

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/35/6

Title: Headquarters, 7th Australian Field
Artillery Brigade

April 1917



AWM4-13/35/6

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 33

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|--------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | | | (1) | |
| | Apr. 1 | | Intelligence Summary. O.O.No.3 was carried out during the period. | Appen.1 " 2 |
| | " 2 | | Position of 26th. Battery was subjected to heavy fire by the enemy but no damage was done to material or personnel. Intelligence Summary. | Appen.1 |
| | " 3 | | Intelligence Summary. Shoot was attempted by the 107th. Howitzer Battery, on bridge U.29.b.20.40 with Balloon observation, but owing to bad visibility could not be completed. | " 1 |
| | " 4 | | Intelligence Summary. Shots were carried out by the 26th. & 27th. Batteries with Aeroplane and Balloon, observation with effect. | Appen.1 |
| | " 5 | | Intelligence Summary. | Appen.1 |
| | " 6 | | Intelligence Summary. 26th. Battery was again shelled but no damage sustained. O.O. No.4a was carried out. | Appen.1 Appen.2 |
| | " 7 | | Intelligence Summary. Registrations were carried out by the 25th. Battery with Balloon Observation. 26th. Battery was again shelled but hostile fire was silenced by heavy Artillery. | Appen.1 Appen.1 |

2353 Wt. W2544/1454 700,000 5/15 D. D. & L. A.D.S.S./Forms/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 |
|-------|---------------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | | | (2) | |
| | Apr. 8 | | Intelligence Summary. During the day 26th. and 107th. Batteries were shelled, but with the exception of slight damage to a Howitzer, carriage, no other damage occurred. | Appen. 1 |
| | " 9 | | Intelligence Summary. 26th. Battery was again subjected to hostile fire but no damage was sustained. | Appen. 1 |
| | " 10 | | Intelligence Summary. | Appen. 1 |
| | " 11 | | Intelligence Summary. | Appen. 1 |
| | " 12 | | Intelligence Summary. | Appen. 1 |
| | " 13 | | Intelligence Summary. O.O. No. 5 was carried out to the extent that one section of each Battery was relieved by sections of each Battery of Batteries of 8th. F.A. Brigade. | Appen. 2 |
| | " 14 | | O.O. No. 5 was completed during night 14/15. Command passed to 8th. F.A. Bgde at 10 p.m. | |
| | " 15 | | Batteries moved to new Wagon Lines prior to March to Training Area. | Appen. 2 |
| | " 16) 17) 18) | | March to Training Area as per O.O. 6 was carried out during the 16th. 17th. and 18th. On the 16th. Brigade marched from Wagon Lines to Wallon Cappel. On the 17th. Wallon Cappel to Longueuesse and on the 18th. Longueuesse to Quesques and Selles. | |

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

33

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)


| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|---|--------------------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | Apr. 19 to Apr. 30 | | <p>(3)</p> <p>Training for Mobile Warfare was carried out during this period. <i>in presence of C.A.</i> on 19th. an Inspection was made by Corps Commander. On 26th. a Tactical Scheme as per O.O.No.4 was was carried out in the vicinity of DESVRES.</p> | <p>App 2</p> |
| <p><i>Winstanley</i> Major. for Commanding Officer, 7th F. A. Brigade.</p> | | | | |

3

LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. 5.30 p.m. 31/3/17 to 5.30 p.m. 1/4/17.

| TIME. | REMARKS. |
|-----------|--|
| 10 a.m. | Working party U.29.b.20.70 was fired on by the 25th. Battery with effect. |
| 3.20 p.m. | 26th. Battery fired on Sugar Refinery U.17.d.40.60 and obtained three direct hits on Tower portion of the building. |
| 4.17 p.m. | 26th. Battery fired on enemy cockhouse U.15.c. and obtained 1 direct hit. Searchlights observed from SURRY FARM $116^{\circ}30'$ and $329^{\circ}30'$ true bearing. Suspected Machine Gun position U.30.c.03.75. From observation it appears that this position is not in use at present. |
| 4 p.m. | At this time enemy shelled position occupied by the 107th. Battery with 5.9 H.E. A gun flash was observed from MOLLY True Bearing 81° . Time from flash to report from same place was 35 seconds. This bearing intersects a 5.9 Battery at V.20.c.55.00. The heavy Artillery engaged this Battery and immediately silenced them. The only main control station at the Battery was destroyed also a telephone. No injuries were sustained by personnel. The wire cut by the 27th. Battery during experimental shoot on the 30th. March, has been repaired by the enemy and made stronger. Enemy's Artillery has not been so active as usual during the day. Visibility fair. Operation Order No.3 was carried out on enemy's trenches and works on three occasions during the night. |


Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery.

Lieutenant-Colonel.

Appendix No. 1

LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

5.30 p.m. 1/4/17 to 5.30 p.m. 2/4/17.

TIME.

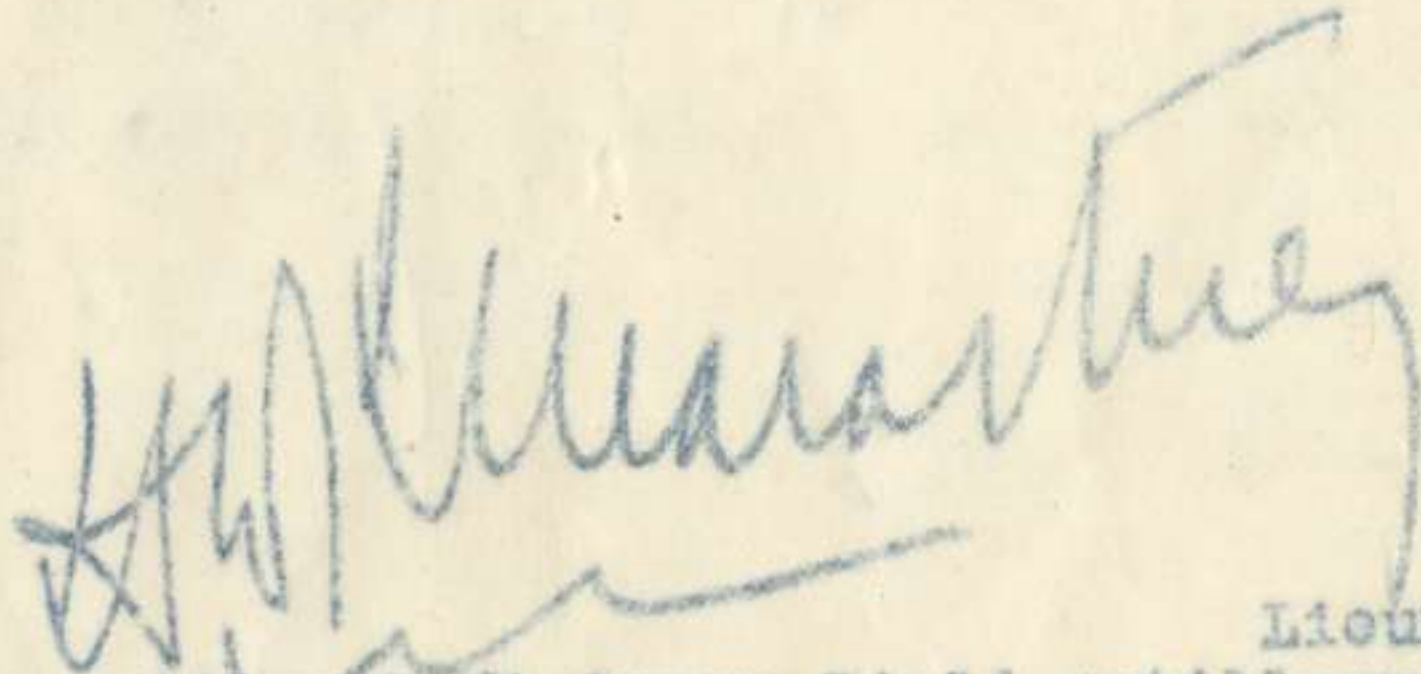
REMARKS.

