

• N-20152.19
42nd DIVISION
151st Regiment

GAS OFFICER
REPORTS

N 20152.19

N-20152.19

March 14, 1918.

New

From: Lt. R. V. Williamson, Gas Officer 151st Regt. F. A.

To: Commanding Officer 151st Regt. F. A.

42nd Division

Subject: Gas Casualties.

1. The gas casualties now in the hospital were caused by two gas shell attacks by the enemy which are detailed below.

2. Date of attack, Wednesday, Mar. 6th between 4 and 5 pm.

Position attacked, E battery.

No. of shells, About a dozen shell holes near position

Gas used, Mustard gas.

No. of casualties, seven.

Symptoms of casualties, Nausea and irritation of eyes, lungs, skin.

Shell markings, one unexploded shell was gray with yellow cross on base of shell.

Cause of casualties, The men were in a dugout when two gas shells exploded in the entrance to the dugout throwing dirt and a high concentration of mustard gas vapor into the dugout, which was the sleeping quarters of some of these men. They all put on their masks and left the dugout and went out into the open air. No ill effects were noticed. Two hours later five men went back and burned a lot of paper and straw in the dugout to clear it of gas. They thought it was clear of gas, slit the door and hung a raincoat over the door to keep out any gas from the outside, and went to bed about eight o'clock. They awoke about midnight and were nauseated and had burning sensation in the eyes. Later they developed severe skin blisters due to the gas absorbed by their clothing and blankets. The two men who slept in another dugout developed only a slight irritation of the eyes.

3. Date of attack: Saturday, Mar. 9, 12:10 pm.

Position attacked: D Battery

Number of shells: 25

Gas used: Mustard gas

Number of casualties: 37 from D Battery., and 8 from E Battery.

Symptoms of casualties: Irritation of the eyes, nose, and throat.

Shell markings: -----

Cause of Casualties: Men took off their masks too soon and worked for a long period of time (8 hours) in a very weak concentration of gas. The casualties from E Battery were LIBRARY gas carried by the wind from D Battery and due to the USA COBALT LEADENORTH, KAN.

10F3-6

AUG 0 1984

ACCESSION NO

(Sdg) R. V. W.

1st Lt. S.C.N.A.

PO REGISTR

by C. M. F.

322

March 14, 1918.

From: R. V. Williamson, 1st Lt. S.C.N.A.

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To: Lt. Neff, Gas Officer, 42nd Div.

Subject: Notification of Transfer to 2nd Division.

1. Orders have reached me from H.A.E.F. directing me to report to the 2nd Div.
2. Lt. O'Bryan has been appointed by Col. Leach as Gas Officer for the regiment (151st F.A.)
3. I am inclosing herewith copies of reports I made to Col. Leach and to the new gas officer concerning our equipment and some gas casualties in our regiment.
4. The five casualties who were gassed after attempting to clear the dug-out by means of fire are excellent examples to show the difficulty of clearing a dugout of Mustard gas by fire. I visited this dugout 24 hours after the attack and it was still smelling very strongly of the gas which had an odor very similar to horseradish.
5. The casualties in the second attack were the result of the officer in charge taking the word of a French Lieut. who told him the gas wasn't strong enough to do any damage.

R. V. Williamson.

From: Lt. R.V. Williamson, Gas Officer 151st Regt. F.A. 42nd Division
To: Commanding Officer 151st Regt. F.A.
Subject: Gas Casualties.

1. The gas casualties now in the hospital were caused by two gas shell attacks by the enemy which are detailed below.

- 60F3-3a
2. Date of attack, Wednesday, Mar. 6th between 4 and 5 pm.
Position attacked, E Battery.
No. of shells, About a dozen shell holes near position.
Gas used, Mustard gas.
No. of casualties, seven.
Symptoms of casualties, Nausea and irritation of eyes, lungs, skin.
Shell markings, One unexploded shell was grey with yellow cross on base of shell.

Cause of casualties, The men were in the dugout when two gas shells exploded in the entrance of the dugout throwing dirt and a high concentration of Mustard Gas vapor into the dugout, which was the sleeping quarters of some of these men. They all put on their masks and left the dugouts and went out into the open air. No ill effects were noticed. Two hours later five men went back and burned a lot of paper and straw in the dugout to clear it of gas. They thought it was clear of gas, shut the door and hung a raincoat over the door to keep out any gas from the outside, and went to bed about eight o'clock. They awoke about midnight and were nauseated and had burning sensation in the eyes. Later they developed severe skin blisters due to the gas absorbed by their clothing and blankets. The two men who slept in another dugout developed only a slight irritation of the eyes.

3. Date of attack: Saturday, Mar. 9, 12:10 pm.
Position attacked, D Battery.
Number of shells: 25
Gas used: Mustard gas
Number of casualties: 37 from D Battery, and 8 from E Battery.
Symptoms of casualties: Irritation of the eyes, nose and throat
Shell markings: -----

Cause of Casualties: Men took off their masks too soon and worked for a long period of time (6 hours) in a very weak concentration of gas. The casualties from E Battery were from the gas carried by the wind from D Battery and due to the same cause.

R. V. W.
1st Lt. S.C.W.A.

Office of Div. Gas Officer,

Headquarters 42nd Inf. Div.

