

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/33/25

Title: Headquarters, 5th Australian Field
Artillery Brigade

December 1917



AWM4-13/33/25

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

5th A.I. A. Brigade

FOR

December 1917.

Signature of Officer compiling

[Signature]
Lieut.
Adjutant 5th F.A. Brigade

Signature of Officer Commanding

[Signature]
Lieut.
Adjutant
For. Co.

Army Form C. 2118.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

5th. A. F. A. Bde.

[illegible]

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Steenwerke	5/12/17		Batteries continued clipping of horses	
	6/12/17		C.O. visited batteries	
	7th		Bathing parties were sent to PAPOT baths. At these baths the men have a good hot shower & hand in all their dirty underclothing and fewer clean underclothing issued in lieu.	
	8th	11 am	20 reinforcements arrived and were distributed amongst the batteries they consisted chiefly of returned casualised men.	
		2 pm	Sports (football etc) were held throughout the afternoon both Rugby & league are played principally rugby.	
	9th	9 30 am	Church Parade under Major Parker O.C. 105th Bty	
		12 noon to 2 pm	Larkies from 14th & 105th Lt Bns were bathed at Papot baths	
	10th	9 am	Battery commanders of 11th & 105th met Lt Col Lt Col Macartney (Commanding Right Group Arty) (7th F.A.B. 3rd Div.) who took them round the battery positions. A forecast has been issued by D.H.Q. to the effect that 2nd Div. Arty would relieve the 7th Div. Arty.	
	12th	9.15 am	General Smyth V.C. visited the batteries	
		2 pm	Polling for the referendum commenced. It is thought that a fairly even vote will be recorded.	
		10 am	C.O. visited the wagon lines of the 7th F.A.B. as they are the lines to be occupied by the 2nd F.A.B. Brigade when orders are issued for us to go into the line.	
	13th		Charley officer visited prospective Group S.H. and wagon lines referendum poll completed. Major Secher (Horsemaster) visited the prospective wagon lines and reported that all the water pipes leading to the troughs there had been destroyed by enemy bombs, this work was being attended to by engineers.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Steenwercke	14/12/18		A Divisional Rest Farm for horses has been established and 25 horses had to send 25. These were selected by horsemaster CO & Adjutant visited the Batteries	
	15 th	10 am	5 th FA Bde comforts fund advised that they had forwarded a number of comforts for Xmas also that £200 had been placed to the Brigade Reg. Fund with A.I.F.A.Q. A Brigade meeting was convened as to what was the most satisfactory way to dispose of the money. It was decided to divide equally throughout the batteries & B.H.Q.	
			Adjutant visited a football match between 13 th Bty & 2 nd D.A.C. 13 th Bty won 6 to nil	
		6.30 pm	The CO & CO attended Brigade Boxing contest	
	16 th	8 to 11 am	Church Parade (voluntary)	
		11 am	A committee meeting (consisting of Staff Capt, DTMO & Adjutants of 14 th & 15 th Bdes & 2 nd D.A.C.) of 2 nd Div Artillery Band. This band has just been formed. Instruments 27 cost £240 odd & it is now practising	
	17 th		25 Horses returned to Batteries from Rest Farm and 25 more sent there	
	18 th		CO visited 13 th & 15 th Bties Adjutant of 8 th A FA Brigade visited 5 th Bde H.Q. to arrange about relief of Wagon line	
	19 th	1 pm	Adjutant visited Batteries most of the horses & mules are in good condition men are kept hard at work clipping all animals. Batteries are almost complete in small gun spores and all men have their two identity discs. This was done as orders have been received that 5 FA Bde relieve 7 th FA B in the line 21/12/17	
	20		Adjutant visited 7 th FA Bde H.Q. and went through all papers and the defence scheme. The frontage to cover is 5500 yards with 14 th & 15 th Bties. The 13 th & 15 th Bties to go in the Left Group under Lt Col Shellshear D.S.O.	

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
Oosthove Fm North of Armentieres	21		Look over Right Group from 7th FA Bde at noon. A very heavy frost and ice everywhere but one could not fall down at coming into this part of the line. The batteries are most comfortable. Good billets in broken down houses and good gun pits and good roads everywhere. Such a difference to the places the bde has been in during the past 17 months. CO visited the G.O.C. Infantry Brigade.	
	22	11.45 11.30 pm	14th Bty was shelled with 5.9's which were soon silenced by our counter Bties. Heavies. The infantry have been troubled through out the day by unarmenwerfers and 5.9's & 4.2's. Right Btm HQ. was also shelled. Our 4.5 How Bty silenced 3 munenwerfers.	
	23	2 pm 3 pm	During the day the CO. visited R. Btm HQ. Group Observation Post & the 14th & 105th Bties. A great quantity of comforts arrived much to the delight of everyone. CO. visited 11th & 105th Bties & Left Btm HQ. An officer from the 32nd Kife Balloon section visited R. Group HQ for information with regard to the guns the batteries can cover with the view to picking up suitable targets that they could observe. Enemy artillery quiet all day.	
	24	9 pm	The morning was quiet but at 3 pm the infantry report shelling on their front line system with 5.9's & 4.2's. These enemy were effectively engaged by our heavies. 14th Battery was shelled for 10 minutes. Infantry again shelled with 5.9's for a few mins.	
	25		Xmas day. Adjutant visited Infantry brigade major with a view to obtaining map locations of munenwerfers & machine guns that have been troubling them. Great arrangements have been in progress for the past few days getting eatable for Xmas dinner ready. The NCOs & men have an old barn covered with a tarpaulin and a large open fire place & tables. An amount of money had been given them from their own regimental fund for this turnout. A Concert was arranged to follow. Two heavy falls of snow.	

WAR DIARY

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Coasthere Farm N ^o of Ammentierres	25	11.30 pm	Great movement & a great success	
	26 th	9.10 to 11 pm 3.40 to 4.30 8.30 to 10	A working party of the enemy was observed by the infantry the party was fired on by our batteries & dispersed! 14 th Bty was shelled by enemy 59 th & 42 nd . The heavies engaged these batteries 14 th Bty again shelled. The shelling increased at 9.30 pm but eventually ceased at 10 pm. During the day the C.O. visited wagon lines and D.A.C.	
	27 th		Enemy shelling throughout the day was generally quiet just occasional small bursts of scattered rounds. C.O. visited RAVELSBURG to meet G.O.C.R.A. 32 nd kite balloon section visited R.L. group H.Q. to see if they could do any observing we have ^{not} used them for observing yet on this front as our allotment of ammunition expending is small it is far preferable to do our own observation from ground O.P.s.	
	28 th		C.O. visited 105 th Bty & Ammentierres Very quiet on front Aircraft fairly active The snow that fell on Xmas day is still on the ground. The Hun paid us a visit last night and dropped some bombs rather close No damage here. One gunner of 13 th Battery was killed. The first casualty in this part of the line	
	29	10.30 10.45 11 am 12.20	An enemy 4.2 was reported by the infantry firing on the front line system Our counter batteries silenced the enemy General Greenwood visited batteries as the 105 th Bty was being shelled the General did not go right up to the position. Col Lloyd, C.M. D.S.O. (our late Bde commander) visited G.H.Q. and asked to be guided to the group O.P. 14 th & 105 th Btys being shelled by the enemy Our heavies effectively engaged the enemy. Snow thawed. Enemy exceptionally quiet General Smyth V.C. Dwl. Commander visited group H.Q. to arrange to go round the batteries tomorrow	
	31		Enemy artillery quiet Infantry reported light but desultory shelling on the	

(Erase heading not required.)