7 a.m.

Machine Gun emplacement located C.4.d.22.44
Enemy 5.9 Battery in the direction of MESSINES commenced shelling the position of the 26th Battery. About 150 rounds were fired 20 of which fell in the buildings where guns and Billets are. No damage was sustained and no casualties to personnel. Some ammunition in No.3 pit was struck and set on fire and projectiles forced from cases, but no explosion occurred. At 11.30 a.m. the enemy commenced shelling position again. Four rounds fell in the Battery position and a number in buildings further along the road towards PLOEGSTBERT WOOD. During the first Bombardment a hostile aeroplane was flying over Battery position. At 9.15a.m. our planes appeared, and the shelling immediately ceased.

1.15 p.m.

New enemy wire observed behind support line between U.28.d.28.52 and U.28.d.28.32.
During the day enemy's Artillery was not active on our trenches, but was very active on the back areas of the Sector.
Dugout previously located C.24.a.90.48 has now been reinforced with concrete.
Visibility bad owing to Snowstorms.


Lieutenant-Colonel.
Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery.

Appendix No. 1

LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

5.30 p.m. 2/4/17 to 5.30 p.m. 3/4/17.

TIME.

REMARKS.

12.1 p.m.

Much movement observed round house C.6.b.30.00. Men continually leaving and entering house. Several mounted men were seen to ride up to this house.

4 p.m.

A party of 10 men moved down the road at C.6.b.37.10. Traffic along this road was heavy. Several trains observed moving along light railway and several 4 horse lorries passed the Cross Roads at C.6.b.30.18. Most of the traffic seemed to come down the road to PORT ROUSE, and then round the cross roads to the south.

1.20 p.m.

Large motor transport observed going south on LES BOURGESS road in C.6.b.20.50.

2.15 p.m.

Steam observed from a train in the direction of QUEENBY proceeding in a south easterly direction.

2.30 p.m.

Suspected C.P. in house at U.30.a.85.85 was fired on by the 27th. Battery and four direct hits obtained.

3.30 p.m.

A shoot was attempted by the 107th. Battery with Balloon observation on Bridge at U.29.b.20.40. but owing to bad observation the shoot could not be completed.

Aeroplanes were very active during the day.

Visibility Fair.

Hostile Artillery was inactive during the period.

Traffic on the PORT ROUSE road was fired on by the 25th. Battery, but the range was very great.

[Handwritten Signature]
Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery.

Lieutenant-Colonel.

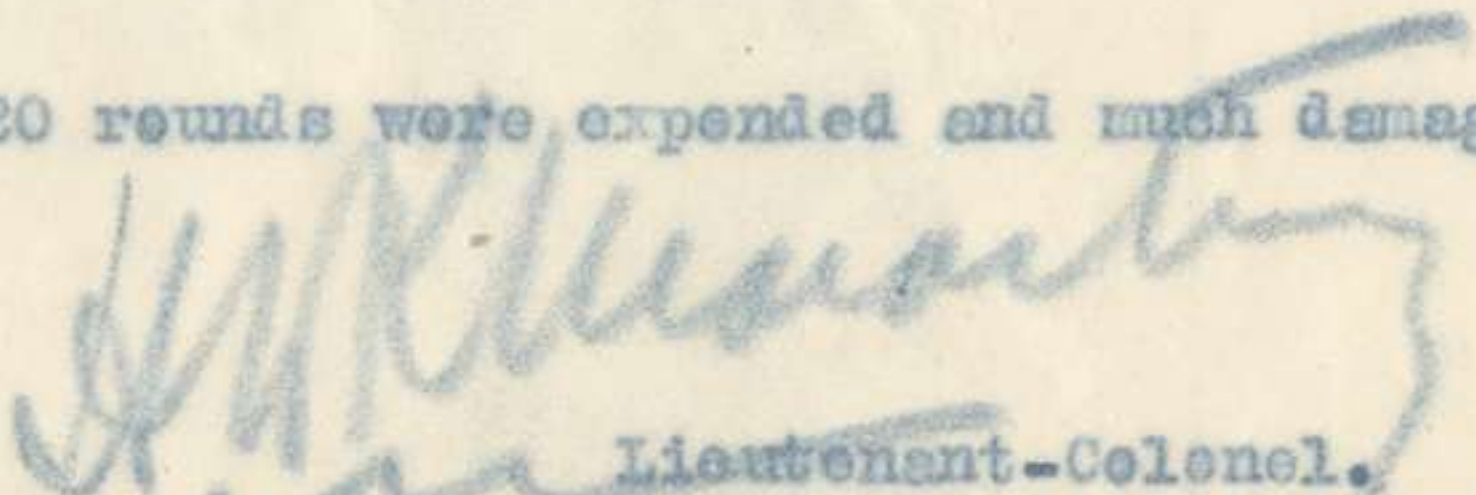
Appendix No. 1

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LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

From 6 p.m. 3.4.1917 to 6 p.m. 4.4.1917.

| Time | Remarks |
|------------|---|
| 3/00 a.m. | MachineGun located C.4.d.22.44 was fired on by 25th Battery and silenced. |
| 10.00 a.m. | Working Party observed U.23.b.50.35 engaged by 26th Battery and dispersed. |
| 11.05 a.m. | Enemy Horseman and men observed moving about U.23.b.50.35. |
| 11.10 a.m. | Party observed U.23.b.50.35 were fired on by 26th Battery and 2 casualties inflicted. |
| 12.00 noon | Enemy Working Party observed in Front Line U.21.b.90.90 fired on by 26th Battery and dispersed. |
| 1.30 p.m. | A beard was observed in front of Enemy's Trenches U.22.b.90.90 on which was written the number 177. At 3 p.m. it was noticed that this beard had been removed. |
| 10.30 a.m. | Party of Enemy observed erecting wire U.30.a.87.90. This Party was fired on by 27th Battery and immediately took refuge in MYSTERY HOUSE U.30.a.87.90. This House was then fired on and one direct hit obtained. |
| 5.20 p.m. | 27th Battery carried out a shoot on X Roads C.11.b.33.93 with Ballen Observation. This shoot was carried out with success. |
| 9.00 a.m. | Party of Germans were observed near-20 beneath PONT ROUGE Bridge engaged on what appeared to be a Penton. |
| 4.55 a.m. | 25th Battery opened fire S.O.S. in response to rockets and telephone message from Company Commander but 'Cease Fire' was given shortly afterwards when it was ascertained that S.O.S. was not required. It appears that an Enemy Patrol of three men approached within 10 yards of our parapet and one of our men seeing them exclaimed 'Let it go boys there here'. This was repeated and mistaken for the S.O.S. hence red rockets being fired and telephone message to the 25th Battery. 88 rounds were expended in consequence. |
| 5.30 p.m. | 26th Battery engaged Targets 40 and 41 with aeroplane observation and received O.K. from Observer for both targets. Enemy's Artillery was again active during the day. Most of the fire was directed against our Trenches in C.4.a. Group retaliation was given several times during the day and had the effect of silencing Enemy. Visibility fair. |
| 6.00 p.m. | Z.3.A.M.T.M. Battery carried out a shoot on U.16.c.30.00.20 rounds were expended and much damage done to Enemy's parapet and wire. Retaliation was slight. |


Lieutenant-Colonel.
Commanding Left Group Field Artillery.

