

(east of Arras), and it was agreed it would help materially to deceive *everybody* if preparations for this scheme were still continued. . . .

"The following day a conference of Divisional Commanders and members of the Corps Staff was held at Canadian Corps Headquarters, where the outline of the scheme for the capture of Orange Hill was explained, and the Divisional Commanders and heads of branches and services concerned were asked to make all preparations for this attack as quickly as possible. It was stated that Tanks would be available for the operation and it was therefore essential that all concerned should familiarize themselves with the combined tactics of Infantry and Tanks. I explained that demonstrations had been arranged with the Australians and that it was my wish that the greatest possible number of officers should witness them.

"In the meantime the enemy was to be harassed on the whole Canadian Corps front by Artillery and Machine-Gun fire, and numerous raids were to be carried out to secure positive identifications (thus leading the enemy to anticipate an early attack in force). Further conferences were held from time to time at the Fourth Army Headquarters, where plans were made for the necessary reliefs and moves, and the necessity of the maintenance of secrecy emphasized.

"On July 26 the Fourth Army Commander stated that the plans originally put forward, and which had been approved by the Commander-in-Chief, had been modified by Marshal Foch, in that the First French Army would now co-operate with the Fourth British Army and be responsible for the right flank of the attack. On July 27 the general boundaries and the objectives of the first day were fixed, and movements of the Canadian Corps and Tank Units were arranged. It was decided notably that Units were to leave their areas without knowing their destinations, and that it would be given out freely that the Canadian Corps was moving to the Ypres front, where the Second Army expected a German attack.

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