

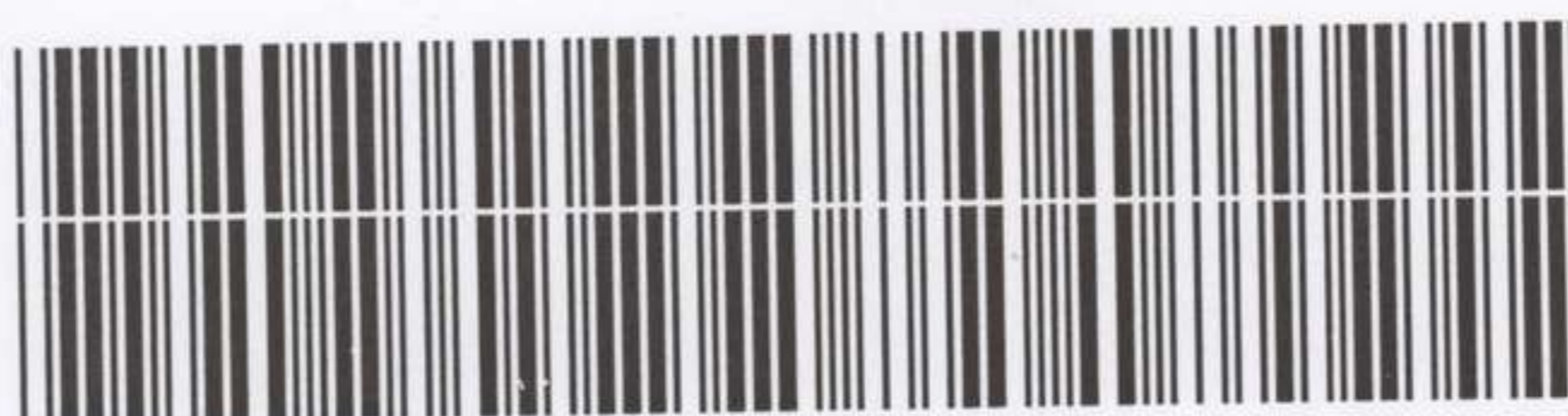
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Artillery

Item number: 13/36/11

Title: Headquarters, 8th Australian Field
Artillery Brigade

April 1917



AWM4-13/36/11

WAR DIARY 87AD.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

3 Mar
Apr
May
June

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Dues	1917 March 5 th		2 nd Lieut Lt Reynolds 29 th Battery detached 2 nd Army Sig. School. 2 nd Lieut Griffith Galt Brake Reynolds Clarke Inglis Anderson Lipp Melton and Richardson promoted 1st Lieut	
	6		Co. No 30 carried out - copy attached	
	11		Lieut G. Edwards detached 2 nd Army Art School.	
	12		Co. No 34 carried out - copy attached.	
	16		Lieut D. C. Coles transferred from 31st Bde. to 31st Battery and Lieut R. J. E. Lipp from 31st Battery to 108 th Battery. Lieut G. Galt detached to Sig School	
	19		Co. No 1 - covering shoot for T.M.S. carried out - copy attached.	
	24/25		8 th P.A. Bde. relieved by the 175 th Bde R.I.F. and withdrawn to Tilques Training Area - to Esquander + thence to Lombre	
	April			
	5		Lieut Col G. P. Bell temporarily assumed command of the 3rd Divisional P.A. Bde. and Major F. Durham Lt Col temporary command of 2 nd P.A. Bde.	
	10		Brigade departed from Training Area and proceeded to Lyon lines - arriving on night of 11/4/1917.	
	12		Co. & Subaltern with staff proceeded to Flagebet preparatory to taking over command from 7 th P.A. Bde.	
	13		Major F. S. Syrett to remain attached to 30 th Battery and to command temporarily as from 12/4/17. Major Durham promoted & transferred	
	15		Command passed and 8 th P.A. Bde became left group P.A. Bde.	

over

2

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	1917 April			
	15	-	Lieut J. Inglis detached at 2 nd Army Coy. School.	
	11	-	Major F. P. Durham of 30 th Battery promoted to Lieut Col (Temp) and transferred to 3 rd D.F.C. to command a from 13/4/1917	
	17	-	Lieut Col W. G. Halsey resumed command of 2 nd P.A. Brigade from temporary commanding 3 rd P.A. Divisional Artillery during the absence of Brig Gen R. G. Somerville.	
			Lieut D. D. C. Coles transferred to 29 th Battery from 21st. and Lieut R. G. Lipp to 31st from 108 th .	
	21		Serge S. W. Dickerson & Lt W. Johnston wounded	
	23		Sgt R. Murray killed in action & Lt J. D. Walker wounded.	
	26		Capt W. G. Trotter 29 th Bty. temporarily transferred to 3 rd D.F.C. to command No 1 Section.	

