

Cuirassiers:

See Cavalry.

To Consolidate a Position:

To re-arrange the defenses of a captured position, place fresh barbed-wired entanglements about it, and alter it so that it can be held against a counter-attack.

Cupola:

A turret with armour containing a gun or machine gun.

Curtain of Fire:

Is when a large number of guns so direct their shells as to cut off the enemy's approach or retreat by a line of shells descending steadily in his front or rear. A Curtain of Shells is generally used in the attack on the first-line trenches to prevent the arrival of supports.

Defile:

In ordinary colloquial language means a narrow pass in hills or broken ground. In military language, it is applied to any ground where it is impossible to march on a broad front and troops are forced in a narrow column. Thus, a road running between two marshes, where the troops upon it cannot leave the road and form line, would be described as a defile.

Deploy:

To form from a narrow onto a broader front, e.g., to form marching column into line.

Dragoons:

See Cavalry.

Division:

A smaller body of troops than an army corps, usually containing infantry and artillery with a strength of about 18,000,

Dugout:

A shelter in the trenches below the level of the earth, out of which it is dug. Men take refuge in it during a bombardment and live in it when not required for the defense of the trenches.