction most of the day. The whole area to windward smelt of MUSTARD Gas. There was no accommodation free from gas to move to within 1,500 yds.
17th Bn.)	6	The 18th and 20th Bns. wore their masks for 2 hours in front trenches during the morning when the wind was drifting the gas from the shelled area across their front.
18th Bn.)	6	
20th Bn.)	2	
2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn.	21	These were all men who were out working in the VILLERS BRÉTTONNEUX area and men guarding bridge in the same locality.
26th Bn.		These were <sup>part of</sup> <del>perhaps</del> a working party assisting to salvage a german tank in MONUMENT WOOD during the gas bombardment.
Tanks.	21	Gassed while salvaging a derelict tank.
"V.F.H.T.M.B.)	5	These were all living in VILLERS BRÉTTONNEUX, which was evacuated completely by 9 a.m. and placed out of bounds and a guard mounted to prevent all unauthorised persons passing through.
2nd D.A.C.)	1	
6th Bde.Hq.)	2	
(snipers)		

#### Precautions.

Immediately the gas shelling was reported the gas n.c.s. of 6th A.I.Bde. proceeded to shelled area and, in the morning, the 5th A.I.Bde. Gas Officer and Div. Gas Officer.

All units of both Bdes. were warned to be on the alert should the wind drift gas from the shelled area <sup>by their Bde HQ</sup>

When the shelling ceased all troops in the affected areas were moved where and when the practical situation allowed.

Precautions ( Ctd. )

VILLERS BRETONNEUX was placed out of bounds and a guard posted to prevent all unauthorised persons entering the village. Shell holes in the vicinity of Hd. qrs. and occupied trenches were ~~was~~ treated with Chloride of Lime and covered with fresh earth.

Remarks.

The casualties occurred almost wholly in ration and fatigue parties and the shelling occurred when the maximum number of men were moving about.

Respirators were worn but on account of the ground, the number of trenches and wire entanglements and the darkness of the night made movement difficult and the heavy shelling necessitated quick movement. In these circumstances many men removed their eyepieces keeping only the mouthpiece and nose clips adjusted and so became casualties through eye trouble.

It seems that all possible precautions were taken by those in charge of parties.

The following are some of the problems it has set :-

- (i) Must rations be sent forward during such a bombardment, or can the men in the front posts subsist on emergency ration for 24 hours?
- (ii) In a similar case what can be done to minimise the movement of working parties?

*W. Kearns*

Lieut.  
Divisional Gas Officer,  
Second Australian Division.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

## SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 5.30 p.m., 24th, to 5.30 p.m., 25th July, 1918. No. 182.

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

## 1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. Throughout the night harassing fire was carried out on approaches, trenches and centres of activity opposite the Divisional sector, including gas bombardments at 12.30am and 1.30am on roads and trenches in V.3. and trenches P.34.b. and V.5.a. Movement was fired on during the day in V.6.a. at 3pm. and at 6am. 25th instant, in P.23.d. From 2.40pm. till 4pm. a destructive shoot was carried out on trenches, suspected machine gun emplacements, T.M. and wire in P.27.c. At 8.8 p.m. a carriage was placed to deal with enemy raid on our post at U.5.d.7.4. At 11.50pm. a trench mortar in CARD COPSE was engaged and at 8pm. and 9pm. snipers posts in P.34.b. and d. were engaged. Registrations and calibrations were carried out throughout the day.

(b) Trench Mortars. 3" Stokes of Right Bde. opened on U.5.d. 8.3. at 8.10pm. when enemy raid was observed: JAFFA TRENCH was registered upon.

(c) Machine Guns. Harassing fire throughout the night on the following targets:- Tracks, trenches and roads in P.28., 6,000 rds.; Cross roads and trenches from V.7.b.40.90. to V.7.a.70.75., 3,000 rds.; Road, V.7.a.75.95. to V.7.a.10.80., searched and traversed, 3,000 rds.; Tracks in V.7.a., 2,000 rds.; Road, P.23.c., searched, and trenches from P.23.a.40.60. to P.23.c.80.45., 5,000 rds.; Fork roads at V.3.a.00.75., 3,000 rds.; Cross roads, V.7.b.3.9., 3,000 rds.; Tracks from U.6.d.40.30. to U.12.b.95.25., enfiladed, 3,000 rds.; Trench U.12.a.4.1., 2,000 rds.; Trench, U.12.a.6.2., 2,000 rds.; Road and trench junction, U.12.b.00.80., 2,000 rds.; Trench and road, U.12.b.6.2., 2,000 rds.; Trench, U.12.a.85.40., enfiladed, 2,000 rds.; At 8.10pm. enemy attempted raid on our line in U.5.d. Two guns opened with direct fire, using 500 rds. Two guns opened on their S.O.S. line, putting through 1,000 rds. Total expenditure, 39,500 rds.

(d) Aerial activity. Our 'planes bombing at night, and machine-gunning enemy forward areas.

(e) Patrols. Right Bde. Right Bn. patrols covered their sector without incident. Left Bn. reconnoitring parties failed to discover wire or movement between P.32.c.3.8. and P.32.a.7.0. Posts and M.Gs. as reported below were located.

Left Bde. Patrolled from P.27.c.05.45, locating posts and M.Gs. at P.27.c.15.20. (strongly held) and P.32.b.8.9. Liaison with flanks was sustained by each unit.

(f) Snipers. Right Bde. claims 2 hits at V.1.b.9.6. and V.1.b.8.5. respectively. On account of the vigorous sniping and L.G. policy enemy now doubles over all exposed areas within 1,000 yards of our front line.

1. OPERATIONS (Contd.).

(g) Infantry. Left Coy., Right Bn., Right Bde., established three new posts at V.1.a.95.10., V.1.b.05.20., V.1.b.15.20. V.1.a.7.0. was evacuated in favour of V.1.c.65.95. U.5.d.6.4. was raided by the enemy at 8 p.m. Our garrison was forced to withdraw, but the local supports immediately countered successfully and restored the position. None of our men are missing.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. One wounded prisoner (since died of wounds) was captured in raid on our post. Identification established by shoulder strap is normal, viz., 2nd Grenadier Regt., 109 Div. No pay book was carried.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. VILLERS BRETONNEUX was shelled throughout the period as follows:-

8pm. 12 rds. 10.5 cm., 8.45pm. 20 rds. 7.7 cm. 3am. 20 rds. 10.5 cm. 6.50am. 12 rds. 10.5 cm., 7.40am. 12 rds. 10.5 cm. During the morning the following areas were shelled:- O.23.a., c. and d., O.24.a. and P.20.d., a few rounds 10.5 and 15 cm. during the afternoon. U.10.a., U.5.central, P.17.c. and d., P.25., P.26., P.23., V.13. shelled with 10.5 and 15 cm. O.22.d., O.23.d., P.19.central, U.5.b. and c., O.24., O.29., U.6., V.1.a. and CACHY in bursts of fire throughout the night shelled with 7.7, 10.5 and 15 cm. VILLERS BRETONNEUX was shelled intermittently during the morning of 25th with 7.7 and 10.5 cm. 10am. O.17.a. shelled with 20 rds. 15 cm. From 12 noon till 2pm. O.29., O.35., O.36. and P.31. were shelled with about 200 rds. 7.7 and 10.5 cm. At 2.15pm. 50 10.5 cm. from direction of WARFUSEE fell on P.26.c. At 2.40 p.m. 30 rds. 7.7 cm. H.E. on O.36.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Slight increase in artillery and M.G. fire.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work and Wire. Wire is visible extending from U.6.d.20.25. to U.6.d.3.3. Enemy is working on his line at approx. U.6.d.7.5. (patrol). Posts were located by patrols at P.32.c.2.2., P.32.c.3.3. (apparently a L.P.), P.32.c.1.4. (much talking here), P.27.c.15.20. (strongly held) and P.32.b.8.9.