March 24th, 1918.

From: Div. Gas Officer, 42nd Div.

To: Corps Gas Officer, First Army Corps. (Thru military channels)

Subject: Report of Gas Attack.

1. Unit and Locality. An area about 400 sq. yds. in the vicinity of a P. C. of the 165th Inf. on Haut de la Faut, Rouge Bouquet.

2. Time and duration of attack. From 7.00 P. M. to 8.00 P.M. March 21st, 1918.

3. Meteorological conditions. Misty, with a NW wind about 4 m.p.h.

4. Nature of gas. Mustard gas.

5. Character of attack, Artillery shells.

6. Size and number of shells. 77mm, 105mm, and a few 105mm shells were used. Estimates of the number vary from 1500 to 4000. A small percentage were H. E.

7. Casualties. About twenty, most of them slight eye trouble.

8. Cause of casualties. On leaving the sector when relieved by the French the gas from their clothing affected the eyes of a few of the men.

9. Duds. Fragments of shell and one dud found were the typical yellow cross shells.

Remarks. The dugouts were protected and no casualties seem to have occurred to men in them.

The report of this attack did not reach this office until the sector had been evacuated by the Americans, so that further information was difficult to obtain.

RECEIVED BY 42ND INF. DIV.
MAR 27 1918

Chas. H. Gorrell
Capt Engin U. S. R.

10F3-13c Report from Regimental G. O.

10. The ZONE enclosed by our front line and by a line through points 359.60 - 232.85, 359.60 - 232.40, 359.95 - 232.40, 359.95 - 232.85, should be cleared of all troops. All troops in the ZONE enclosed by our front line and a line through points 359.65 - 232.65, 359.60 - 232.40, 359.95 - 232.40, 359.95 - 232.85, should as far as possible remain under cover and will wear their gas masks from ZERO minus 5 minutes until they receive an order from an officer that all is clear. The ALL CLEAR message will be given and sent out to all concerned by the DISTRICT GAS OFFICER. As a further precaution each Company officer should investigate his own front in company with the Anti-Gas R.C.O. after the discharge.

11. No attempt will be made to camouflage the positions directly after the discharge. When the discharge is completed all personnel will return to billets except the picked squads from each section, who will at dawn, return to the position and camouflage them as completely as possible.

12. FLASH ACKNOWLEDGE.

Copies.

- 1 - 32 French Corps G2.
- 2 - 65th French Div. G2.
- 3 - C.O. 30th Corps.
- 4-5 32nd Amer. Div.
- 6 War Diary.
- 7-8 Files.

Robert W. Crawford,
Major, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A.

By:

C. F. Wood,
Captain, E. R. C.

420-10

CHIEF GAS OFFICER

1st Army Corps

RECEIVED

6 AUG 1918

DEFENSE DIVISION, CHEMICAL WARFARE DIVISION

Report on Gas Attack.

(Date of report) 5-8-18
Corps 1st
Division 42nd

Unit All infantry fronts Location North of Chateau Thierry

From M 27-27-1918, to M 2-8-1918

Method of attack (shells, cylinders, projectors) Shell

No. of shells Indeterminate Caliber Various Gas used HS; Green Cross

Wind direction Velocity M.P.H. Temperature Humidity

Character of terrain (woods, sloping ground, ravine, swamp, etc.) Rolling, interspersed with weeded patches.

Area of terrain and length of front affected Four kilometers

No. of troops exposed 15000

Duds found at (Co-ordinates) No. Caliber

Markings

Total Casualties including deaths 200 (approx) Total deaths None

*Lung cases *Eye cases or burns

Causes of casualties (approx. no. from each cause; failure to put on mask, premature removal, etc.) A part of the casualties can be attributed to the fact that the tactical situation demanded that men advance over ground slightly saturated with HS. A great per cent were malingerers.

Length of time respirators were worn One to six hours

Was any part of gassed area evacuated? Yes At what time? 1/2 hour after bombardment

Was attempt made to relieve units required to remain in sector? No, unfeasible

At what time (in the case of mustard gas) was disinfection of ground begun Immediately Completed? In a very short time

Remarks: (should include any new tactical use of gas, any suggestions, etc.)

A large number of men were sent to the dressing stations from the firing line tagged as gassed. These men were later retagged and marked as worn out due to ever exertion and lack of food.

(Signed) Chas. H. Gerrill
Capt. Engr. R.C.

*Information to be given when possible.

July 17th, 1918.

OPERATION GERM - - - - - #17.
Map Reference, - MORT MARE, 1:20,000.

1. On a date and at a time to be communicated later Company "O" of this Battalion will conduct the following gas attack.

<u>Number of drums.</u>	<u>Projector Emplacement.</u>	<u>Target.</u>
460	About 359.85 - 292.40	Area enclosed by 360.25 - 237.85 360.10 - 233.70, 360.40 - 233.45 360.42 - 233.70, 360.24 - 237.85

Emplacement and targets are shown on the attached LIBRARY
USA CGSC FT LEAVENWORTH, KAN.

2. All projector drums will be discharged at ZERO. Should any batteries fail at the first discharge an attempt will be made to discharge them before ZERO plus 10 minutes.

