AWM4

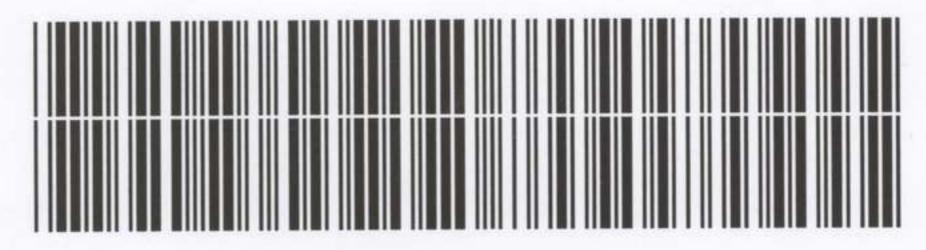
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/12/12

Title: 12th Infantry Brigade

February 1917



AWM4-23/12/12

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

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Place	Date	Hour		
4	-			

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MAMETZ	1 -		weather very cold, units training specialists, Bomber, route marking in getting with on empowement to camp very about oming to difficulty in getting material.	
	200		unite Francy, unte marching, weather cold snowing in the externoon	
	320		I'm with my cold.	
	4-		units training. Church parade, Dirl over 44 received for relief of 4 Kam Ly Box until training. Church parade, Dirl over 44 received for relief of 4 Kam Ley Box inmed. Route marchy, spendent training orders for relief of 4 kays day Box inmed.	approx 1
	5. E.		Route marchy, Spenalist Hamilion Violes Sentline & anange details of relief. Conference of commandry officers & opposite humbers violes sentline & anange details of relief. Conference of	
	2		Commanders at Rujade Hops Bryadie Em Roberton returnes from leave, units parts, taken back to Brigade On a manufacture operation memo would	appox I
	7-		A) unit as wernance	
Seetin.	8-		Support coys 47 = +46 = 180 moves up in relief of support coys of constraine 100 g	1000 110
	9"		Relief completes at 9 10 pm without any casualties, heather very cold of condition very trying in the function. Shring of coldified alrohol any to Factory heating denne 1875 W1. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118. enemy Shelling wormal work on defences continued the alternation of Troops 9000	

WAR DIARY

07

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
UEUPE Cour		beather very cold, ground very hard rendering work on colorable of new	
		Trench in N21 very organile. Harrochertrage salving spectors owing to the	
		Seserve Batter being taken for Corps work in the tack area; work in	
		the forward area has of necessity the curtailed. Representations made	
		to Division or 16th Bu ordered to relieve 48 thon on 12th inst.	
		Intelligence Dunnary attaches.	
	11 E	beethering coes, selvation unmal enemy shelling aintensty at untervals	appor III
		without any apparent reason. intelliquie higher attenties: Report on special officers patrol	appaII
	124 125	weather ever turn fine, himsen operation against every heath for N21 of 360 ER. I.R.	
	12-	weather coed fur fine, hinker operation against meny eventy of 360 ER. I.R	
		N22C 65-32 successfully cames out at monght 11/12. Ivenlipsalin of 360 pormed which was not Normal; report attached.	approxT
		Intelligence Dummany attaches	approx
			1
	N. A.		
		1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.	

Army Form C. 2118

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
UEUDECOURT	131		Intelligence report attaches.	
	14-		Buijable on our right had a minn operation their time of pour, our Buyable Supporter them by interest tules your banage on selected points; it was decided also to push formand	
			The Alvek at N 21 d 89,53. In another 25 years to about N 21 d 95.5.5 (BM 254) This was successfully carried out a work completes 5 thereng killed Olders were also issued to the exp E Bon to endearour to obtain an wentiqualin	apport
			Bryade over 119 issued. Surespir	apporting
	15 K		Silitation aumal . Sas abam semoes at 7 pen. " munior operation cames out by 57 mm protess on higher 14/15-his consissasses. Sutelly ene superior attaches.	appen X
	16		Schrahin humal Support coys A+B Bus relieved without carnallies weather dull raining shylly Imonds evening. Intellyence Summary	
			altaches	appeax
			1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Pels	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PUEUDELOUR	カだ		Very foggy & damp rainy thronds evening with Battalini relief complete	appor X 11
	18h		Preparations made for minor operation against part of STORMY Trench noe 120 insued. very togging a consistence spetting had.	appin XIII
	19 K		detelligence surmay attached	
			hunr operatur. Intelligence summany attaches	apple X1
	200		oring to Desire weather contitions togenation against every trench in N21a protymes, conjecuse Leto at 1300 14gms, anauguments made for a boundry	approx XV
			attack between 4 am vouglyth 2," - unt. Intelligence Summay attaches. weather forgy.	approKVI
	212		Operations underlater against enemy bench on N21as, very successful. 190 yds brench taken a held 29 privaries (8 wounded) taken with only 7 casual officer 46 o.R Report apprinded. Artillery retallistion heavy attractions day. not proposed to continue operate 1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118. to night see appendix &	ie appending

Army Form C. 2118

WAR DIARY

07

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date 2017	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PUEUDECOURT	22/2/17		Preparations being made for continuation of operation of 20/21 st anot . Order attached Intelligence summary attached. Preparation also being made for relief of this Pode by 16-th and Ing Pode on 23/24 & 24/25 inste. O'rder attached.	appendix XXII
	2 3/2/17		Operations very successful Report attached.	appendix XXV
	2415		PORK Trench occupied as for a The Junction of BACON + PORK Relief in Propers	
Guen	251=		Relief Completes at 2 am Bry ave moved out to Man 15 TZ CAMP. Balting recloting enegapping Commences.	
	50 E		Bujare less 45th 48th Am moved to BECOURT CAMP	
	275		Fund regart on operation by the Bringare from 8th - 22 ms m	apper NEVIII
	285		1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118. dulie of acty Byode high	Copphender CT

19th. JUSTE LIFE INTANTEY IFICAD OFDER No. 117.

Headquarters. F-2-7077.

Appendix No comy To.

Feforence .ap 1: 10000.

The 19th. 'ustralian Infantry Drigade will relieve Units of the 4th, 'untralian Infantry Drigade in the Fight Tector of 4th, 'ust, Divisional Front on the night of 8/9th. and 9/10th. Tahruary in accordance with table attached.

- C. Details of relief will be arranged between Commanders concerned. Cormanders and Specialist Officers will visit their opposite numbers tomorry and 7th. instant.
- . Specialists will be relieved of hours before the relief of each Unit.
- 4. 111 trench mans, log hooks, photographs, plans of work and information in connection with the sector will be taken over and receipts in duplicate forwarded to Frigade Headquarters by noon on the day following relief.
- 5. 111 trench and area stores will be carefully checked and taken over, and a receipt in duplicate forwarded to Frigade Headquarters by noon on the day following relief.
- . No revenent forward of 'OFLVIII." "OOD" will take place in daylight ercopt in parties of not more than five men. Units moving in rear of DELVILLE "OOD will maintain the following intervals -

Dotwoon Companies - 100 verds. Dattalions - 200 " Transport of Units - 200 yards.

- 7. The 48th. Lattalion will be relieved by the 19th. Lattalion on Corps Vork on 7th. instant.
- 8. Completion of relief will be reported to Trigade Headmuarters in Code.
- 9. Prizade Hoadquarters will close at wrom at 10 neon and recpen at S. 1. b.9.8. at 7-0 p.m.

to . "C. MO"I. TDGE.

Contain. Frimade ajor. 19th. 'met, Inf. Pricede.

Copy Do. 1 - Office S - 7 - Tar Diary

6 - 6Fth. Pattn.

= 40th.

8 - 47th.

7 - 48th.

8 - 10th. . . Coy.

0 - 19th. .L.T. . Lattery

10 - 4th, 'ust .Inf . rigado

77 - 1"th. " " "

19 - 4th. 'ust. Division

17 - C.J. . 4th. ust. Division

14 - 0.C. 4th. 'ust.Div.Train

15 - 19th. . de, Sunnly Officer

Conv Mo.19 - The . Minnel Sect .

17 - Ctaff Contain

70 - Comn Commondant

TIME TIME.

111	UNIT	FELIEVES	TPO	TO	POUTT
		Support Coys. "A" In. 4th Aust Inf Brigade.		Sunport Trenches, Fight Sub- Sector, Front Line.	's convenient.
		Support Coys. "B" Bn. 4th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.		Support Tranches, Left Sub- Sector, Front Line.	\as convenient.
Febry .9/10th.	Less two Coys.	"A" Lettn. 4th. Aust. Inf. Irigado.	IIMIFT7	Fight Sub-Sector Trent Line	's convenient
	47th. Lattn. Less two Coys.		I II. II. TZ	Left Sub-Sector Tront Tine	^s convenient
		"O" Lattn. 4th. 'ust. Inf. Drigade.		CAP & SWITCH TPUTCHES	^s convenient
		"D" Battn. 4th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.	MAMETZ	BRISBINE CAMPS	As convenient
	19th 3. Coy.	4th G. Coy.	HAMETZ	Front Line	's conventent
	12th. A.L.T.	4th	11'METZ	Front Line	's convenient
	19th. Just. Inf.Dae. H.A.	4th. 'ust. Inf. Ede. H. 'rs.	HAIFT?	S.12.b.9.8.	's convenient pendi

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

SECRET

Cony No.

19th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY PRICADE OFFER No. 118.

6th .Fobruary 1917

Reference Lap 1:10,000.

Cancelled.

Units will now move in relief of 4th. Australian Infantry
Drigade in accordance with Table attached.

P. The 18th. Brigade Mining Platcons will relieve the 4th. Brigade Mining Platcons and will be taken over by Captain V. Tucker. 4th. Australian Infantry Frigade.

Lieut. Davy 48th. Pattalion will take over command of the 4th. Australian Infantry Brigade Mining Plateons and continue work on the OUARRY Emmunition Lugouts.

concerned. Details of relief will be arranged between Commanders

CAMPS and continue on Corps Work.

4. ACKNOTLEDGE.

Ceptain.
Prigade Tajor.
19th. Aust. Inf. Prigade.

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9 8 3 - War Diary

4 - 45th. Battn.

5 - 46th.

6 - 47th.

7 - 48th.

8 - 19th. H. 7. Voy.

9 - 19th. A.L. T.H. Battery

10 - ith. Just. Inf. Prigade

11 - 13th. " "

12 - 4th. Just. Div. "G"

13 - 4th. " " " " o"

14 - C.R. ..

15 - Erigade Signalling Officer

16 - Staff Captain

17 - Uamp Jommandant

18 - 19th. Ede. Sumply Officer

19 - 4th. Just. Div. Train

RELIEF TABLE. ----

Date	ULIT	Felieves	From	To	Route
Feby. 8/9th	45th. Battn.	"C" Battn.(14th. Dattn)	HAMETZ	GAP A SWITCH TRUNCHES	1 As convenient
	Support Coys 46th. Dn.	Support Coys. "A" Bn. (13th. Dattn)	EMIETZ	Support Trenches Front Line (Pight Subsector)	
	Support Coys	Support Coys. "B" In. (18th. Lattn)	HIMETZ	Support Trenches Front Line (Left Subsector).	's convenient
Feby .9/10th	40th. Lettn.	"A" In. (13th. In.)	MINIETZ	Front Line Right Subse	ctor As convenient
	47th. Lattn.	"h" En. (18th. In.)	MALIETZ	Front Line Left Subsec	tor 's convenient
	12thCoy.	4th. G. Coy.	MAIETZ	Frent Line	As convenient
	nothL.T.	4th. M.L.TLattery	HAMETZ	Front Line	's convenient
	19th. ining	4thining Coy.	OUARPY	Forward Area	As arranged between Capt. Tucker and Lt. Dawy
	19th. bee. H. Ors.	4th. Lde. H. Ors.	HMIETZ	S.19.6.9.8.	As convenient

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1017407

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADIAppendix Nº > A

OPERATION MEMO NO.90.

8th. February 1917.

- 1. During the next period the Brigade is in the Line, O.C. Units will take special precautions against -
 - Enemy counter attacks.
 - A possible enemy attack under cover of Gas (This is very probable.
 - Lewis Guns getting frozen and becoming useless (This can easily be obviated by firing a few rounds at intervals every hour).
 - (d) Frostbite (Keep men busy when in the fire trenches).
 (e) Bombs and rifle grenades getting rusty and useless Bombs and rifle grenades getting rusty and useless.
 - Special parties will be detailed daily by O.C. Units to clean and oil these and keep them in good condition.
- 2. The enemy within the last week have evacuated two positions. O.C. Units will therefore see that active patrolling ham is carried out in front of their Sectors under bold and resourceful leaders, in order that all available information regarding the enemys' movements can be obtained as quickly as possible.
- 3. Permanent wiring parties of 1 N.C.O. and 6 men will be detailed nightly to put out as much wire as possible in front of their respective Sectors.
- 4. Saps connecting Posts in the front line will be cleared out and duckboarded under arrangements by Commanders of Sectors concerned.
- 5. The Brigade Commander relies on all Commanding Officers to see that these instructions are energetically carried out.
 - 6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Brigade Major. 12th. Aust. Infantry Brigade.

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4 - 45th. Battn.

5 - 46th.

6 - 47th.

7 - 48th.

8 - 12th. M. G. Coy.

9 - 12th. A.L.T.M.Battery.

12th. AUSTFALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE. SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE No.2.

From 6-0 a.m. 10th. February to 6-0 a.m. 11th. February 1917.

11-2-1917.

OUR ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Active during the day on enemy positions approximately N.21.b.0.5., N.21.b.90.15. and TILL Trench in N.9.d. 4.5 Howitzers did excellent shooting about N.14.c.8.1. - N.20.a.8.8. getting well into a large enemy working party between 9-0 and 10-0 p.m.

MACHINE GUN AND RIFLE FIRE. Indirect fire was carried out by our Vickers Guns on targets at N.15.c.4.9 . to N. 15.d.6.9.

PATROLS. Working in front of new front line trenches, No.1 Patrol working from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. observed enemy working party of about 25 men in a new trench about N.21.b.4.2. to N.21.b.50.05. approx. Whilst the patrol was observing the working party, three enemy shells fell short into their own trench, immediately they sent up one white one yellow and one red flare, which was answered by a silver flare from enemy rear.

No. 2 Patrol worked between 8-45 and 10 p.m. from Right flank for about 40 yards and observed to be an enemy covering party.

A further report on patrols working on Left Sector will be

forwarded.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Active on N.21.d. and vicinity all day.

MACHINE GUN AND RIFLE FIRE. Active at intervals.

TRENCH MORTARS AND BOMBS. About 40 pineapple bombs fell between front line and SHINE Trench - No damage.

SNIPING. Active at intervals.

IDENTIFICATIONS. Fresh wire has been put out in front of enemy trench N.21.b.4.6. to N.21.b.7.2. (approximately) Fresh earth thrown up along ridge from N.16.d.6.0. to N.15.b.2.4.

AIRCRAFT. Active during the day flying over GUEUDECQUET, FLERS, and Brigade Headquarters.

> Captain. Brigade Major.

12th. Aust./Infantry Brigade.

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2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - 45th. Battn.

5 - 46th.

6 - 47th.

7 - 48th.

8 - 12th. M. G. Coy.

9 - 12th. A.L.T.M. Btty.

10 - 4th. Aust. Division

11 - Right Brigade

12 - Left Brigade

13 - Liaison Officer



Headquarters,
12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade,
11th February 1917.

4th.AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Confirming this Office B.M. 178 of even date.

A Special Officers Patrol left FRITZ FOLLY at 7-30 p.m. and proceeded 300 yards along BAYONET TRENCH to N.20.a.3.9. returning along the Valley via HAM TRENCH to SUNKEN ROAD at N.20.d.4.5.

A number of apparently good and deep enemy dug-outs (deserted) were found in BAYONET TRENCH.

HAM TRENCH was found to be unoccupied.

A large enemy working party was seen on a hill on about an 800 yards frontage from N.20.b.9.9. to N.14.c.8.1.

This party was dispersed by accurate fire from our Howitzers at about 8-0 p.m.

Movement of transport was heard towards BEAULENCOURT.

Special Officers Patrols are being sent out tonight to verify this report and give fuller details.

Captain.
Brigade Major.
12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy to 13 ans 24 Kroler

Appendix Nº 4
Headquarters,
12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade,
12th February 1917.

4th .AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Reference Trench Map N.21/22.

1. I have to report that, owing to the unsatisfactory relations existing on the right flank of the trench recently taken from the enemy, it was thought advisable to drive him from his position in the trench running from our old block N.21.d.80.55. to N.22.c.20.85. in order to gain possession of the old sap running from N.21.d.85.55. - N.22.c.05.32. and a minor raid was accordingly carried out by the 46th Battalion on the night 11/12th instant with entirely satisfactory results.

2. At about midnight 11/12th instant, two parties of Bombers and a Mopping Up party from 46th Battalion, under Captain Clarke and Lieut. Syme, attacked the enemy who were occupying the trench running from our block from N.21.d.85.55. to N.22.c.20.85. supported on both flanks by two of our Vickers Guns.

The enemy who fought stubbornly, were driven back for 125 yards, leaving five dead in the trench (one officer and 4 other ranks) and one prisoner in our hands, belonging to 9th. Coy. 360th. Regt.

- S. Leaving a covering party out, we moved back to a suitable site at N.21.d.89.53. and established a new and effective block with a smaller block about 25 yards in front, forming a forward barrier which has been wired.
- 4. The new piece of trench taken is about 7 ft. wide at the top and 4 ft. deep. Our new position has given us possession of the old sap which it is now proposed to deepen and consolidate, thereby linking up with the Division on our Right.
- 5. The enemy made two attempts to counter attack but were easily driven off.
- 6. The papers taken off the German Officer have been forwarded by Special Messenger, under cover of this Office B.M. 218.

7. Our casualties were -

Killed - 2 Other Ranks
Wounded - 1 Other Rank (Slightly).

William Brigadier-General.
Commanding 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

war prom

N.21.d.83.53. by 46th. BATTALION, 12th.Aust.Inf.Bde.

Reference Map - Trench Map N.21/22.

OBJECT.

To extend the position held in CLOUDY TRENCH further to the Right flank and to establish a Block near N.21.d.9.52. To enable the old Communication Trench from N.21.d.8.5. to N.22.c.2.32. to be reopened and connection thereby made with the Division on our Right.

TROOPS EMPLOYED. (a) Bombing Party of 1 N.C.O. and 7 Men)
(b) Bombing Party of 1 N.C.O. and 7 Men) Lieut. W.A. SYME (c) Rifle Grenade Party of 6 Men) in Charge.
(d) Working Party of 2 N.C.O'S. & 10 Men)

The working party was to make barricades and consolidate.

ARRANGEMENTS.

The Rifle Grenades were to be used along the trench from the starting point and were then to lift about 30 yards forming a barrage there, under cover of which the bombing parties were to advance - Some of the rifle grenadiers would move forward after the bombers and open fire, the rest of the Grenadiers then to move forward to the others and the same tactics be repeated until about 200 yards of the trench had been taken. The working parties to follow on and establish a strong block near N.21.d.9.5½. and a second one 25 yards further up the trench - the space between the two blocks being filled with wire. After which parties (a) (b) (c) and (d) would withdraw behind the block at N.21.d.9.5½.