(b) Trench Mortars. 25 rds. were fired from CARD COPSE (V.3.a.central) between 11pm. and midnight. Several rounds fell on P.27.a. and P.26.d. The mortars were not located.

(c) Machine Guns. Patrols located activity from P.32.c.2.2. (2 guns), P.32.c.3.3., P.32.c.1.4. (2 guns), P.27.c.15.20., P.32.b.8.9. Suspected positions are P.21.d.4.4. and P.22.a.3.6. Guns were also active from JAFFA TRENCH in V.1.d. and from direction of U.12.a.7.4.

(d) O.P.'s. Chimney in MARCELCAVE has a hole in it half way up and is suspected of being used as an O.P. There is constant movement inside windows of BAYONVILLERS CHURCH. At V.3.a.4.2, a tree on S. edge of CARD COPSE contains a wooden plat<sup>form</sup> in the branches.

Snipers...

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.AMMUNITION SUPPLY.

The following extracts from an order issued by LUDENDORFF show that, largely owing to bad Staff work, the enemy has experienced difficulty in his ammunition supply during recent offensives:-

"O.G.S. of the Field Army,  
Ia/Ic. II, No. 39724 op.

23:6:18.

Ammunition Supply.

It has been reported to me that, during recent fighting, divisions and artillery units have arrived on the battle-field without sufficient ammunition. One division, which was withdrawn from a quiet front to be employed in the battle, was ordered by superior authority to leave its ammunition behind in the old position, and marched off with empty limbers and ammunition waggons. In explanation, orders were quoted which had previously been issued by G.H.Q. for trench warfare pure and simple.

These orders, in which considerable latitude was left to Armies, should have been adapted to the changed conditions.

\* \* \* \* \*

It is one of the most important tasks of the Higher Command to issue clear orders for the supply of ammunition and to regulate the distribution of the ammunition columns with foresight. Commanders and troops must go into the battle absolutely certain that the ammunition supply will not break down. If there is any doubt on this point, it is the duty of the divisional commander to insist on the Higher Command meeting his requirements. To order an attack without sufficient ammunition is a serious breach of duty for which there can be no possible excuse.

(Signed) ... LUDENDORFF.

ENEMY DEFENCES (Contd.).

(e) Snipers. Some shots were fired at 7 p.m. from U.6.d.5.0. At 7.40 a.m. two shots on P.31.d.55.90. were fired from direction of JAFFA TRENCH north of railway.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. At 6am. a low flying E.A. over our lines was driven off by our scouts. At 12.20am. a low flying E.A. passed W. over O.25. and returned E. 5 minutes later. This plane dropped two light bombs at 12.15am. in P.31.b.central. and 6 - 8 in the Divisional rear area.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. 7.7pm. 3 parties of 2 men (1 leading a dog) moved along track in W.7.a. towards V.12.central. At 7pm. a G.S. wagon moved in V.8.c. towards BAYONVILLERS. 11.30pm. enemy party at P.31.d.8.2. was fired on by L.Gs. 5.40am. men with horse and cart at V.8.c.8.5. 6.45am. 9 men moved about trenches in P.33.c. 7am. 6 men carried timber from P.33.c. to P.22.c. Stretcher bearers were again busy during the morning in the forward area carrying to WARFUSEE. 3 huns were buried by a party of four in V.1.a. under the protection of the red cross flag. There was the usual transport movement during the day on BAYONVILLERS - HARBONNIERES, WIENCOURT - BAYONVILLERS and GUILLAUCOURT - BAYONVILLERS Roads. Harvesting parties were observed at V.5.b.6.5., W.9.b., P.23.c. At 1.5pm. a train travelled N. and at 2.20pm. an engine going south were observed on line in W.17.d.

10. MISCELLANEOUS. A H.Q. is suspected at V.13.b.5.0. An object like a camouflaged periscope was seen at U.5.d.7.3. There is a white tape about 60 yards from and parallel to our posts in P.32.c. Hostile batteries were located as follows:- 77 mm. 138° T.B. from U.5.d.7.7.; 10.5 cm., 142° T.B. from U.5.d.6.4.; 10.5 cm. 160° T.B. from U.5.d.7.7.

*K. M. ...*  
for  
Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. - P.T.O.

SECRET.6th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.  
\*\*\*\*\*Brigade Headquarters,  
25th July, 1918.

2nd Aust. Div.

ENEMY RAID ON STAMBOUL TRENCH on 24th JULY.

1. The right post of the right bn. is in STAMBOUL Trench. It consists of a bombing post of an M.C.C. and 5 men at the block at U.S.d.6.4. supported by a Lewis gun, in the trench 70 yds. to the North (which sweeps the East side of CRAFT Trench) with another Lewis gun and the rest of the platoon at the junction of SYRIA and STAMBOUL Trench. The second Lewis gun is sited to sweep the West side of CRAFT Trench.

Another block exists in STAMBOUL Trench 40 yds. South of U.S.d.6.4.

2. From 2 p.m. on 24th July enemy artillery was active on STAMBOUL Trench and the West end of SYRIA Trench.

A battery of 77 mm. guns which had not fired on this point of the line before was very persistent.

Throughout the afternoon a few shells fell in this vicinity at frequent intervals.

3. No movement was seen in CRAFT Trench South of our block throughout the day and there was no sniping from there. This was unusual and indicates that the enemy post there had been withdrawn to avoid danger from their own artillery.

4. At 7.55 p.m. enemy fire artillery fire on the vicinity of the junction of SYRIA and STAMBOUL Trenches became intense. It ceased at 8 p.m. when an enemy bombing party bombed down the trench to our block. This party was engaged with bombs by our post at U.S.d.6.4. until an enemy party of about 20 was seen coming along the western side of CRAFT Trench. The garrison of the post dropped back onto the Lewis gun 70 yds. in their rear, whence they engaged the enemy for a few minutes but being outnumbered, were forced to fall back on the supports.