3. Matches will be synchronized according to ACCESSION NO Signal Time.

4. A decision will be made by the C.O., Prov. Bn., PO REGISTR 30th Engrs. at ZERO minus 6 hours on the day of the proposed gas attack, as to whether wind conditions justify the Company proceeding to battle position or otherwise. This decision will be communicated by him to Company Commander and to Corps and Divisional Headquarters. The Code mentioned in paragraph 6 will be used.

5. If weather conditions are such at ZERO minus 2 hours that there is no prospect of a favorable wind the operation will be cancelled for the night by the C.O., Prov. Bn., who will be located from ZERO minus 2 hours and onwards at Battalion Headquarters, 357.10 - 229.90. If this is the case, the C.O. will communicate his decision to the Company Commander and to Corps and Divisional Headquarters.

6. The following Code will be used:

OPERATION WILL TAKE PLACE - - - - -	FRANCE.
OPERATION CANCELLED - - - - -	RUSSIA.

7. No gas will be liberated unless the wind is between S.W. through SOUTH to S.E.

8. C.O., Company "O" (Code name PIERRE) will be located at Infantry Company Headquarters, 359.40 - 231.10, from ZERO minus 2 hours and onwards, and will be in telephone communication with C.O., Prov. Bn., 30th Engrs. Runners will be detailed to keep communication between Company Commander and the Officers on the emplacement positions.

9. The following messages will be sent by position Officers to the Company Commander and forwarded by him to the C.O., Prov. Bn.

(a) JERRY - When all preparations are complete.

(b) - Wind messages every half hour from ZERO minus 2 hours.

HEADQUARTERS, PROVISIONAL BATTALION,
UNITED STATES ARMY,
ALBANY, N. Y.

July 17th, 1918.

Supplement to Operation Order #17.
Map Reference, MONT-MARS, 1:20,000.

1. Subject to Operation Order #17, except as otherwise specified herein, COMPANY "B" of this Battalion will conduct the following gas attack.

(a) Flash simulating projector discharge.

Position "D" - 559.90 - 232.80
Time - ZERO.

(b) Projector Discharge.

<u>Number of Rounds.</u>	<u>Implacement.</u>	<u>Target.</u>
60	Position "F"	Area enclosed by 560.25 - 233.85,
	360.70 -	560.10 - 232.70, 560.45 - 233.45,
	232.50.	560.42 - 233.70.

Time - ZERO plus 30 minutes.

(c) Stokes Mortar Discharge.

<u>No. of Guns.</u>	<u>No. of rounds per gun.</u>	<u>Implacement.</u>	<u>Target.</u>
4	20	Position "G"	Area enclosed by 560.60 -
		360.75 - 232.56	533.02, 560.80 - 233.17,
			560.65 - 232.17, 560.65 -
			233.02.

2. The following ZONES are added to those covered in paragraph 1E of Operation Order #17.

(a) To be cleared from ZERO minus 5 minutes until ALL CLEAR signal:

ZONE enclosed by our front line and lines through points 560.40 - 232.80, 560.65 - 232.50, 560.80 - 232.55, 560.87 - 232.83.

(b) Troops to remain under cover as far as possible and to wear gas masks from ZERO minus 5 minutes until ALL CLEAR signal.

ZONE enclosed by our front line and lines through points 559.60 - 232.85, 560.65 - 232.50, 560.77 - 232.55, 562.05 - 233.65.

3. PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE.

For and in the absence of

Robert W. Crawford,
Major, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A.

Copies:

- 1 - 32nd Corps G2
- 2 - 65th French Div. G2.
- 3 - C.O., 30th Engrs.
- 4-5 32nd Amer. Div.
- 6 - War Diary
- 7-8 Files.

C.F. Wood
Captain, A. R. C.

W 42A-10

CHIEF GAS OFFICER
1st Army Corps

RECEIVED
6 AOH 1918

DEFENSE DIVISION, CHEMICAL WARFARE DIVISION

Report on Gas Attack.

(Date of report) 5-8-18
Corps 1st
Division 42nd

Unit All infantry fronts Location North of Chateau Thierry

From M 27-27-1918, to M 2-8-1918

Method of attack (shells, cylinders, projectors) Shell

No. of shells Indeterminate Caliber Various Gas used HS; Green Cross

Wind direction _____ Velocity _____ M.P.H. Temperature _____ Humidity _____

Character of terrain (woods, sloping ground, ravine, swamp, etc.) Hilling, interspersed with wooded patches.

Area of terrain and length of front affected Four kilometers

No. of troops exposed 15000

Duds found at (Co-ordinates) _____ No. _____ Caliber _____

Markings _____

Total Casualties including deaths 200 (approx) Total deaths None

*Lung cases _____ *Eye cases or burns _____

Causes of casualties (approx. no. from each cause; failure to put on mask, premature removal, etc.) A part of the casualties can be attributed to the fact that the tactical situation demanded that men advance over ground slightly saturated with HS. A great per cent were malingerers.

Length of time respirators were worn One to six hours

Was any part of gassed area evacuated? Yes At what time? 1/2 hour after bombardment

Was attempt made to relieve units required to remain in sector? No, unfeasible

At what time (in the case of mustard gas) was disinfection of ground begun Immediately

Completed? In a very short time

Remarks: (should include any new tactical use of gas, any suggestions, etc.)
A large number of men were sent to the dressing stations from the firing line tagged as gassed. These men were later retagged and marked as worn out due to over exertion and lack of food.