SIGNAL FOR ATTACK.

3 distinct bursts of 10 shots each from the Vickers Machine Gun near the Right of our position.
During the operation all Vickers and Lewis Guns were to fire short bursts all along our front with a view to prevent the enemy getting help from that quarter and to prevent him from ascertaining exactly what was happening in CLOUDY TRENCH.

NARRATIVE.

11-40 p.m. Attack commenced. The grenadiers advanced up the trench firing along it until they came in contact with the enemy; then under their barrage fire No.1 Bombing Party went to the front supported by No.2 Bombing Party, and attacked with the Mills hand grenades. The rifle grenadiers, during this bombing attack fired over the enemy's bombing parties and so cut the latter off from any help from their own people. 12-5 a.m. The enemy broke and were closely followed by our bombing parties and grenadiers for a distance of 200 yards in all up the trench. All dugouts (about 8) along this portion of the trench were bombed during the progress of our party. These parties halted and formed a covering party whilst the working parties established the blocks.

12-45 a.m. The parties withdrew behind the advance barricades 1-0 a.m. The enemy made a counter attack with bombs directly down the trench but were driven off with rifle

4-40 a.m. The enemy made a more determined attack in force down the trench, getting within our rifle grenade barrage and bombing our men with egg bombs and broomstick bombs. The severity of this attack caused several of our men to withdraw behind the second barricade - but the N.C.O's in charge of the bombers showed conspicuous gallantry and held on to the 1st barricade and eventually dispersed the enemy. Meanwhile a Lewis Gun had been placed in a position where it could fire up the trench and this and a rigorous use of rifle grenades caused the enemy to withdraw in disorder amidst much shouting on their part.

The blocks having been established and the trench consolidated the parties retired behind the 2nd Barricade.

(1)

565

BLOCKS. These were built of logs, beams, duckboards and sandbags, the whole being firmly fixed by wire to the walls of the trench.

CASUALTIES.

Our own 2 killed and 4 wounded.

Enemy 5 killed (including 1 subofficer)

l prisoner.

(Sgd) H.K. DENHAM, Lieut.-Colonel.

0.0. 46th. Battalion.

13/2/1917.

To C.O., 46th. Battalion.

As instructed by the Brigade Commander, I submit the following report re our attack on the trench (called herein CLOUDY A)

on our right flank on night of 11/12th February.

Upon receiving your orders for the attack I took steps for artillery and trench mortar assistance, but was told that artillery help was not deemed advisable. Our trench mortars were not in position to give us good help. The Division on our Right was not able to give us trench mortar assistance.

It was necessary therefore to rely on Mills grenades, both from the rifle and hand thrown. We also had help from two Vickers Guns Captain Clark was in charge of the front line. I handed to him the

following orders :-

Orders for attack on Right flank on night 11/12 February.

1. At present we have bomb block at N.21.d.8%.5%. It is ordered to establish forward bomb block at N.21.d.9%.5%.

shower of rifle (Mills) grenades will be directed at CLOUDY A Trench, from enemy's bomb block near N.21.d.93.54. and up CLOUDY A trench for fifty yards.

3. Simultaneously with action mentioned in para 2 Vickers Guns near N.21.d.6.7. will fire traversing CLOUDY A and SUNRAY Trenches.

4. Lewis Guns near right flank will open fire on CLOUDY A

5. Lewis Guns in centre will fire on new enemy trench from about N.21.5.4.1. to N.21.d.9.8.

8. Vickers Gun on left will fire traversing open ground in N.21.d. in Front of our trenches.

7. At 9-45 p.m. a standing patrol will be established at N.21.b.O.1. With Lewis Gun to watch left flank.

8. Under shower of rifle grenades mentioned in para 2 two bombing sections on the right flank will advance along CLOUDY A trench.

9. The rifle grenades at three minutes past ten will lift their fire to at least sixty (60) yards.

10. The bombers will thereupon advance to N.21.d.98.58. and establish a block with sandbags and wire taken from enemy block and from our present block.

10 A. O.C. "A" Company will provide party of ten men for wire and sandbag carrying.

11. Vickers and Lewis Guns will continue to be active so as to enable party to put wire in front of new bomb block.

12. A claw-sap will at once be commenced so as to help protect new bomb head. Working parties on this to be drawn from Eight Company.

NOTES.

Re para 2. The time of attack was advanced two hours. The shower of grenades was from six (6) rifles. It was suggested that about sixty (60) grenades would do for this first shower.

Re para 7. This was done so as to surprise the enemy if he attempted a diversion on our left flank.

Re para 8. One section of 7 men and 1 N.C.O. advanced in the trench. The other section was in the open on the right side (as they advanced) of CLOUDY A Trench.

Re para 9. It was suggested that about fifty (50) rifle grenades would do for this second shower.

This would occupy two minutes and the shower was then to be lifted to ninety (90) yards, or as far as the rifle grenades could be sent.

I did not think it advisable for the rifle gremadiers to advance along the trench - unless just so far as corner at twenty yards in front of our old block.

Re para 10. The block suggested was

Our Men Enemy 25 Yards

High Barbed wire Low Block Block

The bombers were to advance far enough to protect working party for at least fifteen minutes.

Re para 10 A. This party doubled to old block as soon as first shower of grenades lifted - they dismantled old block and put in new block.

Re para 11. We could not get out surface wire owing to enemy machine gun fire.

Re para 12. The claw sap was to be as follows

To be occupied in case of counter attack.

GENERALLY. The rifle (Mills) Grenades used as above were found to work admirably. Of enemy we counted 5 dead including a sab-officer. We took one prisoner. We feel sure that several other enemy were killed, both by grenades and by Vickers and Lewis Gun fire. These guns gave us great assistance and materially helped in beating off two counter attacksone at 12-45 a.m. and one at 4-0 a.m. Our casualties were two (2) killed and two (2) wounded.

It is suggested that a Mills Grenade with an eight (8) second fuse would be very useful. With present cartridges and rod the Mills Grenade can be propelled about one hundred and thirty (130) yards.

But with a five second fuse it explodes after travelling ninety (90) yards. Such 8 second fuse Mills Grenades could be painted some

colour to distinguish them from the 5-Second No.23.

The present rod used is five and one half (5%) inches long. A longer rod, say of seven and one half (7%) inches would propel the No.23 Mills Grenade with greater initial velocity and so increase its range of effective use.

(Sgd) John EDGLEY, Major.

46th. Battalion.

18/2/1917.

565

Appendix No 5

12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE. SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE No.3.

From 6-0 a.m. 11th February to 6-0 a.m. 12th February 1917.

12-2-1917.

QUR ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Active during the day on enemy positions between BEAULENCOURT and localities N.17.a.& c., N.16.d., N.21.b.5.0., N.21.b.6.5., N.22.c.5.9. doing good shooting. Our Howitzers got well into enemy working party in vicinity of N.14.c.8.1. - N.20.b.8.9.

TRENCH MORTARS. Our Stokes gid good shooting on enemy's lines to the left of our new positions in N.21.b.

MACHINE GUN AND RIFLE FIRE. Our Vickers Guns carried out indirect fire at intervals during the night on targets at N.15.c.30.15. and N.15.c.95.10. Nos. 1 & 2 Guns supported a bombing attack in N.22.c.

traversing along the front and flanks and also located enemy machine gun about N.21.b.05.40. engaged and silenced it.

Our A.A. Guns fired on enemy aircraft xxx xxxxxxx xxx without result. SNIPING. Active, three enemy hit.

BOMBING ATTACK. Two parties of Bombers and one Mopping Up party attacked the enemy along the trench for 125 yards. Nos 1 & 2 Vickers Guns supported the attack traversing our front and flanks. One German Officer and 4 Other Ranks were killed, one Other Rank belonging to 9th Coy. 360th. Regt. taken prisoner.

The party moved back and established a good block at N.22.c.0.6. and wired it strongly for 25 yards in front.

The enemy made two feeble counter attacks but were easily driven off. Our casualties were two Other Ranks killed and One Other Rank slightly wounded.

The new piece of trench which is about 7 ft. wide at the top and 2 ft. deep has been consolidated and the old sap running from N.21.d.85.55. to N.22.c.05.31. is being opened up in order to link up with the Brigade on our Right.

PATROLS. A Special Patrol of two men left our Bombing Post at N.21.d. 42.94. and patrolled for about 50 yards to about N.21.b.41.02. Enemy were observed sapping at about from N.21.b.45.06. to N.21.b.55.05. Two Special Officers Patrols were sent out at different hours during the night from FRITZ FOLLY alongBAYONET TRENCH to N.20.a.80.15. There are about six dugouts at this spot but entrances to all except two are blocked. One dugout is about 15 ft. deep and has a drive of about 8' x 6' x 6' with two rough bunks in it. The second dugout is about 20 ft. deep but is blown in at the bottom of the steps. These patrols returned towards GOODWINS POST and located an enemy working party working from approximately N.14.c.8.0. to N.20.b.3.8. driving in stakes, evidently a wiring party.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Exceptionally quiet on the Left Subsector.

Active at intervals shelling aimlessly.

TRENCH MORTARS. A few pineapple bombs were thrown in rear of our new trench and near GOODWINS POST - No damage.

MACHINE GUN FIRE. Indirect fire at intervals during the day and night along GRASS LANE and at Junction of CHEESE ROAD and GRASS LANE.

AIRCRAFT. Fairly active during the day flying fairly low.

SNIPING. Normal.

IDENTIFICATIONS. Enemy appears to be deepening his work about N.21.b. 20.45. Fresh wire has also been put up about this point.
What looks like a large timber dump located about N.15.d.10.35.
Enemy putting up wire from N.14.c.8.0. to N.20.b.3.8. approximately.
Enemy dropped some shells short in their own line and a few minutes after two rockets were sent up each bursting into three red lights.

SALVAGE.	Rifles		125
	Equipment sets	3	43
	L.G. Magazines	Full	31
		Empty	24

(1)

SALVAGE. (Contd).

Box Respirators Steel Helmets	31		
Water Bottles	22		
S.A.A.		Sandbags	full
A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR		Cases	
Bayonets	21		
Entrenching Tools	19		
Boots (Pairs)	9		
Wire Cutters (Pairs)	2		
Picks	35		
Shovels	25		

Malue Captain.
Brigade Major. 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - 45th. Battn.

5 - 46th.

- 48th.

8 - 12th. M. G. Coy.

9 - 12th. A.L.T.M.Btty. 10 - 4th. Aust. Division

11 - Right Brigade

12 - Left Brigade

13 - Liaison Officer

COPY OF WIRE

appor VI

To GAG

Sender's No. B.M. 259 Date 14/2/1917.

The Brigade Commander wishes you to take advantage of tonight's operation by the 15th Aus. Infy. Bde. on our right and push forward the present block about another thirty yards and establish it just beyond the junction of the trenches at about N.21.d.95.55 with a forward block in front of that again.

Zero hour 9 p.m.

From GABY

Time 3-45 p.m.

Sgd. E.L. SALIER Capt. Brigade Major.

Appendix Nº 7

OF WIRE

To GAGE

Sender's No. B.M. 260 Date 14/2/1917.

With reference to the information contained in your intelligence report of this morning concerning enemy post at N.21.a.24 AAA Please arrange for a patrol to visit this post and endeavour to destroy it AAA The Army Corps is desirous of obtaining an identification so if a prisoner can be taken it would be greatly appreciated AAA

(2) With reference to the working party of 48th Bttn. for work on trench between GOODWIN'S POST and PORK TRENCH verbal instructions are sent you through your Senior Major (Major Imlay).

Acknowledge.

From GABY

Time 3-45 p.m.

Sgd. E.L. SALIER Capt. Brigade Major.

Appendix Nº 8

12th .AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 119.

14/2/1917.

Reference Map 1: 10000.

Right, will carry out a minor operation tonight against the enemy's trenches from N.22.c.65.65. to N.22.c.25.90. at Zero plus 12 minutes.

Zero time will be notified later.

2. The 46th. Battalion will withdraw one platoon from their front line position at 7-30 p.m. and distribute it as follows - 50 Men in GREASE TRENCH from N.21.c.75.85. towards the Left Subsector.

The remainder of the platoon will be withdrawn to CHALK CLIFF.

3. The 12th. Aust. M. G. Coy. will bring indirect fire to bear along STORMY TRENCH and traverse the Roads from N.15.c.30.00 to N.15.c.35.70., N.15.c.90 to N.15.d.30.60. and N.21.b.50.30. to N.21.d.70.95.

4. To assist the operation in 1, the 51st Battalion, 13th.
Aust. Inf. Brigade is carrying out a minor operation against a portion of BAYONET TRENCH from N.20.a.32.87. to N.20.a.25.95. with the object of obtaining identification.
This operation will commence at 5 minutes before Zero.

5. Artillery programme and task table of Nos. 1 & 2 Groups is attached.

6. Watches will be synchronised from this Office under arrangements made by Brigade Signalling Officer at 4-0 p.m. and 7-0 p.m.

7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Brigade Major.

12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - 45th. Battn.

5 - 46th.

6 - 47th.

7 - 12th. M.G. Coy.

8 - 12th. A.L.T.M.Btty.

9 - Right Brigade

10 - Left Brigade

11 - 4th. Aust. Division

12 - C.R.A. 4th. Aust. Div.

13 - Bde. Sig. Officer.

E C R E T.		(To accompany Order 119).		
Time	batteries	Tesk	Rate of Pire	Ammunition
Zero minus S minutes to Zero minus S minutes.	Ho.2 Group 18th. 17th. 18th.	BAYONET TRENCH from B.14.c.15.05. to B.20.a.50.70. SDARBARD TRENCH from B.19.b.80.95. to junction With BAYONET TRENCH.	Si rounds per sun per min.	
	110th.	Trench junctions at N.14.0.35.35. and N.14.0.80.05.	per gun per min.	B X
Hero minue 5 minutes Heo Zero plus 2 minutes	No.2 Group ISth 17th 18th 41st	thence to N.14.c.27.10. thence to N.20.25.85. thence to N.25.85. thence to N.26.25.70.	Frounds per gun per min.	255 A X
	110th How	As in TASK I	As in TASK I	As in TASK I
Eldero plus 2 minutes Eldero plus 5	b.2 Group Moth 17th) 18th) 41st)	Am in TASK I	As in TASK I	25% AXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
dignal rocket is fired from 5th Aus.	b.1 Group egnd. 48rd.	SURKEN ROAD from N.81.b.80.40. tb N.15.d.85.90 and the Road N.92.b.00.80. to N.17.c.80.85.	per gun per min.	25% A X

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1017407

12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE. SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE No. 5.

From 6-0 a.m. 13th February to 6-0 a.m. 14th February 1917.

14-2-1917.

OUR ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Our 18 Pdrs. active throughout the day on enemy positions in front of BEAULENCOURT locality N.15.b. Square, N.17.c. Square and enemy trench at N.21.b.5.1. and N.21.b.9.9. Our 18 Pdrs. also didgood

shooting near SCABBARD TRENCH & VALLEY.

Our heavies were operating occasionally in direction of N.11.b. Square. TRENCH MORTARS. Our Stokes registered an enemy outpost at N.21.b.4.02. Our 60 Pdr. trench mortars also registered at this spot and N.21.b.6.1. MACHINE GUN AND RIFLE FIREACTIVE during the day on working parties at about N.15.c.3.4. Several casualties were observed.

Indirect fire was carried out intermittently throughout the night on the

following targets - N.15.d.2.5. and N.15.a.5.05. Very little rifle fire was engaged in.

SNIPING. Our snipers killed two of the enemy at about N.21.b.3.8.

Otherwise active during the day.

AIRCRAFT. Our planes patrolled our lines regularly. At 2-45 p.m. one of our planes was chased brombe enemy lines by 5 of their planes. An enemy plane was brought down in an aerial combat about 3-30 p.m. East of Flers and another plane is reported to have fallen on right of Left Subsector.

PATROLS. A Patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 1 Man left our trench at N.21.b.1 .21. at 9-0 p.m. and proceeded to N.21.b.2.4. , about 90 yds. from our trench. They heard the enemy working about 50 yds. in front of them, apparently in his front line at about N.21.b.52.2. They also located by flash a trench mortar at about N.21.b.4.4. and another at about N.21.b.6.24. After staying there for a quarter of an hour the patrol worked to the Right for about 50 yards to about N.21.b.3.32. and then returned to our

lines at 10-0 p.m. Another patrol left of two men left our front line at N.21.d.9.52. at 9-0 p.m. and poceeded half right to about N.21.d.9 .6 . from whence they heard a working party on their left. They then proceeded to the left for about 50 yards to about N.21.d.83.7. They stayed there for some minutes when a flare went up and they could see heads bobbing up and down in the trench, and also heard thuds like the filling of sandbags. The sap in which the enemy were appeared to be about 40 yards long locality N.21.d.8.7%. to about N.21.d.8%.7%. The patrol then returned to the trench at 9-45 p.m.

Special Officers' Patrols went out during the night, full details in Special reports Nos. 1 & 2 & 3.

Usual patrols on flanks were sent out and 1 patrol reported number of dead Boches in trench about N.21.a.2.4.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Enemy's 77's active during day on our Front Line about N.21.d.8.5. and in rear of SHINE Trench. Also active on GUEUDECOURT, FLERS, BULLS ROAD and GRASS LANE intermittently through the day and severely during the morning CHEESE ROAD and N.20.5. No damage done. In early and later part of day their Heavies active on GUEUDECOURT N.26.c. TRENCH MORTARS. A few pineapples thrown at GREASE TRENCH but fell short. A thrower was seen firing at N.21.a.5.6.

MACHINE GUN & RIFLE FIRE. No activity. SNIPERS. Active but no results. Sniper's position located in a hollowed

tree near N.20.b.1.5. AIRCRAFT. Little activity. As reported above one was brought down near FLERS and another over to right.

MOVEMENT. A working party seen from FRITZ FODLY in a trench at about

N.15.0.0.3. At from 5-30 p.m. to 6-0 p.m. nearly 80 enemy in full marching order seen on Left Subsector from GOODWIN'S POST. Some men carrying dixies were seen hopping over a bank in fours and fives into a deep sap opposite GOODWIN'S POST at about N.20.b.9.9. Apparently a relief of the 360th

Inf. Regt. Several Huns were observed during the day near, at what appears to be a

Timber Dump at N.15.c.1.3.

-(2)-

At about N.14.b.8.6. a party of about 40 Huns were seen with overcoats on marching in fours and fives well closed up.

About 80 yards North of GOODWIN'S POST approximately N.20.b.7.4. enemy has been seen nightly engaged in digging - owing to rise in ground M.G. fire cannot be brought to bear on this spot.

IDENTIFICATIONS. Enemy has completed a single line of Concertina Barb Wire in front of their trench N.21.b.7.0. to N.22.c.4.9. and at latter point 8 or 10 coils of wire are lying on side of trench. Enemy has several piles of timber on side of road about N.15.c.1.3. probably a timber dump.

MISCELLANEOUS. At 12-30 a.m. on 13/2/17 three Red Cross Cars were seen from our front line at about N.22.a.4.4.