The supports immediately went forward down the trench organised as a bombing party.

The enemy in the open was engaged by Lewis gun, rifle and Vickers Gun fire and forced back.

The enemy in the trench fell back before the bombing party and our post was re-established.

5. The Field Artillery was requested to fire on CRAFT TRENCH and the vicinity and answered promptly. Two 3" Stokes mortars at U.S.b.8.3. put down a barrage on their S.O.S. lines (U.S.d.6.3.) when the fighting commenced and maintained it till the post was re-established. If the enemy had any intention of reinforcing this barrage effectively prevented it.

6. Our casualties were - one other rank killed, and three wounded. None of our men are missing.

7. Eight of the enemy were seen to be hit and one severely wounded German was captured. He died shortly afterwards. He had no paybook and the identification gained from the shoulder-strap showed him to belong to the 2nd Grenadier Regt. (109th Division).

(SGD.) J.C. ROBERTSON.

Brigadier-General.  
Commanding 6th Aust. Inf. Brigade.*W. Gray*



SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 183.

From 5.30 p.m., 25th to 5.30 p.m., 26th July, 1918.NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the afternoon of 25th observed shoots were carried out on enemy movement in P.30.a. and d., V.2., V.4., V.7. and V.9. and men with packs in P.34. were engaged and casualties inflicted. A field gun at P.33.b.55.60. and a battery P.35. d.25.50. were fired on. At 8.50 p.m., 18-pdrs. bombarded the enemy trenches in V.2.b. and a.; newly made camouflaged trench at V.3.b.60.30. Enemy trenches, tracks, roads and activity areas were harassed throughout the night. 736 rds. of gas shell were expended on road V.4.d.20.20. and trench system at P.34.b.40.30. at 2am. and 3am. respectively. At 12.45am., at the request of the Infantry, 4.5" Hows. engaged and silenced a M.W. at P.27.d.60.40. Activity in vicinity of the Water Towers (V.9.d.) was fired on during the early morning. At 7am. a few men observed in V.7.b. were dispersed by 18-pdrs.

(b) Trench Mortars. At 7pm. 23 rds. 6" Newton T.M. were fired on enemy post at U.8.d.50.25. 3" Stokes fired on enemy post at P.27.c.5.3.

(c) Machine Guns. Harassing fire throughout the night on the following targets:- Road from U.6.d.40.30. to U.12.b.95.85., 1,500 rds.; Trench, U.12.b.00.85., 2,000 rds.; Strong Post, U.12.a.85.40., 2,000 rds.; Trench, U.12.b.6.2., enfiladed, 2000 rds.; Roads and tracks, V.2.b.20.87., to V.2.b.35.82., 1,500 rds.; Roads and tracks, V.2.d.12.35. to V.2.d.30.22., 1,500 rds.; Roads and Tracks, V.7.a. and U.12.b., 3,000 rds.; Tracks and approaches, P.23.a.40.60. to P.22.b.90.70., 5,000 rds.; Tracks and trenches, V.2.c., 4,000 rds.; Main road and trenches, P.28. c.70.40., 3,000 rds.; Tracks, P.28.b., 3,000 rds.; Tracks and Trenches, V.2.central, 4,000 rds. Total expenditure 32,500 rds.

(d) Aircraft. Our 'planes were moderately active.

(e) Patrols.

Right Bde. Standing patrols report an enemy working party at U.6.d.9.2., and a second party at U.6.c.9.1. The latter party was dispersed by M.G. fire. Rifle grenades were directed on the patrol from U.6.d.1.2. from which place snipers were also active. A left Bn. patrol did not encounter any wire between P.32.c.3.8. and P.32.a.60.15. This patrol heard talking at P.32.central.

Left Bde. A patrol which moved down to old German C.T. from P.21.c.8.4. at 5.30 p.m. located a wire and tool dump in the sunken road in P.21.d.9.4., and a small dump of 18-pdr. shells in cases at P.21.d.7.5. Thinly wired and unoccupied posts were located at approx. P.21.d.3.7. and P.21.d.5.3. There were no signs of recent occupation in the old German C.T. A dug-out at

P.21.d.6.4. showed signs of recent occupation, and flares were seen to be fired from this vicinity on the night 24th/25th. No movement was observed and it is concluded that the enemy establishes forward posts in the night and withdraws them before daybreak.

Two patrols on the Right Bn. front report the enemy working all along the line of posts from P.32.b.10.15. to P.32.b.70.75. A M.G. post, thinly wired, was located at approx. P.32.b.8.9. An enemy patrol of 9 was seen near his wire.

(f) Snipers. Right Bde. claims one certain hit, and the Left Brigade three.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Increased activity was shown during the period. At 8.45 p.m. the Left of the Right Bde. front was heavily shelled by various calibres from the direction of WARFUSEE until 10.30 p.m., and a few 15 cm. were fired on the same area at 2.45 a.m. 10.5 cm. and 15 cm. were also active on the Right Bn. front during the night. Fire was especially heavy on the Right Bde. front between 9.45 and 11 p.m., and 3 a.m. to 3.45 a.m. STAMBOUL TRENCH and a line North-east through the old trench system in U.6.a. and b. is reported to be a barrage line. O.30.b.2.1. was also shelled by 10.5 cm. On the Left Bde. front P.32.a. and c. were heavily shelled between 8.30 and 9.30 p.m. as were O.18., O.28. and O.29. between 10 p.m. and 12.30 a.m. At 11.30 p.m. and 1.45 a.m. enemy shelling fell short of our line in NO MAN'S LAND. Between 3 and 3.30 a.m. P.26.a. b. and c. were shelled by 77 mm., 10.5 cm. and 15 cm. At 4 p.m. P.32.a. and c. were heavily shelled by 15 cm. H.E. Fire ceased at 4.25 p.m.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Quiet, but nervous.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work and Wire. Enemy has wired railway cutting at V.1.b. 70.55., JAFFA TRENCH has been worked on, fresh earth being visible. Enemy post located at P.32.c.65.10. Others are suspected at intervals of 300 - 350 yards running North-east just forward of 100m. contour line. Enemy H.Q. suspected at V.2.v.3.8. Post at U.5.d.6.3. has been worked on. Work noticed on mound at V.1. b.8.5.

(b) Trench Mortars. L.M.W. at U.6.c.53.00. active at 6 a.m. but were silenced by our 18-pdrs. A M.W. fired on SYRIA TRENCH from approx. V.7.a.2.8. L.M.W. at P.33.c.1.8. was silenced by our artillery.

(c) Machine Guns. Active.

(d) Flares. Double GREENS were fired when enemy shells were seen falling short in V.1.b. These were repeated back and shelling ceased. A YELLOW flare brought no apparent action. Three GREENS and three WHITES caused enemy shelling to cease.

HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

63.  
7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. - 3 -  
Activity was slight.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Individual movement in the forward area was very slight, probably owing to our sniping. A train was seen in W.2.a. going towards PROYART. Wagons were seen during the evening in W.1. and W.2. Slight individual movement in P.32.b., at a suspected M.G. post in P.28.d.5.6., and trenches in P.21.d.4.2. Small parties were seen moving between ACROCHE WOOD and WARFUSEE. A train was observed in W.6.d. and another in W.17.d. 25 men carrying full packs were seen in U.12.central.

10. MISCELLANEOUS. Visibility good.

A dense cloud of smoke was observed on a T.B. of 115° from P.19.c.15.95. An O.P. is suspected at P.28.b.7.4.

*M. S. Denning Lt.*  
Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
Second Australian Division.

PART II. INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

SITUATION JULY 25th AND NIGHT 25th/26th INST.

Early yesterday morning, three new posts were established S.E. of VILLERS BRETONNEUX.

A very successful raid was carried out South-west of ALBERT; 17 prisoners were captured. On the southern part of our attack near the QUARRY in E.14.c. considerable opposition was met with, and a number of Germans were killed. The identifications obtained show that the 54th Res. Div. is still holding the DERNANCOURT Sector. (I.S. No. 220).

NUMBER OF HOSTILE DIVISIONS IN THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE NEAR RHEIMS AND THE FRENCH COUNTER-STROKE SOUTH OF SOISSONS.

Between SOISSONS and the MARNE, the Germans have reinforced their front by two divisions, one of which was recently in Reserve opposite the Fourth Army and belonged to Prince RUPPRECHT'S Group. Another division has also left Prince RUPPRECHT'S Group for a quiet part of the line in the WOEVRE.

Prince RUPPRECHT has now 26 divisions in reserve available for immediate operations, while the Crown Prince has five. (I.S. No. 220).

77th RES. DIV.

This Division has gone from reserve in the CAMBRAI area to relieve 183rd Div. in the WOEVRE. The 77th Res. Div. was relieved on the 1st July in the ACCROCHE Wood sector. The reserves of the 2nd German Army have thus now been reduced to five divisions.

P.T.O.

A captured 41st Divisional order, dated 20th July, gives the following:-

- (1) Light Ammunition Columns 1235 and 1236 were near PROYART on 21st July.
- (2) Veterinary Hospital 145 at HAUTE-ALLAINES on 20th July.
- (3) The III Abteilung, 79th F.A.R. (41st Div.) had some of its horse lines near CHUIGNOLLES on 20th July.

RE-GROUPING OF DIVISIONS IN THE SECOND GERMAN ARMY.

(a) A map recently captured shows that the 41st Div. now forms part of the XI Corps. This fact, when considered in conjunction with the identification of the XIII Corps Staff (formerly in command of the front between ALBERT and SAILLY-le-SEC) on the AISNE battle front, strongly indicates that the Second Army now consists of three instead of four Corps.

(b) With reference to the XIV Corps, attention is called to the fact that General von GONTARD who commanded it is now in command of a Corps on the AISNE battle-front - it is not known whether his own or another Corps. Hence, it is possible that the XIV Corps as well as the XIII may have been withdrawn from the Second German Army, in which case a new Corps Staff (probably a tired one) will have taken over the divisions allotted to the XIV Corps in the above suggested distribution. Confirmation is required. (I.S. No. 220).

LOSSES IN PRISONERS SUFFERED BY SOME GERMAN DIVISIONS IN THE RECENT FIGHTING BETWEEN SOISSONS AND THE MARNE.

11th Bav. Div.	...	41 Off. and 2314 O.R.	prisoners.
241st Div.	...	49 Off. "	2264 O.R. "
14th Res. Div.	...	30 Off. "	1486 O.R. "
42nd Div.	...	25 Off. "	1360 O.R. "
47th Res. Div.	...	20 Off. "	1090 O.R. "
3rd Res. Div.	...	3 Off. "	728 O.R. "
115th Div.	...	12 Off. "	588 O.R. "

(I.S. 220).

NUMBER OF HOSTILE DIVISIONS, ETC...

## PART II.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.

I.S. 183.

NUMBER OF HOSTILE DIVISIONS IN THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE NEAR RHEIMS AND THE FRENCH COUNTER-STROKE SOUTH OF SOISSONS.

South-west of RHEIMS, three additional divisions have reinforced the ARDRE Sector.

Up to date, 63 infantry divisions and one cavalry Div. have been engaged in the battle since 15th July. There are now only 5 fit divisions in reserve in the group of armies of the Crown Prince. (I.S. No. 219).

DISBANDING OF GERMAN UNITS.

9th BAV. RES. DIV. A man of the 10th Bav. Res. Inf. Regt. (6th Bav. Res. Div.) writes on the 7th July, 1918:-

"We have received reinforcements from the 9th (? Bav. Res.) Div., which has been disbanded."

This report is confirmed by a letter written by another man, who writes on the 6th July, 1918:-

"We are now the 27th Bav. Inf. Regt. (12th Bav. Div.). The 9th Bav. Res. Div. is disbanded, as we received no reinforcements."

With reference to the summary of recent changes, the disbanding of these 9 battalions makes a total of 31 battalions which are now known to have been disbanded.

There are now 236 German infantry divisions in the field, of which 203 are in the Western Theatre.

This division was in line near VILLERS-BRETONNEUX sector from 5th to the 30th April. (I.S. No. 219).

GENERAL.

The 9th Bav. Res. Div. formerly engaged on this front, has been disbanded.

The XIII Corps Staff, which formerly commanded the German divisions holding the line between ALBERT and SAILLY-le-SEC, has been identified in the fighting in CHAMPAGNE. It is probable that the section of the front formerly under this command has been taken over by the extension of front of the neighbouring Corps. The withdrawal of this Corps Staff is a further indication that the Germans intend no offensive action opposite the Fourth Army front. (I.S. No. 219).

\*\*\*\*\*

The Division on our Right furnishes the following information regarding the relief and dispositions of the 109th Div.

Date of forthcoming relief. The relief of the 1st Bn., 2nd Grenadier Regt., which should have been relieved on the 19th/20th July, has been postponed owing to British attacks and our own (French) advance. The relief, later fixed for the 21st, was then delayed till the 24th inst. This was not to be an inter battalion relief, but a relief .....

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES (Continued).

but a relief of the whole Regt. by another Regt.

The relief of the IIIrd Bn., 26th R.I.R., by another Regt., was fixed for the 21st/22nd instant.

It is therefore concluded that the whole of the 109th Div. is about to be relieved. There are in fact stated to be one or two new divisions behind the 109th Div., whose role is to relieve this division and to be ready for a French or British attack, which the German Command considers will probably take place shortly.

Method of holding the sector. The latest successes of the Australians and the fear of a French attack determined the enemy to modify his dispositions about 12 days ago.

The two Bns. in line were previously holding, with three Coys. in front line, the line KIEL Trench, CRAFT Trench and elements of trenches which connect these trenches. At the same time the Coys. in line were protected by sentries who were for the most part in the trenches themselves, and a few of whom only were in advanced positions (in BERTHA Trench in particular).