Lieut Col
2nd P.A. Brigade

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.)

8th Bde. Aus. F.A.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	C/O Lieut.-Col. W.G. Allsop, D.S.O.	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field.	1917. Apr.	26.	Major T.K. Swallow joined 30th Battery to command ex "Attached." Capt. W.G. Trotter 29th Bty. transferred to 3rd D.A.C. to command No.1 Section.		
		27.	Promotions of undermentioned 2/Lieutenants to 1st Lieutenants notified to have effect from 5/3/1917 - Griffith, Galt, Brake, Reynolds, Clarke, Inglis, Andersonn, Lipp, Richardson, Miller.		
(Original of above written on same sheet as entries for the begining of June and filed with volume for that month)					

8th. F. A. BRIGADE,
OPERATION ORDER No. 2.BY
Lieut. F. P. DERHAM, D.S.S., Commanding 8th. F. A. Brigade, A.I.F.Reference Map,
HAZEBROUCK, 5a. 1/100000. Edition 2.

8th. April, 1917.

1. INFORMATION.

The 8th. F.A. Brigade will leave the TILQUES TRAINING AREA on the 10th. April, 1917 and will return to its Wagon Lines, by ROUTE MARCH - arriving on the 11th. April, 1917.

2. ORDER OF MARCH.

1st. Day. (10/4/1917) Headquarters.
31st. Battery.
108th. do.
30th. do.
29th. do.

2nd. Day. (11/4/1917) Headquarters.
108th. Battery.
30th. do.
29th. do.
31st. do.

3. ROUTE.

The Route to be followed will be as under:-

1st. Day. Starting Point, SETQUES - WISQUES - LONGUENESSE -
ARQUES - EBBLINCHEM - WALLON CAPPEL.

2nd. Day. WALLON CAPPEL - HAZEBROUCK - DE LA MOTTE -
VIEUX BURGUIN - LA VERRIER - STEENWERCK -
LA MANEGATE - WAGON LINES.

4. WAGON LINES.

The 8th. F.A. Brigade will occupy the following Wagon Lines on the Night of the 11th. instant:-

Headquarters.....T.20.a.80.
29th. Battery.....T.19.b.49.
30th. do.T.26.b.55.
31st. do.T.28.c.18.
108th. do.B.1.b.14..

and on the ~~Night of the~~ 12th. instant, will take over the Wagon Lines vacated by the 175th. Army Field Artillery Brigade, which are as follows:-

Headquarters.....A.30.c.32.73.
29th. Battery.....A.29.b.8.8.
30th. do.H.1.d.40.38.
31st. do.A.29.d.93.10.
108th. do.H.7.a.2.3.

5. STARTING POINT.

The Starting Point will be the CROSS ROADS 350 yards south of 'L' in LEAUWETTE.

Battery Commanders will make their own arrangements for time of departure from their respective Wagon Lines to enable them to pass the Starting Point in accordance with the undermentioned time-table:

Headquarters.....9.30 a.m.
31st. Battery.....9.35 a.m.
108th. do.9.45 a.m.
30th. do.9.55 a.m.
29th. do.10.5 a.m.

6. BILLETING PARTIES.

Lieut. Ferrier, the Brigade Interpreter, and 1 officer and 2 mounted men per Battery, will precede the Brigade, starting from the 30th. Battery Officers' Headquarters at 9.15 a.m. on the 10th. inst. Lieut. Ferrier will be in command of this party, and will receive his instructions direct.

Battery Officers accompanying the Billeting Party will be responsible for guiding their Batteries to their respective Billets on arrival at WALLON CAPPEL, and again on arrival at their destination.

7. RATIONS & FORAGE.

(2)

7. RATIONS & FORAGE.

The unconsumed portion of the day's Rations and Forage on 10/4/17 will be carried on the man or horse. Rations and Forage for the 11th. instant will be delivered to the Battery Wagon Lines Billets on arrival at WALLON CAPPEL.