SALVAGE.	Rifles			87
		ent Sets		61
	Gab Ite	,5511000	Box	38
	Ħ	11	P.H.	4
	Picks			13
	Shovel	ls		19
		. Sandbag	full	1
	Aeron	Lane M. G	fun	
	(4118	tv & Unse	erviceabl	e) 1
	Flare	Pistols		2
		Cutters		3
	Bayon			10
		Bottles		5
	Marroll	DOGGTOD		

Lieut.

For Brigade Major.

12th Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office.

2 & 3 - War Diary.

45 th Battn.

5 - 46 th

6 - 47th

7 - 48th "

8 - 12th M.G. Coy.

9 - 12th A.L.T.M. Batty.

10 - 4th Aust. Division.

11 - Right Brigade.

12 - Left Brigade.

13 - Liaison Officer.

12th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGATAPPENDIX NO. SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE No.6.

From 6-0 a.m. 14th February to 6-0 a.m. 15th February 1917.

15/2/1917.

OUR ACTIVITY. ARTILLERY. Our 18 Pdrs. active throughout the day on enemy trenches about N.21.d.7.9. N.21.a.8.6. in N.15.c. and N.15.d. Square. Our artillery covered minor operations carried out by the 15th Brigade during the evening. TRENCH MORTARS. Our Stokes at about 8 p.m. put a good traverse along enemy Strong Point from N.21.b.4.05. to N.21.b.52.0. about 40 rounds being fired. MACHINE GUN AND RIFLE FIRE. Active during the day on enemy roads and Dumps in N. 15.d. Square. At 9 pam. our Machine Guns co-operated in minor operations carried out by 15th Brigade, by employing indirect fire on the following targets. N.15.c.O. to N.15.c.3 .7., N.15.c.9.0. to N.15.d.3.6. N.21.b.5.3. to N.21.d.7.9 ., N.21.b.3.7. to N.22.a.2.2. Firing ceased at 9-30 p.m. During the night intermittent fire was maintained on the first three targets. From 8 p.m. to about 11 p.m. our M.G. supported our Bombing attack by right infilade fire from positions N.21.d.5 .7 and N.21.b.12.12. over assaulted trench (see miscellaneous) at N.21.d.93.53. Several good targets offered as the enemy continually rallied his men - our guns doing good work. SNIPING. Nothing to report. AIRCRAFT. Active during day. One of our planes was brought down near WATLING STREET killing both pilot and observer. PATROLS. Owing to minor operations carried out by 15th Brigade, only

usual flanking patrols were made, and one Special Patrol as per Special Report No.4

ENEMY ACTIVITY. ARTILLERY. Active during day on our front line about N.21.d.8.7., N.21.d.5.6. and on SHINE and in vicinity of CHALK PIT about N.27.2.6.5. Following on minor operations, enemy threw his barrage over at about 9-8 p.m. across CHALK PIT, FRITZ FOLLY and PRICE TRENCH - four casualties being caused in the latter two trenches. TRENCH MORTARS. Active during the day and night - several pineapples being thrown in rear of our front line trench about N.21.d.3.5. also a few from PORK TRENCH . MACHINE GUNS. Quiet, except as stated in Special Report No.4. SNIPERS. No activity. AIRCRAFT. Nominally active over our lines - driven off by our A.A. Tire. PATROLS. Nothing to report. MOVEMENT. Small parties of Huns were seen during the day at about N.15.d.2.4. IDENTIFICATIONS. Enemy appears to be enlarging timber dump about N.15.d.2.3. By quantity of new earth thrown up in vicinity of N.21.b.2. 65. it appears that enemy is improving his position. There is also timber lying on parapet at this spot. MISCELLANEOUS. At 9 p.m. last night we advanced about another 30 yards on our right flank and established a block at about N.21.d.93.53. A Red, White and Black Flag was noticed flying on building locality N.24.d.05.8. between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Bayonets SALVAGE. Rifles Equipment Sets Picks Box Respirators Shovels 50, L.G. Magazines Empty Balata Belting W.S. Meggett, Wire Cutters (Prs) Lieut.

For Brigade Major. 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office Copy No. 8 - 12th. M. G. Coy. 2 & 3 - War Diary 9 - 12th. A.L.T.M. Btty. 4 - 45th. Battn. 10 - 4th. Aust. Division 5 - 46th. 11 - Right Brigade 6 - 47th. 12 - Left Brigade 7 - 48th. 13 - Liaison Officer

565

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY ERIGADE.

SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE REPORT NO 4

15/2/17

Reference 10000 GUEUDECOURT.

A special enterprise of 1 Officer and 12 Other Ranks of 47th. Battalion left GOODWINS, N.20.b.8.1., for purpose of securing identifications during evening and proceeded along SUNKEN ROAD. A special patrol the previous evening had spent over an hour in this vicinity and located an O.P. at about W.Pl.a.2.4. in front of enemy wire -The party this evening approached confidently to within 5 yards of Cross Roads at N.20.b.2.4. when an enemy standing patrol of 6 Hums hitherto unobserved was stumbled against in a disused sap - Cur patrol had approached to within 5 ft. when the leading Hun raised the alarm, shouting at the top of his voice, and whole patrol disappeared around a corner of the sap over 2nd. SUNKEN ROAD (one to the right) and apparently into another sap or break in wire opposite PORK at N.21.a.5.8. Immediately an uproar arose in Hun Trench and it was manned very thickly and flares were sent up. There seemed great confusion and advantage was taken of this for a portion of our patrol to work their way forward without being observed, whilst the remainder made an ostentatious retirement, the idea being to lead the Hun to believe our patrol had retired and in the meantime to secure a suitable position to capture the patrol (Nun) should it again venture forth and also reconnoitre the wire. Our patrol worked to within 30 yds. to 45 yds. of PORK TRENCH just outside wire and waited. The enemy were still shouting when two short whistle blasts sounded and he began to bomb his own wire with stick grenades, but without doing any damage to us. This lasted or about 10 - 12 minutes when rifle fire from front and M.G. fire was directed along his wire. Our patrol remained in this place waiting for the Boche but during that time he had not stood down and as he apparently had his wind properly and truly up, the patrol returned, about midnight to our new trench parallel to SUNKEN ROAD ready to take advantage of any susmituality during the hours of darkness. It is hoped to be able to report some success but the enemy must be badly alarmed indeed. One thing is clearly shown that as this patrol moved 500 yds. Yrom GOODWINS without being detected, it would be quite practicable, easy and safe to put a body of men in this trench. We are constructing, and if a raid or attack on PORK was contemplated, our troops could approach to within 50 - 50 yards of his wire unharmed. M.G. fire plays down SUNKEN ROAD intermittently, but this new trench will be quite ready in about 2 days time. Our artillery fire during the barrage seemed excellent and enemy retaliation took 10 minutes to come, the first shells being H.V. from BEAULEN COURT way. During Whitchis strain, a Boche shell burst in his own line and 1 red flare followed by 1 red bursting into two reds was fired. When everything seemed quiet and Fritz still standing to, he sent up a golden cluster flare - this was also sent up from our Left at SCABBARD.

W.S. Augy ... Lieut.

12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTEY BUIGADA Appendix No. 17 SULLIARY OF INTELLICENCE NO.7. Appendix No. 17 Pebruary to C-O a.m. 16th February to C-O a.m. 16th February 1017.

19/10/17

OUR ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. 18 pdrs. active at intervals during day on SCABDAFD, and on N.21.a., N.15.c., N.15.d. Squares. Heavies active on rear of BEAULERCOURT.

TRINCH MORTARS. Our 60 pdrs. active on wire in front of PORK at N.21.a.4.5. Our Stokes active on enemy's position during afternoon about N.21.b.6.25. getting well into their wire, some shells falling in trench. At 7 p.m. did good shooting on N.21.b.4.2. Sixty Stokes shells were fired altogether.

on parties of enemy in N. 15.d. Square.

Indirect fire was carried out intermittently throughout the night on the following targets N. 15.d.2 .6. to N. 15.b.5 .1. and N. 15.d.7.6.

SMIPING. Active during day.

ATHORAFT Very active over enemy's lines during day. At about 11-50 a.m. one of our battle planes was forced to land in rear of enemy's

PATROLS. A patrol consisting of 1 N.C.C. and 1 Man left our trenches about N.21.b.22.05. at 8-30 p.m. and worked towards fallen aeroplane (N.21.b.4.0.) they got to within 5 yards of it and observed four of the enemy working on wire which had been destroyed by our Stokes Nortars last night. The patrol worked towards the right for about 30 yards and noticed that Strong Point had been much

Another patrol of two men went out at 9 p.m. from N.21.d.9.5 and worked towards telegraph post at about N.21.d.85.7., from where they picked up a white tape. They followed this for about 30 yards towards SUNFAY TRENCH but owing to Division on our right starting operations they thought it advisable to return. They did not

encounter any enemy patrol or see any working parties. They arrived back at 9-30 p.m.

Special Patrol Officers visited wire at PORK TRINCH during

day as per Special Report No.5.

Special Patrol accompanied I.O. of 13th Brigade from M.20.d. Central along BAYONET TRENCH to a point about M.20.a.65.50 from where they obtained a good view of SCAELARD TRUNCH.

ENERTY ACTIVITY ..

ARTILLERY. Enemy's 77's. active on STARMY TRENCH and SHIME. POSSUM RESERVE lightly shelled with shrapnel during the day. "ATLING STREET was shelled with Gas shells, H.E. and shrapnel. BULLS ROAD was intermittently shelled during day particularly in region of Left Battalion Headquarters. Gas sholls were also thrown in CRASS LAME. TRANCH MOFTARS. Active on our positions in rear about N.21.d.5.5. and N.22.c.1.4. A considerable quantity of trench mortar shells were fired into his own front line, a few landing in our line but doing no damage.

SMIPING. Nothing to report.

NACHINE GUN & FIFLE FIRE. No activity.

ATRCHAFT. Enomy Extens balleon seen from about 0-45 a.m. in rear of THILLOY. Three others in rear of Sugar Factory N.24.b.0.0. and another in direction of N.5.b.0.0. All were brought down at dusk. Planes fairly active ever our lines - one on returning firing his M.G. on our lines. Our A.A. Guns good.

IDENTIFICATIONS. Fresh earth was observed in PORK TFENCH at N.20.b.6.4. Several articles were brought in from near PORK at N.21.a.10.65.

At LUISENHOF FARM N.13.d.7.9. there appears to be a dump - much movement was observed there at times.

A Red White and Black Flag was observed flying from a building at 1.24.d.0.8.

All above targets have been pointed out to arthlery. Enemy appears to be improving his trench at N.15.c.3.9. to N.15.c.8.9. by quantity of new earth thrown out here. Enemy is doopening trench from N.91.b.0.8. to N.91.b.7.0. two picks were seen lying on parapet of trench.

Appendix W. II

MOVEMENT. Several Huns were noticed working on what appears to be a shaft at N.16.d.8.2. Hen were constantly seen walking on road N.15.d.0.?. to N.15.d.2.5.

At 7-30 p.m. and 9-30 p.m. Enemy patrols were observed on front of N.21.c.3.8. (CREASE TRENCH) but made off on being seen. Considerable enomy mevement was seen in rear of Hun lines, a large working party at N.7.c.7.7. another at N.11.b.7.4. These were big parties and were clearly seen.

GAS ALARM. Horns sounded by Right Battalion at 6-30 p.m. but no

GAS ALARM. Horns sounded by Right Battalion at 6-30 p.m. but no gas cloud came over. Gas shells were sent over as already stated.

Equipment Sets 58
Steel Helmets 10
Haversacks 4
L.G. Magazines Empty 3
S.A.A. Clips and Bandoliers (sandbags) 9
Gas Respirators (Dox) 38
Do. (P.H.) 10
Rum Jars 4
Bayonets 25
Wire Cutters (Prs) 5

For Frigade Major. 12th. Aust. Inf. Frigade.

ley kragis

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - 45th. Dattn.

5 - 46th. "

6 - 47th. "

7 - 48th. "

8 - 12th. M. G. Coy.

9 - 12th. A.L.T.M.Dtty

10 - 4th. Aust. Division

11 - Right brigade

12 - Left Brigade

13 - Liaison Officer

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Par

SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE REPORT No.5.

16th February 1917.

Contingent upon our enterprise of night 14/15th. February along SUNKEN ROAD, a Special Officers Patrol left GOODWINS (N.20.b.8.1.) and took up a position in front of enemy wire at about N.21.a.1.5. with a view to intercepting enemy patrol and obtaining information. This party remained out all day and returned at 7-30 p.m. on 15th. being most of time within 30 yards of enemy wire and 60 yards of PORK TRENCH at N.21.a.24.65. No enemy ventured forth but a good idea of his wiring system was obtained and a gap 8 feet wide located at N.21.a.32.60. -Thus is apparently where their patrol dashed home the previous night. The wire is fairly good tho' thin in places, being a mixture of barb and concertina varying along front of PORK. An entry could easily be made through wire at this point. The trench itself is duckboarded, judging by sounds and activity was heard, orders, talking, hammering and a good number of Huns wearing caps with grey bands and two buttons were seen at different times. A dirty cap found infront of wire showed a grey band sewns by the upper edge over the usual red Infantryman's cap bades.

and cap were brought in. Enemy wire instead of following closely the curve of his trench goes across the right SUNKEN ROAD at N.21.a.35.58. where it ran over the

Cross Roads at a point where good observation could be gotten. Samples,

A number of grenades dated 6-11-16 and flares were found in fork of

reverse slope of the hill. It is fairly strong there.

A Machine Gun was located at N.21.a.4.6. and N.20.b.9.9. and a Grenade thrower at apex of curve of trench (this would be N.21.a.5.8.). Our own 60 Pds. T.M. barrageed this vicinity but did no damage and apparently our Machine Guns were indirectly firing at this vicinity also. About 6-30 a.m. some Boches were noticed going over skyline to West at rear of PORK in N.20.b. - they were moving inm small groups. It appears this would be a suitable place to raid, as, judging by the previous night there must be quite a number of dugouts which could not empty very quickly and a party could get in and do damage using say Stokes Mortar Bombs, and return again

in our new trench into safety before Boche realised it.

Wy megg M. Lieut.

For Brigade Major. 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

19th. AUSTRALIA! IMPANTRY BRIGADE. Appendix Nº />

SULLIAFY OF INTELLIGENCE No.8.

From 6-0 a.m. 16th. February to 6-0 a.m. 17th. February 1917.

17-9-1917 .

OUR ACTIVITY.

AFTILLEFI. Our 18 pdrs active on enemy positions in H.15.a. to M. IC.a. Our Heavies active at times in rear of DEAULENCOURT. TREMCH MORTAIS. Active on enemy position W.21.d.f.9: also M.21.b.45. MACHINE GUM & RIFLE FIRE. Indirect fire was carried out intermittently throughout the night on targets 11.20.a.8.7. to 11.14.c.8.2. 11.20.a.2.8. to 11.20.a.7 .9 . and on 11.15.d.2.7. Our A.A. Guns active against enemy planes several times driving them off. SHIPING. Activo during day. AIRCRAFT. Active during day especially during afternoon. Mux & A large number of our planes constantly patrolled our Cector. PATROLE. A patrol of 1 1.C.O. and 1 Han went out at 8-70 p.m. from our trench 1: 21.d.4 .7 . to a distance of 70 yards to about 1.21.d.c. 81. From here they heard enemy party working on their wire about 40 yards ahoad about 11.91.d.7.94. No enemy patrols were seen. The patrol returned at 9 p.m.

Usual flanking patrols kept up communication with each flank. A Special Patrol of 1 Officer's and 3 Other Panks left GOODWINS POST at 10-30 p.m. and proceeded along LARD to DAYONET TRENCH. No enemy patrols were mot or observed. A few pineapples were dropping around GOODVINS but position of thrower could not be located.

BRIDAY ACTIVITY.

ALTILLERY. Fairly quiet during day - CHEESE BOAD, FFOST TIE CH and FLIFE receiving some attention in the morning - no damage. A little more active than usual around BULLS TREECH and GRASS LAME. TEMECH HOFTAFS. Active on GOODWINS POST and in rear of our trench 1.21.d.5.7. MACHIME GUM AND FIFLE FIRE. Mothing to report. SHIPILG. Nothing to report. AIRCHAFT. Active over their own lines during day. Our . C. and A.A. Cuns did good work. 12 observation balloons were up throughout the day in region of THILLIOT and BEAULE COURT. PATROLS. Nothing to report. IDE TIFICATIONS. A considerable amount of new earth observed at 1.9.d.5.8. A cookhouse is suspected at this locality, judging from

smoke rising at this place. Hew earth is soon at mouth of suspected shaft 7.16.d.2.2. LOVILLET. Several of the enemy were seen during day on road at about 1.9.0.7.5, also H.15.d.1 .3.

SALVAGE.	Rifles Equipment Sets	7 2		icks hovels	20
	Stool Helmots	3	0 11	ills Hand Trenades To.5	1390
	Layonets			tokes shells 3" (Foxes)	24
	Scablards -			vercoat	1
	Gas Respirators	Box	4 F	ntronching tool	agelo.
				14.	00400

Intelligence Officer

For Prigade Pajor. 19th. Aust. Infantry Erigade. · Copy lo. 1 - Office

2 2 3 - Tar Diary

Copy . o . 10 - Ath. Aust. Tivision 4 - 45th. Lattn. 11 - Tight Trigado 5 - 47th. 19 - Left Prigado

e - 47th. 17 - Liaison Officer 7 - 19th. ... Coy. 8 - 10th. A. .T. .Ltty.

9 - 48th. Lattn. :

T- Copy No. 14 12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY EFIGADE ORDER Appendix Nº 13

18/2/1917.

Reference Hap 57c S.W. 1:20000.

The 45th Battalion will attack and take portion of enemy's trench on the 20th instant. Zero hour will be notified later.

2. The objective is the enemy's trench from N.21.b.10.50. to N.21.a.30.65.

- 3. Artillery programme is attached Appendix I.
- 4. From Zoro till + 2 minutes the 12th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Battery will barrago enemy trench at N.21.a.90.50, and then form a creeping barrage along STORMY TREMCH as far as M.21.a.80.65. under which the attack will advance. The barrage lifting by Special Signals arranged by O.C. Attack and O.C. A.L.T.H. Battery.
- 5. Commoncing from Zero hour the 12th. Aust. H. G. Coy. Will soarch the roads with indirect fire as under -

(i) N.21.b.60.10. to N.15.d.70.90. (ii) N.21.a.80.99. to N.15.d.35.85. (Rti) M.21.a.30.99. to N.15.c.40.90.

- 6. At 30 minutes before Zero O.C. 48th Battalion will move the garrison from trenches M.21.6., M.21.7. and M.20.1. and occupy the new trench running from GOODWINS POST to about IT.21.a.25.50.
- 7. 4 Officers and 200 O.R. from 46th Battalion will move to POSSUM RESERVE in support and come under orders of O.C. 45th. Battn.
 - 8. Immediately the objective is taken (i) A strong point will be established at about

N.21.a.30.65. (ii) O.C. 48th Eattalion will at once join up from about N.21.a.25.50. to the strong point and will occupy the new line from GCODWINS POST to N.21.a.30.65. (inclusive).

