

Battle of Cambrai, September 27th to October 2nd, 1918.

After the Canadian Corps had reached the line of the Canal du Nord, fighting on a large scale ceased for nearly three weeks, although those divisions in the line still kept up a never-ending skirmish with the enemy outposts. In the meantime, the fighting to the south was being prosecuted vigorously, and on September 18th the Third and Fourth Armies once again went into action, launching the Battle of Epehy. In two days of fighting here 11,750 prisoners and 100 guns were captured and the outer defences of the Hindenburg Line in that sector were broken.

This brought the southern group of British Armies into position for the attack on the main defences of the Hindenburg Line—an attack that was launched on the 27th of September on a front of 30 miles and that, in four days of violent fighting, carried the line to St. Quentin and Cambrai, and resulted in the defeat of forty-five German divisions and the capture of 36,500 prisoners and 380 guns. This battle was continued a week later when in three days a further 12,000 prisoners and 250 guns were captured.

This great battle was known as the Battle of Cambrai—St. Quentin. It was fought by the First, Third and Fourth British Armies, was launched on a thirty-mile front from St. Quentin to the Valley of the Sensee and penetrated to a maximum depth of twenty miles. The official summary describes this battle as one