8. TRANSPORT.

Transport has been allotted as follows:-

Bde. H.Qrs.....	1 G.S. Wagon	} For Baggage.
29th., 30th.)		
31st., 108th. Btys)	1 G.S. Wagon (each)	

In addition 2 G.S. Wagons will be available for the Brigade. Wheel harness only will be supplied by the A.S.C. for these Wagons. These extra wagons are allotted as follows:-

29th. Battery.)	} 1 Wagon.
30th. do.)	
Bde. H.Qrs.)	} 1 Wagon.
31st. Battery.)	
108th. do.)	

Arrangements to horse these two extra wagons will be made by the Batteries sharing them.

9. WAGON LINES.

All Wagon Lines are to be left in a thoroughly clean condition. Before vacating Billets or Wagon Lines at present occupied by Batteries at LUMBRES, all claims, if any, for damage to Billets, Wagon Lines, etc., will be paid by Batteries, and receipts obtained before Batteries vacate their respective Billets.

10. MARCH DISCIPLINE.

Special attention is directed to THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION STANDING ORDERS FOR WAR, Section 2. March instructions therein will be adhered to.

11. REPORTS.

Reports on the Line of March to Head of Column.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Edmund Lt.
for
Major.,
Commanding 8th. F. A. Brigade.

Issued at.....p.m.

DISTRIBUTION :

1. File
2. D.A.H.Q.
3. 29th. Battery.
4. 30th. do
5. 31st. do
6. 108th. do
7. H.Q., 3rd. Divnl. Train.
8. Supply Officer, 8th. F.A.B.
9. Lt. Ferrier.
10. War Diary
11. Spare.
12. Spare.

LEFT GROUP ARTILLERY.

OPERATION ORDER No.1.
BY

Lieut.Col. W. G. ALLSOP, Commanding Left Group Artillery.

Reference Maps,
PLEEGSTWERT, 1/10,000, Edition 4a;
HOUPLINES, 1/10,000, Edition 7a.

24th. April, 1917.

- 1. NOTICE. This OPERATION ORDER will be read in conjunction with 3rd. Australian Divisional Artillery Circular No.2 and covering memo issued therewith.
- 2. INFORMATION. GAS has been installed in the Brigade Front as follows:-

(a) 11th. Aust. Inf. Bde. Front.

'N' LIMIT.	'S' LIMIT.	TO BE KNOWN AS.
U.8.c.76.60.	U.14.b.68.72.	No.3 Gas Sector.
U.15.d.52.60.	U.21.b.58.80.	No.2 Gas Sector.
U.21.d.85.50.	U.22.c.08.22.	No.1. Gas Sector.

(b) 75th. Inf. Bde. Front. "Gap 'E'"

'N' LIMIT.	'S' LIMIT.	TO BE KNOWN AS.
U.28.c.10.50.	U.28.c.25.20.	----

(c) Details ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ regarding the firing of projectors are as follows:-

Projectors are placed behind the following line :-
C.10.d.10.30. (Carter's Farm) - C.10.c.30.90. (North Block).

The line of fire will involve the frontage:-
C.10.d.15.16 - C.10.b.18.30.

3. DISCHARGE OF GAS. GAS will be discharged from the Sectors as set out in para (2) by the Special Companies on the night of the 24th/25th. instant if weather conditions are favourable; if unfavourable, the gas will be discharged on the first favourable night following. The discharge of gas will be accompanied by the discharge of smoke from the ~~xxxxxx~~ Frontage of the Brigades concerned.


4. TIME OF DISCHARGE. The discharge of gas and smoke will commence at Zero hour and will cease at Zero plus 15 (fifteen) minutes.

5. PATROLS. At Zero plus 75 (seventy five) minutes, (or later, if safety precautions necessitate ~~it~~) a patrol of one Officer and twenty other ranks will be sent out from each of the Sectors from which gas has been discharged. The object of these patrols is
(1) To ascertain the effect of the gas on enemy personnel.
(2) To kill, capture or destroy enemy personnel and material in the areas affected by the gas.

The 11th. Aust. Inf. Bde. intend, if possible, to send out patrols to FROILINGHEM BRIDGE.

P.T.O.