(iii) O.C. 45th Battalion will make special arrangements WXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX to notify 0.C. 48th. Eattalion when the objective has been occupied.

9. The Brigade Signal Officer will arrange for direct communication between CHALK PIT (H.27.a.80.20.) and Brigade H. Qrs.

10. Immediately identifications are obtained they will be wired to Erigade H. Ors. Prisoners will be sent to Brigade H. Ors. as soon as circumstances will allow.

11. Arrangements for evacuation of wounded will be made by O.C. 45th Eattalion direct with A.D.M.S.

12. O.C. 45th Battalion will arrange for the necessary supply of ammunition, tombs, tools, sandbags and wire.

13. Watches will be synchronised under arrangements made by Brigade Signalling Officer at 12 noon and 6 p.m. on 19th instant.

14. ACKNOVLEDGE.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - 45th. Battn.

5 - 46th.

- 47th. "
- 48th. "

8 - 12th. M. G. Coy.

Malier Oaptain.

Brigado Major.

12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy Ho. 9 - 12th. A.L.T.H. Btty. 10 - C.R.A. 4th .Aust .Div

11 - 4th. Aust. Div.

12 - Right Brigade

13 - Left Brigade 14 - Bde. Sig. Officer

15 - Staff Captain.

--- ARTILLERY PROGRAMME ---

Time	Eattorios	TASK	Femarks
1. Zero to + 15 Minutes	18 Pdr.	From Road M.21.a.65.75. along PORK TREMCH to M.20.b.90.85.	
15 minutes till daylight	18 Pdr.	From N.21.a.10.65. to N.20.5.40.90.	As arranged by C.R.A.
2. + 30 till daylight	l8 Pdr.	From M.15.c.50.30. to I.15.d.35.10.	Continuous barrage as arranged by C.R.A.
3. + 30 till daylight	4.5 Howitzors	N.15.d.25.60. to N.15.d.40.90.	Intermittent barraged as arranged by C.R.A.

Appendix Nº 13

CU

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

Copy To.

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18th. AUDTI ALIA INFANTEY DE ITALAppendix Nº 14

OU. AFT OF INTELLICATION 10.9.

From C-O a.m. 17th February to C-O a.r. 19th February 1917.

18/9/1917.

OUR CTIVITY.

THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY. ARTILLEFY. Fairly quiet during day. A few bursts of shrapnel were sent over between 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. but offect could not be observed. TREMCH LOFTARS. About 2-30 a.m. a dozen Stokes shells were fired at suspected working party at H.21.b.14.5. MACHIFE GUE & FIFLE FIRE. Indirect fire was carried out intermittently throughout the right on the following targets :- M. 15.0.3.7. to 11.15.a.7.3., 11.15.c.8.7. to 11.15.b.0.2. Owing to fog precautions as for night were observed at all Posts during the day. Our Lewis Guns put several bursts in on the party mentioned above. SHIPING. Nothing to report. RELIEF. The relief of the Right Sector was successfully completed by 7 p.m. without casualties. PATROL . A Standing Patrol was sent out about 9 p.m. about 50 yards on our Right Flank about H.21.1.8 . Ch. This has not yet been withdrawn.

A Patrol of an Officer and Sergeant left our trench at N.21.b.1.3. at 7 p.m. last right and worked along the left arm of old STROWY TRENCH for about 60 yards to within 15 yards of enemy block. The intention was to proceed farther along the trench, but the Patrol was stopped at this point by old German wire. There appeared to be several Huns in the trench and they were talking quite audibly. From further along one called loudly to the others. A relief may possibly have been in progress.

A fairly strong party was engaged upon the wire in front of new enemy trench and extending to the Fight

onemy trench and extending to the Right.

The left branch of the sap (Stormy) was found to be badly knocked xbo about, but to afford good convealment and cover from rifle fire, although poor protection against Artillery. The trench contains some litter, a number of bags, and a fair quantity of German Stick Crenades.

An enemy M.C. appears to be about 15 yards on the left side of their block. The fire was observed on previous night, but last evening the gun remained quiet until the patrol had returned to our own trench. The fire was directed towards GFTASE TREMCH to the left of FOURTEENTH ALLEY.

The patrol returned at 8-15 p.m.

The usual flanking patrols were active during the night - Nothing to report.

A special patrol of 1 H.C.O. and 4 men (scouts) left To.1 Post, Left Subsector (H.21.c.3.8.) at 10-30 p.m. and proceeded to SUNKEN ROAD Crossing at H.21.a.2.4. and then on to PORK and PACON Trenches and back to GOODYTHS POST.

No enemy movement detected and nothing heard. Flares were frequently sent up but otherwise everything extremely quiet. Patrol returned to No.1 Post at 12-30 s.m.

Another patrol of 1 H.C.O. and 4 scouts left the same spot at 12-30 a.m. and followed the same route. An enemy patrol was observed at about 1.21.a.C.5., but disappeared immediately. Patrol returned at 3 a.m.

Another patrol of four scouts left No.14 Post (N.20.b.45.00.) at 8-30 p.m. and proceeded to about N.20.b.1.5. and on to BAYOHET TRENCH, moving down this trench to about N.20.a.9.1. and from thence returned to PORK TRENCH at 11-40 p.m. No enemy movement observed. Numerous flares sent up from N.20.a.30.95. to N.20.b.1.9. Talking could be heard coming from approximately N.20.b.1.9.

Owing to thick fog prevailing during the evening observation of enemy wire was impossible.

(1)

(2).

EMELT ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Very quiet. A few H.E. Shells of about 4.2 calibre fell in region of CREASE TRENCH and Gun Pits. TREMCH HORTALS. A few pineapples were sent over on Right Subsector during evening about 6 at a time. The T.H. could not be located. HACHINE GUN & RIFLE FIRE. Occasionally active sweeping GRASS Tronch in region of Tank - No damage. What appears to be a fixed rifle fired at frequent intervals on No.20 Post 11.20.d.1 .6. - No effect. Owing to thick fog flashed could not be observed. A few bursts of indirect fire early in the evening appeared to strike about H.28.d.2.3. SMIPING. Nothing to report. AIRCRAFT. Nothing to report. PATROLS. An enemy patrol seen at 1.21.a.f.5. as reported above. HOVELILIT. Nothing to report. IDENTIFICATION. Nothing to report. DISPOSITION S. As per separate Disposition State herewith.

SALVAGE. Rifles
S.A.A. (Sandbags)
(Eoxes)

Bayonets
Auxilary H.C. Tripod
Vire cutters
Water Dottle

Intelligence Officer.
For Brigade Hajor.
12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - Tar Diary

4 - 45th. Lattn.

5 - 46th.

7 - 48th.

8 - 19th. N. G., Coy.

9 - 19th. A.L.T. Etty.

10 - 4th. Aust. Division

11 - Right Brigade

12 - Left Erigade

13 - Liaison Officer

Headquarters, 18/2/1917.

--- DISPOSITION REPORT.---

12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade Headquarters - S.12.b.9.8.

"A" Bn. Right Sub-Sector. N.21.d.9.5%. to N.21.b.1.3. (45th.Bn.)

Right Coy. N.21.d.4%.8. to N.21.d.9.5%.)

Right Rn. Coy. H. Qrs. N.21.d.4%.7%.

Left Coy. N.21.b.1.3. to N.21.b.4%.8.) Platoons.

POSSUM Coy. H. Qrs. N.21.b.2%.2%.

N.28.C.9.1. Supports. One Platoon GREASE TRENCH N.21.d.5.6. to

One Plateon and Bn. Mining Plateon and Coy.

Reserve. 12 Coys. PILGRIMS WAY N.26.0.0.2. to N.26.c.

22.0. Coy. H. Qrs. N.26.c.62.4.

One Platoon BULLS ROAD N.32.c.3.6.

"B" Bn. (48th.Bn.) Left Bn. H. Qrs. in BULLS ROAD N.31.b.3.1. Right Coy. N.21.c.7.9. to N.20.b.7%.1.

Coy. H. Qrs. N.20.b.7%.1.

Left Coy. N.20.d.8.9. to N.20.c.5.6.

Coy. H. Qrs. N.20.d.8.9. to N.20.c.5.6.

Supports. Right Coy. and Coy. H. Ors. BULLS ROAD vicinity N. 31.b. 3.16.

Left Coy. and Coy. H. Ors. CHEESE ROAD vicinity N. 26.2.2.8.

"O" Bn. (46th.Bn.) Support En. H. Qrs. in SWITCH TRENCH T.1.c.1.5. 2 Coys. in GAP TREECH.

2 Coys. in SWITCH TRENCH.

"D" Bn. (47th.Bn.) Reserve Bn. In Reserve at TOWNSVILLE CAMPS.

Company.
H. Qrs.
S.12.b.9.8.

Front Line. 1. N.21.d.7.7. 2. N.21.b.12.12.

5. N.20.6.7.1. 4. N.20.d.64.54. 5. N.20.d.24.2. (Reserve Gun)

Intermediate Line.

5. N.31.b.5.5. 6. N.31.b.9.5. 7. N.28.c.2.0. 8. N.32.8.6.7. 9. N.32.8.98.58.

10. N.26.c.18.8. N.32.b.2.88. (Anti-Aircraft).

In Reserve.

5.T.1.C.3.6. 6.T.1.C.2.3.

S.6.d.9.2. (Anti-Aircraft).

12th. A.L.T. M.Battery H. Qrs. S.12.b.6.2. Hagazine CHALK PIT N.27.a.6.2.

1 Mortar N.21.d.1.4.

1 " N.21.c.9.8%.

1 " N.21.c.9.8.

6 Mortars in Reserve.

Daptein.

Brigade Major.

12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

18th: AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY ERICADE. Appendigo to 15 From G-O a.m. 18th February to 6-O a.m. 19th February 1917.

19/9/1917.

OUR ACTIVITY. ARTILLERY. Our 18 pdrs. fairly active on PORK vicinity 11.20.b.3.8. and in rear. Shrapnel was played on Ridge beyond STORMY. Howitzers searched for enemy Trench Hortar at about N.22.a.1.1. - A largen proportion of these failed to explode. A few shells were sent over towards THILLOY . . TRENCH MOFTARS. Cur Stokes ranged on wire on the right of enemy block at N.21.b.1.4. MACHINE GUM & RIFLE FIFE. Indirect fire was carried out intermittently throughout the night on the following targets - N. 13.d. 7., N.13.d.8.74. Our Lewis Guns were active during night on onemy's wire in Fight . Sub-Sector. SHIPING. Misty conditions made sniping almost impossible. During - morning two of the many onemy were seen to climb over the back of SUMRAY Trench approximately at M.22.a.l.l. and disappear into a shell hole. On their reappearing a number of shots were fired. Both fell but impossible to ascortain whether they were killed or not. AIRCRAFT. No activity owing to fog.

PATROLS. A patrol wont out at 8-35 p.m. from our block in the left of STOFMY TRENCH about N.21.b.1.3. to inspect wire on left front from approximately N.21.b.1.3. to N.21.b.3.7. It was found to be in good condition. No work was being done to enemy's wire at this time. Patrol returned to same place at 9-50 p.m. A Special Patrol of one Officer and an W.C.O. left our block at H.21.b.1.3. STORMY TREMCH and made a detour to the loft of about 30 yards to old German wire and then turned parallel to STORMY TRENCH. All wire was carefully examined and though forming a general obstacle was found to broken in places wire in front of enemy block found to be in fair condition. The patrol located the H.G. already reported at 1.21.b.0 . 3. 15 yards left of enemy block. Another M.G. located about 11,21.a,9,5. A third is suspected in the block itself (M.21.b. -.4.). The occupants of tronch were very quiet - a few coughs were heard but no estimate could be formed of the numbers in the trench. The patrol came through a gap in the wire and returned along STORIN TRENCH to our own block. The ground was very soft in places and walking heavy. A Special Patrol No.1 of 1 N.C.O. and 4 Scouts left N.21.c.35.85. at 8-30 p.m. and proceeded to about N.21.a.7.5. and from thore to SUNKEN ROAD N.21.a.2.4. From here across GOODWIN to LARD TRENCH and across to the trees at N.20.b.1.5. across HALL TREMCH and along PORK TRENCH and from there over to SUNKEN ROAD to Coy. H. Ors. - see route on map attached. No enemy patrols observed and no movement. Enemy shelled with shrappel N.21.a. His flares were continually sent up. Wire in front of PORK and BACON TREMCHES seems fairly strong and unbroker. HAM TREMCH is very much broken up and is not manned. Another Patrol No.2 of 4 scouts went out at 11-15 p.m. from LARD TREFCH N.20.b.45.00. and worked across to BAYOTET to F,20.a.9.1. and on to M.20.b.1.4. and across Valley to LARD TREMCH. No enemy patrols and no movement observed. Everything very quiet, Another Patrol No.3 of 1 N.C.O. and 4 scouts went out at 1 A.M. to 4-30 a.m. following the same route as Mo.1 and found things very quiet. Enemy very jumpy and keeps flares up continuously. From the enomy's wire our patrols movine along SUNKER ROAD near Coy. H. Qrs.

EMEMY ACTIVITY. ARTILLERY. Active on our Right Sub-Sector - up till midnight a few 77's were fired on about N.21.d.9.5. most of them falling in rear of our trench and doing no damago. Fairly active with H.E. during the day on FLERS behind left flank of BULLS ROAD.

burst from enemy and an occasional rifle shot.

11.21.d.42.72. can be distinctly heard. This is followed by a H.G.

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TRLICH HORTARS. Exceptional activity on our Right flank
M.21.d.98.58. with pineapples during night. Also a few
pineapples and rifle grenades were thrown in vicinity of
GOODWINS POST but with no offect.
HACHINE GUM & RIFLE FIRE. Mormally active during the night.
An onemy H.G. was directed on working party digging a san to
left of SUNKEN ROAD at N.20.b.8.2. causing I casualty.
SHIPING. No activity.
AIRCRAFT. No activity.
PATROLS. Nothing to roport.
WIRE. Enomy's wire in front of PORK and DACON Trenches is fairly
strong - concortina and barb running from SUNKEN FOAD
N.21.a.3.6. to N.20.5.4.8.
HOVEHEHT. At about Ca.m. yesterday a party of about 17 Germans
were seen moving into Gully behind their block N.21.a.9.9. They
were without arms or equipment - evidently a fatigue party. A
few riflo grenades were fired into the party which immediately
disappeared.
IDENTIFICATIONS. Enemy H.G. firing at working party from about
H.21.a.2.7. Another H.G. firing across CRASS LAME from
approximately N.20.b.25.70.
VEATHER. Very misty and muddy both day and night.
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154 SALVAGE. Riflos 6-1 Equipment Sots Do. parts (Eags Full) Equipment pieces Belts waist web Haversacks Bayonets 26 Water Bottles S.A.A. (Bags Full) 2000 Rds. Do. in boxos Grenados Hand Hills No.50 11 Cases Steel Helmets Gas Pospirators (Box) (P.H.) Do. Picks. Pick Hoads

Picks 10
Pick Heads
Hess Tins 8
Pully block and chain (Set) 2
Stretchers A.L.C. 2
L.G. Magazines (in panniers) 12
Do. (loose) 17

Entrenching tools complete 3

Intelligence Officer.
For Brigade Lajor.

12th. Aust. Infantry Brigade.

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Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - Ver Diary

4 - 45th. Eattn.

5 - 46th.

6 - 47th.

7 - 48th.

8 - 12th. 4. G. Coy.

9 - 12th. A.L.T.M.Btty.

10 - 4th. Aust. Division

11 - Left Brigade

12 - Right prigade

13 - Liaison Officer
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Appendix Nº 16. Headquarters. 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade,

20th February 1917.

GECRES, Was Dia

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Ref. Trench Map

At 3 a.m. this morning it was proposed to attack the enemy's trench from our Block about N.21.b.1.4. All arrangements were accordingly made.

At 10-45 p.m. I received a telephone message from Lieut-Colonel Herring C.O. attacking Battalion that the conditions were such as to imperil the success of the attack and asking that it might be postponed. I instructed him to continue the preparations for the carrying out of the operation and to send me fuller particulars.

I instructed my A/Staff Captain who was at CHALK CLIFF to proceed immediately to the front line and report the prevailing conditions.

At 11-30 p.m. I received attached copies of messages from Lieut-Colonel Herring . After consideration of the messages I agreed to the suggestion of Col. Herring and the attack was Temporarily suspended. I was influenced by the following considerations -

- 1. The condition of ground.
- 2. The men were greatly fatigued with the effort of reaching the front line and the front line was in a state that prevented the rapid movement which was necessary in an operation of this kind.
- 3. I considered that a less elaborate scheme with much smaller numbers would secure the objective in sections and what we proposed to take in one effort could be taken in say two attempts.
- 4. As time was not a consideration I considered it would be better to reorganize a new attack and possibly carry same out tonight.

Brigadier-General. Commanding 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

COPY .

12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

I enclose Capt. Howdens report. Since midday the weather has been very hot and conditions are very bad indeed. In my opinion the attack would not be a success under present conditions without great sacrifice of life and the holding of the trench if won would be doubtful.

(Sgd) Sydney C.E. HERRING, Lt.Col.

10-33 p.m.

Certified true copy Ebrumelel Hollowhayer ret 417

C.O. 45th. Bn.

19th .

I want you to exercise your full right and cry the stunt off AAA Conditions are exceptionally fierce as regards mud and Knox informs me that he can hardly realise the saps are the same as he used this morning AAA They are thigh deep and Fourteenth Alley is impassable and passage only possible overland AAA What men have arrived here so far are absolutely "done in" and even Adams Schadel and myself are almost in the same plight. In a flank attack such as ours is and where success depends on the rapidity with which we get our parties off in quick succession and keep up a chain supply of grenades, the conditions are absolutely unfavourable AAA The trench on the left is pretty fair but will only accomodate two parties in the jumping off spot: the place where the next party will be in waiting is very bad AAA Carrying parties and these are most essential to keep up the chain supply of bombs will never get through in time along the communication we intend opening up afters the first few parties have made their assault AAA You must also bear in mind that this is an old sap and will of course be very muddy even when cleaned out AAA Pickup has just returned to the dugout and he is awfully done up AAA I have had a conference of officers present (it is 9 p.m. and Capt. Young has not arrived) including Capt. Knox and he is of the same opinion as myself :- that it is impossible to carry on seeing the state of the men and the mud with any hope of success. I have weighed every point and honestly I think it absolutely impossible to form the flank attack until the mud dries or until we duckwalk the left and Fourteenth Alley or until the mud dries AAA I will accept all responsibility for the action I have taken. In the event of telephone wires becoming broken through shell fire I could not guarantee a runner reaching you within 2 hours AAA With the preparations we have made and what can still be further made : I think that when we do attack everything would be assured but tonight I am positive we will meet with failure; we could never bomb up the trench quickly enough AAA Please advise me by wire the following :-

All leave is cancelled.

If you intend crying it off wire

If you think you ought to carry on wire :-

Leave granted.