(Signed) Chas. H. Gerrill
Capt. Engr. R.C.

*Information to be given when possible.

(b) The information given below is that relative to definite, concerted gas attacks by the enemy on units of or positions held by this Division.

I.

I. Attack on Bouquet Rouge sector near Luneville, March 20-21, 1918; 4000 shells, calibre 77mm, 105 mm, and 150 mm; extent of area, 2 kilometers by 1 kilometer in depth. This attack occurred in a swampy woods and it was necessary temporarily to abandon some of the front line positions on account of the high concentration of gas. Mustard Gas

II. Continued attack on a battery position in the Baccarat sector near Pexonne, May 1-3, 1918; 1000 shells, calibre 77mm and 105mm; extent of area, 1 square kilometer. This attack took place on the battery and along the route it was necessary to take to carry up ammunition. It was impossible to abandon the position at the time of the attack, (although it was abandoned later) because the Division was engaged in an operation and the battery was firing an important problem. Mustard Gas

III. Attack on infantry support and front line positions at Village Negre near Badonviller, May 27, 1918; 600 projector bombs, calibre 18cm smooth bore M.W. Phosgene gas; extent of area, 2 kilometers by 3/4 kilometer in depth. The gassed area was the wooded slope and valley which formed the support position. There was a very heavy concentration of gas and vegetation was killed 3 kilometers from the point where the projector bombs fell.

IV. Attack on infantry support position as mentioned above, May 29, 1918; 300 projector bombs, calibre 18cm smooth bore M.W., phosgene gas; extent of area, 1 kilometer by 3/4 kilometer in depth. Very heavy concentration of gas.

V. Accompanying the above attack mentioned in III there was an attack by shells on approximately one half of the battery positions in the 42nd Division area; 5300 shells, calibre 77mm, 105mm, and 150mm; extent 65 area, 3 kilometers by 1/2 in depth. Mustard and phosgene gas.

VI. Attack on infantry front line and support positions near Ancerviller, June 6, 1918; 4000 shells, calibre 77mm. In this attack it was difficult to determine exactly what percentage of the shells were gas. It is very probable, however, that approximately 25% were gas of which the majority were diphenylchlorarsine. Extent of area gassed, 3 kilometers by 1/2 kilometer

VII. Attack on three infantry support positions of entire Baccarat sector, June 16, 1918; 2000 shells, calibre 77mm and 105mm, phosgene, mustard, chlorpicrin, and diphenylchlorarsine gasses. The targets for the gas were for the most part woods and small villages and covered an area of approximately 8 square kilometers.

VIII. In the defensive engagement in Champagne from July 15-19, 1918, in which this Division participated, all the combatant troops including the Engineers, a total of 23000, were subjected to an intense bombardment of H.E. and gas which lasted for four hours prior to the initial infantry attack by the Germans. During this time and for four days more hundreds of thousands of shells fell on the territory occupied by our troops. However, it is impossible to estimate the number of gas shells that fell. Extent of gassed area, 14 sq. Kilometers. Country very level interspersed with small woods.

IX. Attack on entire Division front north of Chateau Thierry, July 26-August 3, 1918. As in the Champagne engagement the fighting lasted over several days, the number of shells falling being enormous. In this engagement the enemy fought a rear guard action using quite a lot of gas ammunition in their small trench mortars. Impossible to estimate the number of shells. The country was rolling interspersed with forests. Extent of gassed area, 15 sq. kilometers.

X. Attack on infantry outpost positions and woods near St. Benoit, Sept. 28-29, 1918; 1750 shells, calibre 77mm, 105mm, and 150mm. Mustard gas; extent of area, 2 square kilometers.

XI. Attack on entire Division front in positions occupied before St. Georges and Landres-et-St. Georges, from Oct. 12 to Oct. 21, 1918. It is quite impossible to determine the number of shells, but all calibres were used with mustard and phosgene gas. The country is rugged and wooded. Area gassed 7 Sq. kilometers.

XII. Attack on a battery position near Hill 263 in the Argonne district October 30, 1918; 2660 shells, calibre 77mm, mustard gas; battery located in edge of woods. Extent of area gassed, $1\frac{1}{2}$ sq. kilometers. This was the last concerted gas attack against any unit in this Division. In the further operations northwards toward Sedan a few gas shells were thrown over but no casualties resulted.

(c) The entire Division minus the 67th Field Artillery Brigade received initial training in gas defense for five weeks prior to taking up positions in the line. This training was conducted by the Division gas officer and by four infantry officers who had received adequate schooling in British gas schools. The 67th F.A. Brig. received training in gas defense by four officers sent from the 1st Corps Schools to the brigade area at Coetquidan. It is not known how long this brigade was in training in gas defense as this office was not in touch with it at that time.

Immediately after the disastrous attack on the infantry position in the Luneville sector and during the time the Division was out of the Luneville sector preparing to take up positions in the Baccarat sector, all units received intensive gas training given by regimental gas officers.