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WAR DIARY

OF

5th & 7th A Brigade

FOR

December 1917.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Instructions to the Artillery.
2.	Counter preparation scheme (In the event of an attack by the enemy, this scheme is for the purpose of a counter attack)
3.	Intelligence Summary
4.	do
5.	Instructions for operation
6.	Intelligence Summary.
7.	operation
8.	Intelligence Summary
9.	do
10.	do
11.	do
12.	do
13.	do.

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SECRET.

APPENDIX. 1

8

Second Army No. 57 (G).

SECOND ARMY.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE ARTILLERY.

1.—Policy.

The general artillery policy to be pursued will consist of :—

- (a) Artillery co-operation in connection with the special offensive operations and defensive measures detailed in Second Army No. 57 (G), of 18th November.
- (b) Vigorous counter-battery work.
- (c) Artillery attacks with the object of inflicting losses on and demoralising the enemy.
- (d) The development of trench mortar fire to the fullest extent possible.

Generally speaking, this policy involves methodical shoots for the destruction of material, and sudden concentrations of fire, both by day and night, for the destruction of personnel. A sharp look-out must be maintained by day in order to seize any favourable opportunities of inflicting losses on the enemy.

All plans for artillery attacks should be based on information collected from all available sources and should be varied frequently.

Artillery retaliation, as such, is to be discountenanced. It must be the aim and object of our artillery to punish the enemy in every way, thus completely dominating any efforts which he may make in the way of retaliation. The initiative must rest with us.

2.—Organisation and Tasks of the Artillery in the Line.

The organisation of the artillery in the line during the winter must be such that it can be developed readily to meet the requirements of operations on a large scale.

- (a) Corps will maintain such field artillery in the line as is considered necessary to meet the requirements of the policy outlined in para. 1.

Brigades will be grouped according to the number of divisions holding the line. In order to facilitate training, divisional artilleries, whether in or out of the line, will be under their own G.Os.C., R.A.

A Sub-group Commander will be in close touch with each Infantry Brigadier in the line. Corps will detail such 18-pounder and 4.5" howitzer batteries for counter-battery work as may be considered necessary.

- (b) Heavy and siege artillery units will be divided into the following groups :—
 - (i.) Bombardment Groups.
 - (ii.) Counter-battery Groups.
 - (iii.) Reinforcing Groups.
 - (iv.) Long-range Gun Groups.

The composition of these groups will conform to the new brigade organisations when introduced.

Subject to this, the principles on which they will be organised are as under :—

- (i.) *Bombardment Groups.*

A group will be affiliated to each division in the line. These groups will remain under the orders of the B.G., H.A. of the Corps, but their individual commanders will be in close touch with the divisions to which they are affiliated.

The main duty of these groups is the bombardment of the hostile defensive system on their respective divisional fronts.

- (ii.) *Counter-battery Groups.*

The tasks of these groups are :—

The methodical destruction of the hostile artillery by observed fire, switching from a datum point, or sound ranging. Observation may be carried out from aeroplanes, balloons, or observation posts.

The destruction of hostile artillery personnel by sudden concentrations of fire of short duration. These should be based on previous registration on the battery, or on a neighbouring datum point.

The neutralization of hostile fire.

Counter-battery zones will be allotted to Corps by the Army from time to time as circumstances may require.

- (iii.) *Reinforcing Groups.*

The duties of these groups are :—

To reinforce the Bombardment Groups or Counter-battery Groups.

To carry out special bombardments or tasks.

The units should be sited with special attention to a wide field of fire.

(iv.) *Long-range Gun Groups.*

A group may be formed by a Corps if considered necessary.

The duties of this group are :—

Special tasks demanding long-range fire.

The reinforcement of bombardment groups or counter-battery groups for special tasks.

Long-range guns should be employed systematically against railheads, dumps, etc., and for harassing the enemy at distances outside the effective range of guns of smaller calibre. Full use should be made of enfilade fire. They will normally deal with back areas in their respective Corps counter-battery zones, but in order to utilize their range to the best advantage, targets outside the Corps counter-battery zones may be allotted by the Army.

The preceding paragraphs must not be considered as limiting the action of groups to the duties and tasks referred to therein.

Bombardment groups may be required for counter-battery work, and counter-battery groups for bombardment, while all natures of groups will be required to take part in artillery attacks.

3.—Positions.

(a) Artillery positions should be selected with a view to carrying out the above offensive policy. Due regard must be paid at the same time to the defence of the localities referred to in Second Army No. 57 (G), para. 8.

(b) Great importance is to be attached to the attainment of enfilade and concentration of fire on various points of the hostile defensive system.

(c) If circumstances render it inadvisable to retain units in advanced positions, recourse must be had to the employment of single guns or sections.

(d) The order of importance of the work to be carried out in the construction of positions is—

(i.) Concealment.

(ii.) Bomb-proof cover for officers and men.

(iii.) Protection of ammunition against shell fire and weather.

(iv.) Subject to concealment, overhead cover for the protection of the detachments when in action and for the equipment.

4.—Observation.

(a) *General.*

The hostile country should be kept under observation by day and night.

In directing artillery fire, the general principle that direct observation on the objective, either from ground or air, is requisite must be observed. The results of fire should be checked by photography whenever feasible.

Field and Garrison Artillery are to be encouraged to co-operate as much as possible in the use of observing stations and telephone systems.

Battery Commanders are responsible, if they do not observe themselves for any particular shoot, that the officer employed as observing officer is competent to carry out his duties as such.

(b) *Observing Stations.*

Observing stations are of two kinds—

Brigade and battery observing stations.

Corps observing stations.

(i.) *Brigade and Battery Observing Stations.*

The best available observing stations must be selected.

As regards these—

Concealment is of paramount importance.

Secure bomb-proof cover must be provided close at hand.

So far as concealment permits, the observing station itself must be rendered splinter and bullet-proof.

(ii.) *Corps Observing Stations.*

Corps will establish on their fronts a system of Corps artillery observing stations analogous to those already established by the Field Survey Company.

The functions of this system are—

To increase the accuracy of fire by cross-observations.

To carry out accurately observed shoots when aeroplane ranging is impossible.

To range batteries accurately on datum points for calibration or other purposes.

Three or four observing stations will be required on each Corps fronts connected by a separate telephone system to a headquarters where the observations can be rapidly compiled and the result communicated to the units firing.

Posts will be manned by artillery personnel found from batteries in the Corps, and will be equipped with Mark V. directors and telephones. It will be found that two or three men per observation post will be sufficient, with an officer and about six other ranks at the headquarters.

The 2nd Field Survey Company is prepared to locate the posts accurately and to train the officers, observers and compilers. After a sufficient number have been trained to start the system, a reserve of 50% should be maintained to replace casualties.