6. ARTILLERY ACTION. All Batteries of the Left Group Artillery will stand by ready to give immediate retaliation from zero hour, in case the enemy replies to the Gas Waves; such retaliation will be ordered from this office. Batteries will not fire on the areas affected by gas after zero plus 75 (seventy five) minutes as the Infantry Patrols will be operating after that hour. Batteries will continue to 'Stand By' until receipt of instructions from this Group Headquarters to 'Stand Down'. This instruction will be conveyed by the following code message:-
"MAIL CLOSES AT -----P^oM^o"
- HEAVY ARTILLERY: The Heavy Artillery will carry out a bombardment of FRELINGHIEN three hours after zero hour if the projectors have been fired.
7. NORMAL CONDITIONS. It is important that normal conditions be maintained as far as possible from zero minus one hour in order that the attention of the enemy may not be attracted. On no account will reference to the projected operation be made on any telephone.
8. WATCHES. On receipt of the code message that gas will be discharged, one officer from each Battery will report at this Headquarters in order to synchronise watches.
- 9½ OBSERVATION POSTS. ^{Brigade} All ~~Battery~~ O.P.s will be manned by an Officer from zero hour until such time as instructions are sent to the Battery to 'Stand Down'. Battery Observing Officers will report direct to Group Headquarters any hostile Batteries or Minewerfers observed as active.
10. PRECAUTIONS. All personnel at the Battery Positions and O.P.s will wear their Respirators at the 'ALERT' Position, and all precautions will be taken in the event of a change in the direction of the wind.
11. A C K N O W L E D G E.
12. Issued at 4/30 p.m.


Lieut. Colonel,
Commanding Left Group Artillery.

- Copy No. 1. File.
2. D.A.H.Q.
3. 11th. Aust. Inf. Bde.
4. 75th. Inf. Bde.
5. D.T.M.C.
6. 29th. Battery.
7. 30th. do.
8. 31st. do.
9. 108th. do.
10. 'A/110th.'
11. 110th. Bde. R.F.A.
12. 175. Bde. R.F.A.
13. War Diary.
14. Spare.
15. do.

SECRET.

Attached of No 1

COPY NO 2

24 April 1917.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY CIRCULAR NO. 2.(1)
INTENTION.

It is intended to discharge Gas on the 3rd. Australian Divisional front both N. & S. of the RIVER LYS on nights when weather conditions are favourable.

In addition, Projectors will be fired from a position N. of the River on to positions opposite the 10th. Aust. Infantry Brigade front.

(2)
ARTILLERY
ACTION.

- (a) 3rd. Divisional Artillery will stand by for retaliation from Zero, in case enemy replies to Gas Waves.
- (b) Arrangements are being made for the Heavy Artillery to carry out a bombardment 3 hours after Zero Hour.

(3)
CODE.

- (a) The following Code messages will be used for giving warning of Gas Discharge :-

- (1) By Projectors.
(2) From Locations South of RIVER LYS.
(3) From Locations North of RIVER LYS.

- (1) "Return of men not inoculated will be rendered at 11 o'clock. "
(2) "Candidates will report at 11 o'clock."
(3) "Handcarts will be parked at the point referred to at 11 p.m."

- (b) In the event of the O.C. Special Coy.R.E. finding the weather conditions unfavourable prior to Zero Hour, the Zero Hour may be postponed for 1 or more hours, in which case Code Messages would be worded as in following example :-
"Return of men not inoculated will be rendered one hour later."

- (c) In the event of weather conditions being so bad as to preclude any possibility of discharge of gas that night the messages should be worded as in the following example :-
"Handcarts will not be parked at the point referred to to-night."

- (d) The decision as to whether conditions are suitable for a discharge of gas is left entirely to the following Officers :-

- (1) Discharge from Projectors and installations South of RIVER LYS, to O.C. "N" Special Coy.R.E.
(2) Discharge from installations North of RIVER LYS to O.C. "A" Special Coy.R.E.

These Officers will give a provisional opinion one hour before Zero, and their final decision at ZERO hour.

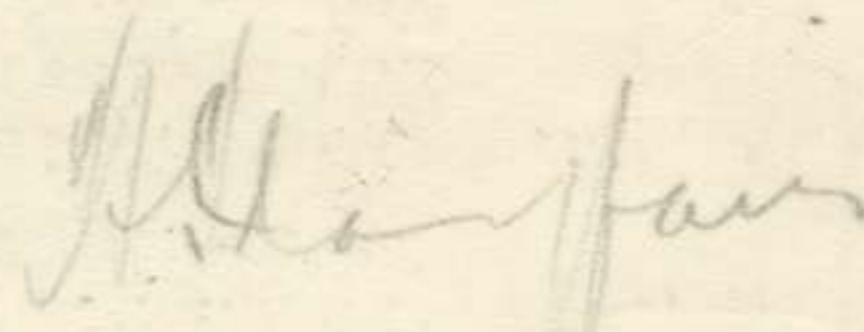
APPENDIX

(2)

(4)
WATCHES.

When the Code messages giving Zero hour have been sent out, watches will be synchronised by this Office.

