

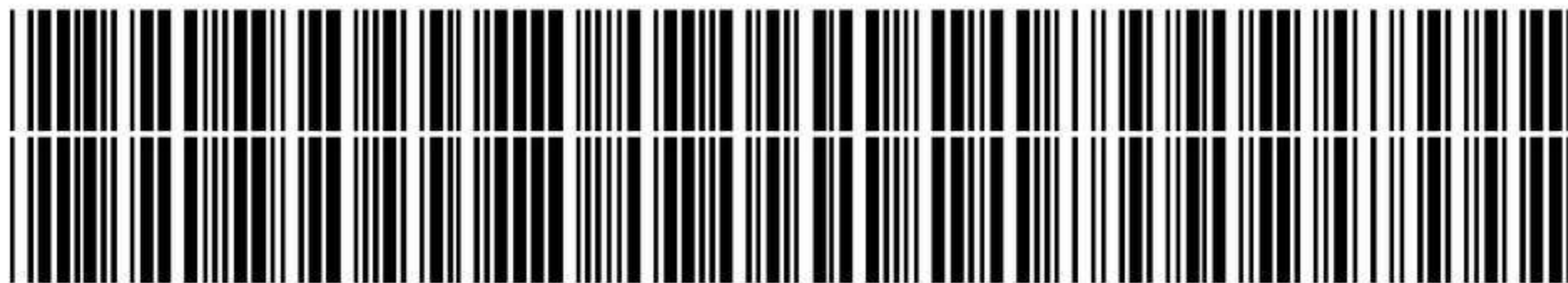
AWM38
Official History,
1914-18 War: Records of C E W Bean,
Official Historian.

Diaries and Notebooks

Item number: 3DRL606/121/1

Title: Notebook, 1915 - 1916

Includes references to the 31st, 32nd, 54th and 55th Battalions and 15th Infantry Brigade.



AWM38-3DRL606/121/1

Original

DIARY NO. 121.

AWM 38

30RL 606 ITEM 121 [1]

DIARIES AND NOTES OF C. E. W. BEAN
CONCERNING THE WAR OF 1914 - 1918

THE use of these diaries and notes is subject to conditions laid down in the terms of gift to the Australian War Memorial. But, apart from those terms, I wish the following circumstances and considerations to be brought to the notice of every reader and writer who may use them.

These writings represent only what at the moment of making them I believed to be true. The diaries were jotted down almost daily with the object of recording what was then in the writer's mind. Often he wrote them when very tired and half asleep; also, not infrequently, what he believed to be true was not so — but it does not follow that he always discovered this, or remembered to correct the mistakes when discovered. Indeed, he could not always remember that he had written them.

These records should, therefore, be used with great caution, as relating only what their author, at the time of writing, believed. Further, he cannot, of course, vouch for the accuracy of statements made to him by others and here recorded. But he did try to ensure such accuracy by consulting, as far as possible, those who had seen or otherwise taken part in the events. The constant falsity of second-hand evidence (on which a large proportion of war stories are founded) was impressed upon him by the second or third day of the Gallipoli campaign, notwithstanding that those who passed on such stories usually themselves believed them to be true. All second-hand evidence herein should be read with this in mind.

16 Sept., 1946.

C. E. W. BEAN.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

1st Lt. [unclear]
31 Bn. 3215
54 Bn. 55 Bn.
15th Bde.
Also Covered Area

1

The "Kail"

31 Bn. 32 Bn.
54 Bn 55 Bn
15th Bde.

Also Cowra & Anzac

2

1

Howells

Photo No

10A 35-8.

by No 10 Sqn.

Map 36 Sq. N. 10.

5 19. 7. 16

10A 35-5

10A 362.

These show the actual
attack & the men
going across.

The 15th Inf. Bde H.Q.
have a copy.

32 Bn.

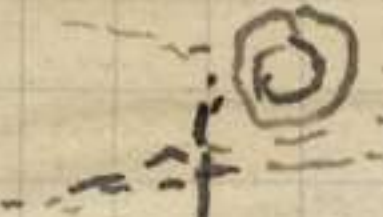
2 Chinese died 25 Aug 1916.
Hit by bomb between 10pm & 6am.
Thought at first he had been killed.

Hagan K. in Noumansland by
m. g. abt 6am. coming back?
19 July.

Thought to have been brought in
on 9th by Pte Murphy & Pte Spiverson
32nd Bn. (Murphy in Hospital)

Capt Hutchins. Saw him abt
6.30 am in shell hole in
S. - shot the chest by a S.
abt 1/4 way across.

The Germans got in behind the
32nd because the bomb supply
was finished - bombs went by
order to the right front. The
Germans made constant small
attacks from Delangre Trench.
Finally the 8 Bn in ~~front~~^{3rd} line had to
cut their way back through Germans
who were behind them. Several
officers shot Germans themselves.


 Heard of attack (at Bois de la Chapelle) 16 Sat. Sunday
 3 pm. orig. time for attack 17 Monday
 18. Tues.
 6 pm. Time of attack. 19. Wed
 Over parapet at 5.55 pm.
 Fire from 2.30 pm. on both m.g. & arty. Lifting onto command & then down onto front line.
 Bn in line at 2 pm.

150 guns

Lifts during bombardment.

from 3.25 to 3.29.	} bayonets Support to be shown above front line
4.4 to 4.9	
4.29 to 4.36	
5.21 to 5.31	

We caught them twice by this. Third time they at once dropped their fire onto our front line - not many casualties.

31 Bn

Front morning July 17
 came into supports abt 5 am.
 It had taken from 9 pm to 5 am. to reach support line from Fleurbaix.

N 10 C. 8 1/2 6 1/2 to N 10 C. 1/2 . 6.

Obj. 10 10 C. 8 1/2 3 1/2 inc N 10 C. 1/2 2 1/2.

Intense Bombt. 11 am. Repiston

11.30 to 1. Bombt by Heavies
9.2 Howt. upwards.

1 to 3 wire cutting by 18 pdrs.

3 to 6. " " " "

" " " T. Mortars

Bombt by 18 pdrs
4.5 hows &
6" hows.

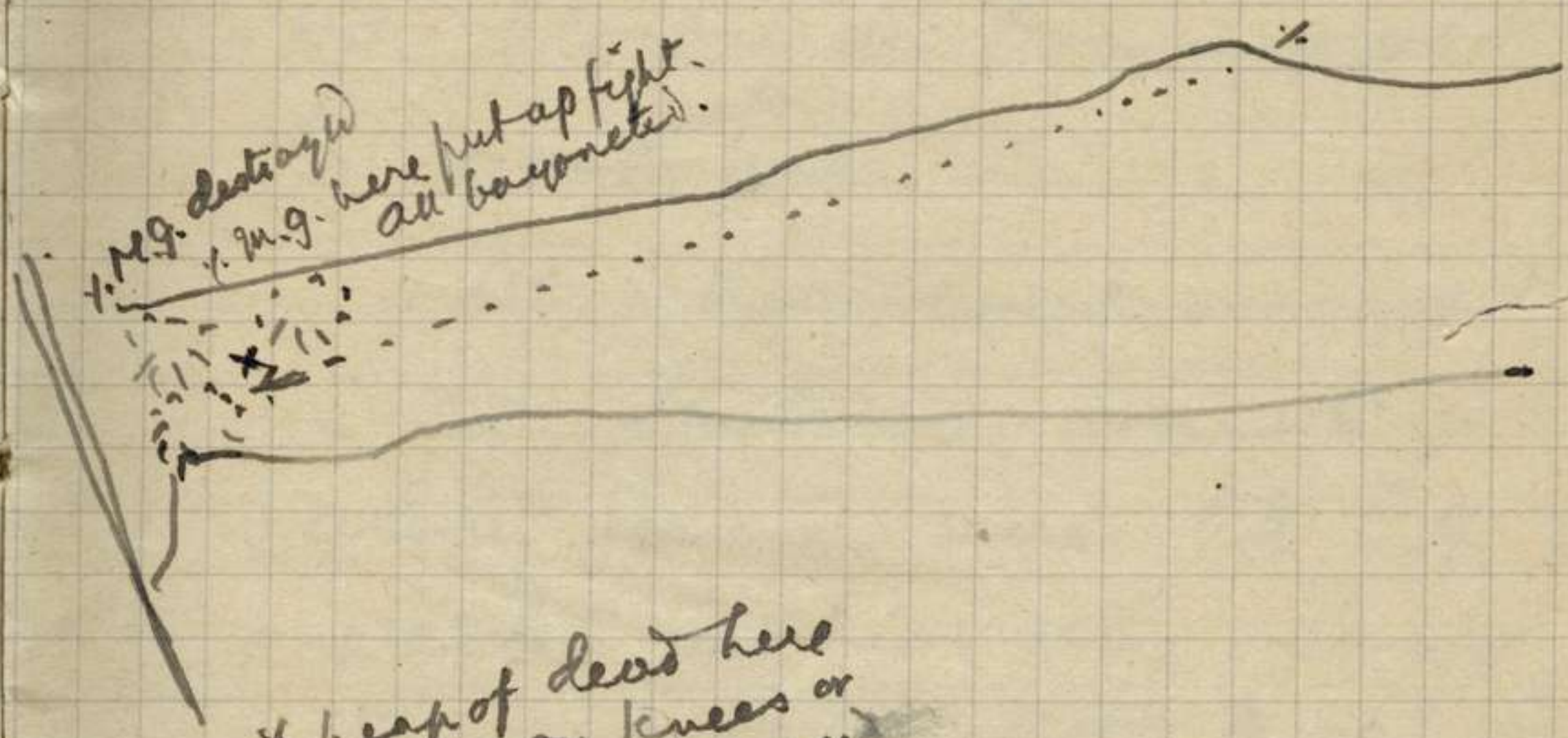
4 to 6. H.A. slow bombt.

6 pm. arty left to barrage lines

Lines so crumpled to many casualties - mostly J. wounded on supports.

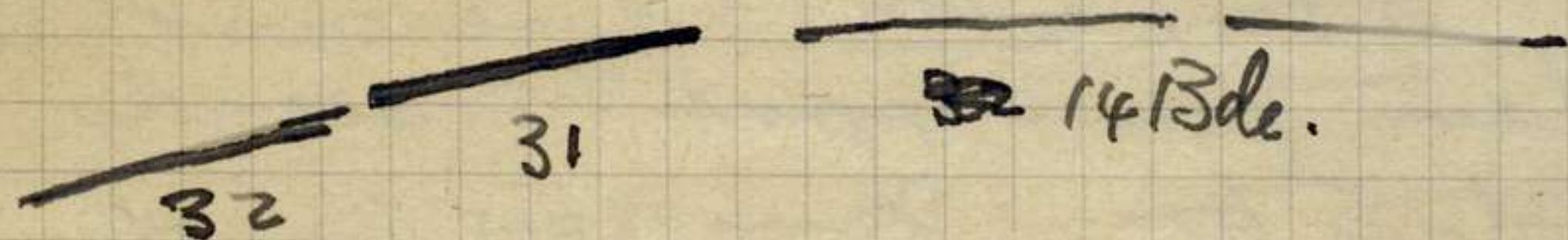
53 or 54 Bn. came over land from support 2, 300 yds at 5 pm. Jerns. saw them after

Jon. Delangre.



x heap of dead here fallen on knees or faces as advanced

50 yds. Abt 30c. He put over a lot of flame & got our bomb dump. Bombers managed to save at least half by running over & throwing out burning boxes & bagging what was left.