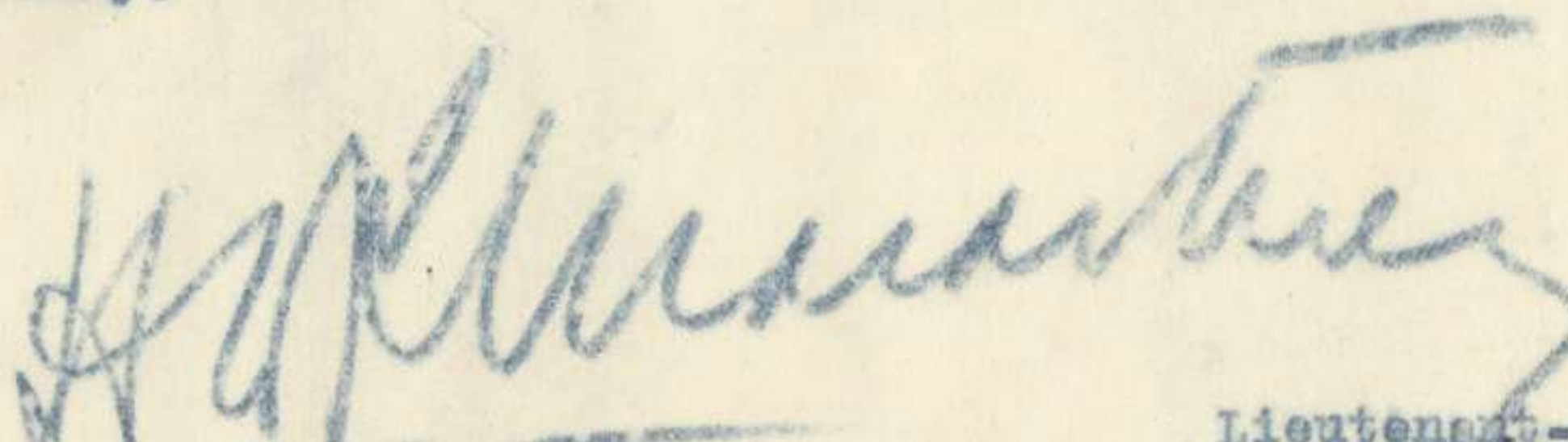
Appendix No. 1

LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

5.30 p.m. 4/4/17 to 5.30 p.m. 5/4/17.

| <u>TIME.</u> | <u>REMARKS.</u> |
|--------------|--|
| 11.45 a.m. | 25th. Battery fired on parties of men at DURIEZ FARM C.5.d.30.95 and dispersed same. |
| 12.53 p.m. | Enemy Working parties U.23.a.85.95 were fired on by the 26th. Battery with effect. Working parties at U.17.c.05.23 and U.22.d.00.55 were fired on by the same Battery at 2 and 2.40 p.m. |
| 4.10 p.m. | The 26th. Battery fired on suspected O.P. U.17.d.40.60 and obtained direct hits. |
| 12.30 p.m. | Much movement was observed in the vicinity of the HAIT U.23.a.85.95 and a working party of about 20 men was seen working at what appeared to be a dump. This party was fired on by the 26th. Battery with good effect. |
| 2 p.m. | Movement observed around 2 brick cottages in DEULEMONT U.24.c.60.50. These buildings were fired on by the 26th. Battery and 4 direct hits obtained. |
| 2.30 p.m. | 2 of the enemy were observed at dugout U.21.b.95.35; these were fired on by the 26th. Battery and dispersed. |
| 4.10 p.m. | Movement observed at foot of Sugar Refinery U.17.d.50.50. The Sugar Refinery is suspected ax to be an enemy O.P. was fired on by the 26th. Battery and direct hits obtained. |
| | Enemy's Artillery showed increased activity during the day and directed his fire against our trenches at C.4.c. Minenwerfers were also active during the day. Group Retaliation had the effect of silencing the enemy. |
| | Visibility fair. |

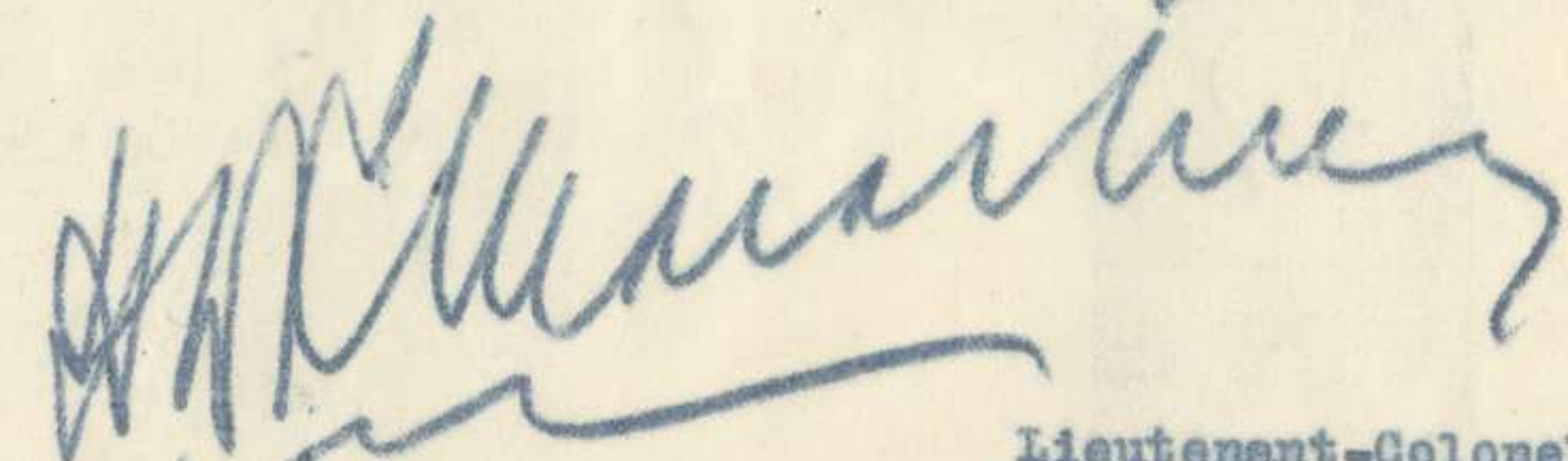

Lieutenant-Colonel.
Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery.