Capt. Johnson has just arrived and he informs me that men are bogged in the saps and the congestion is fierce AAA This means that all parties will require re-sorting AAA He is of the same opinion that to carry on with the existing conditions means disaster AAA Cry it off.

(Sgd) HOWDEN

9-31 p.m. 19/2/1917.

Capt. O.C. Attack.

I want you to bear in mind that the rumers have no gear whereas all the men who are coming up are carrying full equipment plus grenades, sandbags and 220 rounds S.A.A.

A. C.H.

Capt.

Certified True Copy Brigade Major. 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade. REPORT.

Under instructions received from the G.O.C. 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade I proceeded to the front line from CHALK PIT, with the object of ascertaining the condition of the front line, the communication trenches to it and the condition of the men taking part in the proposed attack.

I left CHALK PIT at 10-44 p.m. with a runner and went along the Sunken Road to FUGITIVE ALLEY. The whole of this trench with the exception of the last part which is duckboarded was in a bad condition. It was very heavy walking as the mud which was very sticky was nowhere less than ankle deep and in parts nearly knee deep.

From GREASE TRENCH I got into FOURTEENTH AVENUE. This communication trench was in a worse condition than any I have ever seen. The trench which is very narrow had at least 6 inches of sticky mud its whole length and in many places it was up to the knee and higher in very sticky mud. Both the runner and I, although we were not hindered by any equipment, etc., were considerably knocked up. I reached the left Company Headquarters at 11-28 p.m. There I saw the O.C. Attack, the officer in charge of the front line and the two senior officers taking part in the proposed attack. There I was informed that the various parties e.g. bombing, mopping up, etc. had become mixed up on the way throughthe C.T. owing to some men being stuck and others stopping to pull them out. These Officers were most emphatically of the opinion that conditions were most unfavourable and that the men were already very knocked up. In addition so badly had the front line been churned up owing to the thaw and the passage of troops e.g. carrying parties, etc., that it would be very difficult for the various parties to follow on each other with the rapidity desired and to keep up supplies.

In company with the O.C. Attack and the officer i/c of the front line I proceeded to the left flank. I left the Company Headquarters at 11-41 p.m. and reached the left flank at 11-52 p.m. The going was very heavy especially at the junction of FOURTHENTH AVENUE and the front line.

The whole length with exception of parts where standings were, had at least 6 inches of sticky mud and in many places was knee deep. I myself had to be pulled out once.

I questioned the men both going and coming back. The majority of them appeared to be exhausted, some even having left their boots in the mud.

On my way back to CHALK PIT, I got over the parados with difficulty and came back overland. This too was heavy going, the thaw having set in considerably.

In view of what I saw as above, I was of the same opinion as the O.C. Attack that conditions were most unfavourable and that if it were to be successful, it would be with heavy casualties.

In addition, so difficult would the keeping up of communication and supplies owing to the mud, that even success could not be absolutely assured.

20/2/1917.

S.Lee, Major.

Copy No 2. 43 1 won I 12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGAD Popendix Nº 17 Headquarters, 20/2/1917. C.O., 45th. Battalion. You will organize and carry out a minor operation on the enemy's position commencing from our Block about N.21.b.15.20. Parties will be organized and every endeavour made to take and hold the enemy's trench as far as point N.21.a.82.65. Attack to be launched at a suitable time before daylight temorrow 21st instant. ACKNOWLEDGE. Shrundettbelto mayor f Captain. Brigade Major. 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade. Copy No. 1 - Office 2 & 3 - War Diary 4 - 45th. Battn. 5'- 48th. 6 - 12th. M. G. Coy. 7 - 12th. A.L.T.M. Battery 8 - 4th. Aust. Division 9 - Right Brigade 10 - Left Brigade 11 - Staff Captain 12 - A.D.M.S. 13 - Spare AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Appendix Nº 18 Copy No. 44

SULLARY OF INTELLIGITCH NO.II. From C-O a.m. 19th Fobruary to C-O a.m. 20th Fobruary 1917.

00/0/1017.

OUR ACTIVITY. ARTILLERY. A fow shrapnol shalls were fired during afternoon on N.22.a.c. and N.21.b. which were observed to burst well. Active with 4.2 H.E. on PORK and BACON Trenches and DAYONET and SCADPARD vicinity H.20.a.50.95. to H.14.c.5.1. Our heavies active during morning towards THILLOY. Little activity during night. TRANCH MORTAIS. No activity. TACHINE GUN & RIFLE FIRE. No activity during day - our L.G. active during night on onemy's vire opposite Right Subsector. SHIPING. Little activity owing to misty conditions. A German was sniped about M.21.b.8.2. AIFCRAFT. No activity.

PATROLS. Usual communication was kept botwoon flanks during night but there was nothing to report. Several patrols were sent out over our left Subsector during the night and visited BAYOMET TREMCH to M.20.a.7.4. HAM, BACOM and POEK TRIMCHES along Sunken Road to H.21.a.2.4. but found nothing now to report beyond what has already been reported by previous patrols. No enomy movement was seen. Very few flares were sent up during the evening. The patrols report that Ho Hans Land is very thick in mud and progress difficult.

EHELY ACTIVITY. ARTILLERY. FRITZ FOLLY AND FROST TRINCH received attention at intervals during the day and night with H.E. and Shrapnel. At 11-40 a.m. CHEESE ROAD was actively sholled with H.E. and Shrapnel till about 12-20 p.m. GOOD"INS POST was fired on with shrapnol during afternoon - no offect. OTASS LAME, FLERS, and loft of BULLS RUN vero lightly shelled at intervals with H.E. FUCITIVE ALLEY received some attention during the day. Six tear sholls were sent over to about H.21.d.8.7. about 11 p.m. TRENCH MORTARS. Vory quiet. A few pineapples were fired into 14th. AVENUE about 11 p.m. LACHINE GUN & RIFLE FIRE. Active at intervals during the day in duckboards in GRASS LAME firing from 11.20.b.25.70. Two rifle shots wore fired on our working party from point H.Pl.a.O.5. during night. SHIPING. An enemy sniper firing from about H.20.b.35.80. operated on GRASS LAME duckboards during day till 19-15 p.m. when a shell burst on his position and no sniping has been done since. AIRCRAFT. Mil. PATROLS. Nothing to report. HOVEHILT. At parly morning two of the enemy were seen moving along ridge at 11.14.d.1.4. another two at about 11.00.b.8.8. another two at 11.21.a.7.8. IDENTIFICATIONS. Enony sniper located at N.20.b. 35.80. MISCELLAMEOUS. An enemy relief appeared to be in progress in square 1.21.b. during the afternoon as men could be seen in the distance. TEATHER. Fairly clear during day, misty during night. Ground very

Equipment sots liagazines L.G. Empty Steel Helmets Entrenching Tools Rifles (German) Cases shell (Empty)	111 56 18 5 2 7	Spades Picks Pick Hoads S.A.A. Rounds Groat Coat Cape ("aterproof) Light	
--	--------------------------------	--	--

Intelligence Officer For Brigado Hajor.

19th. Aust. Inf. Drigado.

Copy No. 1 - Office

soft and muddy. mild.

2 7 3 - Var Diary

4 - 45th. Lattn.

5 - 46th.

e - 47th. 7 - 48th.

8 - 12th. L. C. Coy.

9 - 12th. A.L. T. .. . Dtty .

Copy Mo. 11 - 4th. Aust. Division 12 - Right Drigado

13 - Loft Frigado 14 - Liaison Officer

Appendix Nº 19

Headquarters,
12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade,
21st February 1917.

4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Reference Trench Hap.



In compliance with instructions contained in your G.5/184, arrangements were made to attack the enemy's position from our Block at H.21.b.15.20. on the night 19/20th. For reasons, set out in my memo of 20th February, the attack was postponed until night of 20/21st.

After arrangements were put in hand on the 19th, the climatic conditions changed, the weather became warmer, rain fell and the thaw set in. It was therefore thought inadvisable to attempt an attack on a large scale and it was considered that an operation carried out by a much smaller party would succeed in wrenching at least a section of the trench from the enemy and ontail a much smaller proportion of casualties.

The 45th. Battalion which was holding the trench contiguous to the objective, Captain Howden assisted by Lieuts. Cornish and Eurray carried out the offensive with specially selected teams of Campbers and Lewis Machine Gurs. Captain Johnstone assisted by Lieut. Erexik operated the Stokes Mortar and arrangements had been made with Captain Sawer, 12th. M. G. Coy., to barrage flanking roads by indirect fire.

The Stokes Hortars opened fire on the enemy's block at Zero hour, at zero plus 3 minutes they lifted 160 yards and the attacking party which had been concealed in adjacent shell holes, rushed the trench. The enemy at this point was taken completely by surprise and readily surrendered, our mon then bombed their way along the trench driving and killing the enemy on route. The trench was in a frightful condition men sinking in places to the hips in slush, the going therefore was somewhat slow, however, the rifle gronados which proved of inestimable value, kept the enemy on the move and apart from occasional bombs the resistance was not great, many of the enemy that should have shown fight preferred to surrender. Strong resistance was not encountered until our force reached the point, here the enemy had not been subjected to the Stokes Mortars and he had had time to collect himself and bring to his assistance a Pincapple Hortar. We wore therefore forced to give way slightly but succeeded on placing our AN effective block in the trench about the point H.21.a.80.60. After a short time, just about daylight, the enomy counter attacked but in the meantime emplacements had been built for the Stokes a hundred yards up the captured trench and with the fire of those and rifle gronades, the counter attack fizzled out.

The length of trench wrested from the enemy is about 290 yards, it is on a commanding position and about 250 yards from the Strong Point that we have established at N.21.a.2.4. in the new communication leading from GOODWINS POST. I propose if possible pushing forward to the point where STOREY TRENCH crosses the road at point N.21.a.69.75. and establishing a block at this point on Southern side of road and linking up with our Strong Point N.21.a.2.4. by Posts.

There are a number of recommendations which I propose to forward for your consideration but these will be sent you on the authorised form.

The following prisoners were secured - 21 unwounded and 8 wounded.

Our casualties were 1 Officer slightly wounded.
7 Other Ranks slightly wounded.

(2).

The success of the operation is due to the Dattalien Commander's arrangements, the perfect reconnaissance carried out beforehand by the leaders personally and the intense onthusia m displayed by the men.

The condition of the ground was beyond imagination, this helped to complete the surprise for it is certain the enemy never imagined that an attack would be attempted whilst this prevailed. Giout-Colonel Herring supervised the arrangements and nothing was left to chance. The artillery support was efficiently carried out and proved most effective.

> Calier Call Drigadier-Ceneral. Commanding 12th. Aust .Inf Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - 4th. Aust. Division

C - Left Brigade

7 to 10 - Spare

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters, 21/2/1917.

48th. Battalion.

Reference trench map 57c S.W.



It is not proposed to continue the operation of this . morning till further advised. It is possible the enemy may endeavour to regain his lost ground tonight. In addition to the Posts in trench running from GOODWINS to Point 24, a post to be placed about N.21.a . Tapes may be had from Brigade for guidance if required. Active patrolling is desired.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Shundeltbillo hago.

Brigade Major.

12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office 2 & 3 - War Diary 4 - 48th. Battalion. 5 - 45TH " From 6-0 a.m. 20th February to 6-0 a.m. 21st February 1917.

27/2/1917.

OUR ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Fairly active during day on PORK TREMCH at M.21.a.5.8. doing good shooting. Active on enemy's line at approx.

TRENCH MORTARS & BOLDS. Very active along STORIN TRENCH at 3-40 a.m. Several bombs were also thrown.

ACHINE GUIL & RIFLE FIRE. Indirect fire was carried out on targets

during the night.

SNIPING. Mothing to report.

PATROLS. Right Coys. Patrols visited all Posts in Subsector hourly and joined up with Battalion on Right and Coy. on Left every two hours. Loft Coys. Patrols visited all Posts in Subsector and joined up with unit on Loft and Coy. on Right overy two hours. No.1 Patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 4 Scouts operated in front of Pight Coy. Subsector, from 8 p.m. to 11-65 p.m. Route - Up SUNKEN ROAD from Right Coy. Hars. to N.21.a.2.4. across in front of head of now sap along enemy's vire across to GOOD"INS POST. They report enemy's wire strong (see wire report) no enemy patrols seen. M.G. position picked up (see Identifications). Enemy talking could be heard from a point approximately 80 yards from N.21.a.2.4. FLARES freely used by enemy. No.2 Patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 4 Scouts took over from No.1 Patrol at midnight, from midnight till 3-30 a.m. The same route was followed as No.1. They report - confirmed No.1's identification of N.G. and snipers positions. No enemy movement observed. Flares fairly plontiful by onemy. Suspect Dugouts in SUNKEN ROAD at approximately 11.21.a.3.6. but owing to mist this will have to be confirmed. No.3 Patrol did not operate on account of wixk Unit on Left operating on a large scale in front of their Sector and part of ours.

ATTACK. A minor operation was carried out by the 45th Battalion at 3-45 a.m. against enemy's trench (STORMY TREMCH) and was entirely successful. 200 yards of trench was taken and consolidated. A Block established at N.21.a.80.60. Twentynine prisoners were taken. Our casualties were only 1 Officer and 7 Other Ranks slightly wounded. Special report attached.

EMEMY ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Active during day and night, on EULLS ROAD, FROST TRENCH, CHEESE ROAD. No damago. Very active during the night on FRITZ FOLLY and vicinity FROST TRENCH. At periods throughout the night the gully vicinity N.20.d.7.7. was shelled with 4.2's - no effect. At 3-45 a.m. salvoes of H.E's. were sent over our positions to vicinity CHALK PITS coming from point in a line with N.21.a.0.3. and N.14 central. At 4-0 a.m. FRITZ FOLLY was heavily shelled with 4.2 H.E. no damage.

TRENCH MORTARS AND BOMBS. Very active throughout the day with rifle grenados firing behind GOODVINS POST. No effect. A few pineapples were thrown at intervals during day round Right Coy. Hqrs. Most of those foll in gully vicinity N.20.d.6.7. Between 3-30 a.m. and 3-45 a.m. a barrage was placed along gully between N.20.d.7.8. and N.20.d.9.7. twice lasting for 3 minutes - no effect. Approximately 300 pineapples and rifle grenades were placed on our Sector during the 24 hours.

ACHIME GUN & FIFLE FIRE. Fairly active throughout night sweeping across FRITZ FOLLY from Gully to Gun Pits.

SNIPING. During night a few shots were fired across Battalion on the Right from same position as H.G. (N.21.a.5.8.) and a few shots from H.20.b.9.6.

WIRE. Enemy's wire from N.21.a.6.7. to N.21.a.3.6. is very strong. It is made of corkscrews and two strands of barbod wire with a lot of loose wire behind. From N.21.a.1.5. to approximately N.20.b.4.7. fairly strong-concertina and barb.

MOVEMENT. A party of 14 Germans were observed leaving PORK TRENCH in N.14.c. at 5-7 p.m. and come forward about 20 yards. Soon afterwards they were seen to return.

IDENTIFICATIONS. Enemy M.G. located at N.21.a.5.8. and another at N.20.b.25.70. and N.21.a.2.7. Trench Mortar located at N.20.b.80.85.

AIRCRAFT. Mo activity.

VEATHER. Very misty and wet.

SALVAGE. Rifles Bayonets Equipment, Leather	8
Equipment, Leather	
Sets 7	
Equipment Web, Sots 10	
Picks	
Shovels 19	
L.G. Magazines 52	2
Water Bottles 17	1
Helmets, Stool 20	
Rifles, German	3
Gronades	2

Captain.
Prigade Hajor.

12th. Aust: Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office
2 & 3 - War Diary
4 - 45th. Battn.
5 - 46th.
6 - 47th.
7 - 48th.
8 - 12th. N. G. Coy.
9 - 12th. A.I.T.N.Btty.
10 - 4th. Aust. Division
11 - Right Drigade

19 - Left Brigade 13 - Liaison Officer. SECRET.

Copy Ho.

18th . AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 183.

22/2/1917.

Reference Trench Hap N.21. (E7c). 1:2500.

1. The 12th, Australian Infantry Erigade will attack the enemy's tronch from point N.21.a.82.60. to N.21.a.25.65. tonight.

2. The operation will be carried out by selected parties from tho 45th, and 48th, Battalions.

3. The 45th. Battalion will attack and hold tho objective from M.21.a.82.60. to the Road about N.21.a.68.75, The 48th. Battalion will assist this attack by riflo grenades on the enemy's trench from N.21.a.55.78. to N.21.a.24.63.

4. Whon the point N.21.a.68.75. has been secured by the 45th Lattalion, the 48th Battalion will continue the advance to the final objective to N.21.a.25.65.

5. After the whole objective has been taken, the O.C. 48th. Battalion will be responsible for the holding of the new line as far as N.21.a.80.65. and will make every endeavour to link up his loft flank with Post 24,

6. The Stokes Hortars will cooperate and carry out the instructions given by 0.0. 45th. Battalion.

7. The 12th. M. G. Coy. will barrage points as follows by indirect fire from Zoro hour -

(a). N.15.0.90.20. to N.15. d.40.90. (searching Road) (b). N.21.b.65.25. to N.21.b.70.99. (""") (c). N.21.a.30.99. - N.15.0.40.90. (""")

8. The artillery will arrange to place a barrage from N.20. b.80.90. to 11.20. b.50.90. and N.15.c.50.20. to 11.15.d.40.20. in the event of it being required.

9. Zors hour will be notified later.

10. Watches will be synchronised at 4-0 p.m. and 7 p.m. under arrangements to be made by Brigade Signal Officer.

II. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Male Captain.

Brigade Hajor. 12th. Aust. Inf. Erigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - 45th. Battn.

5 - 46th.

6 - 47th.

7 - 48th.

8 - 12th, H. G. Coy.

9 - 12th. A.L.T.H. Dtty.

10 - Right Brigado

la Left Brigado

12 - 4th. Aust. Div.

13 - O.R.A.

14 - Hajor Edwards - Ho .1 Group.

Appendix Nº 23

Copy No.

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRICADE. SULLIARY OF INTELLIGENCE No. 13.

From 6-0 a.m. 21st February to 6-0 a.m. 22nd February 1917.

22/2/1917.

OUR ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Fairly quiet till noon, then fairly active between N.20.b. and N.21.a,3,7. approximately and along onomy front line gonerally. TREECH ECRTARS AND BOMBS. Nothing to report. HACHINE GUN AND RIFLE FIRE. Indirect fire on enemy communications in rear of STORMY TRENCH during night. Also fairly active during day. SNIPING. Active along whole front. Several casualties inflicted. Two onomy killed in front of PORK TRENCH.

PATROLS. Right Subsector Active patrolling maintained throughout the night. Standing Patrels at N.21.a.7.5.,5.5. and N.21.a.9.5.60. and

N.21.b.35.20. approximately.