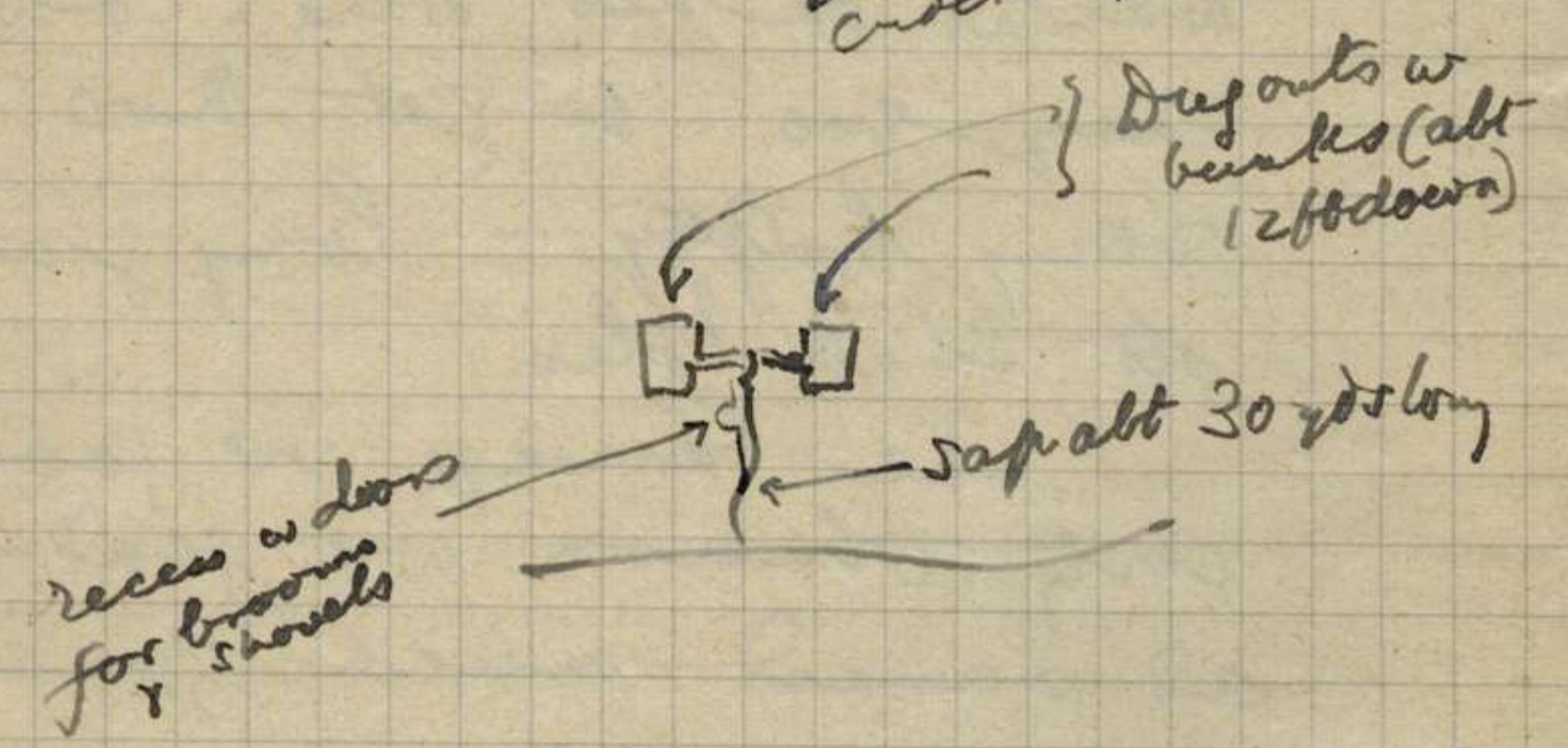
2

When our arty increased
 J. arty increased on comms.
~~step~~ & they could not be used
 - Exc. Cedar Farm Ave. (only
 Shrapnel there). Mine Ave
 was blown in from support line
 to front line.

1st wave went over at
 5:55 Instructions were to wait
 along German wire till lift. They
 waited on his wire. It was
 easy eno' to get thro'. Ground
 very boggy - long grass hiding
 the shell holes.

The barrage was good -
 arty observer was good - we
 advanced much quicker
 than arranged & arty observers
 in our front line kept arty
 ahead of us. Ground
 rises on right front & could
 be seen from our front line
 - lightly timbered.

Some dugouts were on level w/ concrete roofs. These were well fitted - Stoves, wood, elec. light - decent crockery + cigars



Cigars + cigarettes were kept in the bomb boxes wh were recessed in parapet right along T.

8

firm. front line was smashed almost level in places, in places quite good. Exactly opp ^{32 yds} left was a m. g. emplacement - this was smashed (gun had been mounted on a British tripod. This + 2 other guns were afterwards smashed up ~~to~~ with shovels as I did not get back).

The 1st wave found the front T full of dead + living Germans. Some put hands up at once - others sheltering in dugouts (the ^{those 30} yds in rear were deep, concreted, + undestroyed). There were also small shelters of concrete under parapet in wh abt 4 men could lie down - in some they could sit. There were wd. men ^{some of} in these. They probly had not expected to attack till dark.

2
11.
Most of our dead were lying
in the patch between the craters;
38 were counted in a small patch
here - mostly k. next morning
in falling back. They were k. by
m. g. from flank. [The gun wh
did this damage ^{in morning} was on rt. of
32nd & on parapet. A h. m. g.
(abt only one left) was ^{turning} on it from apex of
our salient & it was taken
to an emplacement.]

First thing - the front 2, was
thoroughly cleared - over 160 prisoners
had to be guarded.

By 6 p.m. 2nd wave going over (wh
we supposed to get 2nd line,
100 yds in rear). Everyone went
on to 2nd line - cd see men in
long grass advancing as if
shooting quail - strolling on & taking
a pot every now & then at Germans
who were ducking from shell
hole to shell hole as we went on.
There were a good no. of German

8 dead scattered abt.

2nd line passed to be a ditch with thistles on either side, full of water & barbed wire. It was a real farm ditch.

The line went on from there looking for 2nd line of trenches. Came across a second ditch leading towards Delangre Farm. Went abt 50 yds beyond this & found m.g. opening on them from front & apparently from flank also. ~~Line~~

Delangre Farm was abt 50 yds to left of line - 2nd in command. Maj. Bickersley & Lt Bernard (adjt) were on left (Adj't last seen here - now prisoner of war w leg badly broken).

Line took cover in the second ditch - it was still quite light. Capt Drayton was the only ofr.

Front at obscurely timber
where m. g. seemed to be.

8 here. There was a pair of trees
starting abt 50 yds in our
rear of ditch & running
towards front line. We gave
signal to fall back on Fritz's
front line. There be The
Farm cut off views of left.
Some of 5 & Bn got up with
us & retired as ~~300~~
along trees.

Came back to within
100 yds of front line.

D Coy 31 Bn stayed in
first ditch & consolidated it.
Abt 3.30 am., as they were
quite isolated - having no
touch on left & dead ground
there - they retired to the actual
front line.

at 3.55 the Germans called

The attack from right was a bombing attack also - with stick bombs - one man carrying armful & handing them to others as quick as he cd throw. This attack must have come up a column 2, & was blocked.

8 on the right - just as dawn was breaking. They had been firing all night heavily on our front line & columns & no man's land. This made it impossible to get over a supply of bombs & ammunition. (This was how their C-attack on left succeeded at abt 4.30. We drove off attack on our st with M. gs & hand grenades. These were passed along to the right.

The C. attack was a bombing attack. Left had been barricaded. Fritz forced the barricade & got along trench from left with grenades. He was held up till our supply ran out. Abt 5 a.m. Germans were within 30 yds of the centre of the sector & were

2 in on the other flank as well. Capt Drayton had the dump + orders came along that the whole supply was to be passed up to the right. This had to be done; by time left was attacked only an odd bag or two + bombs in mens' pockets were left.

The 8th Field Coy + working parties of 30 Bn. had got a T within 30 yds of our left. It was too shallow to be of use in retirement. Shooting was heavy on this.

Could see men on right flank hopping back onto No mans land some from shell hole to shell hole - some going straight back without stopping. Ahead from where Drayton + Truscumson were there was only abt 150 yds field of fire.

our own arty was
getting onto front line.
One 4.5 h.e. shell fell
into bay where Drayton
& T. were & h. 2 min.
The clouds of dust from
bombs were flying at
& left along E.

They were prac. isolated & had
to retire. The Germans had
M. go on them from flanks as
they retired - right up to parapet.
Many men were lost retiring.
German put his belt of fire
across ~~the~~ left our
men to get thro' them.

Trounson w 2 Lewis guns wh
were left ~~was~~ started firing on
the point where bombs were going
in German parapet. Some of
our men ^(1/2 doz) were running along
under parapet ~~there~~ (on
our side, where Germs. could not
reach them) & having a few
grenades left were throwing
them over. They seemed to
get back alright. Our arty
had dropped right onto German
parapet.

Abt 5.45 the last men
got in. 29th relieved abt 10 am.

2 Abt 11 am. East shell was fired.
 Most people went straight
 across S. A few wd.
 got in from shell holes next
 night. Germans were still
 so still.

Don't think Germans had m.g.
 or men in S. One of
 our flare ^{& S. a. & bomb} dumps betw. Cellar
 Jan. Ave & Mine Ave. blew
 up abt 9 p.m. (Thought it
 was some of our gas cylinders
 at first - Col. toll gave gas
 alarm - but it went too high
 for gas. Germans were putting
 phosphorus shells in S
 all night & wind was
 blowing this over our attack.
 (We had ~~some~~ no gas or
 smoke in this attack).

8 Col. Toll was hit slightly before going over - He was on top of Ben. Sent 2 pigeons abt 8 pm or 7.15. Pigeons w carrier were in a shell hole.

question whether it was 5.15 or 6 when 1st wave actually started. The wave started when truce signal was given.

1st Eckerley saw Germans scaling for back country - some in 2 put up bit of scrap - perh 30 in each man's neighbourhood.

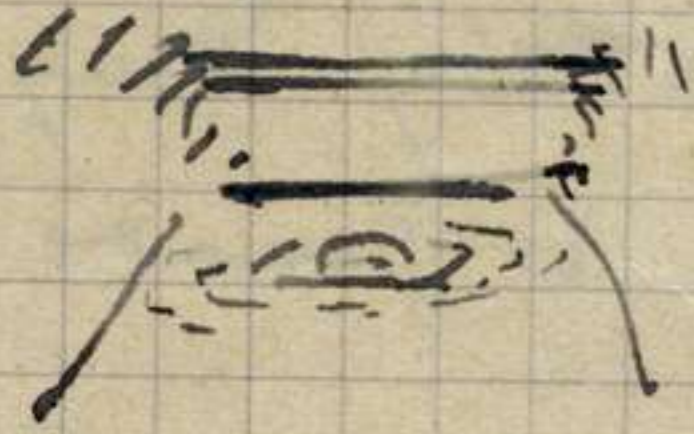
3rd Ben say their chief trouble was 1 me. Delange.

1st Eckerley was out in the Ditch in front.