ACKNOWLEDGE.



Major.
For Brigade Major.
3rd. Australian Divisional Artillery.

Copies / to RIGHT GROUP.
2 LEFT GROUP.
3 D.T.M.O.

SECRET.

DA/24/30.

To

Headquarters,
8th F.A. Brigade, 7th F.A. Brigade, & D.A.C.

3rd Australian Division "Q" } For information.
3rd Divisional Train. }

Reference Map Sheet 36 N.W. 1/20,000.

1. In compliance with instructions received, all 3rd Australian Divisional Artillery Wagon Lines will be moved to within the new Divisional Area by May 1st.

2. The following moves of 8th F.A. Brigade Wagon Lines will therefore take place. All those now occupied to be vacated by 12 noon on dates specified:-

- (a) 29th Battery (now at H.1.b.5.9.) and 108th Battery, (now at H.1.b.5.7.) move to lines at A.28.b.8.5. (previously occupied by 175th B.A.C.) and A.29.b.8.8. (previously occupied by A/175th Battery R.F.A.) on 29th instant.
- (b) 30th Battery moves from C.19.c.4.3. (ARMENTIERES) to B.17.d.9.1. and B.24.a.5.8. (previously occupied by 11th Aust. Infy. Bgde) on 30th instant.
- (c) Instructions as to move of the 31st Battery will be issued later.

3. On return from training, the 7th F.A. Brigade will occupy wagon lines at :-

Headquarters	A.30.c.4.2.	previously occupied by 175th B.H.Q
Howitzer Bty.	B.23.c.5.4.	" " 1 Sec.N.Z. D.A.C.
One 18-pdr.Bty.	B.14.c.8.3.&)	" " Old No.3 Sectn.
	B.19.b.8.9.)	3rd D.A.C.
" do.	A.30.c.4.6.	" " C/175th Bde R.F.A.
" do.	A.22.d.4.9.	" " 1 Sec.25th B.A.C.

4. The 3rd D.A.C. will at once remove any animals or personnel from lines previously occupied by old No. 3 Section, and will carry out a thorough disinfection of the standings, ready for occupation by 7th F. A. Brigade.

5. The 3rd D.A.C. will send caretakers to the following wagon lines pending the return of the 7th F. A. Brigade:-

- B.23.c.5.4. (in confirmation of telephone message)
old No. 3 Section, 3rd D.A.C. On evening of 28th instant.
- A.30.c.4.2.) On evening of 28th instant.
- A.30.c.4.6.)
- A.22.d.4.9. On evening of 29th instant.

J. G. Brown
Captain
Staff Captain R.A.,
3rd Australian Division.

Headquarters,
27-4-17.

SECRET.

COPY No.....

LEFT GROUP ARTILLERY

Draft

OPERATION

ORDER

No. 2

by

Lieut. Col. W. G. ALLSOP, Commanding Left Group Artillery.

+++-----

28 / 4 / 17.

Reference Maps - PLOEGSTEERT 4a 1/10,000
HOULINES 7a 1/10,000

DEFENSE AGAINST TANKS.

1. The following steps will be taken by all Batterys for defense against TANKS.
2. On receipt of information from Company or Battalion in the Front Line of an attack by enemy Tanks, the Battery receiving the information will immediately open fire with an H.E. barrage (at 4 rds. per gun per min.) ~~on the front~~, in front of the threatened area. Group Headquarters will be immediately notified by phone, and the information passed by Batteries laterally by phone or runners to Batteries on either flank.
3. All other Batteries will immediately prepare to open fire on the threatened area with an H.E. barrage at 4 rds. per gun per minute. The order to open fire by these Batteries will be given, from this Headquarters, and will take the following form :-
" ConcentrateTanks."
4. In anticipation of a threatened enemy Tank attack on Hill 63. The 30th. Battery will ear-mark one Section of the Battery, which will always be in readiness to move forward to engage Tanks from an open position. Special orders in connection therewith are issued herewith to the Battery concerned.

5. Acknowledge

6. Issued at 5.30pm.

(Sgd) W.G. Allsop.

Lieut. Col.,
Commanding, Left Group Artillery.