Appendix No. 1

LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. 5.30 p.m.5/4/17. to 5.30 p.m.6/4/17.

| TIME | REMARKS. |
|-----------|---|
| 3.45 p.m. | Dugout G.4.b.30.50 was fired on by the 85th. Battery and direct hits obtained. Much debris was thrown into the air. |
| 9.25 p.m. | 26th. Battery was again shelled but no damage was sustained. A bearing was taken from U.25..a.50.25 reading $79^{\circ}42'$ T.B. |
| 12.noon. | Large enemy periscope observed in U.16.c.55.00 disguised as a cross. 26th. Battery fired on this target. In firing at this periscope which was near a tree one of the shells fell at the foot of the tree and a large explosion followed. This is presumed to be an enemy dump and looks suspiciously like a Minenwerfer position. One of the enemy was observed coming from a dugout near by. |
| 11 a.m. | An attempt appears to have been made by 10.5 cm.How to range on the 107th. Battery. About 12 rounds were fired but no damage was sustained. At 3.15 p.m. the enemy again commenced to range on the same Battery with a 10.5 cm.How. 7 rounds were fired at intervals of about 5 minutes, but no damage was done. Method of ranging appears to have been by Aeroplane in the morning, and sound ranging in the afternoon. |
| 4 p.m. | A medium Trench Mortar Shoot was carried out by 2.3.A.Battery on U.22.a.20.15 and U.22.a.10.40. 20 rounds were expended on the first target and considerable damage was done to the enemy's Front Line. 36 rounds were expended on the second target. These rounds fell with good effect on enemy Support Line and several rounds fell on what appeared to be dugouts throwing much debris into the air. Enemy 's Artillery has not been so active as usual during the day. Minenwerfers were active during the afternoon in retaliation to our shoot. Visibility fair, |



Lieutenant-Colonel.
Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery.

Appendix No. 1

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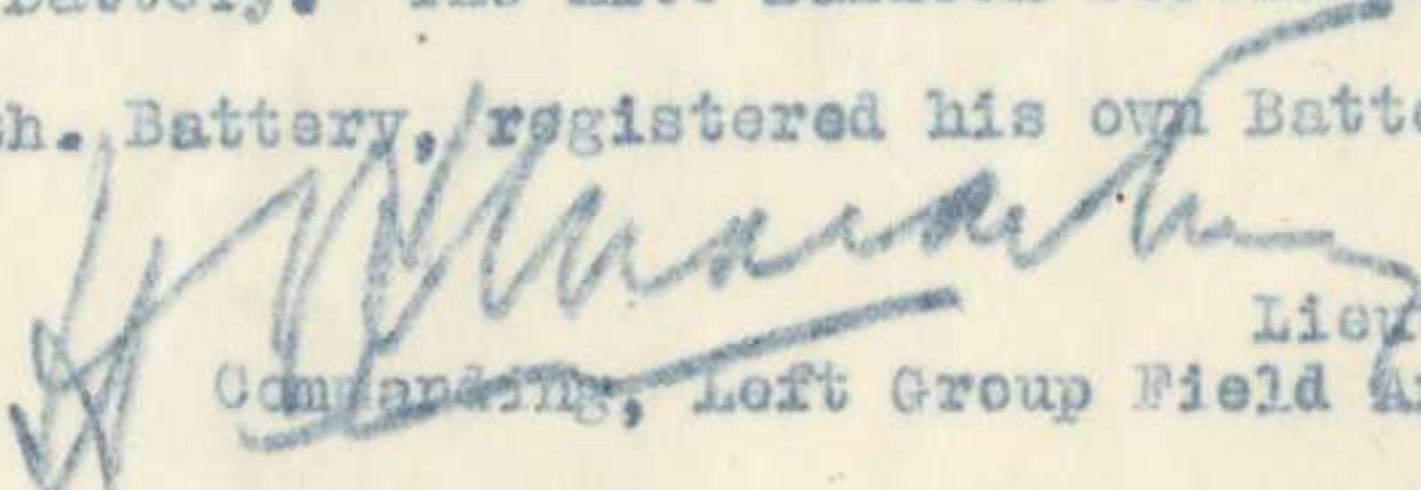
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LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

5.30 p.m. 6/4/17 to 5.30 p.m. 7/4/17.

| TIME. | REMARKS. |
|------------|--|
| 11.20 a.m. | Working Party U.29.b.60.20 was fired on by the 25th. Battery with effect. |
| 12.15 p.m. | House U.29.d.90.90 was fired on by the 25th. Battery and several direct hits obtained. Parties of men near this house were also dispersed. |
| 12.30 p.m. | Registration of Cross Roads U.29.d.88.88 was carried out with Balloon observation by 25th.Bty. |
| 1 p.m. | Registration of Roads L'OS A MORLLE C.12.b.60.45 Was carried out by Balloon observation by the 25th. Battery. |
| 4 p.m. | Enemy Working Party U.21.b.85.80 was fired on by the 25th. Battery with effect. Considerable amount of work appears to have been carried out by the enemy from FACTORY FARM South to the BIRDCAGE. New Sandbags timber revetting frames, and screens have been erected. |
| 3.45 p.m. | Fire of the 107th. Battery on Sugar Refinery was effective and several direct hits obtained. Medium Trench Mortars carried out a shoot on Sniper's position in house C.10.b.70.30. Thirty rounds were expended with good effect. A considerable portion of the wall of the house were blown in, and the trenches in the vicinity were damaged. Enemy's retaliation was fairly heavy. 12 Minenwerfers were fired and fell in the vicinity of C.10.b.13.65. Our Trench Mortar was hit but ^{not} damaged. Searchlight observed from SURREY HOUSE True bearing 46°. |
| 9.30 p.m. | Enemy Observation Balloon ascended near WARRETON but descended after a short time. |
| 10.30 a.m. | The 26th. Battery was again shelled, from the direction of V.19.b & c. The Heavy Artillery engaged Batteries in this area and Hostile fire ceases soon afterwards. |
| 6.10 p.m. | Enemy's Artillery Fire was not so heavy during the period. Visibility good. |
| 10 a.m. | Registrations on U.38.b.15.45, U.29.b.73.35 and U.23.a.75.95 were carried out by Balloon observation by the 26th. Battery. The Kite Balloon Section reported that the shoot was very successful. The Battery Commander, 25th. Battery, registered his own Battery from the Balloon. |


Lieutenant-Colonel.
Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery.

Appendix No. 1

LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

5.30 p.m. 7/4/17 to 5.30 p.m. 8/4/17.

TIME.

REMARKS.

11 a.m.
6.45 p.m. to
8.15 a.m.
8.45 p.m.

Traffic on Cross Roads U.30.e.20.70 was fired on by the 25th. Battery with effect. Enemy shelled the vicinity of the 25th. Battery position with 5.9 and 8". Shells were fired at long intervals and about 9 in all fell. 8. enemy again commenced shelling the vicinity of the 25th. Battery section detached Section and lengthened his range until the Battery position was reached. About 20 rounds of 5.9 and 8" were fired, killing two men at the Cross Roads. An enemy "Dud" fell at U.25.b.33.18. the line obtained formed an angle of 3°30' right of HANTS FARM - MIDLAND CORNER U.26.b.34.56. An 8" shell fell during the morning at Cross Roads U.25.e. 73.55

Suspected Gun Jar position U.15.d.93.37

Suspected Machine Gun Position U.15.d.93.65.

Trains appeared at WARRINGTON at 12 noon, 2 p.m., 3 p.m., and 4 p.m.

Flashes from Anti-Aircraft Battery observed true bearing 66°30' from Brigade left O.P.

11 a.m.