He went 300 yds along Ditch. There was 18 in water & 6 in mud. The col. was twice the distance ahead of this ditch - The barrage was ahead at this time - no fault to find w it tho' it was possibly short in places (4th & 5th 5th Div arty was employed, possibly others.

2 The 6th Bavarian Div.
 was in front (?) - officers
 capt. (major of 21st Regt.)
 Lt of 21 Bav. shot by Drayton
 round traverse, w grenade in
 his hand.

In Eckersley's platoon Pte. P.
~~Wheatley~~ Weakley - (an old
 R.A.S.A. man) when German
 m. gunners were about
 to bolt from position where you
 had been standing jumped
 in over parapet in front of
 them. The rear men turned
 (of all 7) he killed 3 in turn,
 then ran after 4th & got him
 between the shoulders. Then
 shrapnel burst over him
 & killed him - In one little
 saps from front line to dugouts
 there were 12 Germans dead
 - probly k. coming out of dugout.



German found
by Townson
(who was
wandering
w m.g. over
his shoulder)
standing up to
eyes in water
w one of
our men
on plank
bridg prodding
at him -
German wd
duck & then
put his head
up & ask
for "officer".
I told him he
was an officer
& sent him off
to rear.

Sergt. Davis was told to ~~put~~^{get} get
material to blockade sap.
He sd there was no material.
We told to pile up fernans
lengthways. Lewis gun was
put on them later.

There were ~~two~~ abt 35
prisoners, by men, there
all night. They were very
shaken. Parties were supp'd.
to come over for them
but didnt. When Germans
C. attacked at dawn (abt
4.15) they were sent back to
our line. They had bn given
cigarettes & were sitting in
bottom of T all night.

There was v. little rifle fire -
mostly bombs.

Had a bang at minenwerfer
& at m.g. w shovel before going over

25
Capt. Mills B.C. "D" Coy
was on left. He was with
an arm & taken to

The ditch the 31 Bn was
in had mud & barbed wire
in it -- it did not seem
to have been specially filled.

Lt Wilson & Cpl. Forsyth, ^{both of 31st} were
finally bombing Germans on
left - (Sgt O'Sullivan of 29th
who had come over w
2 platoons in support, ^{abt 2pm} had
been there just before)
until bay behind them was
empty - then they retired.

(Next day (20th) S. Co
went out under Red X.

Maj. Murdoch went across
under Red X to German
C.O. & asked if there were

an armistice. C.O. sd
 not unless Divn. asked
 for it. Reply from Divn
 as to firing we to go on
 and. (Germans were
 bringing in our wd & theirs
 into firm. 2, ~~at~~
 Others were brought in
 next night.)

We didn't shoot but
 S. Co didn't go out.

For nights after dead
 were being brought in.

Loss of 31 Bn 680
 (went in abt 850 effectives).

~~For~~ Capt Robertson missing
 Sharp wd.

Mag. Clements d of w.
 Mills Prisoner.

Mag. Eckersley wd.

Capt Fisher wd.

Capt McPherson (C) wd.

2 Lt Cox D Coy. K.
1st wave C. & ~~B~~ A coys
2nd: D & B.

Most of casualties in q in
of course Artz in our 2/

1st Bde. Co En under Macrae.
2 in C. Elliott - T.P. May:
Duntroon boy - abt 22
both K. Elliott was a splendid
boy - wd have made a
kitchener - everyone thought

Sig under Harris.

Zero 6. first wave to get
out at 8:45 & get within
100 yds of enemy's 2/ &
under own barrage.

We did not understand
creeping barrage then - it

Evidently given
to me by
B. G. Elliott
C. En. B.
5.6.26.
I remember her giving
me an account of
the fight.

2. Ws straight on enemy's 2^x
 Brig. had been up to front Ws
 at 300 yds line. Line
 got out on time very well
 Brig saw them so. (4 waves)
 at 150 yds
 last wave we got out abt
 6 o'clock. — we kept them going.
 Had 500 yds to go.

They came onto fire on the
 parapet. Brig cd hear
 rifle & m.g. fire on them
 the moment they got out.
 M.g. Coy was on extreme
 rt of Bde — in interval
 betw rt. of 15 Bde & left
 of 61st Div. They were
 to fire diagonally across
 our front onto both fronts.

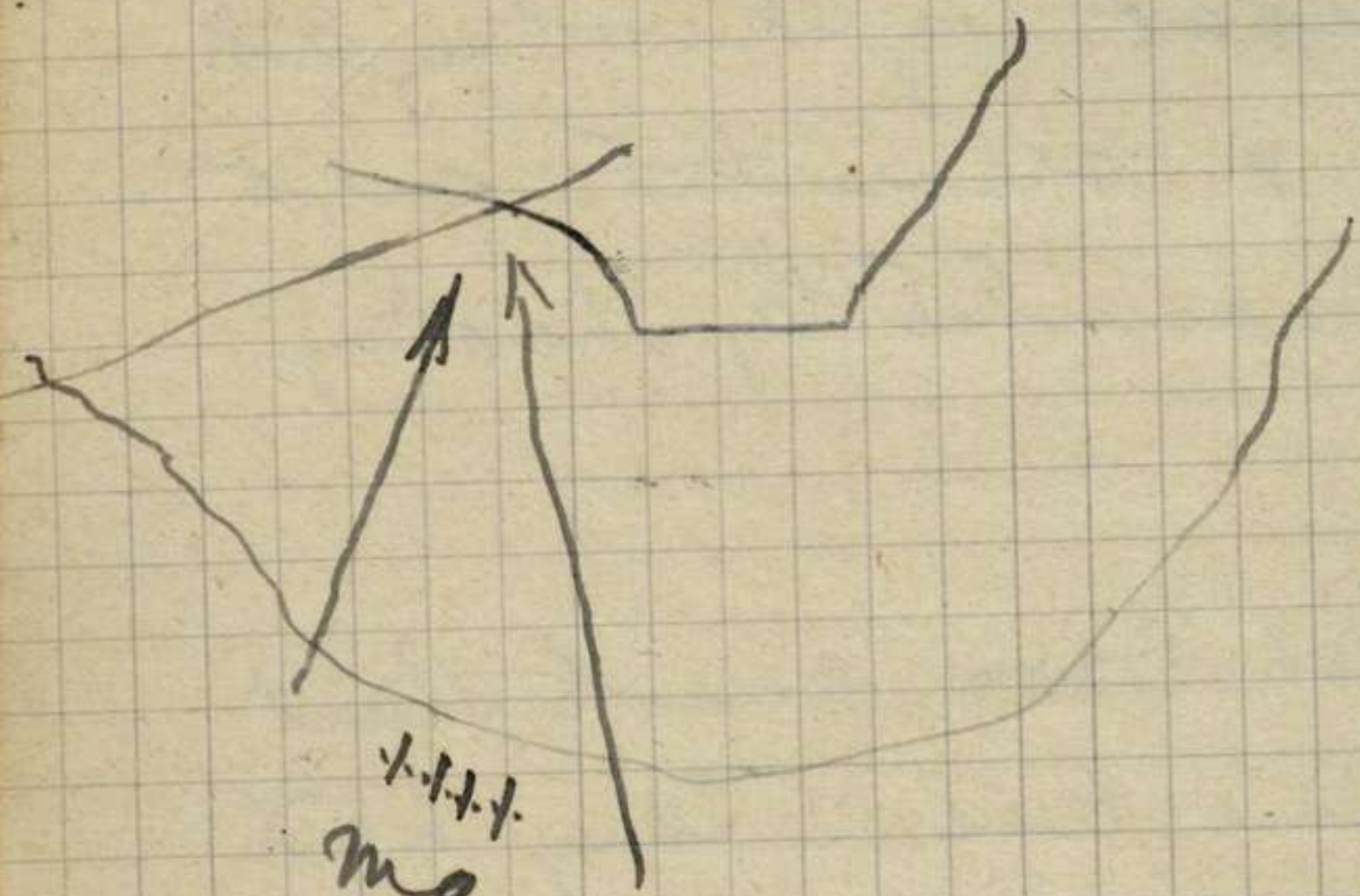
The 61st Div. sent
 along specially to say

2 These guns did splendid work. They shot one mg. of parapet by shooting at crew, & prevented another being mounted by shooting crew.

6 1st Divn were to start at same time. They had cut Sally ports at 30 yds all way along. Brig Gen Elliott told him of our exp. asst German Officers 2/4. Only one Bn - not the one on our ^{ind} right - got out & they did not get along at all. They got just beyond our own wire & lay down & came back.

The British had to

29a



+.+.+.+
 m.g.
 whole coy
 Exc. 4 guns
 in rear firing
 indirect.

(6 in action here)

m.g. cdnt fire on our
 side for long bec. as our
 people got forward they
 masked the fire - but they
 were able to fire in front of
 Brit. Germans saw our m.g.

take the Sugar Loaf down
 to where R. Lages crossed
 parapet - 15 Bde on
 N side of that.

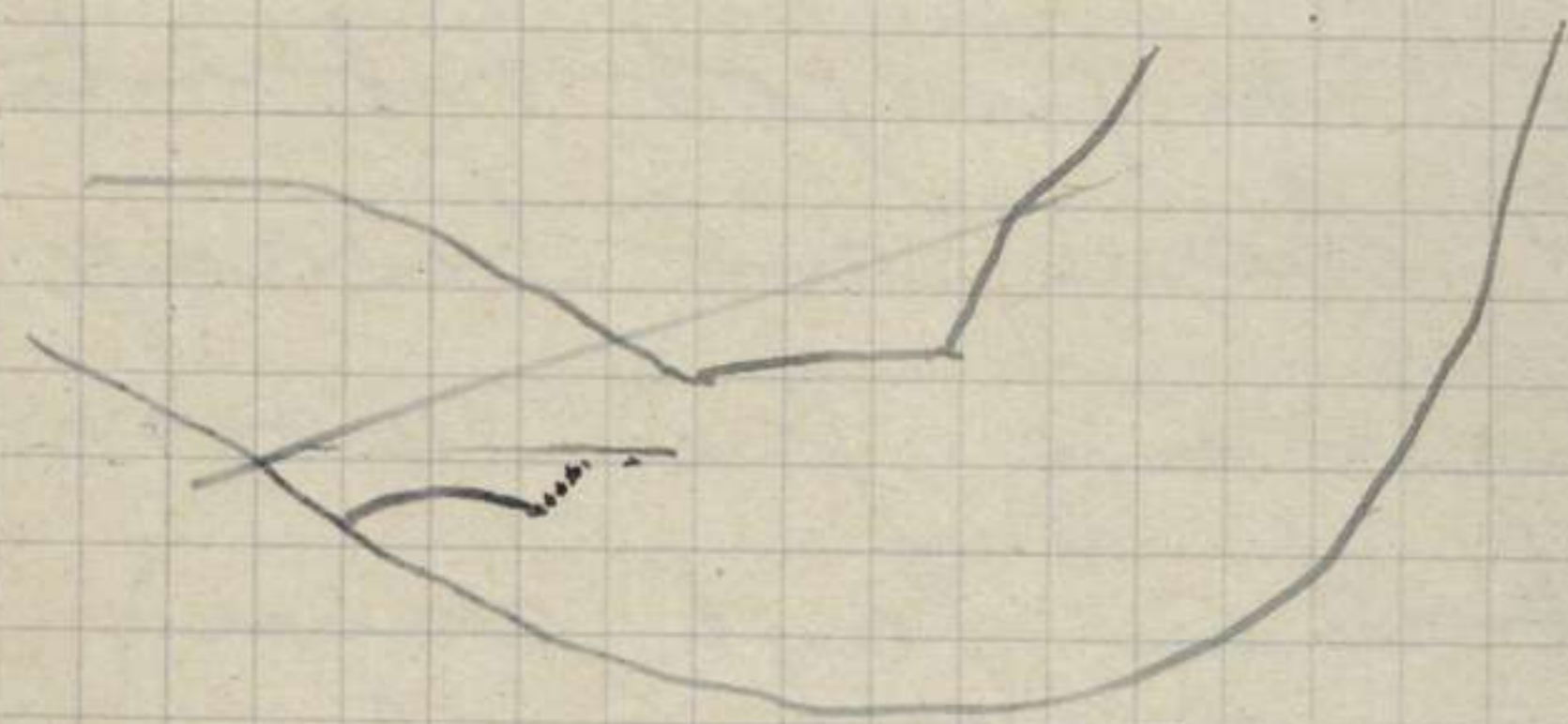
As our 15 Bde went forward
 they got more & more
 enfilade fire from Sugar
 Loaf. Harris sent message
 by Maj. Layh (2 in C) that
 he cdnt get more than 1/2
 way across. It was old
 ploughed ground with ditches
 (the old drains) wh all ran
 diagonally across - wh

there ^{on parapet} & put artillery fire
 on them, & for a while 4 guns
 were out of action. But boy
 named Pinder got reinforcements
 for them (thru heavy barbed
 on V.C. Avenue wh was blown
 to bits) & they started again.