Distribution

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|----------|--|
| <i>Copy</i> | <i>no</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>File</i> |
| | <i>2</i> | | <i>Daffa</i> |
| | <i>3</i> | | <i>9th Infy Bde</i> |
| | <i>4</i> | | <i>10th</i> |
| | <i>5</i> | | <i>29th Battery</i> |
| | <i>6</i> | | <i>30th</i> |
| | <i>7</i> | | <i>31st</i> |
| | <i>8</i> | | <i>108th</i> |
| | <i>9</i> | | <i>1st Bde N.37A</i> |
| | <i>10</i> | | <i>War Diary</i> |
| | <i>11</i> | | <i>1st Bde N.37A</i> |
| | <i>12</i> | | <i>Left Group 57th Div.</i> |

39

LEFT GROUP ARTILLERY
OPERATION ORDER No. 3.

by

Lieut. Colonel W. G. ALLSOP, Commanding Left Group Artillery.

Reference Maps :

20-4-1917

Ploegsteert 4B 1/10,000
 Houplines 7A 1/10,000

1. Reference Operation Order No. 2, para 4.
2. It is anticipated that information of a possible attack on Hill 63 would be received in sufficient time to enable a special Anti-Tank Section to occupy a position under cover of darkness. O.C., 30th. Battery will therefore take steps immediately on receipt of this order to comply with the following instructions.
 - (a) earmark and detail a complete Section of the Battery as the Anti-Tank Section.
 - (b) Make a detailed reconnaissance and select the actual position to be occupied by the Section to engage Tanks in the open from the vicinity of PROWSE POINT - LEVAL COTTAGE, this position must be able to command all approaches to Hill 63 to the N.E. and should also be able to command to the S.E. as far as possible, as PLOEGSTEERT WOOD will allow.
 - (c) Make a detailed reconnaissance of the route of approach to the selected position.
 - (d) Obtain the necessary material for crossing trenches, ditches etc., on the route of approach to such position. This material to be at once obtained and stored at the Battery Position, to be in readiness at a moment's notice, to be taken up and put in position to enable the Section to occupy the selected position upon receipt of an order to do so, at any time.
 - (e) Take the necessary steps to ensure that the Section Commander No.1. and corporals of the Section concerned are intimately acquainted with the proposed route to, and also the exact selected position, so that they will be able to take the Section to such position at any time either in daylight or darkness.
 - (f) Arrange as far as possible for places for dumping of ammunition in the vicinity of the selected position.
 - (g) The gun-limbers, Firing Battery and First Line Wagons of this Section are at all times to be kept and held in readiness, fully packed with H.E. ammunition only, and are to be always kept at the Brigade Forward Wagon Lines, the location of which will shortly be notified.
 - (h) Gun, Firing Battery and First Line Wagons teams of this Section are also to be always kept, and held in readiness, at the above mentioned Forward Wagon Lines.
 - (1) Map spotting of the position selected for occupation by the above Anti-Tank Section to be notified to this office as soon as definitely selected. Also the route of approach thereto. This office also to be notified of material required on this route of approach, and when same has been obtained and stored at Battery Position.

W. G. Allsop
 Lieut. Colonel,
 Commanding, Left Group Artillery.

NARRATIVE OF EVENTS OF THE NIGHT 29th/30th. April 1917.

- 4-18 a.m. Heavy bombardment opened on the Left half of Sector.
- 4-19 31st. Battery reported S.O.S. received by Rocket from U.29.a. Could not get into communication with the Company. Had opened fire on night lines.
- 4-20 30th. Battery report S.O.S. received by rocket (U.15.a.) about opposite St. Yves. Had opened fire on night lines, could not get into communication with the company.
- 4-21 Left Brigade O.P. report S.O.S. by rocket from Sector U.8.3.
- 4-22 Rang up 10th. Inf. Bde. Headquarters (G.I.3.) asked for location of the S.O.S. G.I.3 replied as far as known on the Left of 'P' Company.
- 4-22½ 1st. Battery H.Z.F.A. reported ~~xxxxxx~~ that they had opened fire on Y 2 Concentration at S.O.S. rates. Told to continue.
- 4-23 Left Brigade O.P. reported S.O.S. rocket on U.15.d.
- 4-24 108th. Battery instructed to commence firing S.O.S. rate on 'Y' Concentration.
- 4-25 Rang up G.I.3. asked if they could give location to of S.O.S. replied that was on V.21.b. & U.15.d.
- 4-28 ~~xxxxxx~~ I queried V.21.b. asked if it should not be U.21.b. when they verified and stated that it should be U.21.b., and that they wanted Concentration on these points.
- 4-29 1st. Battery H.Z.F.A. instructed Concentrate A.1. S.O.S. rates.
- 4-30 30th. Battery instructed Concentrate A.2. S.O.S. rates
- 4-32 108th. Battery instructed Concentrate A.1 & A.2. S.O.S. rates.
- 4-33 Rang up Heavy Artillery Group (G.I.5.) and told them that S.O.S. had been localised to U.21.b. and U.15.d. ~~xxx~~ Asked for assistance.
- 4-34 G.O. 12 rang up and asked if Help required. informed it was too far North for them to give any help.
- 4-35 29th. Battery instructed Concentrate A.2. S.O.S. rate with as many guns as they could get on.
- 4-35½ Reported to D.A.H.Q.
- 4-36 9th. Infantry Brigade rang up asked if we knew location of the S.O.S. Informed them that G.I.3. had reported it on U.21.b. & U.15.d.
- 4-36 D.A.H.Q. rang up and informed me that a Gas Attack had been reported on St. Yves.
- 4-37 Left Brigade O.P. reported that the bombardment had worked round to U.15.d.

