



TRANSLATION OF CAPTURED DOCUMENT.

BRIGADE ORDERS OF THE 5th GUARD INFANTRY BRIGADE  
(4th GUARD DIVISION) CAPTURED IN BATTALION H.Q. SOUTH  
OF BROODSWINDE CROSS ROADS.

5th Guard Infantry Brigade.

29th September, 1917.

URGENT.

SECRET.

Brigade Order.

1. According to prisoners' statements, a big attack is to take place to-morrow.

2. Regiments will take all necessary precautionary measures for instant readiness for action and for the protection of the signal communications, etc.

3. At to-day's Brigade conference (CHEFBERSPRECHUNG) there was a general complaint that in an enemy attack with limited objectives the counter-attacks made by the reserves and counter-attack divisions came as a rule too late and that the losses thereby incurred bore no relation to the result obtained. Often the Counter-attack barely reached the line held, suffered heavy losses and was quite fruitless, as the enemy contented himself with the objective once gained. His numerous machine guns, which he immediately built in, and the waves of men, closely followed and covered by the attacking wave, consolidated the position which he had won and enabled him to beat off any counter-attack of ours.

Experience, therefore, shows the necessity of making the front line strong in order to be able to beat off the hostile attack by its own unaided strength and to hold the occupied crater position.

The annihilation of our front line garrison before the Infantry attack commences must be avoided as far as possible by concealing the exact course of our front line from the enemy, and by occupying the craters in front, thus avoiding the hostile fire, or if the distance between the two hostile lines is inconsiderable the garrison must attack the enemy with bayonet and hand grenades whilst he is engaged on preparations for his attack. For this purpose the holding of the front line is out of the question. In all sectors the garrison is to be distributed in such a way that six companies are in the front line (or close behind the front line) whilst the other half of the regiment is distributed further back outside the main zone of fire.

In order to hold the front line strongly, numerous machine guns ('08) must be placed in position. Two machine gun companies or thereabouts must be distributed in the front line and the area immediately behind same, whilst the 3rd H.G. Coy. is to be posted with the Protective Garrison (Sicherheitsbesatzung) and in the area occupied by the 6 Companies in rear.

The altered methods of attack of the enemy, who fixes a limited objective for his attack, forces us to change our tactics which are based on the repulse of a deep penetration of our positions with a view to further operations.

The distribution of each Regiment must therefore be examined accordingly and, if necessary, alterations made as soon as possible and as far as circumstances will permit. The steps taken are to be reported immediately.





4. Telegraphic apparatus is being sent to all Regiments; they will be built in to-night at the K.T.K. (H.Q. of troops in fighting line). The connecting station is at the chief Barrage Battery belonging to the sector concerned.

5. The sure working of all means of signal communication is to be proved this evening. The Regiments are to report that the flash signalling connections between K.T.K. and Regiments, is in order.

The connection with the front line is to be kept under all circumstances and must be enforced if messages do not arrive. For this purpose search patrols are to be kept in readiness at all H.Q.

Every regiment will send to the Brigade Staff a patrol consisting of 1 officer or Sergt. Major and 3 trained and reliable men. Report on the 30th September up to 7 a.m. at the Brigade Battle H.Q.

The observation officers and men who have already been sent to the Brigade are to be taken into consideration.

6. The principles for the defence laid down in to-day's Brigade Orders are accordingly altered by this order.



TRANSLATION of Captured German Divisional Orders.

4th Guard Infantry Division.

Inf. No. 9625 S E C F T.

DIVISIONAL ORDERS

For the preparation for the Attack.

"HÜHENSTURM"

A. D. M. S.

4TH

AUSTRALIAN DIV.

No.

Date.

1. OBJECTIVE is the Southern portion of ZONNEBEKE and the Ridge due South of ZONNEBEKE as far as the Western exit of MOLENAARST-HOEK. Day of attack is 3rd October.

2. The attack will be commanded by Major-General Graf RINKENSTEIN of the 4th Guard Divn.

3. TROOPS.

(a) Infantry. 212th R.I.R. - 2nd Bn., 211th R.I.R. - 8 assault sections of 4th Assault Battalion.

(b) Artillery. Of the 4th Guard Divn. and neighbouring Divisions (in conformity with special orders)

(c) Minenwerfer. 4th Guard M.W. Coy., - 245th M.W. Coy.

(d) Aircraft. 19th Flying Detachment (as Infantry airmen).

Several pursuit echelons (in conformity with Group orders).

4. (NOTE: Already appeared in another translation).

5. The execution of the attack to be prepared for as follows :-

(a) Deleted.)

(b) Attack. The artillery fire and M.W. begin simultaneously at 5.35 a.m. At the same time, 212th R.I.R. advances with waves closely following, and will work itself as near to the enemy as our own barrage permits. At 6 a.m. the artillery and M.W.'s will increase their range; and the infantry will advance to their objective without interruption. (The objective is marked in green on the sketch).