gave advantage to the
 enemy who swept them
 w m.g. & rifles.

The German acct. sd th
 their m.f. got out into
 & during our barrage
 & one m.g. fired 14 000 rounds.
 About when Layh arrived
 a no. of wd men of 60th
 came back w some
 German Co x. They sd
 they had got across German
 1st line up to form 2nd. line
 abt 50 or 60 yds behind
 it.

Brij sent a message
 to Harris th 60th had got
 in & 14th Bde (as wd sd)
 had got in & he must make
 another attempt.



8 Harris went out himself
 & on way out a shell
 burst near him & put him
 out of action wth ^{severe} shock.
 Wd men kept coming back.
 It was clear th only left
 Coy of 60th had got in -
 next to 14 Bde. These were
 all k. or capt.

A Coy of 58 was digging
 out behind attack along
 sap already partly made.
 They extended this 200 ft
 but not very deep & lost
 heavily.

No touch could be gained
 w 60th. Brig sent Lt Doyle
 down to get touch.

& many brave attempts were
 made to get a telephone
 across. Seryt Yates Co Bn
 (sig. Seryt) went out 3 times
 w some men. Each time
 whole pt lost. Yates ^{was}
 wd. second time ^{600 yds} but
 but went out again. He
 cd find no officer. He
 was so exhausted ~~th~~ he
 cdnt go out again.

[The heavies were firing
 onto Sugar Loaf till
 6pm. No shrapnel was on
 it — it was under jurisdiction
 of British. Also, 5th Aust.
 Divn got a false report
 th British had put a Coy
 into Sugarloaf on first
 advance & they didnt
 like to shell it.]

8 Layh went out w his 35
~~Doyle~~ message: he returned
 w/ message to Harris to
 get across; Doyle w/ them
 sent to ~~Col Macrae~~ try to
 get commn w Maj. Macrae
 but he didn't get touch
 (he may not have been
 alive - never heard).
 Doyle brought back from
 59 Bn that they cdnt get
 ahead. Brig sent ~~Doyle~~
 them to dig in where they
 were.

After a long interval
 got message from Layh (told
 to take commd) that there were
 so few men left that they cdnt
 make a decent line.

At 8 p.m. ^{Brig} got message

2 from Dion & there were some
 of 61 Dion in Super leaf & the
 rest of 61 Dion at 10 pm
 were going to make a
 fresh attack; & I'd
 use two Coy of 58th to
 cooperate; to bring up
~~57th~~ 57th (from Rouge de Bour)
 to hold trenches. Brig.
 Got two Coys under Maj.
 Hutchinson (a Duntroun
 Boy) These two Coys were
 splendid - cd hardly
 be held back ^{until 10.15} They then
 went right out until not
 far from German wire. Then
 flam. suddenly opened on
 them. Fire was so tremendous
 the men were dazed. They
 got some cover in a ditch -

58th Bn.
Dernancourt
W 3.

Some of 58th were kept
in line till end.

2 m.g. bullets cracking
above it were terrifying.
Hutchinson got out &
went 20 yds - himself - above
towards German line & fell
shot by 2 or 3 bullets. His
body was never repaired.
His batman ran out to
pick him up but he too
was hit. He got in. Lyons.

At 10.30 recd. message
from British, thro telephone,
that they could not make this
attack till next morning.
(Two brigadiers lost their jobs
over this).

Our light barrage seemed to
be good. The German Brig. at
Parapet 5d Boys you won't
find a German in 12 of whom

[Quoted in ^{Daily News} ~~Weekly~~ Dispatch
abt end of July]

2 you get there. Best from
asst. sol. to they had their men
out in ¹⁰ P & men special
bld off to pick out officers.
Only one offr in 60th was
unhit. [3 coy commanders K.; C.O.K.,
2 in C. K., 4th Coy co. dangerous
wd thro head, admit back
wd thro both thighs. & all
junior officers ex^{cept} Lt. Hamilton
more or less badly hit. He
lay in shell hole close to
German wire & got back
v. much shaken. 21 officers
went out. (¹⁵ Sterling, Mackinnon
K. & several others - Total
casualties in the Bn. 781
out of ~~887~~ 887 in the fight -
10 offr 106 left to answer roll
call of those who went out).

X Cass captured these
guns.

2

The enemy put a m.g.
barrage along the Rue Delvas
gutters - wh ran diagonally
across no man's land. X

~~Enemy put~~ The line of
The 14 Bde, & 15 Bde
where they crossed this
road simply ran into
this; & a regular line of
dead along this next
day showed the result.

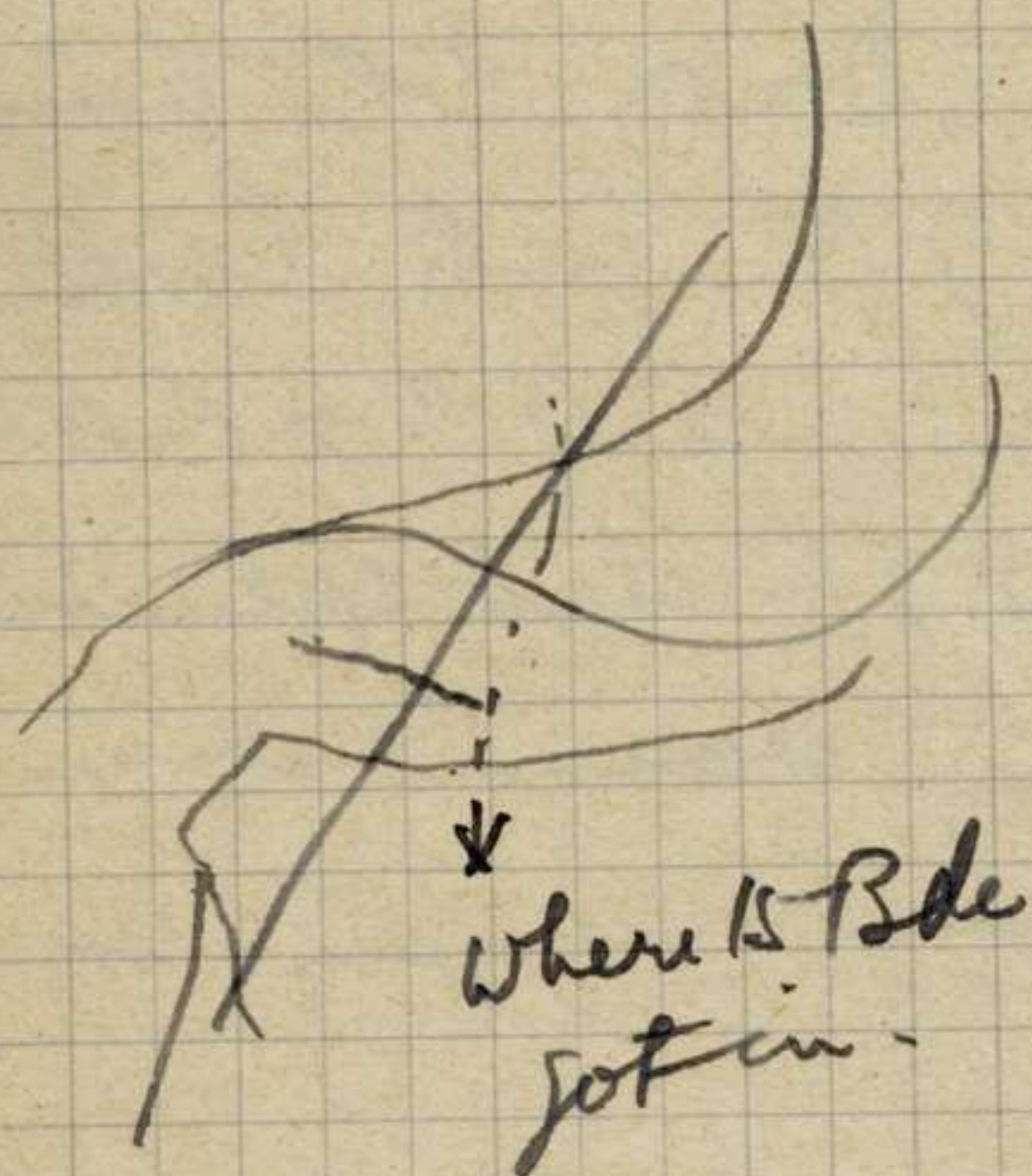
A similar line
we put across the Lays
River & the two together
prac. barred our front.

Some of the 60 Bn
sd th the Germans had a
dam across Lays R.
that it we crossed easily

8 in advance but nearly breast high in coming back. There were many of our dead along this river.

After Dawn we informed by Bde that the attack had failed the Diva told him to put 5th 7th into line & withdraw 5th 9th & 60th & 5th 8th. 5th 7th did splendid work bringing wounded in - lost 30 men bringing in abt 300.

The remainder Coy of 5th 8th was used in digging trench diagonally from Laves to connect with 14 Bde who were still holding, as it was thought they might hang on.



8

This we to start from the Hayes
Sally Port in direction of
Rue Delwas gutters. ~~right~~
The guns firing down it
had them on captured.
This made Rue D. rather
useful. (most of our
dead were on left side
of rd facing Germans -
m.s. probly firing down
both gutters originally).

The 59th got $\frac{1}{2}$ way across -
the nearer they got to the
14th the better they got on.
Cass sd to on right
he had touch w a few
of the 60th & for the
reason thought he was
all right.