Enemy commenced ranging on 107th. Battery position in U.1.d.10.80 with 4.2 and continued for 2½ hours, firing 1 round about every 5 minutes. Three direct hits were obtained damaging carriage of No.2 Gun, and blowing in a dugout destroying some bedding and clothing. About 2 hours later enemy fired 50 rounds of 5.9 on to position but no further damage was done to material. After another interval of 15 minutes enemy fired 30 rounds 5.9 gun fire. This was followed later by 40 rounds of 4.2 Gas shell. Enemy continued until about 7 p.m. to fire a few rounds of 5.9 H.E. on to position at intervals.

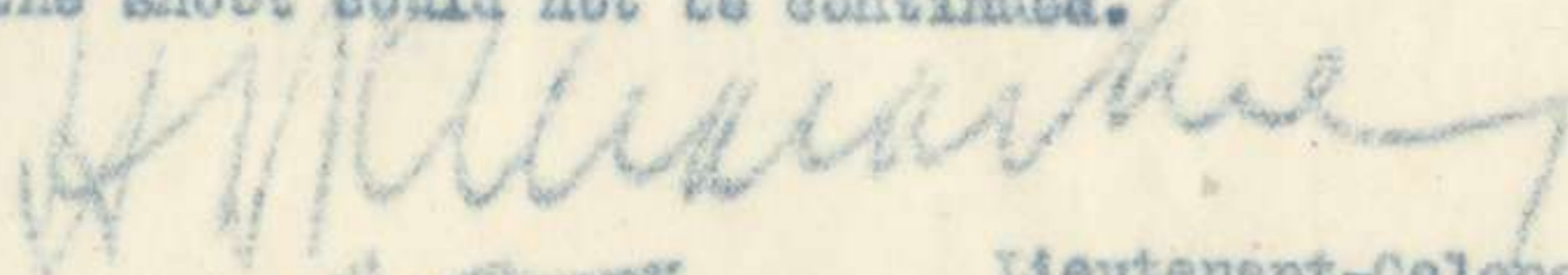
12 midnight.

Information received that considerable amount of work was being carried out in enemy lines from FACTORY FARM to 200 yards North. This part of the line was brought under fire and the work immediately ceased.

Enemy's fire was mainly directed against Batteries in the Back Areas of the Sector. Visibility good.

5.15 p.m.

107th. Battery attempted to carry out a shoot on Hostile Battery at U.17.a.75.85 with Balloon observation but owing to the ground mist the shoot could not be continued.


Lieutenant-Colonel.
Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery.

Appendix No. 1

LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. 5.30 p.m. 8/4/17 to 5.30 p.m. 9/4/17.

TIME.

REMARKS.

12.40 p.m.

Traffic on Cross Roads U.30.c.21.53 was fired on by the 25th. Battery with effect.

9.15 a.m.

Enemy again shelled 26th. Battery position with 8". About 12 rounds fell but no damage was sustained by guns or casualties by personnel.

10.45 a.m.

The 26th. Battery fired on enemy 77mm Battery C.6.a.93.60 and silenced same.

11 a.m.

Suspected Enemy O.P. U.17.c.45.50. Movement was observed at this place. 26th. Battery fired on this O.P. and obtained two direct hits. 3.59 p.m. 26th. Battery fired on enemy revolver gun position U.22.a.95.35 and registered same.

10.45 a.m.

Enemy Heavy Gun position located O.33.d.1505. This Battery was engaged by 6" Howitzers with effect.

11 a.m.

Movement observed near PONT ROUGE. 11.45-a.m. 1a

11.45 a.m.

Large Working Party 50 to 75 men were in grey blue uniform observed U.12.a.20.60 working in front of hedge and carrying material along a freshly made communication trench running south. This target was out of range for Field Guns, but was dealt with by 60 pdrs with effect. 8 p.m. Fire observed from SURREY HOUSE. 61° T.B. After this fire had been burning for about 20 minutes a big flare was observed but no explosion could be heard. The fire went out shortly after 9 p.m.

8 p.m.

Enemy 8" Battery which shelled the 26th. Battery was effectively dealt with by heavy Arty. Enemy's Artillery Fire showed a marked decrease during the period. Visibility fair.



Lieut-Colonel.
Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery.

Appendix No. 1

LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

5.50 p.m. 9/4/17 to 5.30p.m. 10/4/17.

TIME.

REMARKS.

9.15 a.m.

Enemy shelled Cross Roads U.25.d. (old 26th Battery old position.) with 8" and 5.9. About 12 rounds were fired.

11.40 a.m.

Screen in front of Mystery House has been increased in size and now completely covers doorway on left hand side. (U.30.a.90.90.)

New enemy wire observed in the vicinity of U.28.a.47.61. The width of the wire is about 25 yards.

A green screen is clearly visible in front of wall in building C.11.e.50.51. Screening is also visible in window of house at C.11.d.40.50.

7.30 a.m.

A great deal of movement observed along road coming from MESSINES and passing U.3.central.

7.30 a.m.

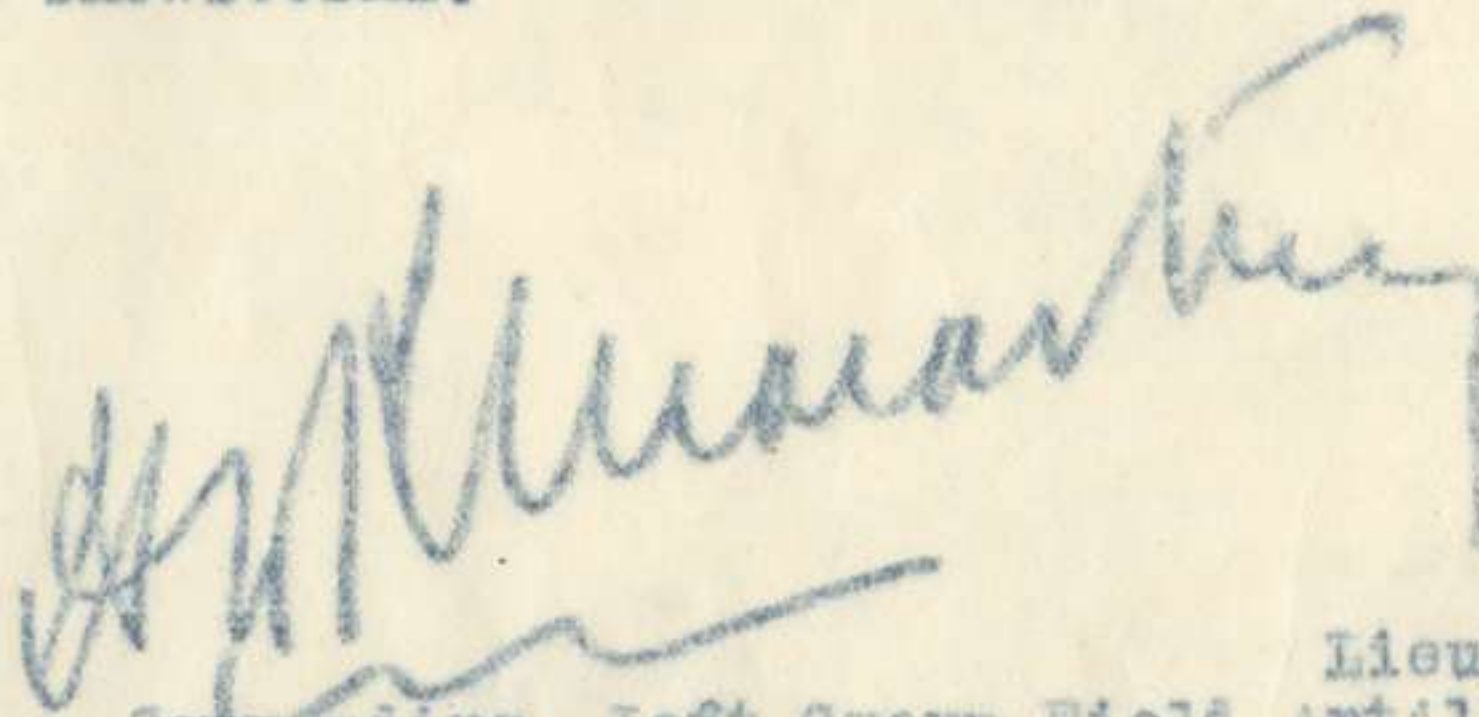
Smoke observed issuing from dump U.3.d.09.40.