The enemy has abandoned all this first line, or has only left advanced observation posts, and has established his line Coys. in the main line of resistance: SAXONY Trench, RIAULT Trench (the southern part as far as the BASILIDE C.T. in U.11.d.), BASILIDE and AVENTIN Trenches. \*

Thus the three Coys. of the 26th R.I.R. in the front line which were formerly in KIEL Trench and in the elements north of HANGARD WOOD, now occupy SAXONY Trench and the southern portion of RIAULT Trench, the 4th Coy. on the other hand holds the southern portion of HORTLE Trench in HANGARD WOOD.

The three front line Coys. of the 2nd Grenadiers have occupied the C.T. and shell holes in U.11.d. and AVENTIN Trench. The 4th Coy. is in shell holes about 100 metres south of this line.

The Support Bn. of the 2nd Grenadiers occupies HERZEGOVINA Trench (south of AUSTRIANS ALLEY) with two Coys. and the elements of trenches in with the other two Coys.

The two resting Bns. of the 26th R.I.R. and 2nd Grenadiers have also been moved forward from PROYART to BAYONVILLERS, which they had previously evacuated owing to our shell fire. They are stated to have left PROYART to move nearer the line, both in order to be ready for the French attacks which the German Command considers probable and also to make room for the Division which is relieving the 109th Division.

\*\*\*\*\*

\* The crescent shaped trenches running from U.12.a.4.1 to U.12.b.0.9.

*APP. No 76*

## SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SECRET.

Locations of Units at 10<sup>10</sup> a.m. 27th July 1918.

G.201.

4th Amendment to G.138 issued 19th July 1918.

86th Army Bde. R.F.A.	-	Delete.	
6th Army Bde. A.F.A.	-	0.25.c.6.4.	part of Left Group.
6th A.M.G. Coy.	-	0.28.b.50.15.	Line Right.
7th do	-	0.27.a.50.05.	Line Left.
22nd do	-	0.27.c.10.40.	Line Centre
Div. Staging Camp.	-	M.16.b.14.45.	

*War Diary 81B*

*E. J. Pascoe*  
 Lieut-Colonel.  
 General Staff.  
 Second Australian Division.

APP. No 77

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.  
-----

G.26/682.

Headquarters.  
26th July 1918.

C.R.A.  
C.R.E.  
5th Aust. Inf. Bde.  
6th do  
7th do  
2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn.  
2nd Aust. M.G. Battalion.  
"A.Q."  
A.D.M.S.  
D.G.O.  
A.P.M.  
D.A.D.V.S.  
2nd Aust. Div. Train.  
65th American Inf. Bde.  
129th American Inf. Regt.

Reference this office G.26/673 dated 19th July 1918.

1. The following will be the dates from which units of the 65th American Inf. Bde. will be attached to the 2nd Australian Division. -

July 25th. 1 Coy. 123rd Am. M.G. Bn. }  
129th Am. M.G. Coy. } To 2nd Aust. M.G. Bn.

July 26th. 2nd Bn. 129th American Regt. To 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.  
3rd Bn. 129th do To 6th do

July 27th. H.Q. 129th American Regt.)  
129th H.Q. Coy. } To 2nd Aust. Div.  
129th Supply Coy. }

2. Details regarding the attachment of M.G. Coys. will be arranged direct by the C.O. 2nd Aust. M.G. Bn. and will be notified to D.H.Q.

3. Details of attachment of Regt. H.Q. H.Q. Coy., Supply Coy., and the two battalions will be notified later.

*Nargiany GTR*

*G. H. H. H.*  
Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff.  
Second Australian Division.



HEADQUARTERS  
**S E C R E T.**  
 AUSTRALIAN DIV.  
 Copy No. ....

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ORDER No. 205.

\*\*\*\*\*

Headquarters,  
 26th July, 1918.

1. The following units of the 65th American Brigade will be attached to units of the 2nd Aust. Division from dates as under:-

- July 25th: 1 Coy. 123rd American M.G. Bn. } To 2nd Aust. M.G. Bn.  
 129th American M.G. Coy. }
- July 26th: 2nd Bn. 129th American Regt. - To 5th A. I. Bde.  
 3rd Bn. 129th American Regt. - To 6th A. I. Bde.
- July 27th: H.Q., 129th American Regt. )  
 129th H.Q. Coy. ) - To 2nd Aust. Div.  
 129th Supply Coy. )

2. Detailed arrangements for the attachment of the M.G. Coys. will be made by the C.O., 2nd Aust. M. G. Bn.

3. The following will be the principles on which the American battalions will be employed:-

- (a) For the first 16 days one American Company will be allotted to each battalion of the Bde. to which the American Bn. is attached.
- (b) For the first eight days of this period the attachment within companies will be American sections to Australian platoons.
- (c) For the next eight days the attachment will be an American platoon to each Australian company.
- (d) During this period of sixteen days the American units will be treated as component parts of the units to which they are attached and will be employed on exactly the same duties.
- (e) On completion of this period the American units will be reorganised into battalions and for the remaining 12 days of Period "B" will be employed as complete battalions under the brigades to which they are attached. Brigades will arrange the necessary reliefs so that the American battalion spends a portion of this time in the line and a portion in support.

4. The American battalions will move from their present position to join brigades on the 27th instant under detailed orders to be issued by the Brigades concerned.

5. 129th H.Q. Company.

- (a) The Platoon Pioneers will be attached to the 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. from the 28th instant. The C.O., 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. will make the necessary arrangements.
- (b) Details of the attachment of the Platoon Stokes Mortars and Platoon 37 mm. guns will be notified later.

6. Acknowledge.

*Gilbert*  
 Lieut-Colonel,  
 General Staff,  
 Second Australian Division.

DISTRIBUTION: P.T.O.

*W. Dean* *RB*

180  
APPENDIX 78

APPENDIX

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS DIVISION ORDER No. 205

**DISTRIBUTION.**

Copy No. To.

- 1. C.R.A.
- 2. C.R.E.
- 3. 2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.
- 4. 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.
- 5. 6th do.
- 6. 7th do.
- 7. 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn.
- 8. 2nd Aust. M. G. Bn.
- 9. A.Q.
- 10. A.D.M.S.
- 11. D.G.O.
- 12. A.P.M.
- 13. D.A.D.V.S.
- 14. 2nd Aust. Div. Train.
- 15. 65th American Ede.
- 16. 129th American Regt.
- 17. 2nd Bn., 129th American Regt.
- 18. 3rd Bn., 129th American Regt.
- 19/20. Aust. Corps.
- 21/22. File.
- 23/25. War Diary.
- 26/30. Spare.

(b) During this period of sixteen days the Australian units will be treated as component parts of the units to which they are attached and will be employed on exactly the same basis.