The German Battery at start
 of fight was on our parapet.
 A lot of 5.9 & Shrapnel.
 It did a fair amount of
 damage especially to
 Company 2 of V.C. Avenue.
 They also ~~put~~ ^{put} Shrapnel
 out ~~to~~ & sometimes
 shelled the 300 yds line;
 & they shelled their own line
 where the 14 Bde were
 in it. By 7 am. all the
 people who had taken part
 in the attack were out of
 front line & 5.7 Bn was
 holding it. Up to 7 days
 afterwards we got living
 men in w their wounds
 almost healed. The wd.
 all had 2 or 3 wds - some

8 6 or 7 wds. In one case where a wd. man was lying in their wire a German got out - our men didn't fire as they thought he was going to rescue him. He put a bomb into him & blew him up. Our men opened fire on the German but he got into a shell hole.

These were Bavarians (who are very tough - the German accepted they were the Bavarians & Swabians). Things quietened down abt 7 or 8. There we m. on & on the wounded. But two boys got out & got

X Only m.g. at this
time - no artillery.

2 6 men in which the
Brip. was there at 7 am.
They were fired at. But
X it was only when they got
the 6th man that he was
killed - & one of the pair
wd. They had to go 70 or
80 yds. By 10.30 the
place was quite quiet.

Some time in the morning
a message came to ask
our Art. to cease fire as
Germans seemed inclined
to go out & get wd. in.

The 61st Divn never
got in at all at any
point.

The two Divns were brought
together under Haking -

a special Corps for the purpose.

On ^{14/15} 15th July Germans raided the 58 Bn after a very long bombt. obliterating 2 x Our men reattached & bayoneted a German. They got a Lewis Gun - we have missing men ~~but are not~~ and one of these has since been given in a list of prisoners of war. This raid was ~~after~~ ^{before} we had moved into position Southwards. Attack was to have been made ~~on~~ on 17th. Bde HQ had already moved to Rouge de Boue; Tommies took over night of 15/16. 14th Bde & 8th Bde moved in on 16/17 & were there (or many of them were not

8 there) by time of attack
on afternoon of 17th. (No
zero hour given - Bombt
was to be 6 a.m., attack at
11 a.m.; then put off to
4 p.m. - not before 4 p.m.;
then put off altogether).

14th Bde. 54th Bn.

A copy of this report
& messages is
attached.

This
information
is additional
to report:

Maj. Holman
(formerly L. 14) was hit on
parapet. Our
offrs are being
drawn from L. 14.
Midgley is now C.O.
of 54th.

8 Heavy casualties before assault,
in wh 3 of 4 Coy Commanders
known. (2 ofrs & many men were
k. going from 300 yds line to front
line) - Enemy must have known
of attack & seen this advance
(only one sap ed be used)
- at 5.30 pm.

6 pm. Jump off - 6.10 last wave.

The senior Major & remaining
Coy Command & were lost in
S. (Maj. Harrison k. Capt. Jack
& Capt. Hanson were ~~hit~~ in S.
Hanson went on to G. 2 & managed
to crawl back with last man.
Hanson was in S. dugout -
(there were 30 or 40 steps down) He
was in fainting condition. He woke
up & found himself alone - &
just managed to get back.)

Trenches & two m. g. taken easily.
Our men fold enemy at 600
yds - then came under our
own art also. We retired to
German 1st System - 150 to 200
yds behind 1st line & dug a 2.

Then in touch w 53rd on rt; 53rd
8th sd they were in touch w 8th 54th
3rd
On left we lost touch with 8th 8th.

The site of 2nd w a drain
w 18" to 2' of water - almost
parallel to front line. Good
parapet built to 7' to 9'.
Sand bags came in time & work
was made bullet proof. Only a few
officers (junior) left. [Cass went over
w 4th wave].

2.20 am. Strong counter attack
up Rd past Range Bances
but m.g.s & L.G.s put them
esp. drove it off. Attack died away.
Losses unknown.

2.40 strong c. attack along
German front 2nd & 3rd line.
This was first hint to our rt had
gone way; 53rd Bn didn't know
of the defection on rt & had
made no barricade.

Enemy got in behind them
& were within 80 yds of rt 454th

2 Grenades scarce; 53rd broke under these attacks & crowded on rd of 54. Many of men were demoralised & a mixed party surrendered. It is sd to 6 Germans in Aust. uniform went over & our men followed & surrendered. It is sd to 4 of 53 Bn surrendered thru-out light w/ bat.

Position now bad. No bombs, Germans strong & close to right. Cass appealed to 52nd to stand & fight but could not stop them dribbling back.

Could not find C.O 55 Bn & only had one Coy 55 Bn in support. Front line could be defended - so appealed for help.

Now 3.45 am. abt 4 am C. found C.O 55th & tried to get him to c. attack w/ bayonet. Then got pioneer sergt of 54 to at head

8 of small mixed platoon 5-4 & 5-5
 + they ran forward w bayonet &
 drove Germans off 50 yds. &
 hid no ops of 5-3 & spare none
 of 5-4. only 6 ops of 5-4 left of
 whom L.H.G. ops Lieut. R.G. Dowling
 M.C. was wd but working splendidly.
 At this time the L.H.G. grenadiers
 arrived & Germans were kept
 back.

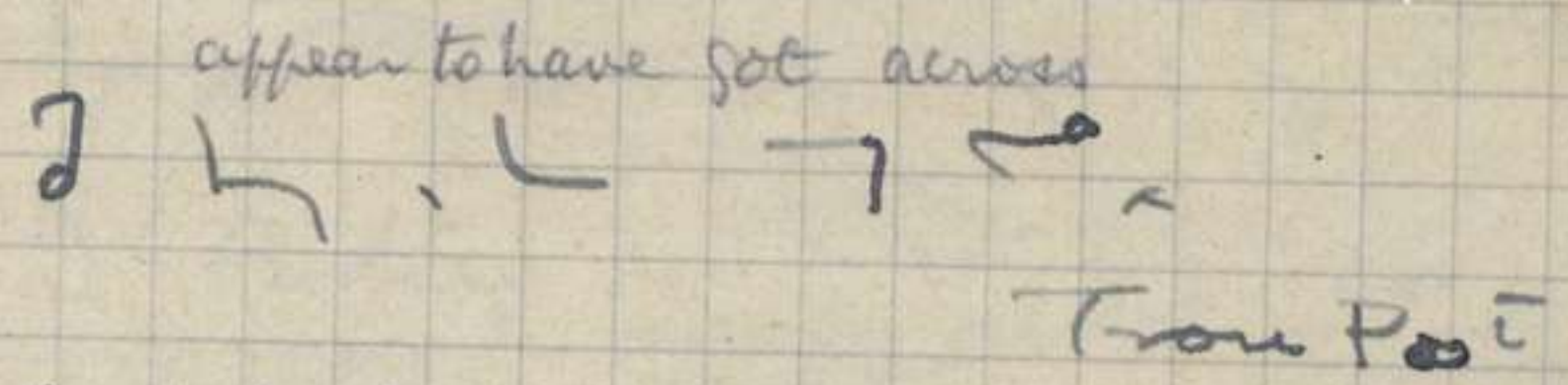
4.5 asked for help from arty
 indicating enemy position.
 4.20. arty reported position
 desperate, asked for arty support.
 No telephone - did not know
 the message recd for 1/2 hrs.

Downing

M.G. Coy 1 17 - 6
had casualties
by 5.35.

15-Bde messages.

6.44 P.M. (sent.) 59 P.M. 60 P.M.
across Nomansland heavy casualties 60th + others
appear to have got across



Head of column reports
4.45 V.C. ave blocked by shell fire
Engineers are clearing from
5.30 P.M.

Purney ave damaged 4.30

5.35 assault battalions in position from 9.

5.35 from Sig officer 15-Bde
All communications torn up
despatch rider service will have to be established

5.52 from 57 Bn. in position N1238

5.55 950 Bn. 58 P.M. on camping party has not got
reported to find location of dumps otherwise
all correct.

5.55 P.M. 60 P.M. on reports wire between

N9 C 8 1 2 N9 C 5 1 0 0
been cut says at
N9 C 5 1 1 9
N9 C 3 1 1 0
suspected positions suspected
M.G. emplacement

at N 8 D 9 1/2 1 1/4 ^{undamaged} 59

6 am. 9 Bde. ^{enemy opening hot shrapnel and}
^{on our trenches x} ^{musketry comparatively feeble but appears increasing}

5.55. 9 Bde. ^{infantry advance commenced x}
^{enemy opening fire musketry and} ^{Not very hot}

8.12 pm. 9 182nd Bde. (sent 7.52)
^{Am attaching at} ^{Can your night}
^{battalion} 9 pm. x ^{cooperate?}

9.7 pm. 9 56 ^{from 5th Division} ^{61st Div. left has}
^{failed to get in x} ^{fresh bombardment of Sugar}
^{Load N 8 d s. 2} ^{and line to S.W.}
^{being carried on and will continue to}
^{when fresh attack will be made by} 9 pm. ^{61st.}

8.1 pm. 9 182 Bde. 7.35 pm. ^{left company of}
^{left battalion} ^{been reported}
^{but it is doubtful} ^{The rest of this brigade has not set}
^{in x} ^{artillery fire is now being opened along}
^{this brigade front until} ^{when we propose}
8.30 pm. ^{to assault again}

5.55 ^{from} 9 Bde. ^{enemy artillery increasing in severity}
^{Attack of barracks near} ^{the line}
300 = 3 x

2 6.16 J. Bدير ^{sweeping} ^{enemy} ^{along} ³⁰⁰ ^{yards} ^{line} ^{still}
 ground ^{musketry appears slackening a little}
 Appears to be shelling ^{Northward} ^{VC} ^{shelled}

6.31 J. Bدير ^{from} ^{Attack appears to be successful}
 Practical ^{cessation of enemy musketry}
 but is still shelling ^{our position}

7.18 J. Bدير ^{reports from} ⁵⁹⁰ ^{that they could not get on the trenches}
 are full of the enemy and every man who rises is shot down ^{Report from wounded indicate that the attack is failing for want of support}

7.50 J. Bدير ^{(Signed) J. G. M.} ^{Reinforcements appear to be badly}
 needed along all our fronts ^{at present we are}
 just hanging on with men in some places ^{of front trench}

Greenway ^{reports} ⁵⁹⁰ ⁶⁰⁰ ^{casualties} ^{very severe}

8.13 J. Bدير ^{a half battalion} ^{South} ⁵⁷⁰ ^{up to} ³⁰⁰⁰ ^{yards}
 trench near VC ^{avenue} ^{The Avenue is practically}
 destroyed so they will have to take the open road ^{formation}
 Artillery ^{to} ^{warn} ^{them to be prepared}
 to ^{and} ^{hold the front line and also to help with}
 fatigues

It is impossible to say at present

9.31 answer from Bdlr to [diagram] with any certainty what portions of enemy front line are held
Communication has broken down with our front line

Comm [diagram] Renewed attack now being made by 58th Bn
Enemy opened heavy musketry fire

(asks for ammun carrier to be organised as all [diagram] organisation has broken down)

Some German prisoners are being sent back.

8.5. [diagram] 5th [diagram] successful, which doubtful, which parts enemy still hold
so that a fresh bombardment can be arranged. Give exact boundaries for artillery guidance x

7.35 pm. 15 Bde permission to use rest of 3rd Bn to stiffen up assault of 59 Bn & will move up 1/2 Bn of reserve to hold 300 [diagram] & some of [diagram] front line if necessary.