Hostile Battery located U.17.a.55.05. Flash of one gun was observed from O.P.U.19 (U.13.a.85.20)

Time from flash to report 20 seconds. Area Shelled P.L. U.15.a.

Enemy's Artillery was not so active as usual during the day.

Visibility was only fair owing to snowstorms.



Lieutenant-Colonel.
Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery.

Appendix No. 1

LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. 5.30 p.m. 10/8/17 to 5.30 p.m. 11/4/17.

| <u>TIME.</u> | <u>REMARKS.</u> |
|-----------------|--|
| 10.45 a.m. | Working party of about 20 men observed U.30.b.70.70 was fired on by the 25th. Battery. The party appeared to be engaged digging a trench and were clearly observed wheeling barrows carrying material. |
| 10.30 a.m. | The 26th. Battery fired on Pineapple position U.16.e.05.53 with effect. |
| 1.40 p.m. | Movement observed at Revolver Gun position U.22.a.40.43. This target was fired on by the 26th. Battery with effect. |
| 1.50 p.m. | Enemy 77mm Battery positions U.18.b.25.07 and U.11.b.85.30 were fired on by the 26th. Battery with shrapnel. |
| 11.50 a.m. | Registration of Cross Road U.25.e.80.50 was carried out by the 107th. Battery with Aeroplane observation. 22 rounds were fired.. One O.K. and 2 Ys. were obtained but owing to the high and gusty wind the results were not consistent. |
| 10.45 to 1 p.m. | Traffic was observed on the DEULEMONT - QUESNOY Road at intervals during this time. One party consisted of two mounted on horses and two cyclists riding in rear. Single cyclists were observed at various times. Dismounted parties of three or four men were clearly seen. All appeared to be wearing the German universal uniform with steel helmets. Enemy Artillery fire was very quiet during the last day. Visibility poor. |


Lieutenant-Colonel.
Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery.

Appendix No. 1

LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

5.30 p.m. 11/4/17 to 12/4/17 (5.30 p.m.)

TIME.

REMARKS.

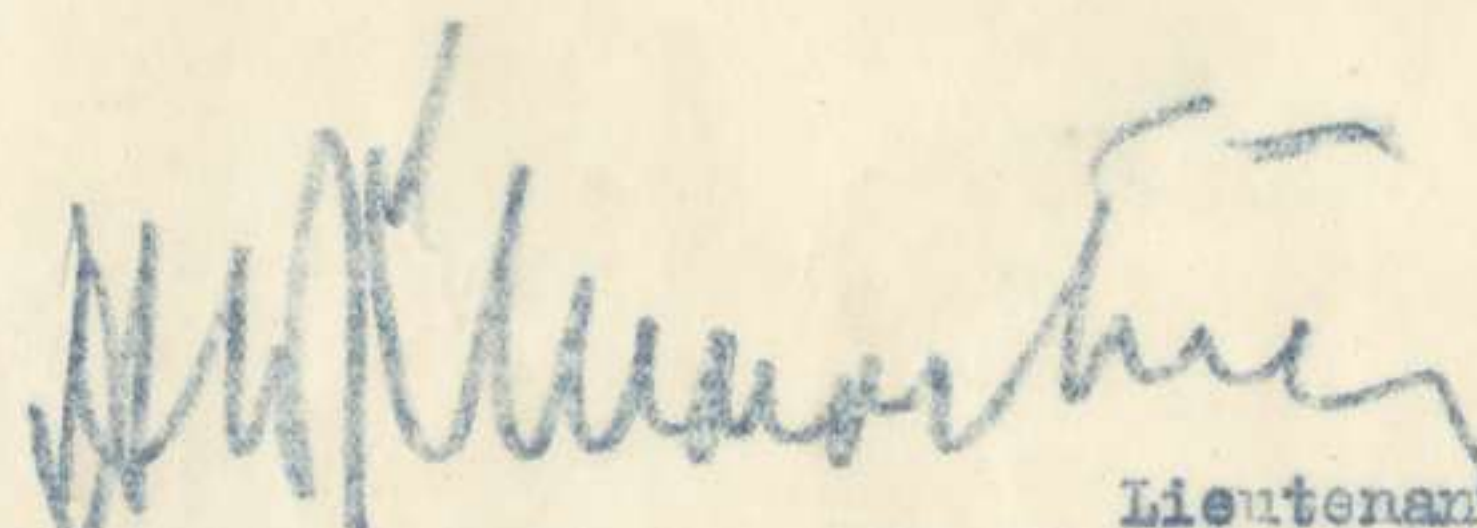
Y

10.15 a.m.
4 p.m.

Party of the enemy ~~xx~~ about 6 observed in field U.23.a.50.30.
A periscope and Observation Post observed U.22.a.40.65. the object glass of the periscope is visible through a loophole.
Movement observed along Road U.24.a. during the day. Several parties appeared to be making for the sugar refinery U.17.d.40.60.

2.45 p.m.

A large fire observed considerable distance in rear of enemy's lines.
Three trains observed leaving WARNETON between 10 and 11 a.m. Same number between 3 & 4 p.m.
All were proceeding in an Easterly direction.
Enemy's Artillery was not so active as usual during the day.
Visibility fair.


Lieutenant-Colonel.
Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery

Appendix No. 1

2

SECRET.

Copy No.....
Date 3rd Apl. 1917

LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

OPERATION ORDER NO. 4.

Reference Map - PLOMGSEILRI, 1/10,000.

1. Officer Commanding "C" Company, 44th Battalion, intends to furnish an Officer's patrol consisting of one Officer and seven other ranks, for the purpose of obtaining identification of the Garrison opposite to our line.
2. The Patrol will move out on the night of 3rd/4th April 1917 at 11 p.m.
3. It will leave our lines at U.21.b.38.69 and enter the Enemy's trench at a point U.21.b.65.51.
4. The Artillery of the ^{Left} ~~Right~~ Group will stand by on lines indicated in the attached Task Table until ordered to stand down by Group Headquarters.
5. Batteries will not open fire except by order of Group Headquarters. This order will only be given should the Patrol find itself in difficulties.
6. In case help is required the call "Help Z C" will be forwarded direct from the Liaison Officer (Lieut Hamilton) to Group Headquarters.
7. Lieut. Hamilton is detailed as Liaison Officer and will report to the O.C. "C" Company, 44th Battalion, at Company Headquarters at 10 p.m. He will remain at the disposal of the O.C. this Company until the operation is completed. On the completion of the operation he will send the message 'All in G H 6' to Group & will then report himself to the O.C., 44th Battalion.
8. The O.C., 26th Battery will plug Z.C. line direct to Group from 10 p.m. until the line is finished with by Group.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Handwritten signature]

Lieut-Colonel.
Commanding Left Group Field Artillery.