After taking up positions in the Baccarat sector there was no time devoted to gas defense training until we were relieved there and sent to the Champagne district. Here a week's very intensive gas training was given by the regimental gas officers preparatory to taking up positions in the Champagne front.

There was no time for further gas defense training until we were in rest area for about a week previous to the St. Mihiel offensive. At this time practically the entire Division was re-equipped with respirators and more training given by regimental gas officers.

At the present time the training and inspections as required by Memo. 4, Jan. 4, 1919, Hq. 3rd Army are being rigidly adhered to.

Chester M. Neff
Chester M. Neff
1st Lieut., CWS
Div. Gas Officer

True Copy:
Selected Print
Capt 30th Engrs

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL BATTALION
THIRTIETH ENGINEERS
AMERICAN E. F.

July 31, 1918.

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S/S

OPERATION ORDER # 21

Reference Map. - STE-MARIE-AUX-MINES. - 1:20,000

1. The following projections will be made by Company "A", 30th Engineers at a time and date to be notified later.

<u>2. Projector Emplacement.</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>No. of Drums.</u>
Area about ^{"B"} 454.54 - 159.68	Area about ^{"A"} 455.34 - 160.00	150 C.G.
Area about ^{"B"} 454.54 - 159.54	Area about ^{"B"} 455.25 - 159.00	250 C.G.
Area about ^{"B-1"} 454.70 - 158.64	Area about ^{"B"} 455.25 - 159.00	100 C.G.

Stokes Mortar Emplacement.

Area about ^{"B-2"} 454.70 - 158.56	Area about ^{"C"} 455.08 - 159.68	300 C.G.
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Emplacements and targets are shown on the attached map.

- All projector drums will be discharged at "H" hour. Stokes Mortars will fire at "H" hour and will continue rapid fire until all ammunition is fired.
- Watches will be synchronized according to 21st French Divisional Time.
- A decision will be made on the day of the proposed gas attack at "H" hour minus six (6) hours, as to whether wind conditions justify the Company proceeding to battle position or otherwise. This decision will be communicated to Divisional Headquarters.
- The decision for the discharge will be made by an officer of the Provisional Battalion, 30th Engineers. If however, the officer in charge at the emplacements considers the local conditions are outside the limits laid down in paragraph eight (8), he may cancel at "H" hour. If weather conditions are such at "H" hour minus two (2) hours that there are no prospects of a favorable wind, the operation will be cancelled for the day, in which case the decision will be communicated to Divisional Headquarters.
- The following Code will be used:

OPERATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE - - - - - TOUL
OPERATIONS CANCELLED - - - - - NANCY

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8. No gas will be liberated unless the wind is between NORTH through WEST to SOUTH.
9. An officer of the Provisional Battalion, 30th Engineers, will be located at P.C. BRIAL 455.24 - 158.48 from "H" hour minus two (2) hours and onwards. Captain Pond, Commanding Officer, Company "A" (Code name ANDRE) will be located at P.C. LA OUDE 454.28 - 159.30 from "H" hour minus two (2) hours and onwards, and will be in communication with P.C. BRIAL.
10. The following message will be sent by Position Officers to Captain Pond.

BOIS - - - When all preparations are complete.

11. The Zone enclosed by our front line and a line through points 454.97-160.25, 454.50 - 159.74, 454.50 - 159.48, 454.80 - 158.87, 454.68 - 158.70, 454.68 - 158.50 and 454.75 - 158.50 should be cleared of all troops. All troops in the Zone enclosed by our front line and by a line through points 454.97 - 160.25, 454.50 - 159.74 and 454.68 - 160.55 and the Zone enclosed by a line through points 454.40 - 157.42, 454.50 - 159.48, 454.80 - 158.87, 454.68 - 158.70, 454.68 - 158.50, and 454.75 - 158.50 should as far as possible remain under cover and will wear their gas masks from "H" hour minus five (5) minutes until they receive an order from an officer that, "all is clear". The Cleared Area is shown in Green on the attached map and the Mask Area is shown in Yellow.
12. Please acknowledge.

(Sgd) ROBERT W. CRAWFORD
Major, Corps of Engrs., U.S.A.

Copies to:

1. 33rd French Corps.
- 2-3. 21st French Div.
- 4-5. Co. A, 30th Engrs.
6. C.O., 30th Engrs.
- 7-8. C.O. Prov. Bn.
9. War Diary.
10. File.

ETAT - MAJOR

3e Bureau

N° 8525

G.C. le 9 Août 1918

R E N D U

(True Copy;

Capt. Eng. U.S.A.)

UNCLASSIFIED

I.- Le 9 Août 1918, des reconnaissances ont été exécutées dans la Région de l'H.W.K. et de l'HIRTZBERG en vue de l'emploi de la Compagnie Américaine de Projectors au 30e Btn. Provisoire du Génie.

Ont pris part à ces reconnaissances : le Lt-Colonel VASSAL Cdt. le 3/Secteur B, le Capitaine POND Cdt. la Cie. de Projectors, le Capitaine anglais WILSON détaché à cette Cie, le Commandant PUGNES de l' H.K. de la 22e D.I.

Les reconnaissances ont donné le résultat suivant.

II.-CHOIX DE L'OBJECTIF : L'objectif qui a paru le plus favorable est la région de l'BERN-SUISSES (H.W.K.) où stationnent en permanence des effectifs allemands évalués à deux compagnies d'infanterie avec des formations de H.W.