7.54 [diagram] Bdlr [diagram] asks for more reinforcements

9.7. [diagram] Bdlr. [diagram] Have sent 58th Bn up to front line x 5.7 [diagram] Have reported Am now reorganising them
Have ordered [diagram] Denehy to coop. with [diagram] on his right at 10.00 (10.9)

8 9.55 From Division, following moves will take place

1/2 battalion 29 Rue du Quers
to Troix Blancs

1/2 bn 56 will occupy line of Rue des Quers in M32a

1/2 battalion 57 Windy Post & vicinity (N 1635)

These half bns will move into positions at 9 pm.

10.14 pm Bde's latest information indicates that with the 58th reinforcements the 59th are pushing forward, the 59c completely broken down.

Harris now in command, Layh Greenway thinks we will get one communication sap tonight

10.45 Bde O'Brien is trying to get communication with our advanced line by telephone line

10.50 (sent 10.30) to 15 Bde. Now learn 61st holds apex of Sugar Loaf They are endeavoring to take tonight from Sugar Loaf

8 The right of yr objic. Has 59th
 got in or have you had to
 withdraw them. Is 60th still in?
 & is 53rd on its left? Can you
 seize & hold all yr objic if
 I give you yr Reserve Bn?
 S Aust Div.
 10.30 pm

11. 8 pm. 9 Bdeier x 59 Bn ^{reports that} ~~no c~~
 they are holding ground within
 100 yds of ^{enemy} but have been
 unable to advance. I have ordered them to dig in
 SO C. 11.4 pm

11. 04 pm.
 9 Bdeier. 55 Bn ^{report that they have} ~~no c~~
 not got touch with ^{which was on their}
 1 Coach c 60 Bn / 117
 right x ^{I have not yet established communication with}
 my ^{battalions in advanced line}
 report that they are ^{have pressed for} bombs and sandbags
 55 Bn

11.20. From Gen Godley Adv. 2nd ang.
 congratulations to you on your success. Trust your
 casualties are not heavy.
 56 / 50 x

8
 11. 21 57 Bn L U E 7 U x V - 7
 no information as to situation regarding 600 bn but think from
 accounts of wounded that they are still in.
 I cannot guarantee success of attack with 57 as
 enemy machinegun is very hot but would try
 mg hot but would try

From 5 Troop Ditch.

Divisions are reported to hold
 61st L / M / N apex of
 Sugar Loaf and are tonight attacking.
 Divisions are ordered to take from
 61st B / C / D junction of German trench with River
 apex 6 B 2 C 3 D Laies
 Brigades are each authorized to use bns
 for fighting and a half bn for carrying and digging
 holding our old front system parapet and 300 yds line
 with remaining half battalion you are asked to
 take and hold each 2 original objectives
 You will however avoid the error often
 committed in France of holding
 captured trenches too thickly unnecessary casualties
 occur and men cannot dig or consolidate trenches
 Commander and I congratulate you on your
 Corps splendid work done
 (to all Bdes)
 C. W. Wall U Col. for 99th

8

From 5 and Div.

12.20 am. Sent 11.25 pm
brigade in centre, report that following front

14 held continuously from
 N9c 81 to N10c.
 Small gap on left is being filled
 bits held
 No isolated

1. am. (Sent midnight) 9 Radio

Following message from
 indicates that the attack of this brigade has completely failed, such
 men of the batt as actually reached enemy's trenches
 have (been) killed or captured. The two companies of
 down when close enemy
 trench and very few came back.

Message begins
 men of all
 battalions are coming back from Nomansland and
 expect that they will gradually drift back to the line.
 Many men are wounded, many are not.
 Many officers are casualties, including
 Majors Macrae, Elliott & Hutchings
 all of whom are reported dead and

seems impossible to organize, tapping is proceeding
 but how long it will be possible to proceed depends on the protection
 afforded by the other report seems be
 unanimous of the fact that not a single man of
 15 Bde has now arrived in enemy
 trench as enemy planes are coming from the whole
 of the front
 are now organizing the defence of our original
 trenches and on the front
 Message ends
 their instruction
 Pinney Ave & Vc.
 Please not for division and ask
 50 C 15 Bde.

1.20 (Capt R. S. Legge reports that he has been
 along whole front line
 now held by
 enemy's artillery forcing heavy and he is sweeping
 parapets with
 ? doesn't think line could be held against counterattack
 58 & 59 dribbling in
 trenches breached

8 Nov

5 Aust Div. at 12.15 am.

(That it is uncount for
 SQ ^{to} dig in 100 yds
 from ^{enemy's wire} If
 can gain objective in conjunction with attack by
 61 Div. ~~on sugar trap~~ "You may
 try to do so"

If not, SQ & SD
 should fall back to the trenches in middle
 of Nomansland and
 connect up

left of that sap w right
 of 60 Bn in 2 ^{German} ^{trenches}
 "It is left to your discretion which course you take"
 61 Bde
 615 Bde

2.12 am ^{now} May. Jtt. Layh
 One of my 2 scouts ^{has returned}
 He thinks the other one is killed. He penetrated
 nearly to the German lines but ^{could} find none
 of our men other than wounded
 (615 Bde)

8
 1.24 am ^{from} I must ^{to Bde} Dv. ^{to Bde} Abandon
 defence of your
 attack & organise to
 Have hold on there now Rally rest
 Sector. ^{in rear} ^{14th Bde is connecting from its right}
 in rear ¹⁴ ^{between trench back to you. Please}
 assist to dig this connecting trench if possible as it is
 vital to the 14th.

2.53 Dennehy - organising
 s to ^{clear} trenches & pulling
 aft 1 of to 3 bays.
 sent out 2 patrols.

2.50 from Legge Line fairly well
 held - left ^{still rather weak but can be}
 strengthened ^{to x}

2.45 Legge & Enns attending
 to sap. Layh & Dennehy
 to defence.

2.50 Two reliable L.G. men
 of SDK ^{came in} - say there is no
 organised line.

2

3.45. I stand 6 x 6 15 2 x
(sent 3.30)

The 14th Bde now occupies
 German trenches with its right no further
 than 2nd 2nd c 6 1st
 than 6 N9C 7. 1/2. 1 x 15th Bde
 will be prepared to support flank
 from earliest Exposed
 rifle fire down as m.g. in front
 of the enemy trenches
 15th Bde and to right of Bee
 14th Bde

4.20 ^{now} I stand in 10 15 Bde
 We are getting artillery and heavy ^{sent 4. am} artillery support
 and on our right
 Sugar Loaf and 60th Bde support on our left
 This in addition to barrage 8th Bde will
 communicate direct with 60th Bde for its support
 8th and 14th Bdes will be ready to send
 SOS signal for barrage using flares
 SOS if telephone not available and reliable?

To 15 Aust Inf Bn 7 1874 ^{brigade from} ^{Infy Bde}

Sent. 4.20 am.

No separate ^{attach will be made tonight}
a general attack will be made later. We are back in our
front line trenches

From ^{Durison} 9 5 Aust Bn sent 6.18 am.

14th Bde are ordered to withdraw to our own line & 8th
and 15th Bdes will cooperate with fire from
their respective fronts in the case of the Germans following up
or counterattacking

Orders for
brigades will occupy the fronts from which they started
orders for holding line
{ follow

7 am -
now 57 Bn ^{the Bde have taken over} 14 () () () ()
Length to Punyip ^{can get}
no information as to the position in the German trench
front line trench being consistently shelled with
and having many casualties ^{A.E.}
66x

2

8:40 am ^{from} Layh. ^{could some medical}
 assistant be sent to front line ^{men wounded yesterday}
 afternoon ^{and last night are still lying in trenches}


9:40 am ^{from} 6 Aust Div.
 Reports from portions of our front state heavy
 bombardment and suggest massing of enemy
 suggestion doubtful but in case correct you must
 have formed body of men ^{available}

about the
 junction post Croix Blanche
 6 Windy Post.

10 am. ^{Further message (from right) to same effect}

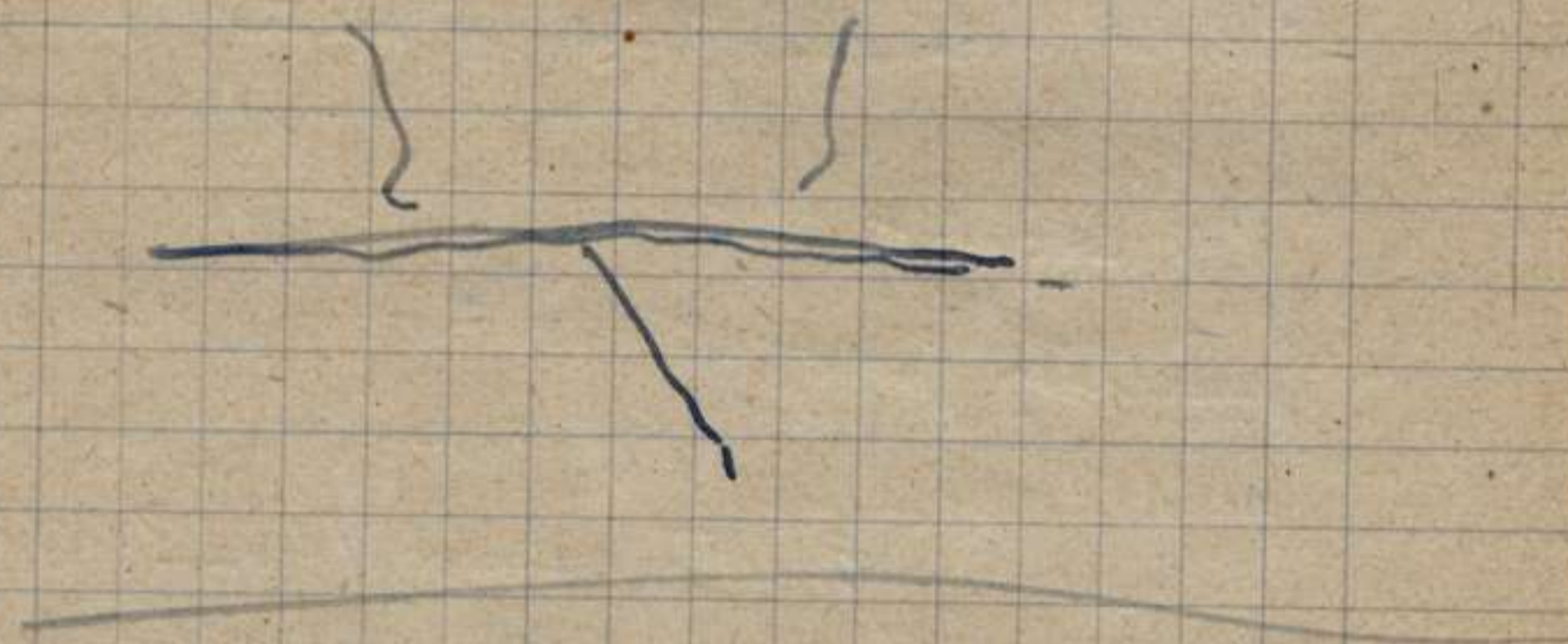
12:45 Pm. ^{From S-7 Bn. Elliott}
 has been all round firing line and finds no
 movement of enemy ^{situation.}

German Colonel said that bringing in of wounded
 must be under ^{flag}
 White C.

Maj. Bachtold.
 Lt Fry. Lt Ferguson 14 Engrs }
 Engrs. Pioneers & 56 Bn }
 built the Sap across 

Eibbons

Matthews



2 55 Bn.