This system of Corps observation stations should increase the number of accurately observed shoots carried out on Corps fronts.

5.—Arrangements in Case of Attack.

(a) An artillery officer will be present at night at the headquarters of each battalion in the line, and the artillery officer responsible for covering the front of an infantry brigade must be in close touch with the Brigadier. See para. 821. (a)

(b) The line of forward posts occupied by the infantry should be marked by boards, etc., so as to render them easily recognisable from the artillery observation posts.

(c) The "SOS" signal means that the enemy is advancing from his trenches and that a barrage of fire is required in front of the infantry to repel an attack.

(d) All batteries should be provided with boards and pointers to indicate whether the "SOS" rocket signal has been sent up from their zone or from some other.

(e) On receipt of the "SOS" signal, both field and heavy artillery will open fire on their barrage lines.

(f) The "SOS" rocket signal should be confirmed by telephone, and the officer responsible for giving the alarm should keep the artillery informed of the situation.

It is incumbent on all artillery officers to ascertain as soon as possible whether a continuance of fire is required and of what intensity.

(g) Corps will issue orders as regards the nature and intensity of fire to be employed on the "SOS" signal being received.

(h) A gas alarm will be accompanied by the "SOS" signal if barrage fire is required; otherwise, the procedure will be as laid down in S.S. 193, *Standing Orders for Defence Against Gas*.

(i) In the event of the enemy commencing a bombardment of such an extent or intensity as to warrant the assumption that an attack is intended, "Counter-preparation" will be ordered.

"Counter-preparation" schemes will be drawn up by Corps. They will legislate for all artillery specially detailed to deal with the hostile artillery developing full activity, and for a destructive fire being brought to bear on the enemy's forward defensive system, on probable positions of assembly, and on communications.

"Counter-preparation" tasks for units should be so arranged that the exchange to "SOS" lines can be rapidly carried out.

6.—Rear Line Defences.

Schemes for the occupation of the rear lines of defence referred to in Second Army 57 (G) must be drawn up, and command posts, observing stations and battery positions reconnoitred and determined.

The positions themselves will not be prepared pending further instructions and until the front defensive system has been thoroughly consolidated.

These schemes will be based on the assumption that the strength of the artillery available is double that maintained in line by Corps during the winter.

7.—Shooting in Proximity to our own Infantry.

When artillery is called upon to shoot on ground in close proximity to our own troops, the infantry should be asked to withdraw. If this cannot be done, the risks incurred must be made clear to the infantry, and an artillery officer placed in close touch with them.

Every precaution should be taken to ensure accuracy of fire, and the mean point of impact must be on the objective.

8.—Counter-Battery Conferences.

(a) Counter-battery conferences will be held fortnightly on the first and third Mondays of each month.

(b) These conferences will be attended by the Counter-battery Staff Officers of the Corps concerned, a representative from the Field Survey Company, a representative from the Corps Wing, R.F.C., a representative from the Balloon Wing and a representative from Army R.A. Headquarters. Owing to the number of the Corps in the line, it will be necessary to deal with "A," "B," and "C" Corps at one meeting and "D," "E," and "F" Corps at another meeting. Corps and other units concerned will be informed by Army Headquarters of the times and places of meetings.

(c) The objects of these conferences are:—

(i.) The discussion of counter-battery methods.

(ii.) The co-ordination of the counter-battery work on the Army front.

(iii.) Co-operation between the R.F.C., Balloon Sections, Survey Posts and Sound Ranging Sections.

(iv.) The allotment of zone calls to batteries.

(v.) The discussion of points of interests affecting counter-battery work.

(d) These conferences are held in order to facilitate the interchange of opinions and experiences. No action will be taken on any conclusions arrived at before they have been submitted to the responsible authority.

9.—Anti-aircraft Artillery.

Units of the anti-aircraft artillery are allotted to Corps for tactical and administrative purposes. The work of these units on the Army front is co-ordinated by the Army and alterations affecting the general scheme of defence are not to be made without reference to Army H.Q.

10.—Survey and Sound Ranging Sections.

(a) The duty of the Survey Observation Section is co-ordinated observation along the Army front, with a view to the exact location of targets for the artillery.

(b) For this purpose, Observation Groups and Sound Ranging Sections are installed along the front, and will normally be allotted to Corps on the scale of one group and one Sound Ranging Section to each Corps front.

(c) They will be administered by the O.C., 2nd Field Survey Company, who will be responsible for their technical efficiency and methods of work. Their tactical employment will be directed by the G.O.C., R.A., of the Corps to which they are allotted.

(d) The principal targets located by Groups and Sound Ranging Sections are enemy batteries and they must, therefore, work in closest co-operation with the Corps Counter-Battery Office, to whom all batteries located will immediately be reported.

(e) Alterations in siting of survey posts or sound ranging bases, or Headquarters of Groups or Sections, which affect the general scheme of observation will not be made without reference to the Army.

(f) Both Observation Groups and Sound Ranging Sections can carry out ranging of our own guns, but such work is liable to interfere with their normal work of location of hostile artillery. They should, therefore, only be called upon to range our own artillery when it does not interfere with "location," or when exceptional circumstances in the tactical situation require it.

(g) Artillery boards for heavy and siege batteries are supplied by the 2nd Field Survey Company, Advanced Section, at present situated at Reninghelst. Applications for such boards should be addressed "Maps, Reninghelst."

Artillery boards for field batteries are supplied by Corps Topographical Sections.

11.—Kite Balloons.

An Artillery Kite Balloon Section will be allotted to each Corps in the line for tactical and administrative purposes.

These balloon sections must be in direct communication with Corps Counter-Battery Headquarters, and should work in close co-operation with them and with Survey Groups and Sound Ranging Sections.

12.—Instruction in Combined Artillery and Aeroplane Work.

Corps will afford their Royal Flying Corps Squadrons special facilities for training observers in the observation of artillery fire. Guns or howitzers as required are to be detailed specially for this purpose.

The Royal Flying Corps will afford Corps and Divisions special facilities for training artillery officers in the principles of co-operation between aircraft and artillery.

13.—Artillery out of the Line.

(a) Artillery is taken out of the line for—

- (i.) Rest.
- (ii.) Training.
- (iii.) Overhaul of equipment.

(b) The training of units out of the line will be carried out under the supervision of the G.O.C., R.A. of the Corps in whose area they are resting. Programmes of training should be drawn up and arrangements made for small tactical exercises, lectures, and courses of instruction.

Special attention being paid to—

- (i.) The training of a large number of telephonists and signallers, stress being laid on lamp signalling.
- (ii.) The development of a higher standard of knowledge of equipment and ammunition in all ranks both of batteries and ammunition columns.
- (iii.) The training of young officers and selected non-commissioned officers in the direction of fire generally and in making corrections for the various factors affecting the accuracy of fire in particular.

(ii.) and (iii.) must be regarded as essentially the work of Brigade and Battery Commanders.

14.—Expenditure and Maintenance of Ammunition.

Corps will be kept informed by Army Headquarters of the situation as regards ammunition, and will be required to base their expenditure accordingly.