Page 2.

- 4-38 a.m. Rang up G.I.3. Told them that I had been informed by D.A.H.Q. that there was a Gas Attack on St. Yves. G.I.3. informed me that it had been reported, but was now contradicted.
- 4-40 Right Group N.E.F.A. rang up for Help as they had an S.O.S. on their front, could we give any assistance. Told them I was unable to give any assistance, as I had an S.O.S. on this sector.
- 4-40½ 30th. Battery instructed switch four guns from Concentration A.2. to Concentration A.1. S.O.S. rates.
- 4-41. Right Brigade O.P. reported Hostile Battery active 52° T.B. from G.9.d.20.40 (Surrey Farm).
- 4-43 Asked 1st. Battery N.E.F.A. if they were firing on Concentration A.L. Replied No. They had mistaken instruction for Concentration V.I. Instructed Concentrate A.1. replied could only get one gun on. Instructed to put one gun on Concentrate A.1. at 4 rds. per gun per minute.
(remaining guns on Concentrate Y.3. at 2 rds. per gun per minute.)
- 4-44 Left Brigade O.P. reported S.O.S. rocket U.21.a.
- 4-45 Rang up G.I.1. and told them that the S.O.S. was on St. Yves.
- 4-46 29th. Battery reported could only get two guns on to concentrate A.2. Instructed to continue with two guns on Concentrate A.2. at 4 rds. per gun per minute. 4 guns concentrate B.1. at 2 rds. per gun per minute.
- 4-51 29th. Battery instructed switch 2 guns from Concentrate A.2. to Concentrate A.3. continue firing at 4 rds. per gun per min.
- 4-52 Reported to D.A.H.Q.
- 4-58 Rang up G.I.3. asked for any further information. Informed that they could not tell me any more as all communication with Front Line was cut.
- 4-59½ Rang up G.I.1. asked for any further information. Informed that they could tell me nothing further.
- 5-9 31st. Battery reported that they still could not get through to their Companies.
- 5-11 Instructed 1st. Battery N.E.F.A. continue firing at same rate.
- 5-14 Rang up G.I.1. asked for any further information. Informed that they had none, as Hostile bombardment was easing off. Asked if we could also do so. Informed Yes.
- 5-15 31st. Battery reported that a number of Gas Shells were reported on the Left of G.P.3.
- 5-16 29th. Battery instructed to reduce rate of fire of all guns to 2 rds. per gun per minute.
- 5-16½ 31st. Battery do do do

- 5-20 a,m 1st. Battery N.Z.F.A. instructed to reduce rate of fire of all guns to 2 rds. per gun perminute.
- 5-20 30th. Battery do do do
- 5-20 $\frac{1}{2}$ Reported to D.A.H.Q.
- 5-21 Rang up G.I.1. asked fore any further information Informed nothing further through, Reported Hostile fire had died down and that my Batteries had reduced their rate of fire to 2 rds per gun per min.
- 5-21 $\frac{1}{2}$ Instructed Howitzer Battery reduce rate of fire to 1 rd. per gun per min.
- 5-26 G.I.3. rang up and informed me that we could now Cease Fire.
- 5-27 Rang up G.I.1. and ~~was~~ ^{was} informed by them they we could now Cease Fire.
- 5-27 $\frac{1}{2}$ 31st. Battery instructed to reduce rate of ~~gun~~ fire to 1 rd. per gun per minute.
- 5-28 1st. Battery N.Z.F.A. instructed to Cease Fire "Stand~~4~~ By"
- 5-28 $\frac{1}{2}$ 108th. Battery instructed Cease Fire "Stand By."
- 5-29 30th Battery do do do
- 5-29 $\frac{1}{2}$ 29th. do do do do
- 5-30 Rang up G.I.5 informed that we had now ceased fire.
- 5-31 31st. Battery instructed Cease Fire "Stand By."
- 5-31 Reported to D.A.H.Q. Obtained approval to carry out a five minutes bombardment of enemy's communication trenches, after an interval of 15 minutes.
- 5-32 Issued instructions to all Batteries to carry out
to a five ~~xxxxxx~~ minutes searching bombardment of
5-40 enemy's communication trenches opposite the Sector from which the S.O.S. had been received. Rate of fire 4 rds. per gun per minute.
- 5-50 Carried out bombardment as above.
to
5-55
- 5-57 Reported to D.A.H.Q.
- 5-58 Instructions to all Batteries to Stand Down.
to
6 a.m.