54th on left 53rd on Right.

Sap objectives fairly easy.

3rd 2nd was a ditch. Seemed to have been dug as a drain to take water off.

Co. Norris of 53rd, adjt., & Maj.

Ferguson of 53rd were k.

very early in German 2nd.

It has been said to water we let down from a reservoir into this 2nd. Maj. Cowley sank up to his waist in it once or twice.

Message at 1 am. from O.C. ⁵⁵ 55 Bn
 to Bde. My Bn is very scattered - In communication
 with 31, 32, 53 & 54.
 There is a serious gap between 14 & 15 Bdes. Have made 2 unsuccessful attempts to reestablish communication.

of W Bde. Very few dead
huns att 76

(All these messages got to Bde.)
(The Sap was thro att mid night)

The effort at comm. was a
patrol of an off. & 3 men, &
anor. patrol (Sergts patrol).
They went along & one did not
report. Sert Anson also
went along twice & had
bomb fight each time. He
thought it might be an
isolated post — but left 26
& found ~~the~~ ^{there} German
at back as well.

Dunoon.

Cowey went along &
~~found~~ found men coming back
along 27 (att 1 am.) He
stopped two who admitted
th they cd throw a bomb.

They were going along
 I when he heard "Hands
 oop" & presently the sound
 of a bomb. The men ~~men~~
 never returned. ~~The~~ Cowey
 went back to C.O. & told
 him the dugout wd be
 bombed in a minute. Co.
 wdnt believe th this was possible.
 Cowey went off to Cass &
 next to the 5th Bn. who
 had our front line. The Coy
 officer (Capt. Fanning) ~~was~~
^{since d of w. after Flers}
~~in the same show~~
 wdnt let him have them
 at first bec. the orders
 were apt using reserve Bn;
 but finally allowed one
 bombing team under Sergt
 Hurley to go across. They

2 came across & worked up. ⁷⁸

In mean time German had almost reached the sap. ~~Lieut~~ Col. MacLoughry saw Col. Cass & arranged for a c. attack apt the night. He found Lt Denoon outside & told him to collect his platoon & attack ~~prepar~~ ~~parapet~~ along the parapet. Denoon's men had abt 3 bombs each; they attacked & a carrying party w 4 sand bags full. They worked up outside the parapet of the 1st German line & recaptured 60 to 80 yds of sap. Denoon was hit & Cpl. Hancock (55 Bn) killed - they ~~got~~ held on to

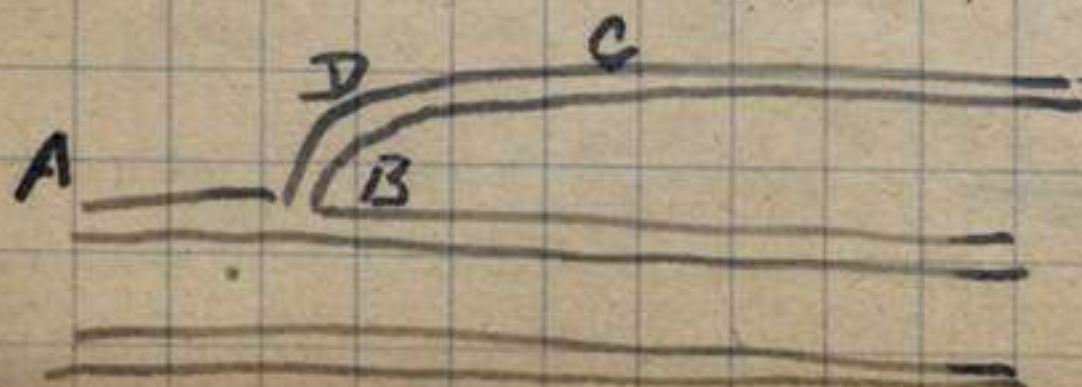
2/4 NA Robinson, reports 5. 4

2 am. he distrib'd 4 h. Guns
along 8 Bde front wh was then
(2 am.) fairly well fortified.

Abt 3.30 am a German bomb attack
on left was repelled - but 8 Bde
began to retire. They seemed to
have no ops. A little later
another attack to place on our
right - bombs were supplied
to this flank.

This left abt 20 men to hold 150 yds
of trench. ^{capt} Gibbons 2/lt Chapman &
2/lt Robinson drove Germans 200
yds down 2/4. Robinson went
twice across to bring up
8 Bde. He got 4 men first time
& 3 second time.

After ^{B Coy} 55 Bn had been working ^{150 yds} on common
if they were ordered up
to reinforce front line, Lt
Mawley was largely responsible
for digging this sap from B 15 D



2 this portion of trench. There
had originally been no 80
stop. Abt midnight a
stop we made some way
to right of our sap in
front line. By pulling
down baps on both sides.
The Germans afterwards
bombed past this & one
was lying dead on our side
of it.

The bombing part of 56
came in & systematically
bombed where Dunobus
party had reached. There
must have been nearly
12 bombs in 1 air at a
time sometimes. The
new pts were superior
to 1 German till they
were physically worn
out.

(from last p. but one) 81

by Gibbons & Chapman
Cpl. Anson was told off to check bombing
attack on left. Another bombing
attack was made but was checked
by our arty. 8th Bde retired at
this time. Gibbins asked Chapman
to get together bombers & c-attack.
They did so. Gibbons then ordered
his men to extend to left.
They did so but were bombed
by Germans & pushed to centre.
Gibbins led out another pl
w/ Lt Robinson, Pte Tarbalester
& Chapman. Drove in. back
150 yds. Gibbins was wd & went
to get his wound dressed. Robinson
went back across ^{up} for
reinfts. Chapman ^{held on till he} was ordered
by G. to retire. He retired to
point B till most of ~~enemy~~
got to 55 Bu had gone past.
When enemy bombers had reached
him he retired to our own lines.

82

Just before the end - these
~~the~~ bombers were allowed
to retire ~~but~~: Well after
daylight they left worn out -
with exertion. Cowey told
Cass of this. Germans
bombed back to rear
sap again. Cass ordered
Cowey & Woods (adjt of 55 Bu)
to drive them back no matter
how. These got out betw. German
wire & trench & threw bombs
on top of them from a point
further to rt than where
bombs were dropping
in trench. The party then
retired towards sap & waited
to repeat this operation if
Germans came on, but
Germans had not reached

The party digging commencing from
 Germ. front 2nd to 3rd line began
 but was driven in at once by
 beginning of German bombing
 attack. Two grenades were found
 & thrown but sent back word
 & bombs ~~was~~ supplies were
 undetonated (some also
 thrown without pins being thrown)
 Farmer started detonating them
 himself till detonated ones
 were over.

of head of sap before the retirement.
 It was at this time that
 German 2nd were finally
 left. There was an exodus from
 Cass. H.Q. across the
 open.

Gibbons had been ordered
 to cover the retirement. He
 was killed in ^{Nowmanland} a few yds
 from our own parapet -
 his body was recovered &
 buried at Saily.

The Lewis guns of 1st Sth Bn
 all came back (6) & one
 extra; they were in the
 furthest line held - abt 250
 yds in (sometimes called 3rd
 & sometimes 2nd line - there
 was a weak trench in between).
 The Lewis guns were ordered
 to be come back at the

85

McCaughey rep^d at 3.45 am. We have been strongly c. att^d on right where 15 Bde sh^d be. I have given 20 yds of 2nd. Please tell me if 15 Bde are in positn.

2 am. Grenades wanted ^{to resist} for c-att.

Wd like information re 15 Bde.

Not yet in touch w them.

* F had been shot thro' hand early on.

Last order to Gibbons Secret.

Capt Gibbons. & 55 Officers.


You must prepare for an orderly retirement. We are un-protected on our flanks.

Hold first Hun line until further orders.

20/2/16
6.30 am.

D. McCaughey
Lt Col.
CO 55

(of infantry with Lt. Gun

8 very last. Lt Chapman ^{come} back across  w 86

Gibbons & got thro: The men on the right from the front line were all k. or captured. Cox. Serjt & 2 men carrying the guns.

Matthews and party of A Coy were amongst these.

Dr. was hit by bomb in both legs, &

* Folkhard (who was last seen lying w head in mud) Both are alive & prisoners.

Lt Cummins on extreme right was also captured.

At 6 or a little later the working parties went across after last wave. Rest of Bn in 300 yds line.

8
At 7.24 orders to ^{Smith} ~~send~~ ⁸⁷ with
remaining two coys from 300 yds line to
front line.

8.55. Order to send one
Coy to reinforce 53; one to
54. B Coy went to 54th (fibbon)
A Coy (Matthews) to 53rd.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Lewis guns sent to each.

They were over by 9.30.

At 10.10 HQ went across.

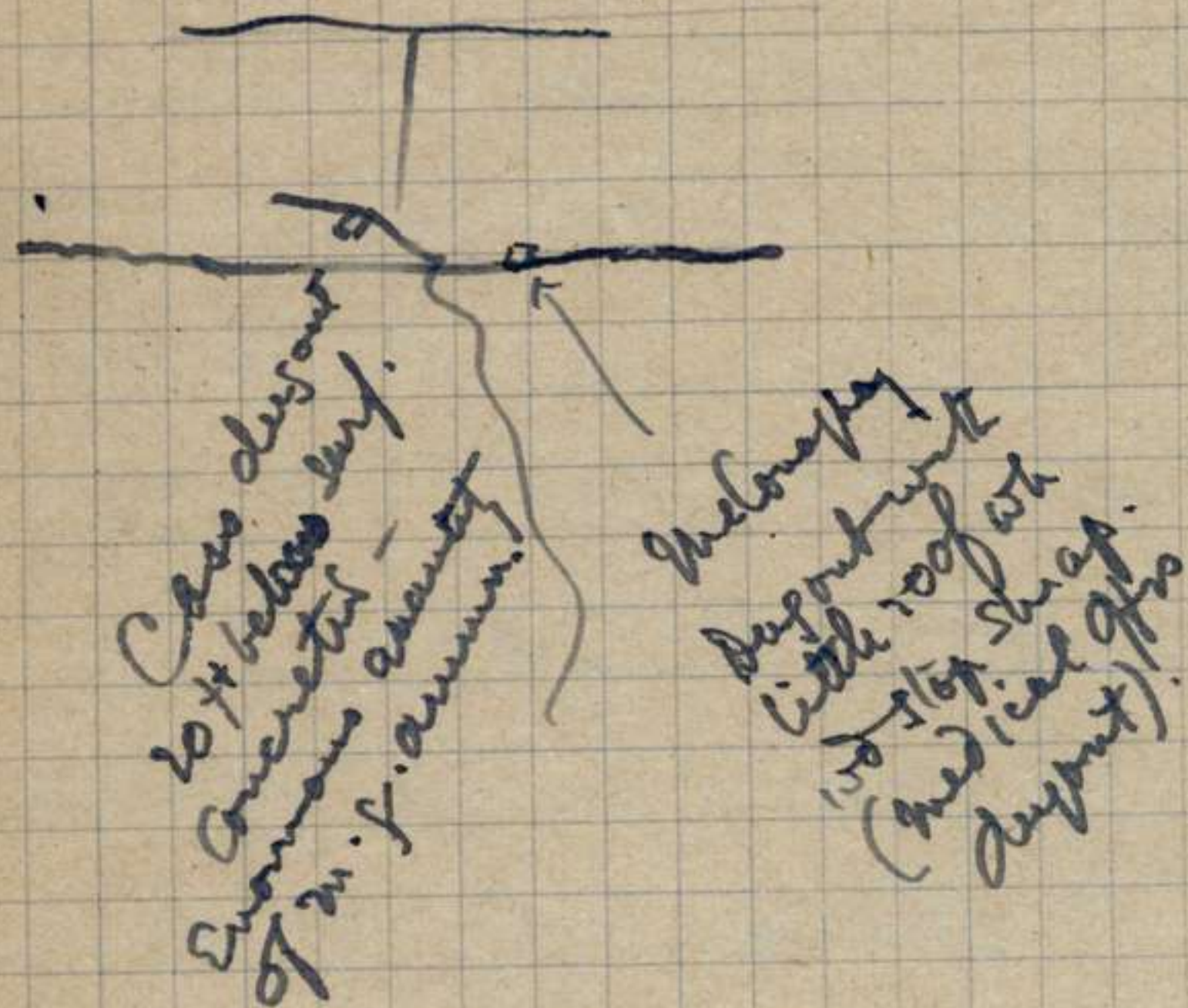
53rd had lost nearly
all ofrs. at this time.