Issued at *5pm*

- Distribution :- Copy No.
- | | | |
|----|-----------------|---------|
| 1 | C.R.A. | By D.R. |
| 2 | 11th Inf. | do |
| 3 | Left Battn. | |
| 4 | Right " | |
| 5 | 25th Bty. | |
| 6 | 26th Bty. | |
| 7 | 27th Bty. | |
| 8 | 107th Bty. | |
| 9 | O.C. "C" Coy. | |
| 10 | Liaison Officer | |
| 11 | War Diary | |
| 12 | FILE. | |

T A S K T A B L E.

A. Bombardment.
B. Barrage,

Ref. Map PLOEGSTEERT 1/10,000.

LEFT GROUP.

| Battery | Guns | Time | Date | T A S K. | Nature of Fire | Rate of Fire | AMMUNITION | | |
|---------|------|--|--------|---|----------------|--|------------|------------|----|
| | | | | | | | A | AX | BX |
| 26th | 1 | After 11 p.m. & by order from Group Hdqrs. | 3.4.17 | Enfilade F.L. U.21.b.85.80 to U.21.b.82.62 | B | 3 r.g.m. for 5 mins. then drop to 2 r.g.m. | | | |
| " | 1 | do | do | U.21.b.85.58 - Sweep 30" | B | | | | |
| " | 1 | do | do | U.21.b.88.47 - Sweep 30" | B | | 150 | 50 approx. | |
| " | 1 | do | do | T.J. U.21.b.90.30 | A | | | | |
| " | 1 | do | do | Enfilade F.L. U.21.b.85.13 to U.22.a.10.21 | B | | | | |
| 27th | 6 | do | do | Support & F.L. U.21.b.95.70 to U.22.a.20.12 | B | do | 200 | 50 approx. | |
| 107th | 1 | do | do | T.J. U.22.a.42.59) | A | do | | 60 | |
| | 1 | do | do | T.J. U.22.a.50.18) | A | | | approx. | |

H. H. ...
 Licut-Colonel.
 Commanding Left Group Field Artillery.

Appendix No. 2

S E C R E T.

Copy No.....

Date..4/4/1917.

LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.OPERATION ORDER NO.4.a.Reference Map. PLOEGSTEERT. 28 S.W. 1/10,000.

1. The 12th. New Zealand Battery F.A. will come under the tactical command of the B.G.R.A., 3rd. Australian Division at midnight 6th/7th April, at which time the 3rd. Australian Division will have extended its Front to ASH LANE inclusive.
The 12th. New Zealand Battery F.A. will be attached to the Left Group.
2. The Section of the 107th. Battery 3rd. Australian Division at present in action at G.22.a.3.3. Will move to a position in PLOEGSTEERT, in order to cover the extra front taken over by this Division, This Section will move on the night 5th/6th April and will register the following day.
3. The O.C., 107th. Battery will report to Group Headquarters when the Section moves out.

' Packages have been despatched'.
and on arrival of the Section at its new position the message. - 'Packages have been received'.
will be wired to Group.
4. Attention id drawn to various instructions issued from time to time regarding the cleanliness of Billets &c., vacated.
5. A C K N O W L E D G E.

Sgd. H.D.K.Macartney. Lieutenant-Colonel.
Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery.

Issued at.. ..

| | | |
|----------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Distribution:- | Copy No.1 | C.R.A. |
| | 2. | N.Z.F.A. H.Q. |
| | 3 | 12th. N.Z.F.A. |
| | 4 | 25th. Battery. |
| | 5 | 26th. Battery. |
| | 6 | 27th. Battery. |
| | 7 | 107th. Battery. |
| | 8 | WAR DIARY. |
| | 9 | FILE. |

SECRET.Copy No.
Date...12th. April 1917.LEFT GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.OPERATION ORDER NO.5.Reference Map FRANCE, Sheet 36 N.W. 1/20,000.

- RELIEF. 1. The 8th. F.A. Brigade will relieve the 7th. F.A. Brigade in the Line on the night of 14th/15th inst. The relief will be carried out as follows:-
- Night 13th/14th. 1 Section of each Battery, 8th. F.A. Brigade will relieve one section of each Battery, 7th. F.A. Brigade.
- Night 14th/15th. 2 Sections of each Battery, 8th. F.A. Brigade will relieve two sections of each Battery, 7th. F.A. Brigade.
- Advance Parties will report to Group Headquarters, 7th. F.A. Brigade at B.12. central at 10 a.m. 13th. inst.
- All arrangements will be made between Group Commanders concerned.
- COMMAND. 2. Command passes at 10 p.m. night 14th/15th inst.
- Completion of Relief will be reported to Left Group Headquarters.
- WAGON LINES. 3. Batteries of 7th. F.A. Brigade will be clear of Wagon Lines (except one Section remaining for Relief) by 2 p.m. 13th. instant, and will proceed to Wagon Lines at present occupied by 2nd. N.Z. Brigade as under:-
- 25th. Battery.....A.28.a.8.7.
26th. Battery.....A.28.a.3.1.
27th. Battery.....A.27.d.7.7.
107th. Battery.....A.26.c.8.4.
- 7th. F.A. Brigade Headquarters will move to new Wagon Lines at G.2.b.6.9. at 10.30 a.m. on 15th. inst.
- 8th. F.A. Brigade will take over Wagon Lines vacated by 7th. F.A. Brigade.
- TRAINING 4. 7th. F.A. Brigade will march to the Training Area on morning 16th. instant.
- TRANSPORT. 5. Units will arrange for Guides to direct Supply Wagons to new Wagon Lines.

(Sgd.) G.J. Hammond. Lieut.
Commanding, Left Group Field Artillery.

Issued at 11.30 p.m. by Special Orderly.

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No.1 25th. Battery. Copy No.2 26th. Battery.
3 26th. Battery. 4 107th. Battery
5 WAR DIARY. 6. FILE.
7 11th. Inf. (By D.R.)

SECRET.

Copy No.

Date 14.4.1917

7TH FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.OPERATION ORDER NO. 5.

Reference Maps - FRANCE, Sheet 36 N.W. 1/20,000.
 BELGIUM & FRANCE 28 N.W. 1/20,000.
BELGIUM 5A (DANBROUK) 1/100,000.

- TRAINED.** 1. Referring to Operation Order No. 5, Par. 4, the Head of the 7th Field Artillery Brigade will pass the starting point, Cross Roads, S. 22. S. 20. 73 at 8.30 a.m. on 16th instant, and proceed to Training Area as per March Table attached.
- Batteries will follow at 300 yards distance, in order named in March Table.
- DRESS.** 2. Dress and Turn-out - Marching Order.
- BILLETING PARTY.** 3. Each Battery will detail 3 H.C.Os., as a Billeting Party. This Party will report, for instructions, at Brigade Headquarters, G. 2. b. 6. 9. at 1 p.m. on 16th instant, mounted, carrying 24 hours rations and forage. This Party will be in charge of Lieut. Moriarty, and will proceed to Halting Places to make billeting arrangements.
- FORAGE & RATIONS.** 4. Indents will be prepared for forage and rations required for the journey. The A.S.C. will arrange for the delivery of forage and rations at the Halting Places en route.
 Rations and forage will be drawn for the first time at 22. O.M.S. on the 16th instant.
- MARCH DISCIPLINE.** 5. The march to the Training Centre will constitute part of the training and the strictest attention will, therefore, be paid to march discipline.
- MAIL.** 6. Arrangements are being made with the Postal Authorities for the delivery of mail at the Training Centre.
- TRANSPORT** 7. Batteries will arrange to have baggage wagons ready to move off at 12 noon to-morrow.