NOTE :-
----- During the whole of this bombardment it was impossible to obtain information from Companies. in the line, x for all communications seem ed to be cut. I got on to the Left Battalion Headquarters (G.H.10) ~~xx~~ once but the line to the C.O., was engaged.

LATER :-

I have been informed by G.I.3. that an enemy party of about 80 or 90 men attacked our trenches about opposite the head of St Yves Avenue. This party advanced in three waves behind a Smoke Screen. Our trenches were penetrated at two unoccupied Bays but the enemy did not get further than our Front Line. Two enemy dead were left in our line, and more are in NO MAN'S LAND.

As far as is known at present our casualties are:-

1 Officer	Killed.	2nd. in Command of company.
2 Officers	Wounded	
(About) 20 O.R.	Wounded	
1 O.R.	Missing	

Lieut. Colonel,

Commanding Left Group Artillery.

30-4-1917.

CONFIDENTIAL.THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 156.....30th April, 1917.(from 6 a.m. 29th April, to 6 a.m. 30th April, 1917).NOTE.- THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE FRONT LINE.RAID.

About 4.15 a.m. the enemy opened a heavy bombardment of our lines from U.28.a. northwards to U.8. At 4.22 a.m. a raiding party, protected by smoke bombs, came over in 3 waves, and entered our trenches at two unoccupied places, U.15.d.38.90 and U.15.d.55.70. A Lewis Gun Team in the vicinity fought its gun till it jammed, and then retired. Enemy did not penetrate beyond front line, and were expelled by bomb and bayonet attack, leaving 2 dead in our trenches, and several more in NO MAN'S LAND. Enemy fire ceased about 5.25 a.m.

The dead were men of 5th Bavarian R.I.R. (normal). They belonged to IIBn(5th Company).

OUR OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. Our Artillery fired throughout the raid in reply to enemy bombardment which was heavy and protracted. Subsequent to the Raid, between 5.40 and 5.45 a.m. our Artillery directed searching fire against enemy support and communication trenches in U.16.d. Our Artillery fired altogether 4,425 rounds.

Our Artillery fired during the period on targets at - U.28.d.60.35., suspected Anti-Tank gun emplacement → registered.

U.23.c.9.9., suspected O.I. — direct hits.

U.24.c.40.10., guns in action, response to aeroplane zone call.

Enemy trenches U.21.b., 22.c., 16., c, retaliation.

TRENCH MORTARS.

at U.15.a.7.6.

Medium Trench Mortars dispersed enemy working party

PATROLS.

Patrols were out during the night and located enemy working parties at U.28.a.4.4., U.15.a.7.6., and U.8.d.8.3., and they were dispersed by Lewis Gun and T.M. fire.

ENEMY OPERATIONS.

ARTILLERY. During the day enemy artillery fired about 280 rounds (evidently registering) on our trenches in U.21.d., U.15.d., and U.8. These rounds were of all calibres - 15, 10.5. and 7.7. c.m. shells and Minenwerfer.

OBSERVATION OF THE ENEMY.

A concrete dug-out has been located at U.22.c.32.45. Flashes of hostile batteries were observed from U.13.a.75.21. at 58 deg. T.B.

From 4.15 to 4.30 p.m. two lights were observed from the same place apparently signalling to each other, T.B. were 82 deg. and 92 deg. respectively.

M. Cutler
Lieut.- I.C.
for Lieut-Colonel.-G.S.
Third Australian Division.

FORECAST. Noon to noon. Wind light and variable but mainly between N.W. and N.E. Fair and warm. Indifferent visibility. Morning mist. Temperature day 70, night 45 to 50. Note.- Spell of fair quite warm weather likely. Barometer this morning at M.S.L. 30.06 in. Rising. At 100 metres 29.70 inches.