The total amount of ammunition to be maintained per gun, howitzer, and trench mortar in front, or independently, of Army Depôts is:—

(a) *At or near the gun.*

18-pdr.	...	...	450	60-pdr. gun	...	...	200
4.5" how.	...	...	350	6" gun	...	...	100
6" how.	...	...	250	9.2" gun	...	...	70
8" how.	...	...	150	12" gun	...	...	70
9.2" how.	...	...	150	2" T.M.	...	...	90
12" how.	...	...	70	6" T.M.	...	...	150
15" how.	...	...	50	9.45" T.M.	...	...	40

(b) The full echelon establishment of ammunition for all guns and howitzers on their charge.

With regard to (a) the total amount to be held by Corps will be calculated on the basis of the number of guns and howitzers in the line.

15.—Reports.

(a) A daily telegraphic report is required from each Corps R.A. which should reach the G.O.C., R.A., Second Army, not later than 9.30 p.m.

The report should deal with the period from 6 p.m. on the day previous to despatch to 6 p.m. on the day of despatch, and should include information as to the progress of the policy laid down in para. 1.

The information should be given in sequence as under :—

The paragraph number and sub-paragraph letter should precede the information.

(i.) Any special artillery operations carried out.

(ii.) Counter-battery.

(a) Zone numbers or map co-ordinates of batteries on which observed destructive shoots have been carried out, *i.e.*, by observed fire, switching from a datum point, or sound-ranging.

(b) Number of pits observed hit, explosions and fires caused.

(c) Number of batteries neutralised.

(d) Number of zone calls answered.

(iii.) Any special artillery attacks carried out.

(iv.) Hostile activity.

(a) Action of hostile artillery generally.

(b) Number of our batteries on which destructive shoots have been carried out and damage caused.

(c) Principal areas shelled by the enemy.

(b) A daily written report is required from each Corps Heavy Artillery, which should reach the G.O.C., R.A., Second Army, by 12 noon. This report should deal with the same period and should be drawn up under the same headings as the telegraphic report, but should give the information required in detail.

(c) A weekly written report is required from each Corps R.A., which should reach the G.O.C., R.A., Second Army, as early as possible on Thursday morning. This report should cover the period from 6 p.m. Wednesday to 6 p.m. Wednesday, and should summarize the action of the hostile artillery under the following headings :—

(i.) Activity (including general direction of fire).

(ii.) Increase or decrease in number of guns (stating number of guns believed to be in counter-battery area).

(iii.) Changes in groupings of artillery.

(iv.) Matters of general interest.

28th November, 1917.

A.A.M.

RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY COUNTER PREPARATION SCHEME.

1. To deal effectively with the large front allotted to the Group for purpose of counter preparation, the line has been divided into FIVE Zones viz. E., F., G., H., J. The boundaries are as shown on Intelligence Map. X.
2. During the hours of daylight all movement will be immediately engaged by 18-pdrs. batteries, and known Headquarters, strong points and battery and Minenwerfer positions will be engaged by Howitzers. Trench mortars will assist on enemy front line trenches and Minenwerfer positions within range.
3. During the hours of darkness, and on days when visibility is low, Group Headquarters will order batteries to engage one or more of the Zones mentioned in Para. 1.
4. On receipt from Group Headquarters of the order "COUNTER ZONES (followed by letter) ", all guns, Howitzers and trench mortars will engage targets as shown on accompanying table, in the sector referred to in the message from Group Headquarters.
5. Rates of fire will be dependent on the allotment of ammunition, and will be notified at the time.

X. (Line drawn East. and West. through. U3060049.)
 " " " " " " C560088
 " " " " " " C5d0000
 " " " " " " C11d0052

Right Group Artillery Headquarters,
 27th January, 1918.

DISTRIBUTION: -

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Copy No. 1. | 2nd. B.A.A. |
| 2. | 14th. Battery. |
| 3. | 105th. " |
| 4. | St. West. Inf. Brigade |
| 5. | ... |
| 6. | File. |
| 7. | War Diary. |

COUNTER PREPARATION. (Sheet 2.)

T A S K T A B L E.

18-PDRS.

4.5" HOWS.

T A R G E T S.

T A R G E T S.

ZONE "E".

Sweep Trenches U.24.a.20.69 to
U.24.c.85.60.
" U.24.c.62.65 to
U.30.a.94.75.

(Search 150 Yds. in 50 Yds.)
Sweep and Search Tracks & App-
roaches DEULMONT *AND*.

Roads TOLLGROSS - BRIN
CHATEAU FARM. U.30.b.13.96.

(Search 150 Yds. in 50 Yds.
and Sweep 20')

U.30.a.78.88 Bridge.
U.24.a.60.25 H.W., Road & R'way.
U.24.c.71.19 DOLLS HOUSE.
U.24.c.82.55 Railway & Cross Rds.
U.24.b.00.26 " " "
VANISHED INN,
THE BAIDEN,
OVERTOWN CROSS ROADS.

ZONE "F".

Sweep Trenches -

U.30.a.79.42 to U.30.a.45.26 to

U.30.a.25.20 to U.29.d.92.91.

U.29.d.82.92 to U.29.d.93.66 to

U.29.d.49.21.

(Search 100 Yds. in 50 Yds.)

Roads & Tracks in U.30.b. and d.

V.25. and

V.26.a. and b.

U.29.b.60.24 Bridge.
U.30.a.15.05 URAL HOUSE.
U.29.d.45.20 UNKNOWN FARM.
U.29.d.99.88 Cross Rds. & R'way.
U.30.a.18.66 " " "
BRICKFIELD and LES ECLUSES U.30.d.
SQUINT Cross Roads.

ZONE "G".

Sweep Trenches -

U.29.d.52.00 to C.5.c.03.00.

(Search 100 Yds. in 50 Yds.)

C.5.d.38.80 to C.5.d.33.00.

(Search 200 Yds. in 50 Yds.)

PORT ROUGE - QUEBNOY ROAD.

C.5.b.56.38 SCREENED FARM
C.5.d.30.95 DUNIEZ FARM.
C.5.d.48.82 TRENCH and JUNCTION
and Railway.
C.5.c.05.00 TRENCH JUNCTION and
XXXXXXXXXX Tracks.
C.6.c.92.05 CEYLON FARM.
DEULE MANSIONS.
PORT ROUGE - QUEBNOY ROAD & Light
Railway. BRICKFIELDS D.2.c.

ZONE "H".

Sweep trenches -

C.11.b.27.92 to C.11.b.10.64 to

C.11.a.91.55 to C.11.a.81.33 to

C.11.c.51.51. (Search 100 Yds.
in 50 Yds.)

Search all roads & tracks East

as far as DECHERIT FARM.

BRICKFIELD in D.7.b & D.8.a.

C.11.b.31.92 Cross Rds. & Trench.
C.11.d.62.53 Road & Railway & Trench.
C.11.c.82.61 Rds. Junction Trench &
Tracks.
C.12.a.62.40 TWIN FARM.
Search all roads & Tracks East as
far as DECHERIT FARM.
BRICKFIELD in D.7.b. & D.8.a.