L'HIRTZBERG n'a pas été retenu, la densité d'occupation allemande dans cette zone n'est pas importante.

III.-EMPLACEMENTS DE TIR DES PROJECTORS. - A l'ouest de la crête descendant du SILBERBACH vers RENIE. Cet emplacement déjà signalé par le Cdt. WINCKEL dans son rapport du 16 Février 1918 est à l'abri des vues ennemies, il est à bonne portée de l'objectif - ; le sol bien qu'en partie rocheux n'offrirait pas des difficultés spéciales pour la construction des éléments de tranchées nécessaires pour l'installation des engins.

IV.-TRANSPORT DU MATERIEL ET MUNITIONS. - (Ce matériel est évalué à 80 tonnes, pour un tir de 500 bombes; il peut se fractionner en éléments de 50 Kgs.).

1°/ En camions automobiles (appartenant à la Cie de Projectors) jusqu'au pied du câble BARENTALWALD - TURENNE ;

2°/ Par le câble BARENTALWALD-TURENNE jusqu'à TURENNE (une bonne monte 150 Kgs. en 7 minutes) ;

3°/ Par mulets de TURENNE à RENIE - bon chemin - trajet presque horizontal - 80 mulets seraient nécessaires (à prélever sur les équipages muletiers du secteur).

V.-TEMPS NECESSAIRE POUR TRANSPORTER LE MATERIEL A FIED D'OEUVRE ET EXECUTER LES TRAVAUX :

Environ 10 jours.

VI.-PRECAUTIONS POUR LE TIR. - Un certain nombre de G.C. du P.A. versant Sud et H.W.K. seraient évacuées pendant le tir.

VII.-EN RESUME, je propose de faire exécuter par la Cie Américaine de Projectors un tir de 500 bombes sur la région de l'BERN-SUISSES (H.W.K.).-

LE GENERAL COMMANDANT LA 22° D.I.

Destinataires :

33e C.A.
Cie Américaine de Projectors.

RENOUARD (?)

UNCLASSIFIED

(COPY* JAK)

HEADQUARTERS 42ND DIVISION
OFFICE CHIEF GAS OFFICER.

GAF-42A-11

Sept. 28th, 1918.
Corps, - 4th
Div. - 42nd.

Report on Gas Attack.

Unit, - 157th and 168th Inf. Location, - St. Benoit Sector.
From 4 A.M., Sept. 26th, 1918, to 6 p.m. Sept. 26th, 1918.
Method of attack, - Shells.
No. of shells, - 750 Caliber, - 105mm and 150mm. Gas used, - Mustard
Wind direction, - N.E. Velocity, - 10 mph. Temperature, - about 60 deg.F.
Character of terrain, - Flat, swampy, partly open and partly wooded.
Area of terrain and length of front affected, - Presence of gas was
detected at points along a front of two kilometers and to a depth
of one kilometer.
Number of troops exposed, - Approximately 500.
No duds recovered.
Total casualties, - Nineteen Deaths, - None.
All men had lungs and eyes affected, three men were burned.
Causes of casualties, - Six of the casualties were occupying an advanced
outpost and were in close proximity to the burst of a shell. The
shells fell during a bombardment with H.E. and these men first
became aware of the gas when it rolled in on them. It was three
of these men who were burned. The balance of the casualties were
not in the immediate vicinity of the shells. Light concentrations
of mustard gas drifted to them at intervals. Masks were not put
on often enough or worn long enough.
Length of time respirators were worn, - Variable.
Was any part of gassed area evacuated? - Yes. At what time? - 11 A.M.
Was attempt made to relieve units required to remain in sector? - No,
unnecessary.
Remarks: The first part of the bombardments was upon areas I and II from
4 A.M. to 12 m. Casualties were avoided by immediate evacuations.
The second part of the attack took place upon area III later in
the afternoon. As the shells did not fall in the immediate vicinity
of the men exposed, neither the battalion nor regimental gas officer
was notified. The gas N.C.O. was some distance away making
inspections and the officers in charge did not realize the cumulative
effect of light concentrations of mustard gas. However, this situation
is covered in the "Standing Orders for Defense against Gas" in the
42nd Division, and a thorough study of these orders by the officers
of the division would prevent a recurrence of casualties from the
same cause.

(Signed) Chas. H. Gorrill,
Capt. U.S.A., Engr.,
Div. Gas Officer, 42nd Division.

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HEADQUARTERS 42nd DIVISION
OFFICE CHIEF GAS OFFICER
26
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Oct. 11th, 1918.
5th Army Corps,
42nd Division.