Col. Norris had been killed.

The Conaghy went to their
Sector. Maj. Cowey went over
them also. Only 2 young
ofrs. ~~sent~~ of 52nd were found
near head of sap. They
didn't know of anyone's position.
Cowey was sent to it &

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2
Capt. Woods to left to
find out - Gibbons came
back from left to report
(w Cowey's batman). He
reported they were in touch
with 8th Bde & were
building up w sandbags.
Gibbons was at H.Q. when
Cowey returned (This was
from front line.) Men
were rather thick in
parts of this muddy trench.
Capt Murray of 53 &
Lt Cummins of 55 were
there. ~~They had~~ Folkhardt
& Matthews were on extreme
right of this line meeting
german bombing attacks
wh were just starting.
They had not too many
bombs & mud was so



8 thick the bags and bombs had to be thrown along 2. The tendency was for each man to dig his own piece of 2 until shaken up.

There was no communication from rear to ^{this} front line - but two were started out. We found no food communication 2 but a well laid tram line. The men had to be shaken up to dig a communication 2. It was partly dug by morning but never complete. (one on it was never complete) One ran past Col. Cass' dugout - a bad 2 & further over the open.

As German bombers took
Each bay they put up
what looked like a post -
or a piece of brown paper
up behind the traverse.

In the morning these
were noticed & were at
first very puzzling.

They also signalled from
line to line ^{by daylight by series} ~~by showers~~ of perh.
20 flares. They also shot low flares at
night along ^{in front of bombers.}
Cass found scores of lights
in his dugout & had these
sent up. We were short
of flares - or were not system.
- chiefly using them.

8 Cowey on returning we sent
out again to Matthews. As
the ~~front~~ ^{3rd} ~~2~~ ² was so terribly
muddy & choked he decided
to go along front line
in search of another Comm
2. As he was going along
the front line - he was held
up by German fascines
above - " - - - - -"

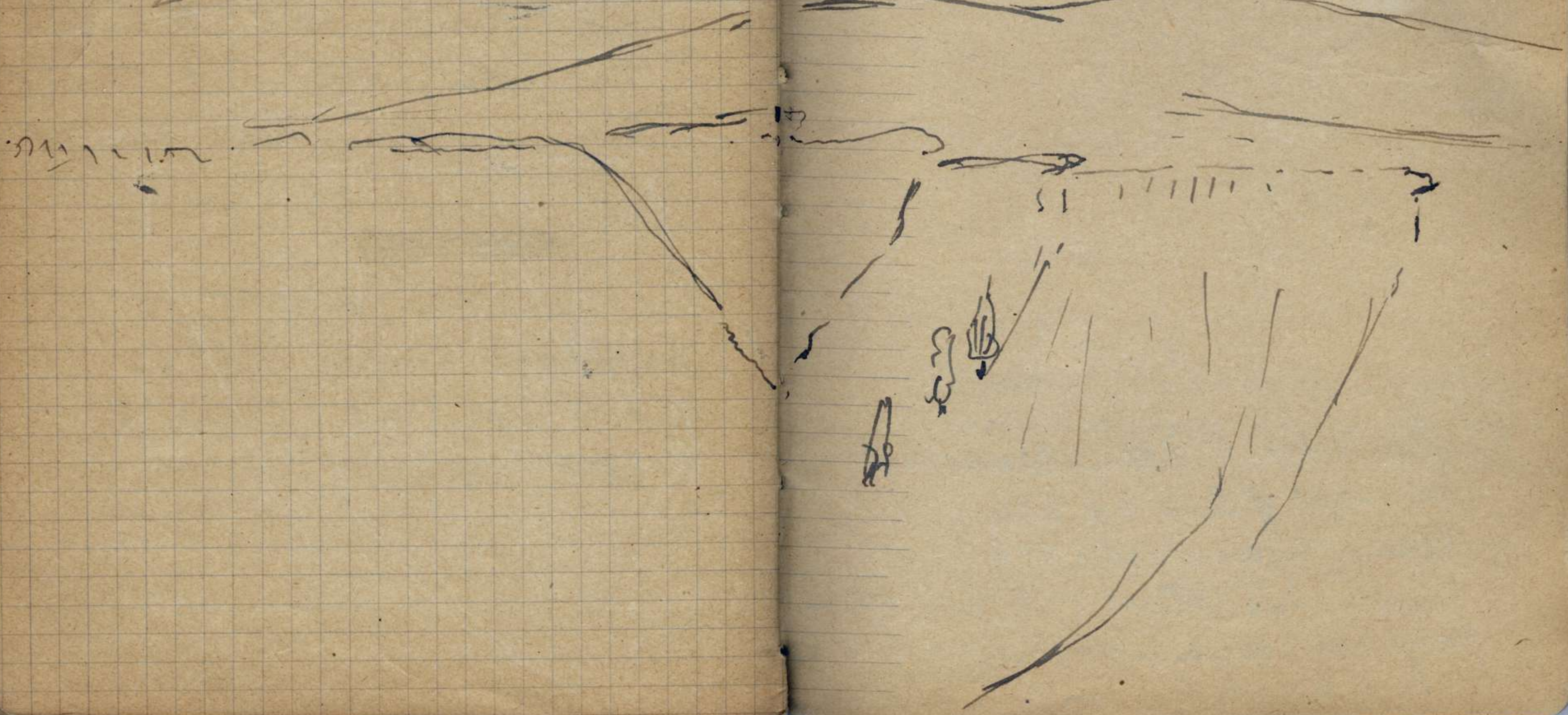
~~At~~ Towards morning
there was a cry of
"Our own artillery are
shelling us"; "we have
been ordered to retire."
This was when 8th Bde were
retiring.

As far as IFR knew
there was no unusual shelling
of our line by our own guns.

2 There were a lot of shells⁹³
abt the 3rd line - probly
our barrage. They kept their
arty on ^{our} front line &
& our comm 2 of M.S.
fire in morning caused many
casualties in R -
the top was full of dead &
wd - but was still useful
tho' men were hit there.
Many of these men were got
in.

~~the top was full of dead & wd~~
[Sometime on 21st (?)
Cowlishaw knows abt the
Red X incident (of one of
~~50~~ batteries in the 50s)]

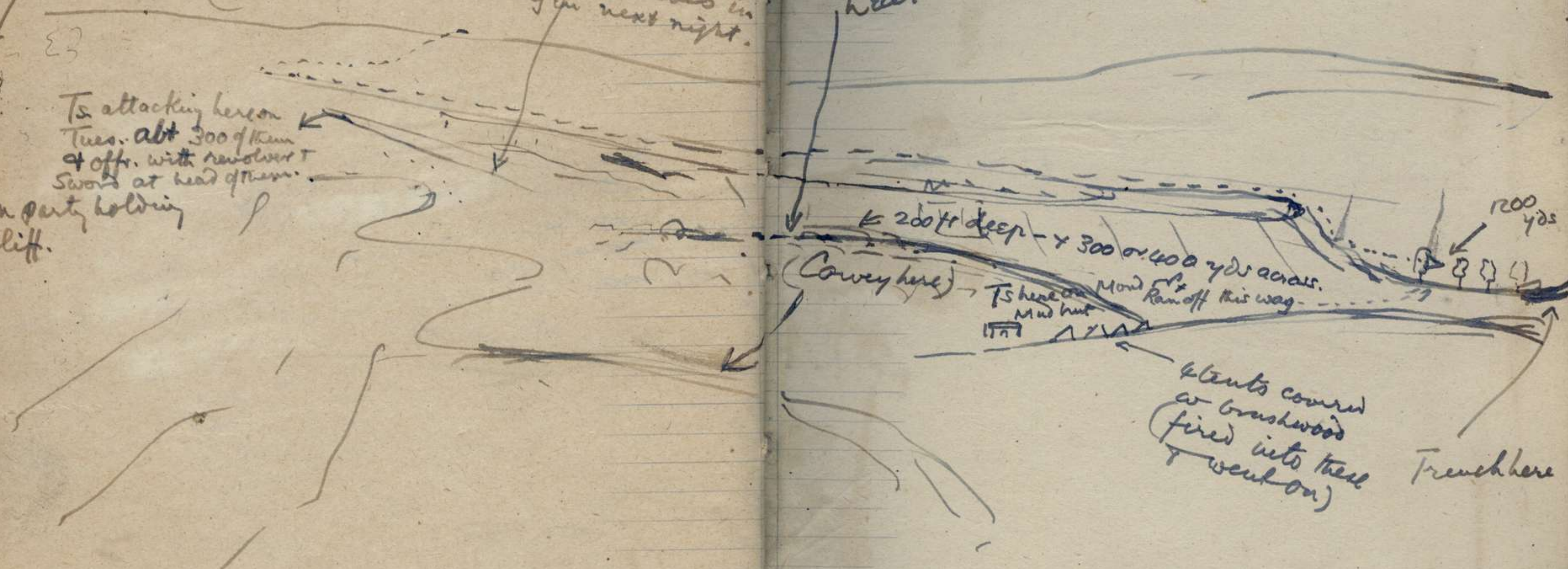
Cowen thinks he was
 at Steele's; Lear & he
 were - at their furthest
 250 yds in front of it.



700

Battleships firing here
 On Tuesday ^{Ts. were driving} ^{sky was all day.}
 men over this ^{Turks on (Mon)}
 has estab. themselves in here, & dug in next night.

23
 Ts attacking here on Tues. abt 300 of them & off. with revolver & sword at head of them.
 On party holding cliff.



8
 hear k. here. (C.S.M. Phipps nursed him) 95

← 200ft deep - x 300 or 400 yds across.
 Cowey here → Ts here on Mond
 Mud hut Ran off this way
 1200 yds
 Plants covered w brushwood (fired into these & went on)
 Trench here

April 25. 1915
 Position of Cowey

Capt. Walsh of 15 Bn. came up on night of Sund ap. 25th where Cowey was. (Walsh was k. here)
 Cowey had retired on to this position from abt 200 yds in front. Walsh was k. on rt of Cowey's position.
 Probly 800 yds from Lone Pine on extent of

4. 2nd Bn.

Campbell of 2 Bn was on Cowey's left just before dark on Sund. Though 2 Bn was killed there on Mond morning - & d. of w.