(c) After the objective has been reached, the 212th R.I.R. will dispose itself in depth in a prearranged manner and in such a manner that they may, with the aid of their light machine guns, Minenwerfer and Granatenwerfer, confidently face the enemy counter-attack.

(d) It is important to make known to the airmen as early as possible, the position of the objective reached. For this purpose the aerial squadron will send infantry planes out at 7.30. The 212th R.I.R. will signal to the airmen by means of ground flares, white cloth and white star rockets. The ground flares will be distributed by Pioneer Commander of 4th Guard Divn. The employment of these to be practised (burning them on the floors of shell-holes). Reports on the new line to be dropped by infantry planes at Divisional H.Q. The Division will immediately transmit the information to all concerned.

6. Five assault sections will be attached to the first Bn., 212th R.I.R. Three to 3rd Bn., 212th R.I.R. They will report to Battalion concerned on 1/10/17 in the afternoon.

7. 245th M.W. Coy. will go into position to-night and to-morrow night, so as to be able to bring effective fire to bear on the central and southern portions of ZONNEBEKE. Not less than 8 light M.W.'s of the 5th G.G. Regt. will be detailed for this duty. Direct communication between 5th G.G. Regt. and 245th M.W. Coy. (45th Res. Divn.)

A pack animal column will be attached for the transportation of ammunition.

P.T.O.



8. Special orders will be issued by 4th Guard Artillery Commander for distribution of targets, ranging, Artillery preparation, barrage fire and ammunition supply, also detailing artillery patrols. It must be borne in mind, when issuing these orders, that both flank regiments will assist in the barrage.
9. For the divisional Sector, from 4 a.m. 2/10/17 to 4 a.m. 4/10/17 only red rockets bursting into a double star will be used as a call for barrage. Regiments will assure a supply of these signals for the front line. Commander, 4th Guard Artillery, will assure that all Batteries are informed of the alteration of signals.
10. Intelligence. Regtl. H.Q. 5th G.G. Regt. will be in the battle H.Q. of R.T.K. NORD from midnight 2nd/3rd to midnight 3rd/4th October in the Gravel pit Southeast of BROODSEINDE. The Regtl. H.Q. of 212th R.I.R. will be in battle H.Q. of Park IN DER STER, from 9 p.m. 2/10/17 to midnight 3rd/4th October.
- Wireless Communication has not been established, but will be from K.T.K. NORD, K.T.K. MITTE, K.T.K. SUD to R.T.K. MITTE. Also from K.T.K. NORD to R.T.K. NORD (Gravel Pit). Also from R.T.K. NORD, and R.T.K. MITTE to Regtl. H.Q. MITTE.
- Runner posts from K.T.K. NORD, K.T.K. MITTE, K.T.K. SUD to R.T.K. MITTE. Also from K.T.K. NORD to R.T.K. NORD.
- Pigeons will be allotted to each Bn. of 212th R.I.R. - 6 birds; 2nd Bn., 212th R.I.R. - 4 birds; Regtl. H.Q., 212th R.I.R. and 5th G.G. Regt. - each 4 birds; Commander 4th Gd. Artillery for the use of artillery patrols - 12 birds.
- The cards for prisoners are to be used as much as possible.
11. On the evening of 3rd, the attack troops will be relieved from the newly won positions by Battalions of 4th Guard Divn., and withdrawn to MOORSLEDE Area. The support Battalions of 4th Guard Divn. are then to be brought forward.
12. Ammunition supply and attention to, and care of, wounded of the 45th Res. Divn. will be arranged by 5th Guard Inf. Bde.
13. The Infantry assault will be accompanied by several battle squadrons (of aircraft) which will appear above the infantry precisely at the time of the assault and assist by means of flying in advance of the assaulting troops, assisting them with their machine guns.
14. On 1/10/17, 212th R.I.R. and 2nd Bn., 211th R.I.R., will carry out assault practice on a small scale; and on 2/10/17, combined practice on a large scale will be carried out.
- In the training on forenoon of 2/10/17, exactly the same conditions will be practised as in the actual attack, i.e. with regard to ground conditions and command.
- Time and place of the practice to be reported to Division as early as possible. (Sgd.) Graf FINKENSTEIN.
- Wire form 4th Guard Inf. Division, October 2nd, 1917. As the attack yesterday by the 210th R.I.R. failed on the right flank, the attack of 3rd October will not extend southwards beyond the concrete position 200m North of HAUS KATHE. The line South of this will remain unchanged. Elements of the 3rd Bn., 212th R.I.R. will be thus released, will be launched as 2nd attacking wave behind the 2nd Bn. of the 212th R.I.R. under orders of the C.O., 212th R.I.R.

(Sgd.) v. LUDOVITZ

Regtl. Order, 5th Foot Guards Regt, October 2nd.  
URGENT. Attack, HOHENSTURM, has been postponed one day.