

with our 2nd. Division, and the 3rd. Australian Division on the left, resting on the south bank of the Somme, with the 5th. and 4th. Australian Divisions in support. North of the Somme the III (British) Corps had the 58th. and 18th. Divisions in line and the 12th. Division in support. It may be explained here that in recording all dispositions, objectives and the line held, it is the practice to name Units as from the right flank, on the south in the present case, to the left, or north.

The objectives of the Canadian Corps for the first day were:—

- (1) The Green Line, just east of the line Hamon Wood-Courcelles - Marcelcave - Lamotte en Santerre (north of the Amiens-Roye railway).
- (2) The Red Line, just east of Mezieres-Maison Blanche-Camp Vermont Farm—and the high ground east of Guillaucourt, on the Amiens-Chaulnes railway.
- (3) The Blue Line, comprising the outer defenses of Amiens, which ran east of the line Hangest-Quesnel-Caix-Harbonnieres.

The latter was not intended as the final objective for the day, and the Cavalry was to exploit beyond it if possible. The average depth of penetration necessary to capture the Blue line was 14,000 yards.

The ground was very difficult, most of our forward area consisting of bare slopes exposed to enemy observation from the high ground south of the Luce River and east of Hourges. On our right the Luce river and its marshes, from two to three hundred yards in width, provided an obstacle impassable to troops. Here the only practicable access to the jumping-off line was by the bridge and road from Domart to Hourges, a narrow defile about 200 yards long commanded throughout by the high ground immediately to the east and especially from Dodo and Moreuil woods. These conditions rendered the assembly of troops prior to the attack very difficult. Some distance west of our front line, woods, villages and sunken