Left Subsector. No.1 Patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 4 scouts operated in front of Right Corps Subsector from 9-15 p.m. to 2-15 a.m. Route - Up new sap to post at II.21.a.2.4. up SUNKEN ROAD on right to post established here for night work and across to Battalion on Right returning to Coy. H. Qrs. via GREASE TRENCH. They report -Enemy talking could be heard from advanced post at H.21.a.30.45. No enemy movement observed. Hany flares at 2 a.m. and onwards. Fow before this hour. Ground very wet and boggy making progress difficult. No.2 Patrol of 1 H.C.O. and 4 scouts operated in same area as No.1 from 2-15 a.m. to 4-45 a.m. Route - Up SUNKEN ROAD to advanced L.G. Post and so on up road to approximately N.21.a.50.55. They report -Coughing and talking coming from direction of enemy. Everything very quiet near enemy's lines. Both SUNKEN ROAD get shallow as proceeded along. The one that runs through H.15.d. being nearly level at approximately 250 yds. from N.21.a.2.4. Sholl fire has knocked all the embankments down. No wire could be observed hero. Some small sholters proviously used by enemy are situated along left of this road. Both roads are exceedingly muddy and sticky and huge pools of water are dotted all along. One of our L.G. has been pushed shead here to approximately 11.21.a.35.45. No.3 Patrol of 4 scouts operated in front of Left Coys. Scotor from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. Route - Along BAYONET TRENCH to Post No. 21 N.20.d.05.95. over here to close proximity of trees at N.20.b.0.5. across to LARD TRENCH at N.20.b.45.00. and across to BAYONET TRENCH They report everything quiet here. No enemy seen and flares plentiful from SCABLARD TRENCH.

OPERATIONS. As result of yesterdays operations in STORITY TREMCH, casualties were noticed to have been inflicted as follows approx. 50 killed and 50 wounded. German stretcher bearers under cover of Red Cross flag were engaged in removing these wounded throughout the morning, Location approximately II.21.a.7.8. to N.21.b.1.7.

COLLUNICATIONS. Throughout difficult owing to bad condition of ground, mud in many saps knee and in some cases thigh deep.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

AKTILLERI. Very active throughout day and night on our front line trenchos, All communication saps wore heavily shelled at intervals throughout day, several casualties inflicted, both H.E. and shrapnel being employed.

This activity was the most severe this Sector has been subjected to for some considerable time. No particular intensity in one spot but heavy barrages throughout the Sector. 96 shells counted in vicinity of duckboards near BULLS ROAD. GUEUDECOURT sholled with heavy stuff at intervals.

TREMICH MORTARS AND BOMBS. Fairly quiet. Few pineapples near our Block at 1.21.a.80.60. A few rifle grenades fell without effect near COODVINS POST.



--(8)--

GRASS LAME swept at intervals by gun at H.20.b.25.75. Gun at H.21.a.00.55. fired at intervals during night across Fight
Battalion towards CHALK CLIFF

SNIPING. Fairly active along GRASS LANE with Krimmanications where we active on new part of STORMY TRENCH and communications where we sustained several casualties.

Parties of 6 twice observed near THILLOY, surmised to be fatigue party digging sap as fresh chalk was noticed and men disappeared suddenly.

IDENTIFICATIONS. Fixed rifle located at N.20.b.35.80. Letters found on dead Germans - STORLY TRENCH.

AIRCRAFT. Nothing to report on either side.

WEATHER. Foggy till ll a.m. but clear till 4-30 p.m. Ground in very bad state.

Ammunition S.A.A. 28
Rum Jars 8
Shell cases 3018

2 sandbags.

Captain.
Brigade Major.
12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - Wat Diary

4 - 45th. Battn.

5 - 46th.

c - 47th.

7 - 48th.

8 - 12th. H. G. Coy.

9 - 12th. A.L.T. Battory

10 - 4th. Aust. Division

11 - Right Brigade

13 - Liaison Officer

Copy No.

12th .AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY DRIGADE ORDER No. 122.

22/2/1917.

Reference Trench Lap 1:40000

The 12th. Australlian Infantry Drigade will be relieved by Units of the 15th. Australian Infantry Brigade on 23rd. and the night of 24/25th. February in accordance with Table attached.

2. Details of relief to be arranged between Commanders concerned.

3. No movement forward of DELVILLE FOOD will take place in daylight except in parties of 5 at intervals. S. of DELVILLE WOOD the usual intervals will be maintained between Units and transport of Units.

4. All Trench Haps and information concerning the Sector will be listed and handed over by Units and receipts obtained in triplicate, two copies sent to Drigade Headquarters by noon on 25th instant.

5. All Gum Boots, Trench and Area Stores will be handed over, receipts obtained in Triplicate. Two copies sent to Brigade Headquarters by noon 25th instant.

6. O.C. Units will be responsible that all dugouts are left thoroughly clean Refuse Pits will be filled in, all empty tins buried, and ground marked "FOUL CROUND".

7. Completion of relief will be reported to Brigade Headquarters in Code.

8. Brigade Headquarters will close at S. 12.b. Mentral when relief is completed and open at HALIETZ at the same hour.

9. ACKNOVLEDGE.

Muller Captain.

Brigade Hajor. 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigado.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - 45th. Battn.

. 5 - 46th.

6 - 47th.

7 - 48th.

8 - 12th. H. C. Coy.

9 - 12th, A.L.T. ... Btty.

10 - 15th. Aust. Inf. Brigade

11 - Right Brigade 12 - Left Brigade

13 - 4th. Aust. Division 14 - 4th. Aust. Div. Train

15 - 12th. Aust. Inf. Ede. Supply Officer

- 12th. Field Ambulance

---- TIHE TABLE.----

Dato	Unit	Relieved by	Place	On relief	Romarks
2nd. Fobry.	47th. Battalion	1	TOVISVILLE	MAHETZ	
Erd. Febry.	46th. Lattalion	58th Battalion	GAP and SWITCH Trenches	HAMETZ	
4/25th Fely.	45th. Battalion) 48th. Battalion)	58th Eattalion	FROMT LIME	MALIETZ	
	59th. Lattalion mov	to the cap and	SWITCH Trenches	in Support	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

SECRET.

Appendix None Headquarters. No. 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade,

4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Reference Trench Map N.21.

The agressive policy was continued last evening after a cessation of fourty hours and the 45th. Battalion with selected parties of bombers and covered by a Stokes Mortar creeping barrage, attempted to continue our line to the junction of STORMY TRENCH with road at point N.21.a.7.6. The attack was launched at midnight, rifle bombers following in rear of assaulting parties ensured the safety of the advance and very slight opposition was met with, the enemy failing to attempt a reasonable resistance.

At about 50 yards beyond our starting point a communication trench running at right angles was discovered. The parties here divided and the push was continued in both directions, the original party ultimately arriving at the objective. Both parties consolidated and early this morning the trench was securely held and a half

It was the intention to continue the attack from the point of the new block by the 48th Battalion, a strong and completely organised party from this Battalion were to take up the running after the 45th Battalion had completed its task. This party moved up through GOODWINS POST along SUNKEN ROAD and specially selected men treated the trench, which had been allocated to it, to heavy rifle granading, whilst the 45th. attack was progressing. Everything here worked smoothly and to Time Table up to the taking of its objective by the 45th Battalion. The 48th Battalion then red waxker up into position and in the darkness and fog that prevailed, lost its way and subsequently returned to its lines intact.

A further 150 yards have been added to our line and from its situation, strengthens the left flank of the STORMY TRENCH position considerably, as it is now possible to link up with the Strong Post at N.21.2.2.4.

Thirty two prisoners and a Trench Mortar were secured and our casualties were four other ranks wounded.

The attack was carried out without the assistance of the artillery although Special Barrages were arranged for contingencies which did not eventuate. The conditions in the new trench are worse if possible than in our own, the men fought in mud to their knees and in many places to the hips.

All of the attackers have been suffering under these conditions for the last four days and the grit and determination displayed by this Battalion during the minor operations that have been recently carried out will be borne in the accounts of the deeds of the more prominent ones which I propose to bring before the Divisional Commander, in the way of recommendations for immediate rewards.

Downsonding 12th. Aust.Inf.Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - 4th. Aust. Division.

2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - Office

5 - Right Brigade

6 - Left Brigade 7 - 10 - Spare. AUSTINAME AUSTINAME G 2/8 8

1000 23/2/17

mo'

18th AUSTRALIAN INFANTEY EFICADE Appendix No. 10.

From 6-0 a.m. Pala, Pebruary to 6-0 a.m. Pard, February 1917.

23/2/1917.

appac. XXVI

OUR ACTIVITY.

ARTIMERY. Active during morning on enemy front line and in Vicinity of LUCIFET TREMON, and lightly at intervals near BARLEY TRENCH. Afternoon, intermittent fire 18 pars. H.E. and shrapnel on BACON and PORK TRENCHES and SCAPTARD TRYNCH. A few heavies near THULLOY. Hidmight, 28/23rd. fairly heavy barrage placed on LUCIFER TRENCH .

TRENCH HORTARS & BOMBS. Stokes guns considerably assisted minor operation on hight. A good deal of bombing also took place during ' this operation. Rifle grenados actively employed on FORK TRENCH

from H.Pl.a.5.8, to N.Rl.a.M.7. MACHINE GUNS & RIFLE FIRE, Following targets fired on (Vickers) :-N. IU. 6,90 .20, to N. 15, d. 40,50., N. Pl. b. 65.25, to N. 21.b. 70,99.

N .21. a .30 .99 , to N .15 .0 .40 .90 . After 12 midnight roads in rear of STOFH TREMION were searched till morning. Road N. 15, d. 40.90. receiving special attention. Lewis Guns and rifles active along PORK and BACON TREMCHES. SHIPHIG. Fair actavity. 5 casualties inflicted about vicinity of LUCIFER TREMOH .

OPERATIONS. A Bombing attack under cover of Stokes was developed along STOMMY TREMUH at midnight and our position extended to N.21,0.6,7者. A block established in communication trench about 11.21.a.64.74. approximately. One bomb thrower and 18 prisoners (3 severely wounded) are reported to have been captured. Our casualties wore slight.

At same time on our Left a party went out to link up with N.Pl.a.C.7. but lost direction in mist and was unable to penetrate enemy's wire which was very thick. Finally returned having suffered % casualties.

PATROLS. Right Subsector. Standing patrolc at H. 21,b 3,24, and N.81.b.O.62. Active patrolling along whole front during night. Ground difficult.

Left Subsoutor. Active patrolling throughout night. Scouts patrol reposted enemy strongly holding positions between II. Plaa.P.F. and W.Pl.a.7 .6: inch talking. Communication very difficult.

INDLY ACTIVITY.

ARTIMLERY. Fairly active at intervals throughout day with all calibres from 77 m, me to 5,9, on our front line and communications. GUEUDECOURT also shelled at intervals. TREMCH MORTARS & BOMBS. Few rifle grenades fell near M. 21.a.3.5. at 2-30 a.m. and a few near H.20 b.9.4, a little later. MACHINE GUN & RIFLE FIRE. Fairly active at intervals on duckboards GRASS Lille and during night front of wire from 1.21.a.7.7. to 11.81.a.0.6%. SHIPING. Fairly active. PATROLS. Lione seen.

IDENTIFICATIONS. Prisoners identified as belonging to 2nd. and 12th. Coy, 362nd, Regt, and 1 L/Cpl & Clat Linenverfer Coy, Enemy S.O.S. used was rocket bursting into F or 7 crimson red stars which lasted & or 5 seconds.

AIRCRAFT. Nothing to report. CEATHER. Listy day and night. Observation difficult. Ground very bad .

Rhundello ello mya 'Captain.

Brigade Major. 8 & 3 - Mar Diary 12th, Aust, Inf. Brigade

5 - 48th. Copy No. 10 - 4th, Aust. Division e - 47th. li - Right Drigade

12 - Left Prigade 13 - Lieison Officer

Copy No. 1 . Office

4 - 45th, Battn.

7 - 48th

8 - With M. G. Coy.

9 " 12th. A.T. T. W. Rttv.

27th February 1917.

TRAINING.

1. During the first week out of the line Cormanders will concentrate all their efforts

(a) Getting men fit.

- (b) Getting men properly clothed and oquipped.
- 2. Battalions will be re-organised at once on the lines laid down in the pamphlet - Organization of the Infantry Battalion - issued to Units concorned under this Office G.2/85 on 22nd February.
- 3. Training of Units will be concentrated on the following points -

i. Physical Training and Bayonet Fighting.

ii. Close Order Drill.

iii. Extended Order Drill.

iv. Short Route Parches.

- v. Husketry. (Every man armed with a rifle will be exercised as far as range accommodation will allow).
- 4. The training of Lowis Gunners, Bombers and Signallers will be carried out.
- 5. Movement must be the keynote of all training and will consist largely of practice in -

a. Rapid advance against enemy tranches in open order.

b. Re-assembly and reorginization after an attack.

- c. Charges with fixed bayonets against a line of trenches, edge of a wood etc.
- d. Rapid deployment from close order into extended lines.
- e. Closing from extended order into small columns on the move.
- f. Hachine and Lewis Cuns should take part in all exercises that are carried out. Covering an advance or retirement and occupying tactical points.
- g. Bombers and rifle grenade parties will also take part in these exercises whenever the exercise permits of them being used.
- 6. Special attention will be paid to the practice of sending in accurato reports and intelligent messages, regarding enemy's movements, artillery, etc.

Short clear reports and information sent in quickly are of the greatest value and invariably result in saving many lives and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

- 7. The daily weakening of the enemy's morale is very noticeable and the more he is harassed and worried the more he will surronder.
- 8. Battalion Staffs should spare no effort to make every Officer and man realise how ossential it is to promote efficiency and esprit de corps throughout the Frigade.
- 9. O.C. Units will render a Training Programme by 5 p.m. tonight for the period till 9th. Harch and successively every Friday by 9-0 a.m.

ACKNOVLEDGE.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - Far Diary 4 - 45th. Battn.

5 - 46th.

9 - 47th.

Captain. Brigade Lajor. 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigado.

Copy No. 8 - 19th. F. C. Coy. 9 - 19th. A.L. T. Btty . 10 - 12 - Sparo

Headquarters, Appendix No. 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade, 27th. February 1917.

4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Report on Operations in the Right Brigade (GUEUDECOURT) Sector 4th.Aust.Div.Front 8th. - 25th. February 1917.

Reference Map 57c S.W. 1:20000.

1. On 4th. February I received orders to relieve the 4th. Aust. Inf. Brigade in the Right (GUEUDECOURT) Sector of the 4th. Aust. Divisional Front on the night 7/8th. and 9th. instant. Accordingly, I issued orders for the Support Companies of the 46th. and 47th. Battalions to move up on the evening of the 7th. to relieve the Support Companies of the Right and Left Subsectors. Specialists were sent forward at the same time to remain with their opposite numbers in the Front Line so that they should be well acquainted with the Front when the relief was complete.

2. The relief was completed at 9-10 p.m. on 9th instant without casualties, under normal enemy shelling. Weather conditions were very trying and very cold. Fuel was short and the issue of solidified alcohol had to be cut down owing to the supply being temperarily stopped, consequently considerable difficulty was caused in getting hot meals up to the men in the Front Trenches.

taken by the 4th. Aust. Inf. Brigade appeared rather in the air, and in order to extend my position and to connect up with the Brigade on my Right, I ordered the 46th. Battalion to carry out a minor operation and move the right block at N.21.d.80.65. to N.21.d.89.53. This operation was successfully carried out on the night 11/12th. Five enemy were killed (1 Off. 4 O.R.) and 1 O.R. belonging to the 9th. Coy. 360th. Regt. taken prisoner.

The enemy made two attempts to counter attack but were easily driven off.

The flank was at once linked up with the Brigade on my Right by a sap running from about N.21.d.85.55. to N.22.c.10.35.

Later, it was decided to push the right block further forward and in conjunction with the Brigade on my Right (who carried out a successful raid) on the night 14/15th. this was successfully carried out and the block established at N.21.d.95.55. Five enemy were killed.

4. Preparations were at once made to make the Left Flank of STORMY TRENCH secure and special patrols were told off from 45th. Battalion under 2nd. Lieut. Cornish for reconnaissance and parties detached from the same Battalion to carry out the operation. On the 18th. orders were issued for this to be carried out on the night of 20th. but owing to very adverse conditions created by the thaw, the attack was postponed until 4 a.m. on 21st. when it was carried out with great success, 190 yards of enemy trench takem, 29 prisoners captured, our casualties being only 1 Officer and 6 O.R. slightly wounded.

This operation was continued on the night 22/23rd. by the 45th.
Battalion and another 150 yards of trench taken and consolidated.
32 prisoners were captured and one Trench Mortar. Our casualties 4 Other Ranks wounded.

For about 12 hours after each of these attacks, the enemy shelled the immediate back areas and communications vigorously, causing a number of casualties and cutting the communications.

- 5. The weakening of the enemy's morale was very noticeable by the way they surrendered when our troops entered their trenches.
- 6. Active patrolling was done along my whole Front and it was due to the accurate intelligence received that I was enabled at first to advance the posts in my Left Subsector 300 yards and eventually to carry out successful minor operations.
- 7. On the night 24/25th. my Brigade was relieved by the 15th. Aust. Inf. Brigade, 5th. Aust. Division, and while the relief was going on I issued special orders for the front of the Left Subsector to be patrolled by the 48th. Battalion from N.21.a.5.6.

At about 9 p.m. a message was received that one of the patrols had found PORK TRENCH unoccupied as far as about N.20.b.40.90. and I at once issued instructions that this portion of trench was to be occupied and a block to be established at N.20.b.40.90. This was then taken over by the 58th. Battalion, 15th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

- 8. The works report has been forwarded you under separate cover.
- 9. Special attention was paid to administrative arrangements and the men were issued with three hot meals daily in the front line trenches.
- 10. A very considerable amount of salvage was done during the tour of the Brigade and reflects great credit on the Units concerned. A return is attached showing the total amount salved.
- 11. The health of the troops was on the whole good under very trying conditions.
 - 12. Attached hereto are appendices showing (i) Amount of enemy trench taken and consolidated.
 - (iii) Prisoners of War captured.
 (iii) Casualties.
 - (iv) Evacuated sick.
 - (v) Salvage.

Officers and others whom I wish to bring to the notice of the Divisional Commander, whom I consider worthy of immediate reward for their gallantry and devotion to duty.

Commanding 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - 4th. Aust. Div.

5 - 8 - Spare.

RETURN OF PRISONERS OF WAR.

TAKEN BY 12th. AUST. INF. BRIGADE, FEBRUARY 1917.

Date	Unwounded	Wounded		Killed after capture.	TOTAL	Regiment.
11/12th .Febry.	1		5 **		6	360th.
20/21st. "	21	8			29	362nd.
22/23rd. "	13	2	10	7 #	32	362nd. (2 men 161st Minenwerfer Coy.).
== TOTAL	35	- 10	15	7	67	

All Other Ranks except *

^{# 1} Officer 4 Other Ranks.

[#] Killed in own barrage being brought back.

Appendix

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

CASUALTIES.