COUNTER PREPARATION. (Sheet 3.)

15

T A S K T A B L E.18-PDRS.4.5" HOWS.TARGETS.TARGETS.ZONE "J".

Sweep Trenches -

C.11.c.53.50 to C.17.a.06⁵⁹ to
6.17.a.32.18.

(Search 200 Yds. in 50 Yds.)

Search all roads and tracks
as far East as D.8.c. and
D.14.a.

C.11.c.87.40 Rds. Junction.

C.17.b.34.97 R'way " Tracks
and Trenches.

C.18.a.47.45 COWSHED Pt.

(Search 250 Yds. in 50 Yds.)

C.17.a.30.42 Cross Rds. & Trench.

C.17.a.94.67 Trench Junction &
Pillbox.

LIENART FARM.

LA BAUDERIE.

Road Junction D.13.a.

RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

6 a.m. 22.12.17 to 6 a.m. 23.12.17.

OUR ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.-

Minenwerfers

During the morning/fired on our front line from C.11.c.95.77 at 10.54 a.m. and C.11.d.10.35 at 11.10 a.m. These were silenced by 20 rounds of 4.5" Hows. on each.

3.15 p.m. A Minenwerfer firing from C.11.c.8.6. was fired on by our 4.5" How. and silenced. The Infantry (Right Btn.) observed this shooting and reported it as excellent.

4 p.m. 22 rounds 4.5" Hows. checking Zero point registrations on C.11.c.65.86.

8.15 p.m. An enemy Trench Mortar at C.11.c.70.50 was effectively fired on by 4.5" Hows. 20 rounds.

ENEMY ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.-

Throughout the day the enemy shelled C.2.e. and d. with 15 cm. and 10.5 cm. This firing consisted of bursts of fire of about 10 minutes duration and continued from 9.45 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Counter Battery assistance was asked for and they effectively engaged the enemy batteries. Approximately 400 rounds were fired by the enemy and from 12.35 p.m. to 1.10 p.m. the fire was at a rapid rate. No material damage was done.

AERIAL ACTIVITY.-

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Our observation machines flew over Right Group Sector.

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J. C. A. Jones
Lieut.-Colonel,
Commanding, Right Group Artillery.

RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE AND OPERATIONS REPORT.

From 6 a.m. 23.12.17 to 6 a.m. 24.12.17.

OUR ARTILLERY. 9.30 a.m. 18-pdrs fired on M.G. position at

C.11.b.20.60 11.10 a.m. 25 rounds on M.G. position at

C.11.a.55.10. 11.30 a.m. 31 " " " "

C.11.b.20.60. 12 noon 60 rounds were fired on M.G.'s

dug-outs buildings and road in U.24.c. & d. and U.29.d.9.9.

12.15 p.m. 4.5"Hows. fired 30 rounds on M.G. at C.11.d.Central.

40 rounds was also placed on this target at 4.25 p.m.

4.15 to 4.40 p.m. 85 rounds 4.5" How. were fired on M.G.

Positions and Minenwerfers at C.11.c.70.50 and C.11.c.70.40.

5.15 p.m. 30 rounds 18-pdr. on buildings at C.11.d.3.6.

6.30 p.m. 30 rounds on road and trenches U.30.c.2.7. to

C.6.b.5.0.

7.30 p.m. 75 rounds on road and trenches from H.30.c.2.7. to

C.6.b.5.0.

ENEMY ARTILLERY ACTIVITY. Exceptionally quiet during the past 24 hours.

AERIAL ACTIVITY. Our machines were fairly active all day.

Three hostile planes flew over our lines at 2.30 p.m.

-----000-----

Join

Lieut.-Colonel.
Commanding, Right Group Artillery.

APPENDIX 5

War Diary

RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY INSTRUCTION No. 1.

Headquarters,
24.12.1917.1. INFORMATION.

From patrols and other sources the following additional intelligence has been gleaned of enemy movement, works and positions.

- (a) Considerable movements of enemy troops take place on the FRELINGHIEN - LA CROIX AU BOIS Road. Between FRELINGHIEN and LA HOULETTE CORNER the enemy is reported to march in platoons; East of LA HOULETTE in Companies.
- (b) Wheeled traffic is often heard in DEULEMONT.
- (c) Constant hammering and dumping of iron is heard after dusk in FRELINGHIEN.
- (d) CEYLON FARM is occupied.
- (e) Working parties have been heard at U.30.c.
- (f) ~~Trenches are being deepened at U.11.c.95.79.~~
- (g) A new trench runs from C.5.c.8.5. to C.5.c.65.70
- (h) Minenwerfers are suspected at U.24.a.3.6.

U.29.b.60.25.
C.11.c.6.6.
U.24.a.60.85
U.24.b.7.9.
C.5.c.65.40.
C.11.c.7.7.
and at DEULEMONT Church Tower.

2. INTENTION.

To harass the enemy, delay his works and cause casualties.

With this object in view, Battery Commanders will keep close liaison with Battalion Commanders and be ready to engage fleeting opportunities with expedition.

The full allotment of ammunition must be fired daily. Special Shell will be in addition to the daily allotment and will only be fired when wind and weather conditions are favorable.

Special Shell will not be fired on FRELINGHIEN unless asked for by G.O.C., Infantry Brigade

On receipt of the Message from Group Headquarters - "SALTS FRELINGHIEN" followed by number of rounds to be fired Howitzer Battery will fire the stated number of Special Shell in the area named.

3. TASKS.

Tasks for period 25.12.1917 to 28.12.1917, inclusive are forwarded herewith.-

TASKS FOR PERIOD 25TH TO 28TH DECEMBER, 1917, INCLUSIVE.

Date	Time.	4.5" Hows.
25/12/17.	7.55 a.m.	Activity Centre "D.D.", and Minenwerfer position nearby. 30 rounds "BX". Rapid rate.
	11 a.m.	M.G. Position U.24.a.60.85 and DEULEMONT Church. 30 rounds.
	Noon.	DURIEZ FARM - C.5.d.3.9. 20 rounds.
	4 p.m.	Cross Roads - D.11.b.35.90.- 20 rounds.
	5.30 p.m.	Road - C.11.d.8-8.45 to C.12.c.33.30 30 rounds.
	7 p.m.	Special Task. - (To be detailed later).
26/12/17.	8.30 a.m.	LAUNDRY - 20 rounds.
	10 a.m.	Minenwerfer position C.11.a.65.13.
	4.30 p.m.	Enemy dug-outs U.24.c.75.50 and U.30.b.45.65.
	7.30 p.m.	Road Junction - C.12.b.97.00 and C.12.b.88.09.
27/12/17.	7 a.m.	Minenwerfer position at THE VATS DYEWORKS and C.11.a.83.14. Simultaneously (one section on each).
	6 p.m.	PONT ROUGE BRIDGE and approaches.
	10 p.m.	Special Task. - (To be detailed later).
28/12/17.	8 a.m.	Dump - C.6.b.63.28.
	10 a.m.	M.G. - DEULEMONT CHURCH.
	Noon	Enemy dug-outs C.5.d.43.20 and C.5.d.38.08.
	5 p.m.	Screened FARM.