(a) On completion of this period the Australian units will be reorganised into battalions and for the remainder of the day of Period "B" will be employed as complete battalions under the orders to which they are attached. Battalions will exercise the necessary control so that the Australian battalions occupy a portion of this time in the line and a portion in support.

4. The American battalions will move from their present position to join brigades on the 27th instant under detailed orders to be issued to the brigades concerned.

5. 1stst Aust. Coy.

(a) The Pioneer Bn. will be attached to the 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. from the 28th instant. The G.O., 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. will make the necessary arrangements.

(b) Details of the attachment of the Pioneer Bn. to the 2nd Aust. Pioneer Bn. will be notified later.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
General Officer  
Second Australian Division

APPENDIX 78

## SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

No. 184.

From 5.30 p.m. 26th to 5.30 p.m. 27th July 1918.

NOTE. - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.1. OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. 18 pdrs. sniped all enemy movement within range, targets being obtained in V.8.d., P.34.d., and P.35.a., U.11.b., P.23., P.29., and some casualties were caused. Direct hits were registered on a post at V.7.b.35.93., and a M.W. at U.6.c.50.00. silenced. At 5.20 p.m. an active hostile battery at V.5.c.10.10. ceased firing immediately it was engaged. Registrations were carried out on LA BASTILLE MILL V.4.d. Throughout the night harassing fire was maintained on enemy forward areas, roads, trenches, and activity being engaged. 684 rds. gas were expended on enemy trench V.5.a.30.90., and road and trench V.3.b.75.75. At 6.30 a.m. 50 rds. were fired on movement in P.23.d., and F.29.b., and at 7.30 a.m. wagons proceeding from P.28.b. in the direction of TAILLOUX WOOD were fired on and turned back. Between 7.30 and 8 a.m. 18 rds. dispersed an enemy party at P.30.a.25.50., and at 11 a.m. another small party in P.33.b. were engaged.

(b) Trench Mortars. 3" Stokes fired 30 rds. on new trench at approx. P.33.a.1.9.

(c) Machine Guns. Harassing fire was maintained throughout the night. Targets were engaged as follows: -  
Tracks and posts P.22.b. and d., and P.23.a. and c. - 5,000 rds.  
Main Road and tracks in P.28.d.10.40., - 3,000 rds. Tracks and trenches in P.22.d. - 3,000 rds. Road from U.12.a.75.00. to U.12.a.50.75 was searched with 2,000 rds. Cross roads in V.2.c. received 3,000 rds. Tracks in V.2.c. were searched with 3,000 rds. Strong post U.12.b.00.80 - 2,000 rds. Fork road at V.2.b.99.75. - 1500 rds. Railway from V.2.b.30.22. to V.3.b.60.15. was searched - 1500 rds. Roads and tracks in V.2.c., U.12.b., harassed - 3,000 rds. Road, in U.6.d., and tracks from U.12.a.95.25. to U.6.d.40.30. searched with 3,000 rds. Total expenditure - 30,000 rds.

(d) Aircraft. Little activity owing to weather conditions.

(e) Patrols.

(a) Left Bn. patrols report enemy posts at P.32.c.1.0., P.32.c.05.15. and P.32.c.0.3.

(b) A small patrol crawled out from post at P.27.c.3.7. to a point 20 yards from the main road and investigated the "pot holes" between their post and the road, but found no recent signs of occupation.

(f) Snipers. Right Bde. snipers claim 4 certain hits and Left Bde. one hit. Lewis guns also obtained two definite hits.

P.T.O.

War  
Diary

1st Coy. 152 I.R., 41st Div. Normal  
(1 Prisoner, 26th July).

3. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE AND DISPOSITIONS. North to South -

13th I.R.)	13th Div.
15th I.R.)	
152nd I.R.)	41st Div.
18th I.R.)	
148th I.R.)	

The last-named regiment is believed to have been withdrawn a few days ago owing to casualties. (P.S.)

This requires confirmation.

Dispositions. The 1st and IIIrd Bns. of the 152nd I.R. are stated to be both in line, owing to the weakness of the regiment. The IInd Bn. is in support. (P.S.)

All four Coys. of the 1st Bn. are stated to be in line each with a platoon on outpost duty. The Coys. were stated by prisoner to be about 200 - 300 metres behind the outposts, but on being questioned later as to the condition of the trenches, he stated that the Coys. were in an old line of ours which was in good condition and deep. This line would appear to be the old French system in P.28.b. and d. The two statements therefore do not agree, though it would appear that the old French line is a main line of resistance. (P.S.)

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Not so active as during the previous period, though fairly so during the night. P.31.central, was shelled at intervals of 15 minutes by 15 cm. from 9 p.m. onwards. At the same time P.31.d. was lightly shelled. A 77 mm. battery was active from the direction of V.13.a., U.6.b., VILLERS BRETONNEUX, P.32.a., P.26.c., O.24.c., O.29.b., O.23.a., O.30., O.35., O.36., P.31.c. and d., P.20.a. and d., P.25. and P.27.c. were also lightly shelled during the night. At 5.30 p.m. (26th) smoke was observed from a battery of 77 mm. firing from an approx. position V.10.b.2.7. Two smoke shells fell in P.31. and P.32. also some in front of the Left Bde. of our Right flank division. During the day O.29., P.26., O.23., O.22.d., O.24.a. and P.31. were lightly shelled. 10 rds. YELLOW X Gas fell in O.22.d. and 3 rds. BLUE Cross near P.31.b.3.8.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. - Quiet.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work and Wire. Fresh earth is visible along JAFFA TRENCH from V.1.b.86.55. to V.1.b.92.80. Wire is also visible at V.1.b.85.35. New work is reported at P.24.a.2.2.

(b) Machine Guns. A M.G. has been located at P.27.d.85.95. Others are reported at V.1.b.9.4., U.6.d.55.45., and U.12.a.9.9. Indirect fire came from V.7.a.

(c) Trench Mortars. A few rds. L.M.W. fell near posts in V.1.c.8.7. fired from a southerly direction.

(d) Flares. Normal. GREEN flares caused ranges to lengthen. This is borne out by prisoner's statement (see below).

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY.

A few low flying E.A. were active during the early morning patrolling our own and enemy lines. Otherwise no flying. Balloons were seen on true bearings of 45°, 57° and 82° from P.21.c.4.8.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. Slight in forward areas. Small parties were seen near WATER TOWER in V.9. d., V.1.d.5.7. and the northern edge of MORGEMONT WOOD. A man was seen observing from trench at V.3.b.7.3. whenever our artillery was firing. A party of 6 men was seen with a M.G. in crops at P.28.a.4.2. Normal transport movement in rear areas. Three trains were seen at X.20. going N.E., S. and N. respectively. An engine was seen on the line in W.17.d. going North.

10. MISCELLANEOUS.

Visibility, poor.

The enemy was seen flash signalling in P.23. At 4.30pm. smoke was observed from chimney in LAMOTTE at P.36.a.1.8. H.A. advised.