A.	Officers	Other Ranks	TOTAL. Officers Other Rai		
20/21st. Febry.	1	7	1	7	
22/23rd. "		4		4	
			1	11	

B. Not included in "A" (Casualties caused by enemy retaliation for 24 hours after the attack.).

		Killed .		ounded .	TOTAL.	
	Off.	Other Ranks	off.	Other Ranks	Off. Other Ranks	
21/22nd.Feb.	1	1	1	7	Killed 1 Off. Killed 12 O.R.	
23/24th."		11		15	Wounded 1 Off. Wounded 22 O.R.	
TOTAL	1	12.	1	22		

C. Total Casualties 9th. - 25th. February 1917.

Kill	.ed	Wounded.				
Officers	Other Ranks	Officers	Other Ranks			
5	31	7	183			

Appendix Nº 38

APPENDIX. IV.

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

SICK EVACUATIONS.

From 9th. February to 25th. February 1917.

Officers. Other Ranks.

161

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

ARTICLES SALVED - 8th. February to 25th. February 1917.

ARTICLES	45th.	46th.	47th.	48th.	M.G. Coy.	TOTAL	REMARKS
ifles	146	342	391	452	13	1344	
eroplane M.G.	-	-	1	-	-	1	
quipment Sets	54	128	57	256	21	516	
ire Cutters			7	_	-	7	
ayonets	-	. 16	75	176	13	280	
ater Bottles	-	16	31	4	-	51	
Steel Helmets	11	46	25	139	4	225	
as Helmets P.H.G.	8	-	29	111	-	148	
Respirators Box	17	67	87	23	-	194	
Boots Ankle	4	-	13	-		17	Pairs
Boots Gum	_	-	-	6	-	6	Pairs
ins Mess	-	8	-	-	-	8	
Shell Cases	-	4009	-	12	-	4021	
tokes Shells	-	-	24	-	-	24	Boxes
dum Jars	-	3	-	-	20	23	
Magazines Lewis Gun	-	-	84	159	-	243	The majority filled with S.A.
lagazines Boxes	-	-	-	6	15	21	
S.A.A. Sandbags	-	-	5	36	11	52	
11 11	-	-	-		26	26	Empties
Shovels	-	-	106	74	-	180	
Picks	-	-	95	55	-	150	
Pick Heads	-	***	-	30	-	30	
Entrenching Tools	-	-	19	36	4	59	Heads
11 11	-	-	19	18	4	41	Handles
Lamps Hurricane	-	-	-	4	-	4	
Grenades Mills	-	-	110	23	-	133	Boxes
Very Pistols	-	-	3	-	-	3	

NOTE. A considerable amount of barbed wire and screws for entanglements was salved and used in entanglements by us.

RETURN OF PRISONERS OF WAR

TAKEN BY 12th. AUST. INF. BRIGADE, FEBRUARY 1917.

Date	Unwounded	Wounded	D.of W.	Killed after capture	Total	Regiment
11/12th.	1		5₩		6	360th.
20/21st.	21	8			29	362nd.
22/23rd.	13	2	10	7 \$	32	362nd. (2 men 16 1st Minenwerfer Coy.)

TOTAL 67

All other ranks except *

1 Officer 4 Other Ranks.

Killed in own barrage being brought back.

gatt mayor

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - 4th. Aust. Division

5 & 6 - Spare.

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRICAPPENDIX

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE No.1.

From 6-0 p.m. 9th February to 6-0 a.m. 10th. February 1917.

10-2-1917.

OUR ACTIVITY.

When asked to fire on large enemy working party located by our Special Patrol at approximately N.20.a.9.9. no action appeared to be taken.

RELIEF. The 12th. Australian Infantry Brigade relieved 4th Australian Infantry Brigade commencing at 6-0 p.m. Relief was completed by 9-30 p.m. without casualties.

PATROLS. Two Special Patrols were sent out.

No.1 Patrol from N.21.d.33.99. and located enemy working party about N.21.b.40.25. Patrol worked from 9-45 p.m. till 12 midnight.

Nos2 Patrol left GOODWINS POST at 10 p.m. worked across the valley towards BAYONET TRENCH. A large working party was observed at approximately N.20.a.9.9.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Heavies active at intervals in the Area N.21.d.

M.G. & RIFKE FIRE. Exceptionally quiet.

Captain.
Brigade Major.
12th. Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - 45th. Battn.

5 - 46th.

6 - 47th.

7 - 48th.

8 - 12th. M. G. Coy.

9 - 12th. A.L.T.M.Btty.

10 - Right Brigade

11 - Left Brigade

12 - 4th. Aust. Division

13 - Liaison Officer

From 6-0 a.m. 12th February to 6-0 a.m. 13th February 1917.

13-2-1917.

OUR ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Active during the day in front of BEAULENCOURT also in vicinity of N.21.b.5.0.

TRENCH MORTARS. Our trench mortars endeavoured to register on enemy Strong Point at N.21.b.4.0. but were unable to reach it, their Battery being too far in the rear.

MACHINE GUN & RIFLE FIRE. Our Machine Guns were active during the day on working parties at about N.21.b.3.4. Indirect fire was carried out intermittently throughout the night on the following targets N.14.c.6 2.2. and N. 14.b.82.32.

SNIPING. Active - Two enemy killed at N.21.b.3.4.

AIRCRAFT. No activity.

PATROLS. At 8-45 p.m. a Patrol of two men went along Sap at N.21.d.4意.8意. for a distance of 30 yards and then turned to the left and made for the fallen aeroplane at N.21.b.4.0. from there they heard working party on Strong Point in rear of aeroplane, patrol returned at 9-30 p.m. A patrol of two men went out at 9-0 p.m. from Sap at N.21.d.9.5%. to ascertain if possible how far sap went. The patrol went for a distance of 45 yards along sap and found same in good condition and fairly deep in parts. The sap continued further - probably connecting to enemy trench patrol returned at 9-30 p.m.

A Patrol of an Officer and a Sergeant went out from N.21.d.8.51. to ascertain if trench from N.21.d.8 .5 . to N.21.d.9 .5 . exists. They proceeded to about N.21.d.8 .5 .5 . and then branched off to the right for about 15 yards but could see no trace of the trench, the ground being so

broken up by shell fire.

Communication was maintained between flanks of Right and Left Battalions, and flanks of Battalions on our Right and Left of Sector. Wire was found to be cut or broken between Right and Left Battalions. Special Patrols went out and encountered Hun working parties with sentries out opposite GOODWINS POST at about N.20.b.6.8. and thus were prevented from proceeding further - returned to FRITZ FOLLY at 9-30 p.m.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Active on our front line at about N.21.d.8.6. and in rear of GREASE AND SHINE TRENCH about N.21.d.3.5. Very little activity elsewhere. TRENCH MORTARS. Very active during day on our front line about N.21.d.5.7. Little activity elsewhere.

MACHINE GUN FIRE. Opened on our wiring party at GOODWINS POST causing a casualty.

AIRCRAFT. Two planes flew over Left Subsector but withdrew after a few minutes.

SNIPING. Fairly active.

PATROLS. None were encountered except guarding working parties reported above.

MOVEMENT. A large fire was observed at about 12-30 a.m. in direction of THILLOY.

IDENTIFICATIONS. Enemy has a little more French wire in front of his trench at N.21.d.9.9. MISCELLANEOUS. Enemy dropped several shells short near his own trench at noon. A rocket was immediately sent up from his trench which burst into two red lights.

SALVAGE.	Rifles Equipment Sets Gas Respirators (Box)	145 15 18	Bayonets L.G. Magazines (Full) Shovels	11 20 25
	" (P.H.)	6	Picks	22
	S.A.A. (Sandbags full)	2	Steel Helmets	6
	Bandoliers & Clips		Waterbottles	4
	Sandbags Full	1	Gum Boots (Pairs)	2

Captain. Brigade Major. 12th. Aust. Infantry Brigade

SECRET.

Copy No.

URGENT.

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters, 12th. February 1917.

Reference Trench Map N.21/22.

Line garrison to commence work to-night, opening up the old sap running from N.21.d.85.50. to N.22.c.05.30. so as to link up with the Brigade on our Right.

The trench should be about 8 ft. wide at the top, 2 ft. wide at the bottom and at least 7 ft. 6 in. deep.

2. Another party will dig a sap for 25 yards from the left of our position so that Lewis Gun fire can be brought to bear on the enemy Strong Point about N.21.b.20.30.

12TH
AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE.

12/37
Date 12/3/17

3. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Captain. Brigade Major.

12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 - 46th. Battn.

3 - 15th. Aust. Inf. Bde. for information in para.1.

4 & 5 - War Diary

12th. AUSTRALIAM INFANTRY BRIGADE.

SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE REPORTS.

14/2/1917.

SPECIAL PATROL REPORT No.1.

A Special Officers Patrol left GOODWINS POST N.20.b.8.1. at 7-30 p.m. and proceeded via No.9 Post outwards past our wire to patrol left (N) bank of SUNKEN ROAD. About 30 yards (?) an old trench running parallel to SUNKEN ROAD was discovered. It continued at an average distance of 5 yards from the bank right up to the junction of the road at N.21.a.2.4. when it took a turn inwards to the road. It again appeared about 50 yards further on and continued to 30 yards of enemy wire in front of about N.21.a.5.8.

It is a good trench traversed whole length, is about 5 ft. deep, has several small dugouts on South Side and as the ground is not very hard could very easily be made serviceable. Men could easily move into it the whole length from GOODWINS and remain

practically unobserved.

The Patrol discovered an enemy O.P. wired in, in the fork of the road about N.20.b.35.60. and could hear the Boche sentry coughing and sneezing in it. There were some dead Huns near and a great quantity of litter.

The enemy's wire as far as could be seen from 30 yards

was good and continuous.

The Patrol waited 30 minutes near here and then went back passed point 24 yards along trench to No.9 Post (N.20.b.61.11.) then about 200 yards out towards N.N.E. and found a fairly good trench - broken - leading towards LARD TRENCH - but good from about N.20.b.7.5. - so followed it to where it joined SUNKEN ROAD below Cross Roads. This trench has about 6 (perhaps more) dugouts blown in but could be made serviceable. The trench is fairly good faces BACON TRENCH and is about 200 yards from it.

The wire is fairly strong and could be seen from FRITZ FOLLY distinctly. Nearer approach to wire was hazardous as FLARES

were being sent up from N .20.b .30 .85.

Patrol then returned along SUNKEN ROAD and reported back at 12 midnight.

SPECIAL REPORT No.2.

A Special Officers Patrol left FRITZ FOLLY at about 8 p.m. proceeded via HILT and No.20 Central along BAYONET TRENCH as far as N.20.a.27.85. They report that for about 75 yards past N.20 Central the trench was fairly good but then became shallow and not more than three feet deep at most. This continued for about 45 yards right in front of Left Brigade Sector opposite trees.

They then entered a very well made part of BAYONET TRENCH which they found in a good state of repair not anywhere less than 6 feet deep and very little damaged by shell fire. They proceeded along this trench, passing old M.G. Positions commanding GRASS LANE, until they came within 190 yards of wire on their Left front which they took to be SCARBARD TRENCH and 100 yards on their Right - presumably PORK TRENCH. This would co-ordinate at about N.20.a.3.8.

They waited there about 20 minutes without seeing any sign

of enemy beyond numerous flares.

The Pet rol then returned to FRITZ FOLLY.

In the best part of above trench there were about five dugouts, each able to hold 2 or 3 men, built into side of trench. These had been knocked about by FRITZ.

SPECIAL REPORT No.3.

In order to get accurate information of the No.20 salient, which is at present improcurable in daylight from our present positions, a Special Patrol was sent out at 5 a.m. this morning to BAYONET TRENCH (N.20.Central) with instructions to remain all day and return after dusk.

The approach is fairly good along HILT to BAYONET, affording nearly complete concealment, except in one or two places, which could be negotiated safely - Distance about 275 yards.

Accomodation. In old Hun dugouts - some partly blown in and one sound - and small "possys", say over a front about 50 yards, 100 men

View - Looking to Front BACON TRENCH wire is about 250 yards. Left Brigade Front can be seen at about 400 yards. HAM TRENCH could not be located from the trench. Point N.20.a.8.1. is an excellent position to cover valley.

The cover in the trench is good and would be fine, even against similar Artillery to that experienced at POZIERES.

Communication could be effected with any desired point

Fairly easily by linking up shell holes.
Further information was supplied by an Officer posted in O.P. over
FRITZ FOLLY, but all information sought could not be gained from
this point on account of contour of land in front.

He could not see No.20 Central and only about 80 yards along BAYONET. He could not definitely trace HAM TRENCH and is of opinion that same does not exist.

Linking up a line with 13th Brigade Front does not seem to present any problems - the country is so torn up that linking shell holes would be simple. It could be done to N.20.a.9.1. in 350 yards. It is thought that BAYONET could be dominated from apex of PORK. i.s. junction with SCABBARD - Blocks or natural Camouflage would prevent view and M.G. fire. It is safe from Eight.

. A trench mortar was located at N.21.a.5.8. - The puffs as it

Fired were easily seen.

Wire - From part of BAYONET visible wire was 50 yards - Huns trench

100 yards. The Hun wire is all good, very thick and concertina mixed
with barb, continuous, no breaks being visible.

LARD & GOODWINS would easily be connected by 100 yards of trench. LARD TRENCH could be used as a C.T. if 100 yards were added

to a line from BAYONET to HAM.

From this position it seems easy to connect GOODWINS with 13th Brigade via LARD and BAYONET TRENCH at N.20. Central.

This completes special observation.

Captain.

Brigade Major.

18th. Aust. Inf.Brigade.

SECRET.

Copy No.

12th. AUSTRALIAM INFANTRY BRICADE ORDER No. 120.

15th Feby. 1917.

Roference Hap 1:20000.

1. The 45th. Battalion will relieve the 45th Battalion in the Right Subsector and the 48th Battalion will relieve the 47th Battalion in the Loft Subsector of the Front Line on the night 16/17th. and 17/18th. February in accordance with Table attached.

2. Details of relief to be arranged between Commanders concerned.

3. All trench maps, decuments, photographs containing information of the Sector, all trench and area stores, will be handed over on relief. Receipts obtained in duplicate and one cepy sent to Brigade Headquarters by noon 18th instant.

4. No movement forward will take place in daylight except in parties of five at intervals.

5. Specialists will be sent into the front line 24 hours before completion of relief.

6. Completion of relief will be reported to Brigade Headquarters in Code.

7. ACKNOTLEDGE.

Captain.

Brigade Major. 19th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office

2 8 3 - War Diary

4 - 45th. Lattn.

5 - 46th.

6 - 47th. '

7 - 48th. "

8 - 12th. H. G. Coy.

9 - 12th. A.L.T. L. Btty.

10 - Right Brigade

11 - Loft Drigade

12 - 4th. Aust. Division

13 - Bde . Sig. Officer

14 - Staff Captain.

Mary Dury

TIME TABLE.

Date :	Unit	Lelieved by	Place	On relief move to
February 18/17th.	Support Coys. 46th. En.	Support Coys 45th. En.	Front Line Right Subsector	GAP AND STITCH TRENCHES.
	Support Coys. 47th. En.	Support Coys. 48th. Bn.	Front Lino Left Subsector	TOVISVILLE CALP
February 17/18th.	48th. Battalion	45th. Battn.	Front Line Right Subsector	GAP AND STITCH TREMCHES.
	47th. battalion	48th. Battn.	Front Line Left Subsector	TOTISVILLE CAIP

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

565

Saut

Copy No.

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters, 15th February 1917.

He h/m

15tam 24 13 ve.

The 57th Battalion will proceed to link up SHINE TRENCH with STORMY TRENCH from Points N.22.c.3.5. to N.22.c.1.6. by a Communication Trench, this evening, commencing about 6-0 P.M.

A party of Bombers under an Officer will bomb up STORMY TRENCH from our stop block about N.21.d.9.5. to point where new trench will junction. The 57th Battalion will remain in that portion of the trench to be taken from enemy.

Your dispositions and responsibility will remain as at present until further advised.

Brigade Major.

12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - Office 2 - 46th. Battalion

3 - Right Brigade 4 & 5 - War Diary. 12TH
AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE.

No. 62/2/
Date 15/2/17

19th. AUSTRALIAN INFARTER DETGADE.

LIST OF ARTICLES SALVASED - WEEK BUDIES 17/2/1917 (8-0 a.m.).

17/2/1977.

ARTICLE	5th Bn.	48 th .Bn.	47th.Bn.	deth.Do.	M.O.O.	TOTAL
ifles	18	242	591	21	1	974
syonets	-	-	75	77	1	88
quipment (Sets)	35	91	57		5	181
ntremeding Tool						
Handles	190	-	-		-	
e e Meada	-	-		25	-	
aversacks	100	- 6		-	-	
ater Bottles	500	18	92		- 10	86
teel Helmets			25	91	1	100
as Respirators (Rox)	7	58	87	33	8	187
" (P.H)			29	109	-	159
oots - Pairs		-	38	-	-	10
cots -Sum Pairs	160	1001	- 100	- 8	~	
ery Fistols	W.	-		-	**	
.A.A. Sandbags Full	-	- 100	- 5		9	79
evis dun Dagazines						
Full	**	100	60	100	-	
lips (only) S.A.A.						
Sandbaga	-	100	400	1	*	
orio Gun Magazines						
Empty	100	766	246	8	/ 5	
Loke	***	160	98	-	-	
bovels	100		300	10	- 386	
ion Heads	-	-	-	10	100	10
ud Scoops		*		-	- 100	
ire Cutters		-	7	-		7
elsts Welting Pt.	-	-	80.	-101	*	201
eroplane Eachine Gun						
Maserviceeble	-	44		-		1
amps Hurricane	-		-			4
asso, Shell Brass	100	95	100	18	-	100
renades Mills Mo.S	-	- 100	1920	19	100	
tokes Shells 3" (Boxes	37 -		24	100	100	24
cabbards	-	100	-	160	- 10	22
veroes:		-	- 00	- 100	1	1
elts Walst Web.	-	400		- 6	- 300	
ully Blocke and						
Chains (Sets)	100	100	-	9	1962	
gurpment treces Das		68	-	-		
Arenchine 2006s Com			19		1	20

W.S. Greggett,

Por Prigado Bajor.

Copy No. 1 - Office.

2 & S War Diery

4 - 45th. Battn.

5 - 46th.

7 - 46th.

8 - 18th. H. S. Coy.

9 - 18th. A.L.T.M. Stty.

10 - 4th. Aust. Division.

HALLMAN THUMBE.

APPENDIX Copy No.

12th . AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters, 18th February 1917.

C.R.A., 4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Reference Map 57c S.W. 1:2000%

Confirming our conversation this morning with reference to the forthcoming minor operation in N.21., will you please arrange for artillery barrage as follows on the morning of 20th. instant.

Zero hour to be notified later.

1. From Zero to T 15 minutes.

18 pdr. H.E. and shrapnel barrage from Road at N.21.a.65.75.

along PORK TRENCH to N.20.b.90.85.

At + 15 minutes barrage to move along PORK TRENCH and remain on till daylight from N.21.a.10.65. to N.20.b.40.90 searching and sweeping.

- 2. Zero * 30 till daylight.