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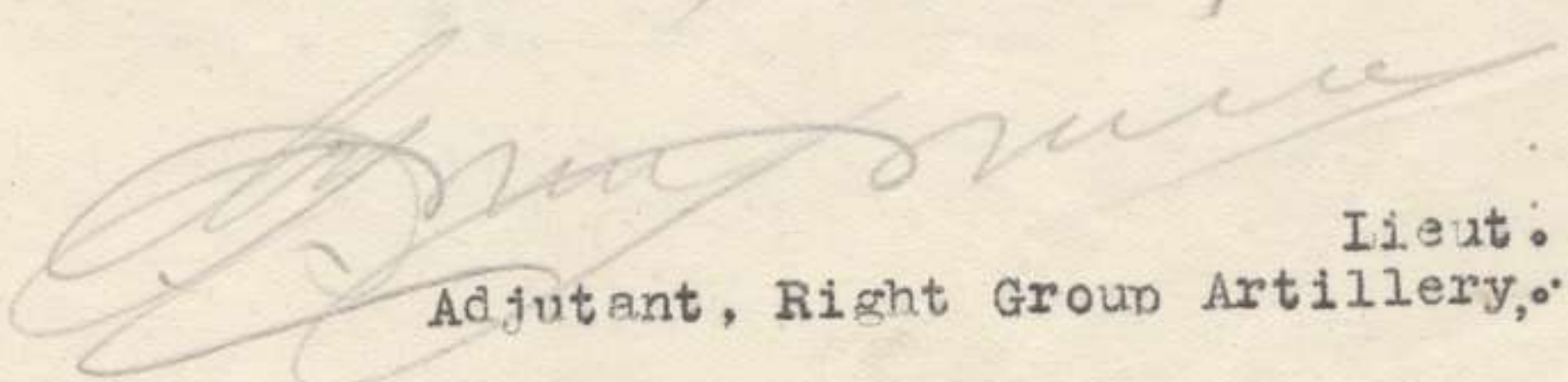
TASKS FOR PERIOD 25TH TO 28TH DECEMBER, 1917, INCLUSIVE.

Date	Time.	18-Pdrs.
25/12/17.	7.55 a.m.	Activity Centre "D.D." - 24 rounds "AX" and 6 rounds "A".
	Noon	Vicinity of TWIN FARM - 30 rounds.
	4 p.m.	Activity Centre "F.A." - 30 rounds.
	5.30 p.m.	Road - C.11.d.88.45 to C.12.c.33.30.- 30 rounds.
26/12/17.	9.30 a.m.	SOAP HOUSE - C.5.c.73.20.
	Noon.	Search and sweep in vicinity of DURIEZ FARM C.5.d.27.97.
	5 p.m.	Search road from C.11.b.37.92 to TWIN FARM.
	7.30 p.m.	Search roads and approaches to DEULEMONT.
27/12/17.	7 a.m.	Search Fork Roads in C.6.b. and d.
	4 p.m. & } 9 p.m. }	CEMETERY AVENUE (U.12.c.). CEMETERY CRESCENT (U.11.d.).
	7 p.m.	Search Road between PONT ROUGE BRIDGE and CESS PIT HOUSE.
28/12/17.	8 a.m.	DURIEZ FARM and vicinity.
	4.45 p.m. & 7 p.m.	Activity Centre "D.E." and "F.B.".
	9 p.m.	Trench at U.11.d.95.79.

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On receipt of message from Group Headquarters or from
Battalion Commanders - "CONCENTRATE PONT ROUGE" - 18-Pdrs
Battery will immediately fire 30 rounds, 50% "A" and 50%
"AX", and Howitzer Battery will immediately fire 30 rounds
of "BX" on Activity Centre "D.D."

If, whilst a task is being carried out, a request is
made by Battalion Commander, the request must take precedence.


Lieut.
Adjutant, Right Group Artillery.

RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE AND OPERATIONS REPORT.

From 6 a.m. 24.12.17 to 6 a.m. 25.12.17.

OUR ARTILLERY.- 8.40 a.m. 32 rounds 18-pdr. on enemy defences in U.29.d.
 9 a.m. at request of Infantry 30 rounds Gas were fired by our Hows. on PONT ROUGE.
 10.20 a.m. to 10.35 a.m. Registration shoot on Zero Point C.11.b.6.8. 8 rounds.
 11.55 a.m. 55 rounds 4.5" How. on enemy T.M. in C.5.b.55.40, this target was again engaged at 3.15 p.m. with 20 rounds.
 12.45 p.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 40 rounds on M.G. position at C.11.a.4.1. and Minenwerfer position at C.11.a.50.15.
 12.15 p.m. 18-pdrs fired 24 rounds on TWIN FARM in C.12.a.
 12.15 p.m. 20 rounds 18-pdr. on roads and tracks in C.6.c. and d.
 3.16 p.m. 25 rounds 18-pdr. on SCREENED FARM - C.5.b.55.40.
 3.45 p.m. 40 rounds on DEULEMONT - U.24.d.
 20 rounds on roads in C.5.b. and C.6.a.

VISIBILITY.- Visibility was poor throughout the day.

MISCELLANEOUS.- Between 12.40 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. 35 rounds of Minenwerfer fell on BUTCHERS SHOP - D.10.c. from direction of C.11.c.
 During the night about 40 rounds Minenwerfer fell on F.L. System from TWIN COTS to ESTAMINET HOUSE.

-----oOo-----

J. O'Mahony

Lieut.-Colonel,
 Commanding, Right Group Artillery.

7
RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY.

22

OPERATION ORDER NO. 4.REFERENCE MAPS:- Sheets 28 S.W. and (1/10,000.)
36 N.W.

1. At 11 a.m. on 26th instant the Trench Mortar Batteries of the Right Group will carry out a destructive shoot on Minenwerfer positions and enemy trenches.
Covering fire by 14th. (18-pdr.) and 105th. (4.5" How.) Batteries and 2 Stokes Mortars of the 5th. Infantry Brigade will be provided.
2. Rates of fire, time and targets to be engaged are shown on attached table, excepting for Stokes Mortars, the targets for which will be selected by the Officer in charge.
3. Watches will be synchronised with Brigade Signal Officer, GK54 at 9.30 a.m. on 26th instant.

Brinsmead
Lieut.
Adjutant, Right Group Artillery.

DISTRIBUTION:-

Copy No. 1.	2nd. D.A.H.Q.
✓ 2.	14th. Battery.
✓ 3.	105th. Battery.
✓ 4.	D.T.H.Q.
✓ 5.	Right Infantry Brigade
✓ 6.	War Diary.
✓ 7.	File.
✓ 8.	Spare
✓ 9.	" } R ^r Inf. Bde.
✓ 10.	" }

RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS.

25th January, 1918.

T A S K T A B L E.