REPORT ON GAS ATTACK

Unit,- C Bty, 151st F.A. Location,- Coordinates 74-16 VERDUN ~~1/20000~~
From 7.00 AM, Oct 11th, 1918 to 10.00 AM, Oct. 11th, 1918.
Method of attack, - Shells.
No. of shells,- 200 Caliber,- 105 mm. Gas used,- Green Cross.
Wind direction,- No.wind. Temperature,- 65 F. Humidity,- High.
Character of terrain,- Battery stationed in ravine surrounded by rolling open country.
Area of terrain and length of front affect,- About 100 meters by 250 meters.
No. of troops exposed,- 54.
Total casualties including deaths,-4. Deaths,- None.
Lung cases,- 4.
Causes of casualties,- Unavoidable, due to sudden burst of gas shells mixed with H.E. falling directly in front of battery.
Length of time respirators were worn,- 3½ hrs.
Gassed area evacuated from 7.00 AM to 10.00 AM.
Remarks,- Lt. McCoy, one of the casualties, was approaching battery position from headquarters when gas shell struck immediately in front of him, stunning him for a moment, and he became slightly gassed before regaining consciousness. The other three men were gassed at battery position at the first burst of shell fire, before opportunity was given to put on respirators. This was in a measure due to disguising the gas shells by mixing them with the H.E.

1/20000

Chas. H. Gorrill,
Capt. U.S.A., Engrs.
Div.Gas Officer 42nd Div.

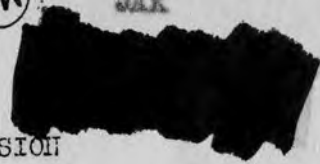
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AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES
DEFENSE DIVISION, CHEMICAL WARFARE DIVISION

Report on Gas Attack.

(Date of report) 10/30/18
Corps 5th
Division 42nd

Unit Batts. A, B, 151st P.A. Location Left and front of Hill 263

From 2:00 a.m. 10-27 1918, to 6:00 a.m. 10-27 1918.

Method of attack (shells, cylinders, projectors) Shells

No. of shells 350 Caliber 77 mm. Gas used Mustard

Wind direction _____ Velocity _____ M.P.H. Temperature _____ Humidity _____

Character of terrain (woods, sloping ground, ravine, swamp, etc.) sloping ground

Area of terrain and length of front affected 2 areas each 300 by 200 meters

No. of troops exposed 99

Duds found at (Co-ordinates) no duds No. _____ Caliber _____

Markings _____

Total Casualties including deaths 47 Total deaths _____

*Lung cases 8 *Eye cases or burns 39

Causes of casualties (approx. no. from each cause; failure to put on mask, premature removal, etc.) Failure to appreciate necessity for use of mask. Premature removal immediate cause of casualties.

Length of time respirators were worn In one area, 2 hours; in the other 4 1/2 hrs

Was any part of gassed area evacuated? Yes At what time? Immediately

Was attempt made to relieve units required to remain in sector? no

At what time (in the case of mustard gas) was disinfection of ground begun? At daylight

Completed? Half hour later

Remarks: (should include any new tactical use of gas, any suggestions, etc.) _____

Gas was put over in shells equipped with time fuses, scattering the liquid on trees and underbrush. At sunrise it began to vaporize. The concentration was so light that the men did not appreciate its danger. They proceeded with their work of unloading ammunition, and it was not until afternoon that casualties became apparent.

(Signed) Chas. H. Corvill,

Capt. Engr. USA.

Dir. Gas Officer

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AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

Report on Gas Attack.

Serial No. 2
Date _____ 1918.Hr. _____
(of this report)

Unit: 149th Mach. Gun Bn. Location: Ancerville Sector

Character of Ground: Clear rolling ground

From: M. April 30th 1918 to: M. _____ 1918

Wind Dir: Northerly Vel: _____ m.p.h. Temp: _____ Humidity: _____

Nature of Gas: Mustard with indications of phosgene

Shell Markings: No duds located

Method of Projection: Artillery, 77mm.

Duds found at: _____ No: _____ Caliber: _____

Casualties - Total: seventeen Dead: none Evacuated: seventeen

Causes of Casualties (Approx. No. from each cause): Most of the casualties were due to the men walking through a swale in which the gas had settled, while making relief, they entered the gas unexpectedly and were too late in adjusting respirators.
Length of time Respirators were worn: 30 minutes.

Remarks: The casualties are slight. Probably some malingerers.

(Signed) Chas. R. Gerrill,
Capt. Engrs. U.S.R.
Div. Gas Officer 42nd Div.

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

Report on Gas Attack.

Date _____ Serial No. _____
 1918.Hr. 1
 (of this report)

Unit: Battery E, 150th F.A. Location: Battery position 456, G.R. 54

Character of Ground: Wooded and fairly level

From: 12 noon M. May 1st 1918 to: morning M. May 3rd 1918

Five shellings took place at intervals within this period

Wind Dir: _____ Vel: _____ m.p.h. Temp: _____ Humidity: High

Nature of Gas: Mustard with a few H. B. shells

Shell Markings: Yellow Cross.

Method of Projection: Artillery Shells

Duds found at: Fragments No: _____ Caliber: 97mm.

Casualties - Total: 34 Dead: none Evacuated: 34

Causes of Casualties (Approx. No. from each cause): About ten men were burned with the gas, due to handling and carrying ammunition from the dump to the guns. Balance of casualties were due to removing mask while there was still a light concentration of gas, and then performing hard physical work.

Length of time Respirators were worn: _____

Remarks: During the whole period of the attack the men of Battery E worked their guns, firing over 2200 155mm shell. The average carry for the ammunition was over 180ft. Respirators were removed while there was still a light concentration of gas. This might not have been strong enough to cause casualties were it not for the continuous hard work in the infected area. Shell holes were disinfected between bombardments. Casualties were very light.