 18 pdr. shrapnel continuous barrage from N.15.c.50.30. to
 N.15.d.35.10.
- 5. Zero # 30 till daylight.
 Intermittent Howitzer searching barrage from N.15.d.25.60.
 to N.15.d.40.90.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

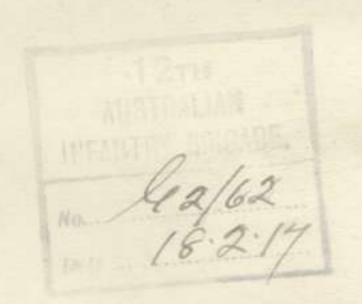
A Couchon-Brigadier-General. Commanding 12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

Copy No. 1 - CTR. A. 4th . Aust. Div.

2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - Office

5 - 45th. Bn. H. Qrs.



18th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters, 42/93 23/2/1917. 23.2.19

REPORT "A" (8th- 23rd. February).

1. WIRE ENTANGLEMENTS.

- Right Subsector. 75 yds. wire on right flank at block at N.22.c.2.7. 75 yds. on left flank at block at N.21.b.1.4.
 Left Subsector. Practically Nil.
- (b) Support Line. Wil.
- (c) Reserve Line.

 400 yards completed in front of POSSUM RESERVE.

 300 " almost completed in front of POSSUM RESERVE.
- (d) Intermediate Line.

 The emount of tactical wiring which consists of 3 apron fence thickened with French wire and salvaged German entanglements is as follows 200 yards completed.

 600 yards half completed.
- (e) Second Line.

 200 yards in front of SWITCH TRENCH completed.

 200 " " " half completed.
- (f) Nil.

2. FIRE TRENCHES AND STRONG POINTS.

- Front Line. (Blocks have been erected on) (a) Right Subsector. Two lengths of trench on right flank which were captured from the enemy on night of 17/18th. and 18/19th. The right portion has been despende and buikk we the whole length has been cleaned and parapet built up. A sap has been dug out 25 yards on the right for a bombing post. A sap has also been dug out 20 yards from the left for a L.G. Position. Gverhead cover has been made in two places. Sanitary arrangements considerably improved. 290 yards of trench captured from the enemy on the night of 20/21st. is fairly deep but very muddy except where duckboards have been laid. Left Subsector. A fire trench has been made from GOODWINS POST N.21.a.2.4. It is 5 ft. deep and fairly wide.
- (b) Support Line.
- (c) Reserve Line. In POSSUM RESERVE 270 yards completely revetted. 340 yards of trench deepened 2 feet. 100 yards new trench dug 18 inches.
- (d) Intermediate Line. Nil.
- (e) Second Line. In SWITCH TRENCH many shelters which fell in owing to the thaw were rebuilt.

 GAP and SWITCH TRENCHES drained. 1 Officers dugout built at Battalion Hqrs. in SWITCH TRENCH, also a dugout for reserve rations.
 - (e) Strong point. No 5 completed

3. COMMUNECATION TRENCHES.

(a) Completed.

EVE ALLEY. 140 yards completely duckboarded and revetted. Cleaned after the thaw throughout to CHALK CLIFF. It is continually being shelled and blown in in parts.

(b) In hand. FUGITIVE ALLEY. 50 yards duckboarded. The whole length deepened 1 ft. and ready for duckboarding. It has been cleaned out and is being duckboarded the whole length. It is being continually shelled and blown in. FOURTEENTH AVENUE. This trench has been cleaned out and widened 1 ft. throughout and deepened 1 ft. A new trench running from the junction of FROST TRENCH and FATIGUE ALLEY to FRITZ FOLLY was dug to an average depth of 2 ft. CHALK LAME. 200 yards deepened to depth of 6 6" 80 yards duckboarded. 380 yards to be deepened from 3'6" and widened. 100 yards drain to be cut.

4. OVERLAND ROUTES.

- A double duckboarded track has been laid from T.1.a.8.3. to N.51.b.4.0.
- It is suggested that another should be laid from N.32.a.1.9. to N.26.d.5.6. along PILGRIMS WAY and thence to N.27.c.0.5.

5. MINED DUG-OUTS.

Front System.

(a) Completed. the Enclander and 2 diegous commenced (b) In hand.

(b) In hand.

CHALK CLIFF N.27.2.7.5. - 750 cubic feet of earth has been excavated and 21 sets erected. There is now accommodation for 45 mon. The 4 ft. x 2 ft. crosscut to connect the tunnels for ventilation has advanced 5 ft.

Intermediate Line.

Right Em. Hors. - 280 cubic feet excavated and accommodation made for 4.

CHEESE ROAD. 590 cubic feet excavated and 22 sets erected there is at present accommodation for 50 men.

GRASS LANE. 240 cubic feet has been excavated and 15 sets erected. This dugout is now complete except for bunk accommodation in main passage way. It will accommodate 60 men.

Left En. Hors. N.21.b.3.1. - 290 cubic feet of earth has been excavated and 11 sets erected. Sleeping accommodation was provided for Battalion and Company Headquarters . 40 feet of old tunnels cleaned cut and timber repaired.

In rear of Second Line.

- (a) Completed. Nil.
- (b) In Hand. NICHOLSONS TUNNEL. 930 cubic feet were excavated 8 sets of timber erected and 3 girder sets. There is now accommodation for 25 men.

6. MACHINE GUN EMPLACEMENTS.

Front Line System.

- (a) Completed. N11.
- (b) In Hand. Nil.

Intermediate Line.

N.31.b.5.3. No. 5 M.G. Position.

18 ft. length of shaft evcavated.

31 ft. of drive

N.51.b.9.1. No. 6 M.G. Position. 21 ft. length of shaft excavated. 35 ft. of drive "

N.26.c.4.1. No.7 M.G. Position. 20 ft. length of shaft excavated. 28 ft. of drive

N.52.a.8.9.
24 ft. length of shaft excavated.
26 ft. " of drive "

7. BURIED CABLES.

Armoured cable has been carried through NICHOLSONS TUNNEL to GAP TRENCH and then buried 7 ft. deep to N.31.d.8.9. and from there to N.31.b.3.1. (500 yards of 20 armoured quads buried). A commencement was made to bury it to N.26.d.0.2. from N.32.d.8.9. (135 yards dug to depth of 7 ft. ready to be buried). Test boxes have been constructed at N.26.d.0.2. and N.31.d.8.9.

- 8. SCRAPPED WORKS. Ril.
- 9. COVER FOR ARTILLERY. N11.
- 10. REGIMENTAL AID POSTS Regimental aid posts in PILGRIMS WAY improved and enlarged.
- erected at N.26.5.9.6. The water has been tested and found potable. This will supply the front line trenches of right subsector via FUGITIVE ALLEY.

 A second well has been cleaned and a windlass erected at N.26.5.75.10. A sample of the water has been forwarded for analysis. This will supply troops in POSSUM RESERVE.

 A third well has been located at N.26.5.95.28. but it is filled with debris to water line.

TRAMWAYS. A tramway has been constructed on a double duckboarded foundation to N.27.a.0.5. and the track graded to N.27.c.2.7. It is proposed to continue tramway to entrance of FUGITIVE ALLEY.

N.B. Owing to two minor operations of 20/21st. and 22/23rd. inst.
the work has been delayed.

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12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters, 23/2/1917.

W.A



REPORT "B"

1. GENERAL CONDITION OF TRENCHES.

Right Subsector. STORMY TRENCH is a deep and wide continuous trench and in fair condition though at present is very muddy where not duckboarded.

Left Subsector. The new trench dug from GOODWINS to N.21.a.2.4. is about 6 feet deep and wide. The remainder of the front line is held by a series of posts in fair condition.

Right Subsector. GREASE TRENCH is x much battered and shallow and badly drained. It is duckboarded and revetted where the various posts of the old front line were.

SHINE TRENCH is very much knocked about. It is revetted and duckboarded where it was the Support Line.

Left Subsector. FROST TREMCH is only a series of posts connected by a badly drained trench.

- GAP TRENCH is duckboarded throughout and has accommodation for 350. At present it is very muddy.

 SWITCH TRENCH is revetted and duckboarded the whole length with exception of portion between FLARE ALLEY and FLERS ROAD. 580 yards completely revetted there remains 250 yards to be deepened and revetted. It has accommodation for 550 men.
- (d) Communication Trenches. FATIGUE ALLEY. This trench is completely revetted and duckboarded throughout. The parapets need heightening and raising in places. CHALK LANE. Two hundred yards have been deepened to a depth of 6 6". 80 yards have been duckboarded. 380 yards are to be deepened from 3'6" and widened. 100 yards of drains are to be cut. FUGITIVE ALLEY. Is now duckboarded more than half way and is sufficiently wide and deep. It is very muddy where not duckboarded. FOURTEENTH AVENUE. Is narrow and shallow and very muddy. It is being improved. EVE ALLEY. Is very much knocked about. It is revetted and duckboarded part of the way but it is in a very muddy condition.
- POSSUM RESERVE. There are 800 yards of trench completely duckboarded and revetted. The parapet is to be formed.

 100 yards of trench is ready for revetting. 250 yards of trench has to be deepened 2 feet. 80 yards has not yet been started.

2. STATE OF THE ENTANGLEMENTS.

(a) Front Line.

The blocks at both flanks of the right subsector are wired.

On Left Subsector wire is practically non existent.

- (b) Support Line.
 About 25 yards of wire on the flanks of GREASE TRENCH affords little protection.
- (c) Reserve Line.

 There are two rows of defensive wire on front of SWITCH TRENCH. 580 yards of this wire is completed and is a very good obstacle. There are 200 yards only half completed.
- (d) There are 200 yards of tactical wire completed. 600 yards are only half completed and 800 yards remains to be done.
- (e) There is 1000 yards of wire completed in front of POSSUM RESERVE and 500 yards are almost completed. 100 yards remains to be done.
- (f) Nil.

3. AMOUNT OF ACCOMODATION IN DEEP DUGOUTS COMPLETED.

(a) For H. G. Staffs and garrisons of front Line System.

(b).... WATLING STREET N.26.d.4.1.- 44 Engineers
PILGRIMS WAY between
N.26.d.0.3. and N.32.a.2.9.- 62
(Bad entrance)

POSSUM RESERVE between
WATLING STREET & PILGRIMS WAY - 77
GRASS LAME N.25.b.7.3. - 60 (partly taken up by rations).

BULLS ROAD N.32.c.1.7. - 100 Engineers
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS - 156 (Fuelithing Turnet)

4. AMOUNT OF ACCOMODATION IN DEEP DUGOUTS IN PROGRESS OF CONSTRUCTION.

- (a) At CHALK CLIFFS N.27.2.8.1. 80 CHEESE ROAD N.26.2.4.9. - 40
- (b) In BULLS ROAD N.32.c.1.7. 12 N.31.c.4.1. - 150 SWITCH TRENCH T.1.c.0.5. - 80

5. MACHINE GUN EMPLACEMENTS.

Map Reference	Cpen with deep dugout.	deep dugout.	Description of covered emplacement, whether concrete or otherwise.
N.31.b.3.3.		No .5	10'6" along underlay 5' x 2'6". 31' along drive 6' x 3'. To complete, drive 42' 2 chambers 6' x 6
N.31.b.9.1.		No .8	7° along underlay 6° x 3°. 35° along drive 5° x 2°6". To complete 27° along drive and 2 chambers 6° x 6°.
No. 7 N. 26. C. 4.1		No .7	23° along underlay 5° x 2°6 20° shaft lagged. To comple 47° along drive 2 chambers 6° x 6°
N.32.8.8.9.		No .8	28' two shafts 4' x 2'. 26' along underlay 5' x 3' To complete 9' drive. 2 chambers 6' x 6'.

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363 SECRET

Copy No.

18th AUSTRALIAN INFAMTRY BRICADE OFDER NO. 194

07.2.77

Reference map 40000

- 1. The 12th Australian Infantry Brigade will withdraw into the Corps training area on 26th and 27th inst. in accordance with move table attached.
 - 2. All camps will be left thoroughly clean.
- 3. Units will send advanced parties to take over their new areas the day previous to each move.
- 4. East of MEAULTE all troops will move in file with 200 yards between battalions, 200 yards between transport of each unit and 100 yards between companies.
 - 5. Units will report arrival in billets to Brigado H. O.
 - G. ACKHO'LEDGE.

Drigade Major 19th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Office Copy No. 1 Tar diary 45th battalion 46th 47th 48th 19th H.G. Coy. 12th A.L. T. II. Dattery 12th Field Ambulance 10 4th Aust. Liv. 4th Aust. Div. 4th Aust. Div. Train 13 15th Bdo. Supply 9fficer 14 Brigade Signal Officer 15 Staff Captain 70 C.O.C. 19th Aust. Inf. Bds. 17



Date Order of march Trom To Toute

PCth 45th Battalion MAMETZ BECCUTT

48th "
48th "
10.Coy.
A.L.T...D.
Ede. N.O.

First unit to be clear of MAMMETZ camp by 10.0 a,m, I emainder follow maintaining their proper intervals.

DECOURT PRESLE Via ALPERT 27th 12th Ede. H.Q. 45th Lattalion 4"th " 47th " BAIZIEUM ALIETT - MILTECOUPT - HENEMCOULT 48th HEWINGOUDT ALIETT - MILENCOUTT 4.. C. Coy. LOOD. 11 A. I. T.1. . D.

First unit to be clear of Decourt camp by 9.30 a.m.

l'emainder to follow at proper intervals.

Advanced billeting parties to report to Staff Captain at the Town Hajor's office DAIZIEUN at C.O p.m. on 29th inst.

APPENDIX

12th. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.
SUMMARW OF INTELLIGENCE No.15.

From 6-0 a.m. 23rd February to 6-0 a.m. 24th February 1917.

24/2/1917.

OUR ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Fairly active throughout with shrapnel on enemy trenches. A few heavies on back sectors.

TRENCH MORTARS & BOMBS. Nothing to report.

MACHINE & LEWIS GUNS. During night indirect fire was carried out on following targets -

Road N.15.c.3.0. to N.15.c.5.9\frac{1}{2}.

Road N.15.c.9.0. to N.15.d.4.9.

Road N.21.b.6.2. to N.15.d.7.2\frac{1}{2}.

Lewis Guns active on enemy front line throughout night. SNIPING. Active throughout day. No results could be seen.

PATROLS. Standing patrols at N.21.a.8.7%. and N.21.b.3.2. Active patrolling of NO MANS LAND. No enemy movements noted.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

ARTILLERY. Very active throughout 24 hours. Communications and front line trenches being consistently shelled. During night a number of Heavies fell round STORMY TRENCH.

TRENCH MORTARS & BOMBS. A few rifle grenades fell near GOODWINS POST.

MACHINE GUN & RIFLE FIRE. Bursts of fire swept duckboards GRASS LANE and parts of front line generally. Indirect fire on POSSUM RESERVE. SNIPING. Fairly quiet.

PATROLS & MOVEMENT. None noticed.

IDENTIFICATIONS. Red glare towards THILLOY from 8-30 to 9-30 p.m. STORMY TRENCH to Left of position won, sent up no flares and appeared very quiet.

WEATHER. Misty till noon then clear. Ground very bad.

AIRCRAFT. Nil.

146
89
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2

Aust. Inf. Brigade.

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2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - 45th. Battalion

5 - 46th.

6 - 47th.

7 - 48 th.

8 - 12th. M. G. Coy.

9 - 12th. A.L.T.M.Btty.

10 - 4th. Aust. Division

11 - Right Brigade

12 - Left Brigade

13 - Liaison Officer.

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SECRET.

URGENT.

Reference Trench Map N.21.

Lieut-Colonel Denely, 0.C. 58th. Battalion.

A Patrol from 48th. Infantry Battalion will proceed at an early hour this evening to reconnoitre STORMY TRENCH from point N.21.a.65.75. to N.21.a.25.65.

You will arrange to have a party in readiness at Post N.21.a.2.4. On receipt of information from O.C. Patrol, that the aforementioned trench is clear of enemy, you will have two posts placed in STORMY TRENCH, one on the Western Side of Read in a suitable position about N.21.a.25.65. and one similiarly at N.21.a.55.78.

You will get into touch with the O.C. 48th. Battalion and make the necessary arrangements regarding the co-operation with the patrol.

It is suggested that a Lewis M.G. Team strengthened by three bombers and bombs, be placed at the first mentioned post and a team of bombers at the second.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Captain.
Brigade Major.
12th. Aust. Inf. Brigade.

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2 & 3 - War Diary

4 - Lt.-Col. Denely - 58th.Bn.

5 - 0.C. 48th. Battn.

6 - 45th. Battn.

565

GENERAL STAFF CORCULAR No. 43.

Subject. DEFENCE AGAINST GAS.

- 1. Fourth Army Standing Orders on Befence against Gas have been issued and will be strictly followed.
- 2. (i) Authority os delegated to headquarters of divisions to order "Gas Alert". The order for "Gas Alert" will therefore be sent by divisional headquarters, who will be responsible for warning all troops in their areas, and in camps in Corps area allotted to them.
- (ii) The order for "Gas Alert" will be withdrawn only on the authority of the divisional commander. (See para 2 of pamphlet, 2nd and 3rd sub-paras)
- 7. (Para 3, sub-para xv of pamphlet.) Area Commandant of "V" Area will prepare a scheme for giving the alarm and rousing all men in ALBERT and other Camps in his Area. This will be submitted to Corps headquarters for approval and promulgation.
- 4. (i) "Wind dangerous," "Wind Safe", and actual "Gas attack" messages will be passed on as priority messages by all Signal Offices until all troops in the divisional area and the division on either flank of the division from which the original message emanates are warned.

The A.D. Signals, outside divisional areas, and Os.C. divisional signal companies in their divisional areas, will ensure that a list of offices to be warned, correct to date and applicable to the office concerned, is kept in every signal office.

(ii) The Units reporting Gas must differentiate between a rumoured and an actual gas attack. If the gas attack be unaccompanied by an infantry attack the "S.O.S." signal will not be sent, but the message "GAS Trench". Thus if trenches N.21/6 and N.21/7 were being gassed the message should read "GAS Trenches N.21/6 and N.21/7."

The action to be taken by artillery on receipt of such a message will be as follows :-

On the message "GAS Trench" being received the artillery will open a barrage fire in the sector indicated with the field guns told off to that particular sector, the barrage being placed in front of the enemy's front line. The barrage will not be intensified by concentrating the fire of other batteries, unless the infantry attack threatens to develop, in which case the "S.O.S." signal will be sent up. At the same time the trenches from which the gas is being emitted will be bombarded with all available howitzers, and trench mortars at a rapid rate. The heavy artillery will open fire with heavy howitzers on the second and third lines of the hostile front system, and the approaches to these trenches from the rear will be searched with fire by 60 pdrs or 4.7 guns at medium rates.

In the event of a sudden and intense bombardment with gas shells, a "local alarm" will be given. Divisions and B.G., H.A. will make arrangements for the giving of this alarm in localities which may be subject to sudden bombardment with gas shells. The alarm will be of such a nature that there is no chance of it being confused with the signal for an actual "Gas Attack". On no account will a Strombus Horn be used to indicate this "local alarm".

7. (Appendix (i) of pamphlet.)
In each Division, the divisional gas officer will be responsible for maintaining a list of anti-gas trench stores on issue. All anti-gas trench stores will be on charge to the gas N.C.O. of units and will be handed over and signed for at each relief in books kept for the purpose.