TIME.	Guns to be employed.	TARGET.	Rate of Fire.
<u>TRENCH MORTARS.</u>			
0. to 0.15 0.15 to 0.30 0.30 to 0.45	9.45	VATS in C.17.a. BREWERY in do. M.W.'s at G.11.c.70.75 and G.11.c.90.50.	1-round
0. to 0.15 0.15 to 0.30 0.30 to 0.45	No. 1 Newton	CERTIFIED TRENCH from C.5.c.33.00 to C.5.d.39.60. LAUNDRY in C.5.c. SOAP HOUSE in C.5.c.	per gun
0. to 0.15 0.15 to 0.30 0.30 to 0.45	No. 2 Newton	Pill Box and O.P. at U.29.d.70.62. URAL HOUSE at U.30.a.17.01. UNKNOWN FARM at U.29.d.46.20.	per minute.
<u>4.5" HOWITZERS (105TH BATTERY)</u>			
0. to 0.15	R.X. C.X. L.X.	C.11.c.80.20. DURIEZ FARM at C.5.d.30.95. M.W. at U.30.a.57.13.	$\frac{1}{2}$ -round
0.15 to 0.30	R.X. C.X. L.X.	C.17.a.73.96. C.5.d.75.68. U.29.d.92.68.	per <i>How.</i>
0.30 to 0.45	R.X. C.X. L.X.	C.11.d.65.55. TWIN FARM at C.12.a. SCREENED FARM at C.5.b.	per minute.
<u>18-POUNDERS (14TH BATTERY)</u>			
0. to 0.15	R.X. C.X. L.X.	Sweep CHLIA AVENUE from VATS to C.11.c.52.50. Sweep CERTAIN TRENCH from C.5.d.38.82 to C.5.b.05.00 to C.5.b.30.33. Search and sweep vicinity of BOLLS HOUSE in U.24.c.	$\frac{1}{2}$ -rounds
0.15 to 0.30	R.X. C.X. L.X.	Search road from C.11.c.52.88 to C.11.d.62.55. Sweep CERTIFIED TRENCH from C.11.a.87.40 to C.11.b.32.93. Sweep roads and approaches - DEULMONT.	per gun
0.30 to 0.45	R.X., C.X., & L.X. }	Repeat as above 0. to 0.15.	per minute.

RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE AND OPERATIONS REPORT.

From 6 a.m. 25.12.17 to 6 a.m. 26.12.17.

OUR ARTILLERY.-

7.55 a.m. Our 19-pdrs and 4.5" Hows. opened a concentrated fire on a T.M. Position and activity centre in vicinity of U.29.b.7.2. 60 rounds in all were expended.

11 a.m. 40 rounds of 4.5" How. were fired on DEULEMONT CHURCH.

12 noon 18-pdrs fired 45 rounds on TWIN FARM and 4.5" Hows fired 60 rounds in bursts between 12 noon and 12.30 p.m. on DURIEZ FARM.

4 p.m. Cross-Roads at C.11.b.35.90 were fired on by 4.5" Hows. 20 rounds. 18-pdrs. expended 30 rounds on an activity centre in vicinity of C.12.c.2.4.

5.30 p.m. 18-pdrs. 30 rounds and 4.5" Hows. 20 rounds were fired on roads from the Cross-Road at C.11.d.88.45 to C.12.c.33.30.

8.45 p.m. 38 rounds of 18-pdr. were fired on enemy F.L. System in U.30. at, U.29.d. and c., and C.5.a.

9.40 p.m.)
9.50 p.m.)
10.20 p.m.) 4.5" Hows. and 18-pdrs. fired 88 rounds on Minen-
2.25 a.m.) werfer position at C.11.a.60.10 and an enemy working
5 a.m.) party near this position. c Infantry report that the working party was dispersed on each occasion by our Artillery fire.

VISIBILITY.-

Visibility was low throughout the day, it was good during the early part of the morning.

MISCELLANEOUS.-

Between 8.30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Several double red rockets were sent up by the enemy. No action followed.

FLASHES.-

Flashes were observed at a T.B.56° from C.9.d.25.35 Flash of 4.2" at T.B.140° from C.3.c.8.5.

AERIAL ACTIVITY.-

Several of our planes were active during the early morning only. No enemy planes were observed.

F. Muahony
Lieut.-Colonel,
Commanding, Right Group Artillery.

RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE AND OPERATIONS REPORT.

From 6 a.m. 26.12.17 to 6 a.m. 27.12.17.

OUR ARTILLERY.-

8.30 a.m. 30 rounds of 4.5" How on the LAUNDRY - C.5.c.7.6.

9.30 a.m. Our 18-pdrs. shelled the SOAP HOUSE - C.5.c.73.20 30 rounds.

10 a.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 20 rounds on Minenwerfer at C.11.a.65.13.

12 noon. DURIEZ FARM was subjected to 30 rounds of 18-pdr.

4.30 p.m. Our Hows. fired 20 rounds on road from ~~C.11.b.37.92~~ U.24.c.75.50 - U.30.b.45.65.

5 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired 30 rounds on road from C.11.b.37.92 - TWIN FARMS.

7.30 p.m. Hows. fired 40 rounds on roadway C.12.b.97.00 - C.12.b.88.09.

8 p.m. 30 rounds 18-pdr. were fired on Road and Railway at U.30.b.30.80.

9.45 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired 20 rounds and 4.5" Hows. 25 rounds on roads and approaches to FRELINGHIEN.

9.50 p.m. 30 rounds 4.5" Hows. were fired into DEULEMONT.

10 p.m. 5 rounds 4.5" Hows. on to LA TACHE.

10.15 p.m. 20 rounds of 4.5" How. were fired into FRELINGHIEN.

10.30 p.m. A Machine-Gun position at C.11.c.55.55 was fired on by our 4.5" Hows. 40 rounds.

10.45 p.m. 4.5" Hows. 20 rounds on Minenwerfer at C.11.a.60.35.

AERIAL ACTIVITY.- Our planes were fairly active. During the day 3 enemy planes crossed our lines. One flare was dropped in C.2.a. but no action followed. Six enemy balloons were observed between DEULEMONT and FRELINGHIEN.

MISCELLANEOUS.- VISIBILITY.- Good throughout the day.

Minenwerfer at vicinity of PONT ROUGE was seen to be blown up by one of its own prematures.

Machine Guns. An A.A.M.G. was observed firing from SCREENED FARM at one of our planes.

[Signature]
Lieut.-Colo
Commanding, Right Group Artillery



RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE AND OPERATIONS REPORT.

From 6 a.m. 27.12.1917 to 6 a.m. 28.12.1917.

OUR ARTILLERY.-

3.30 a.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 10 rounds on M.G. at C.11.s.5.2.
 7 a.m. 18-pdrs. fired 30 rounds on DURIEZ FARM
 8.15 a.m. " " " 10 " into DEULEMONT.
 8.20 a.m. " " " 10 " " "
 11 a.m. 18-pdrs. fired on party of men moving on road in
 C.12.s.7.5. in front of TWIN FARM.
 4 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired on Trench System, Cemetery Avenue
 and Cemetery Crescent at C.12.c. and C.12.d. 30 rounds.
 5 p.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 10 rounds on MINENWERFER at
 C.11.c.80.85.
 6 p.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 20 rounds 20 rounds on PONT ROUGE
 BRIDGE and approaches in U.29.b.
 7.10 p.m. 19-pdrs. fired 50 rounds on road from PONT ROUGE
 BRIDGE U.29.b. to CESSIT C.6.a.
 9 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired 30 rounds on trench system CEMETERY
 AVENUE and CEMETERY CRESCENT C.12.c. and C.11.d.