The prisoner captured in P.27.a. at 10pm. last night left his post to go to another one on his right and lost his way, wandering into our lines.

Intentions. There is no idea of an offensive here. Men in the 152nd I.R. were told that this was to be a quiet sector as far as their action was concerned, but they might at any moment expect an attack by us. Special vigilance is ordered every night. (P.S.).

Reliefs. The 1st Bn. 152nd I.R. relieved the IIInd Bn. on the night 24th/25th, the latter Bn. moving into supports.

Owing to the heavy losses of the 41st Div. a new division is stated to be coming up to relieve it. (P.S.).

Casualties. Losses throughout the division have been extremely heavy, and are stated to be largely due to M.G. fire and sniping. (P.S.).

Strengths. The strength of the 1st Coy. is 1 Off. 80 O.Rs. and 5 L.M.Gs. (P.S.).

Units seen. On the 11th July at CAPPY regiments with nos. 15, 59, 17, 137. (P.S.).

Headquarters. K.T.K. two kilos. back in a trench. Regimental headquarters was in BAYONVILLERS on 10th instant. (P.S.).

Illness. There was a considerable amount of Spanish Flu in the 152nd I.R. while the regiment was in rest, but there is very little now. (P.S.).

Work. The 1st Bn. has done no work since it came in, but Engineers are doing wiring in front of the main line. (P.S.).

Flares. YELLOW = barrage.  
RED = annihilation fire.  
GREEN = lengthen range.

These are changed at irregular intervals. (P.S.).

P. T. O.

Food. 1  
brought up at various times, according to  
of our fire.

It is  
y  
(P.S.).

Commanders. 41st Div.-von GRÄSER.  
152nd I.R. - Major PHAFFRODT.  
1st Bn. 152nd I.R. -Rittmeister von BLANKENSEE.

The last named officer has just been transferred from the  
Cavalry. (P.S.).

Moral. Poor.  
News of the failure of the SOISSONS - RHEIMS offensive  
and our counter offensive are beginning to filter through,  
and prisoner states that the general opinion amongst the men  
is now that the German arms cannot bring the war to a  
successful conclusion for them.

*M. E. Deringham*  
Lieut-Colonel,  
for General Staff,  
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. ( I.S. No. 221).

GERMAN RESERVES.

No fresh divisions have been identified on the battle fronts  
yesterday. The Crown Prince still has 5 fit divisions in reserve,  
Prince RUPPRECHT has 29, while there are 3 in the two Southern  
Groups available for immediate operations.

RED CROSS FLAG.

On the 25th July, after the raid by the Northern Corps,  
there was no firing by the enemy on the Red Cross flag and our  
bearers were allowed to collect our wounded from "No-Man's-land"  
unmolested.

This would indicate that the order recently captured in the  
VILLERS BRETONNEUX sector was probably of a Regimental or  
Divisional nature, and does not apply to other sectors of the  
Army front.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.From 5.30 p.m. 27th to 5.30 p.m. 28th July 1918.

No 185.

NOTE - Not to be taken into the front line trenches.OPERATIONS.

(a) Artillery. During the evening of 27th a party in V.14.d. was dispersed, other targets being obtained in P.28.b., P.36.b., V.7.b., and V.9.b. Gas was fired on road and railway at V.4.d.20.10., and trenches P.34.b.80.50. - 643 rounds in all being expended. The usual harassing fire was carried out on the enemy's forward zone, roads, tracks and trenches being engaged during the night. Enemy movement in V.4.d., V.8.c., and V.14.c., during the morning, was dispersed by 18 pdrs., and trenches in V.2.d. were bombarded.

(b) Machine Guns. The following centres of activity and movement were harassed during the night - Roads and tracks in P.28.a. and b., searched 2,500 rds.; Main road, tracks and trenches in P.28.a. and c., - 6,000 rds.; Cross roads and trenches in V.7.b. - 4,000 rds.; Trenches and tracks in U.12.b. - 4,000 rds.; Cross roads U.6.c.4.3. - 2,000 rds.; M.G. position at U.12.b.00.80. - 2,000 rds.; Road from V.2.d.12.35. to V.2.d.30.22., searched - 1,500 rds.; Road and trenches from V.2.b.20.87. to V.2.b.35.82. - 1,500 rds.; Road and trenches U.6.d.40.30. to U.12.b.95.25., searched - 3,000 rds.; Road U.12.d.60.90. - 1,500 rds., and U.18.a.80.99 - 1,500 rds.; Tracks and trenches in U.12.b. and V.7.b. - 6,000 rds.; One gun fired on its S.O.S. lines a test shoot of 2,000 rds. On the left of sector cover was given to wiring party by overhead fire - 2,500 rds. Total expenditure 40,000 rds.

(c) Aerial Activity. Obstructed on account of bad weather on 27th inst. Normal reconnaissance activity on 28th.

(d) Patrols. Right Bde. Right Bn. reports enemy working party at work near U.6.d.9.2. Flares were fired from East edge of wood in U.6.c., and M.G. fired from same locality.

Left Bde. Right Bn. examined a freshly dug position at P.32.b.9.9. Post was lightly wired and recently damaged by artillery fire. Left Bn. patrols did not observe any enemy movement.

Liason and protective patrols operated on both Bde. fronts.

(e) Snipers. Right Bde. claim 8 hits at JAFFA TRENCH.

Left Bde. 4 hits.

4. HOSTILE ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

No heavy shoots are recorded, but hostile guns were slightly more active shelling scattered areas. 7 p.m. to 7.20 p.m., 12 H.V. shells were fired on O.18.c. At 8.45 p.m.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY (Contd.)

VILLERS BRETONNEUX received 50 rds. 15 cm., and O.24.a. and c. 20 rds. 15 cm. at 9pm. 7.7 cm. fired about 30 rds. on O.23. at intervals between 9.35pm. and 10pm. 1.30am. 30 rds. 15 cm. on P.31.b. O.23. was shelled intermittently by 15 cm. throughout the night and between 3.45am. and 4.45am., 7.7 cm. and 10.5 cm. fired approx. 60 rds. on our F. L. System in P.31. and V.1.a. 6.30am., 20 rds. 15 cm. on O.28.b. and d. 7am. to 8am. 30 rds. 7.7 cm. on O.28.b. 10am. 50 rds. 10.5 cm., 11am. 20 rds. 7.7 cm. and 11.45am. 20 rds. 10.5 cm. on O.30.d. 11.45am. 40 rds. 7.7 cm. on P.20.a. 12.30pm. 10 rds. 10.5 cm. on O.36. and U.6. 1.30pm. 30 rds. 15 cm. on O.27. 2pm. to 2.45pm. 30 rds. 10.5 cm. in O.29.d. At 3.30pm. U.6.b. was shelled by a battery on 138° T.B. from U.6.b.4.2. Throughout the afternoon there was light scattered shelling of the forward areas.

5. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Passive; apparently nervous.

6. ENEMY DEFENCES.

(a) Work and Wire. Wiring is in progress north of road U.6.d. 3.2. Post at P.32.b.9.9. (approx.) is lightly wired (patrol). Working parties were heard at U.6.d.9.3.

(b) French Mortars. 12 rds. L.T.M. fell in rear of front line just north of railway. A few rounds also on P.26.d. An active mortar was located at P.32.d.central.

(c) Machine Guns. Guns seem to be pushed forward at night in U.6.d. and V.1.c. and are active apparently covering wiring parties. Guns at U.8.d.3.2. and d.8.3. are especially active. Others were located at approx. V.1.c.4.2., V.7.b.4.8. and V.1.d.8.8. Left En. of the Right Bde. reports accurate M.G. fire on our parapets from direction of JAFFA TRENCH.

7. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. Low flying E.A. crossed our lines at 9.30pm. to about U.5.central. At 1am. one E.A. dropped 8 bombs in AQUENNE WOOD at O.33. 9.30am. two E.A. reconnoitred our forward system.

8. MOVEMENT AND ORGANISATION IN AND BEHIND ENEMY LINES. 5pm. to 7.20pm. small parties (2 to 5 men) in full marching order left trenches in V.2.b., V.3.c. and E.2.central, moving towards V.9.d. Similar movement forward was also observed. 7.45pm. two parties (mist prevented estimating strength) assembled at cross roads in V.14.b. and V.15.central, respectively, and moved towards IGNAUCOURT. 8.15pm. 15 men were seen behind edge near cross roads at V.9.d.3.2. 16 men and one wagon came down road in Q.31.d. near tramline to Q.31.c.3.5., thence to P.36.d.8.2. At 10pm. a working party passed over crest line at U.6.d.8.3. and were engaged by L.Gs. At 11pm. 6 men entered posts at U.5.d.5.2.

*At dawn...*



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ENEMY MOVEMENT, ETC. (Contd.).

At dawn movement about the WATER TOWERS and around MARCELCAVE was apparent. Individual movement occurred at W.2.c.7.8., track W.7.a., P.34.b., Q.26.b., road Q.31.c.8.3. At 1.20pm. a G.S. wagon travelled the road through R.3.b.95.90. towards BAYONVILLERS. Between 1.20pm. and 1.40pm., Stretcher parties were busy in V.5.a. and V.4.b. 2.15pm. 2 men were seen in trench in P.28.c. At 8.10am., 8.15am., 8.50am. and 11.40am. trains were observed on line running through K.21.b.

10. MISCELLANEOUS. Owing to the character and the amount of movement in the forward areas during the evening of the 27th and the absence of enemy flares until 11pm. it is suspected that a relief was in progress. (see movement).

Right Bde. snipers confirm the sudden increase of movement. True bearings obtained on active batteries during the period are:- 138° from U.6.b.4.2.; 120°, 111°, 87°, 78°, from O.29.d.95.55. 127° from P.26.b.85.60. Also a hostile battery was located at P.36.a.9.8.

*K. Murray Bell*  
for  
Lieut-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
Second Australian Division.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES. (I.S. No. 221).

Attached.

INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES.COMPANY STRENGTHS AND ORGANISATION.

It has been reported that, owing to the very low trench strength of a company of the 32nd Div., this company was organised into only two platoons instead of three.

Documents show that companies consisting of only two platoons exist in the 56th Div., and 81st Res. Div. in the LYS salient and in the 26th Res. Div. in line north of BEAUMONT HAMEL. It is noticeable that all companies maintain a minimum of 4 light machine-gun groups, while, owing to the low strengths, there are often only one or two infantry or assault groups to complete the fighting organisation of the company.

The two most recent of these documents confirm the system of numbering the groups of each company by their categories, i.e., the light machine gun groups are numbered from one to four in each company, irrespective of the platoon to which they belong.

(I.S. No. 221).

DISCIPLINE IN THE GERMAN ARMY.

The following order confirms previous information obtained from prisoners of a projected mutiny on a large scale among Alsatian and Polish troops at BEVERLOO Camp in May, 1918.

According to prisoners' statements, some 10,000 Alsatis and Poles arrived there from the Eastern front in April and May. A general mutiny was organised with a view to deserting to Holland. It was, however, discovered a few days before the date fixed, and large drafts of Alsatis were at once sent from the camp to various parts of the Western front:-

"Commandant's Office,  
Infantry Training Camp, BEVERLOO.

13:5:18.

O R D E R.

"To be communicated immediately to all N.C.O's. and men, then to be displayed in each company barrack room.

"Comrades of the Infantry Training Camp.

"Amongst the men who have come from the Eastern Front are a large number, born in ALSACE-LORRAINE, whose aim it is to disown and betray their Fatherland. Guided and led by unscrupulous subjects, who are in the enemy's pay and have been won over by the enemy's spies and agents, these misled and misguided soldiers intend to break their oath of loyalty and escape into Holland. The attempt has failed entirely, and the ringleaders are already under lock and key or will be apprehended shortly. These criminal traitors to the Fatherland must have the ground cut from under their feet one and for all. In this I rely upon your assistance.

Everyone who.....

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APPENDIX 80.

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Everyone who reports one of these traitors will be doing his duty to his country and make our Homeland and our splendid comrades at the front indebted to him. Therefore, assist me to arrest these scoundrels in so far as it has not been done already. You will also be doing your duty to the brave Alsatians who are fulfilling theirs. By the use of the French language, the singing of French songs, and by meetings in lonely places and woods, these misled and contemptible men attempt to inspire themselves to do the work of the enemy and injure the Fatherland. I therefore find myself obliged to take the following measures, under which many innocent men must suffer for the time being. It depends upon these, and particularly upon the best elements amongst N.C.O.s. and men, as to when these measures may be removed, or whether they will have to be made more severe. (I.S. 221)

2nd Aust. D.H.Q.

I.S. No 185.

The following order contains provisions for the treatment of prisoners of war in the Western Front. It was issued on 10th May 1918. According to prisoners' statements, some 10,000 Alsatians and Poles arrived from the Western Front in April and May. A general meeting was organized with a view to departing to Holland. It was, however, discovered a few days before the date fixed, and large numbers of Alsatians were at once sent from the camp to various parts of the Western Front.

Commandant's Office,  
Infantry Training Camp, BEVERLOO.

O R D N.

To be communicated immediately to all N.C.O.s. and men,  
then to be displayed in each company barracks room.

Commander of the Infantry Training Camp.  
Amongst the men who have come from the Western Front are a large number, born in ALSATIA-LOTHARING, whose aim is to disown and betray their Fatherland. Guided and led by unscrupulous traitors, who are in the enemy's pay and have been won over by the enemy's spies and agents, these misled and misguided soldiers intend to break their oath of loyalty and escape into Holland. The attempt has failed utterly, and the traitors are already being punished severely. These criminals