(Signed) _____
Chas. H. Gerrill
 Capt. Engrs. U.S.R.
 Div. Gas Officer 42nd Div.

HEADQUARTERS 42nd DIVISION
OFFICE DIVISION GAS OFFICER.

30 January 1919.

From: Division Gas Officer, 42nd Division
To: Chief Chemical Warfare Service. Through channels.
Subject: Report as per Circular Letter No. 89

1. As requested in the above circular letter to all gas officers the ensuing report is submitted:

(a) Casualties from gas. It is thought the following table will give the desired information.

Date	Total Casualties including Deaths	Deaths	Evacuated
March 20	417		417
April 19	3		3
" 21	1		1
23	1		1
24	2		2
30	9		9
May 2	4		4
3	33		33
4	7		7
5	20		20
6	4		4
7	1		1
8	2		2
12	1		1
16	7		7
19	1		1
25	8		8
26	6		6
27	236	34	202
28	15		15
29	53		53
June 3	2		2
6	42		42
12	1		1
18	135		135
19	133		133

Date	Total Casualties including deaths	Deaths	Evacuated	
July 5	5		5	
6	2		2	
11	34		34	
15-19	350		250	
26	65		65	
27	75	1113	75	
28	219		219	
29	142		142	
30	173		173	
31 - Aug 3	48		48	
Sept 13	25			
17	3			
18	1			
19	8			
21	1	74	46	28 ret'd to duty
27	1			
28	17			
29	13			
30	5			
Oct 1-12	27			
13	17			
14	30			
15	258		258	
16	80		80	
17	63	1	62	
18	54			
19	21	783		94 ret'd to duty this date
20	39			
21	24			
22	13			
23-27	20			
28	46			
29	55			
30-31	16			
Nov 1	19			
2	10			
6	1	23		
7	3			

The above records are as complete as can be found from available records in the Div. Surgeon's and Statistical office. It is reasonable to presume, for instance, that out of the 1113 casualties resulting from the Champagne and Marne engagements of July and early August a few must have died from the gas received, although such is not necessarily the case and no records show it.

42nd Division.

Date	Location	Cal.	Filling	Estimated No. of shell.	Casualties	Deaths	Remarks
16/6/18	Esperence and Souain	-	Mustard gas Diphosgene	-	100	-	
18/6/18	James Sector	-	Mustard gas Diphosgene Chlorpicrin H.E.	5000	220	-	Support lines

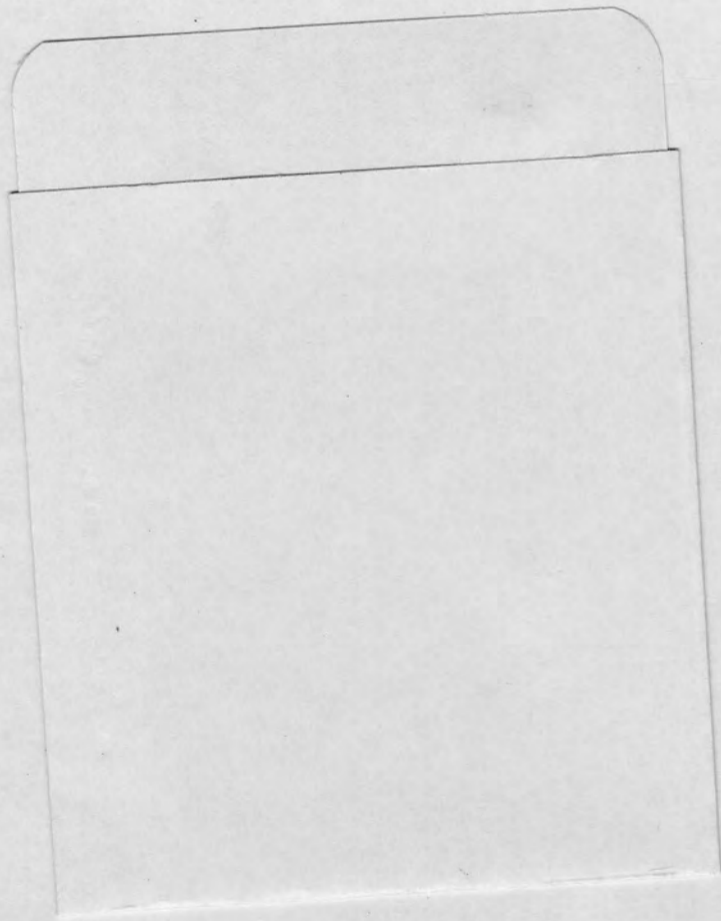
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166th Infantry (42nd Division)

Date	Location	Cal.	Filling	Estimated No. of shell.	Casualties	Deaths	Remarks
6/6/18 1 - 3 A.M.	Ancerviller sub-sector	77 mm 105 mm 150 mm	Phosgene	3000 to 4000 gas & H.E.	43	1	Rolling and partly wooded.
18 to 19/6/18 7:00 PM to 3:30 A.M.	Support positions along whole Division Front.	77 mm 105 mm	Yellow Cross Green Cross	4000 H.E. and gas.	220	-	Rolling and partly wooded. 166-167-168th Inf. X

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