AERIAL ACTIVITY.-

9 p.m. A Hostile plane passed over C.7 flying low. Two
 enemy balloons up during the day.

VISIBILITY.-

Fair from 8.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. low during latter
 part of day.

Signalling Station was observed at V.7.d.7.8.

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J. O'Mahony

Lieut.-Colonel,
 Commanding, Right Group Artillery.

RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE AND OPERATIONS REPORT.

From 6 a.m. 28.12.1917 to 6 a.m. 29.12.1917.

OUR ARTILLERY.-

8 a.m. 18-pdrs. fired 20 rounds on DURIEZ FARM at C.5.d.30.95
 4.5" Hows. fired 20 rounds on Dugouts at C.6.b.25.75.
 11.30 a.m. 18-pdrs. fired 22 rounds in registration of Zero Point.
 1.45 p.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 20 rounds in DYE WORKS in C.11.c.
 (Machine Gun Position.)
 2.15 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired on House at U.30.a.18.05 - 15 rounds.
 4.5 p.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 72 rounds on two Minenwerfers positions
 at C.11.c.80.85 and C.11.c.92.42 respectively. This
 shoot was observed and direct hits obtained.
 4.45 p.m. Activity Centres at DEULEMONT & FRELINGHIEN were fired
 on by 18-pdrs. 20 rounds on each and by 4.5" Hows. 46 rounds.
 at 4.15 p.m.
 7 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired 20 rounds on Activity centre in DEULEMONT
 and 15 rounds on FRELINGHIEN.
 8.30 p.m. 4.5" Hows. fired on machine gun positions at C.12.a.80.45
 to
 9.30 p.m. and C.12.b.10.40 - 20 rounds and 10 rounds respectively.
 9 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired 15 rounds on trench at C.11.d.95.79.
 8.30 p.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 36 rounds on roads at DEULEMONT and
 to
 9.30 p.m. 18 rounds on traffic in FRELINGHIEN.
 9.15 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired on Machine Gun reported by Left Battalion
 at U.29.d.64.44 - 15 rounds.

AERIAL ACTIVITY.-

Hostile aircraft were much more active than
 usual. At 12 noon one in combat with one of our own
 scout planes, appeared to be driven down out of control.

BALLOONS.- 2 were observed during the day.

MISCELLANEOUS.-

VISIBILITY.- Good during morning; low and indifferent
 for latter part of day.

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[Signature]
 For Lieut.-Colonel, R.O.D.

RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE AND OPERATIONS REPORT.

From 6 a.m. 29.12.17 to 6 a.m. 30.12.17.

OUR ARTILLERY.-

10.26 a.m. 18-pdrs. fired 30 rounds on unknown farm in
U.29.d.60.10.

11.15 a.m. 18-pdrs. fired another 15 rounds on above target.

5 p.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 40 rounds on road from C.12.b.80.30
to C.6.b.40.10.

5.15 p.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 24 rounds on DEULEMONT.

5.20 p.m. " " " 40 " " traffic FRELINGHIEN.

5.30 p.m. " " " 20 " " road from C.12.b.80.30
to C.6.b.40.10.

6.20 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired 40 rounds on road approach to
DEULEMONT at U.24.d.36.32.

7 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired 50 rounds at unknown Farm in U.29.d.60.10.

9.15 p.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 54 rounds on Minenwerfer and
machine gun position in the laundry at C.11.a.75.92 and
good results were reported.

4.30 a.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 70 rounds on Machine gun positions
to
5.40 a.m. at C.11.c.50.55 and C.11.c.50.75 and C.11.a.55.30.

5.40 a.m. 18-pdrs. fired 15 rounds on road and railway from
C.6.b.20.50 to C.6.b.30.18 - Also 20 rounds on TWIN
FARM C.12.a.70.40.

AERIAL ACTIVITY.- Only one Hostile plane noticed during the day
which was apparently carrying out aerial shoot on
U.26.c. and C.2.a. at 3.25 p.m. No enemy balloons ob-
served during the day.

MISCELLANEOUS.- VISIBILITY - Low throughout the day.

ENEMY MOVEMENT - There was enemy movement behind
unknown Farm at U.29.d.60.10 during the morning evidently
a strong post in the course of erection. 45 rounds were
fired by 18-pdrs.

J. H. Mahony
Lieut.-Col
Commanding, Right Group

RIGHT GROUP ARTILLERY.

SUMMARY OF INTELLIGENCE AND OPERATIONS. REPORT.

From 6 a.m. 30.12.17 to 6 a.m. 31.12.1917.

OUR ARTILLERY.-

- 11.10 a.m. 18-pdrs. fired on U.29.d.60.10. 30 rounds.
- 11.30 a.m. 18-pdrs. fired on road and cross roads and rail-
way at C.6.b.20.50 to C.6.b.30.18.
- 12 noon. 4.5" Hows. fired on searchlight (reference 2nd.D.A.
Intelligence Summ'y No. 40) at U.30.c.20.70.
- 2.45 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired 40 rounds in registration of
THE BREWERY at C.17.c.20.60.
- 4.30 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired 15 rounds on roads and approaches
to FRELINGHIEN at C.11.c.58.86.
4.5" Hows. fired 50 rounds on above target.
18-pdrs. fired 25 rounds on Cross roads at V.20.a.30.95
4.5" Hows. fired 30 rounds on M.G. at C.11.a.55.30
and 11 rounds on cross roads at ~~C.11.b.20.30~~ to C.6.b.40.10.
- 7 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired 15 rounds on roads and approaches to
FRELINGHIEN at C.11.c.58.86. Also 25 rounds on cross
roads at V.20.a.30.95.
4.5" Hows. fired 30 rounds on roads and approaches
to FRELINGHIEN.
- 8.10 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired 10 rounds at CEYLON FARM C.6.c.94.06.
- 9.20 p.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 20 rounds on M.G. at C.11.a.60.30 &
10 rounds on ~~MYXXXXXX~~ above M.Gun.
- 9.40 p.m. 4.5" Hows. fired 60 rounds on M.G. at C.11.a.60.30
" " " 20 " " Road from U.29.b.9.0.
to U.30.c.10.75 (Vide 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. Intelligence Summ'y
No. 15.).
- 10.30 p.m. 18-pdrs. fired 20 rounds on C.5.c.70.90 and searched
country back to DURIEZ FARM (Vide 5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.
Intelligence Summ'y. No. 15).
- 5.30 a.m. 18-pdrs. fired 10 rounds on LA HOULETTE at D.13.a.56.25.
2. a.m. 18-pdrs. fired 30 rounds on trench system V.24.d.35.55
to U.24.a.15.99.

AERIAL ACTIVITY.- No hostile aircraft were observed during day.

MISCELLANEOUS.- VISIBILITY very low throughout the day.

[Signature]
Lieut.-Colonel, A.O.D.
Commanding, Right Group Artillery.