L. Hammond Lieutenant.
 Adjutant, 7th F. A. Brigade.

Issued at 9 p.m. 14.4.1917 by Orderly.

Distribution.

Copy No. 1.....25th Battery
 2.....26th Battery
 3.....27th Battery
 4.....107th Battery
 5.....War Diary
 6.....FILE.

33

MARCH TIME TABLE.

To accompany Operation Order No. 6.

| Units in order of march. | Date | Time of passing the starting Point | Starting Point | Move From | Move To | Route | Remarks |
|--------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| <hr/> | | | | | | | |
| Headquarters | 16.4.17 | 8.30 a.m. | X Roads | Starting Point | WALLONCAPPEL | BRUCUS & LYNDÉ | Clear BAILLEUL by 10.30 a.m. |
| 25th Bty. | do | 8.34 a.m. | A.22.n.20.75 | | | | |
| 26th Bty. | do | 8.42 a.m. | | | | | |
| 27th Bty. | do | 8.50 a.m. | | | | | |
| 107th Bty. | do | 8.58 a.m. | | | | | |
| <hr/> | | | | | | | |
| Headqrs. | 17.4.17 | 9.00 a.m. | 50 yards N. of | WALLONCAPPEL | LONGUEMESSE | ST.OMER | Clear ARQUES by 11.30 a.m. |
| 107th Bty | do | 9.04 a.m. | E in WALLON- | | | | |
| 27th Bty | do | 9.12 a.m. | CAPPEL. | | | | |
| 26th Bty | do | 9.20 a.m. | | | | | |
| 25th Bty | do | 9.28 a.m. | | | | | |
| <hr/> | | | | | | | |
| Headqrs. | 18.4.17 | 8.00 a.m. | 50 yards N. of | LONGUEMESSE | QUEQUES and | Direct. | |
| 25th Bty. | do | 8.04 a.m. | O in LONGUEMESSE | | SELLES | | |
| 26th Bty. | do | 8.12 a.m. | | | | | |
| 27th Bty. | do | 8.20 a.m. | | | | | |
| 107th Bty. | do | 8.28 a.m. | | | | | |

Note :- Each Unit is responsible for maintaining contact with Unit in Front.

G. Hammond
Lieutenant.

Adjutant, 7th Field Artillery Brigade.

Appendix No. 2

7TH. FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.OPERATION ORDER NO.8

16th. April 1917

1. DISTANCE.

Reference Operation Order No.6, par.1.
Sentence re distance between Units is cancelled
and the following substituted.

"The distance to be maintained between Units
is not to exceed 200 yards.

2. PERSONNEL.

Only 50% of the personnel (not including
Mounted N.C.Os., and Drivers of the Teams) are
to be mounted on the Carriages. The remainder
are to march in front of the Battery Staff.

3. MARCH TABLE.

Referring to March Table attached to Operation
Order No.6, the following will be substituted for
Columns 1 and 2.

| | | | |
|----------------|------|----------------|-----------|
| Headquarters | pass | Starting Point | 9.00 a.m. |
| 26th. Battery | " | " | 9.03 a.m. |
| 27th. Battery | " | " | 9.10 a.m. |
| 107th. Battery | " | " | 9.17 a.m. |
| 25th. Battery | " | " | 9.24 a.m. |

(Sgd.) G.J.Hammond. Lieut.
Adjutant, 7th. F. A. Brigade.A.I.F.

Issued at 7 p.m. by Orderly.

To:- 25th., 26th., 27th., & 107th. Batteries.

7TH. FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.OPERATION ORDER NO.9.

17th. April 1917.

1. WATERING.

The 26th. Battery will water independently at their own billets.

Remainder will water as under:-

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------|
| <u>AT THE DAM.</u> | 25th. Battery..... | 4 p.m. | 17/4/17. |
| | 107th. Battery..... | 4.30 " | " |
| | 27th. Battery..... | 5.00 " | " |
| | 27th. Battery..... | 6.00 a.m. | 18/4/17. |
| | 107th. Battery..... | 6.30 " | " |
| | 25th. Battery..... | 7.00 " | " |

2. SYNCHRONISATION.

Watches will be synchronised at Brigade Office at 7 a.m. 18/4/17.

3. MARCH TABLE.

Referring to March Table issued with O.O.6, the 3rd. day's march is amended as follows:-

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Headquarters pass Starting Point | 10.00 a.m. |
| 27th. Battery....."....." | 10.04 a.m. |
| 107th. Battery " " " | 10.10 a.m. |
| 25th. Battery " " " | 10.16 a.m. |
| 26th. Battery " " " | 10.22 a.m. |

Distance between Units will not exceed 200 yards.

Sign'd. G.J. Hammond. Lieut.
Adjutant, 7th. F.A. Brigade A.I.F.

SECRET.

Copy No.
Date 25.4.1917.

7th FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.
OPERATION ORDER NO. 1

Reference Map - Tracing from map CALAIS 1/100,000.

1. The Brigade will carry out an Operation in the vicinity of DESVRES to-morrow 26th April, 1917.
2. Rendezvous - L in MET. MOULIN, one mile N. of DESVRES.
3. Dress & Turnout - Summer Marching Order.
1 blanket only.
Steel helmets to be worn by all ranks
(Officers included)
Gas-Respirators to be carried.
Good feed to be carried in nosebags.
4. Lieut. Venn-Brown will act as Infantry Brigade Liaison Officer and Lieut. Harrison as P.O.O.
Two Signallers each from 25th, 26th and 27th Batteries will report to Lieut. Venn-Brown at 27th Battery Lines at 8 a.m. Each Battery will provide their Signallers with one lamp, electric, signalling, and 1 pair flags.
5. The 26th Battery will provide 2 Officers' horses and one horseholder, mounted. These horses will proceed with Battery to rendezvous.
6. Billets and Lines are to be left in INSPECTION ORDER.
7. Batteries will carry on first-line wagons, 2 Stretcher-Bearers (wearing S.B. armbands) and 1 man of A.M.C. personnel (wearing red cross brassard) 2 stretchers and first aid emergency kit.
8. Watches will be synchronised by telephone at 107th Battery from Brigade Headquarters at 7.30 a.m.
9. Starting Point - For Batteries - SELLES-DESVRES-BOURNONVILLE X ROADS.
For Bde. Hdqts - CRUCIFIX CORNER - SELLES-BOURNONVILLE-DESVRES X ROAD.

Batteries will pass Starting Point in the following order :-

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 27th Battery..... | 8.45 a.m. |
| 107th Battery..... | 8.55 a.m. |
| 25th Battery..... | 9.05 a.m. |
| 26th Battery..... | 9.10 a.m. |

Brigade Headquarters will pass Starting Point at 9.00 a.m.

S. Hammond
Lieutenant.
Adjutant, 7th F. A. Brigade.

Issued by Orderly at 9.00 p.m.

Copy No. 1.....25th Battery
 2.....26th Battery
 3.....27th Battery
 4.....107th Battery
 5.....War Diary
 6.....File
 7.....S
 ignals.

60.

