

**THE GERMAN SPRING
OFFENSIVES
21 MARCH – 17 JULY 1918**

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- Strategic context
- Description of the Offensives
- What happened generally
- How did the Australians fare
- Conclusions
- Questions

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- Russia out – US in
- The submarine threat averted but the Germans experience the effects of the blockade
 - One reason for the vicious treaty of Brest-Litovsk
- The French awaiting the US?
- German manpower issues
- German political crisis at home and militarisation of the economy

Young British conscripts photographed at the infantry base depot at Etaples in 1918. (IWM)



The youth of German POWs surprised their captors in 1918. *(Allen Collection)*



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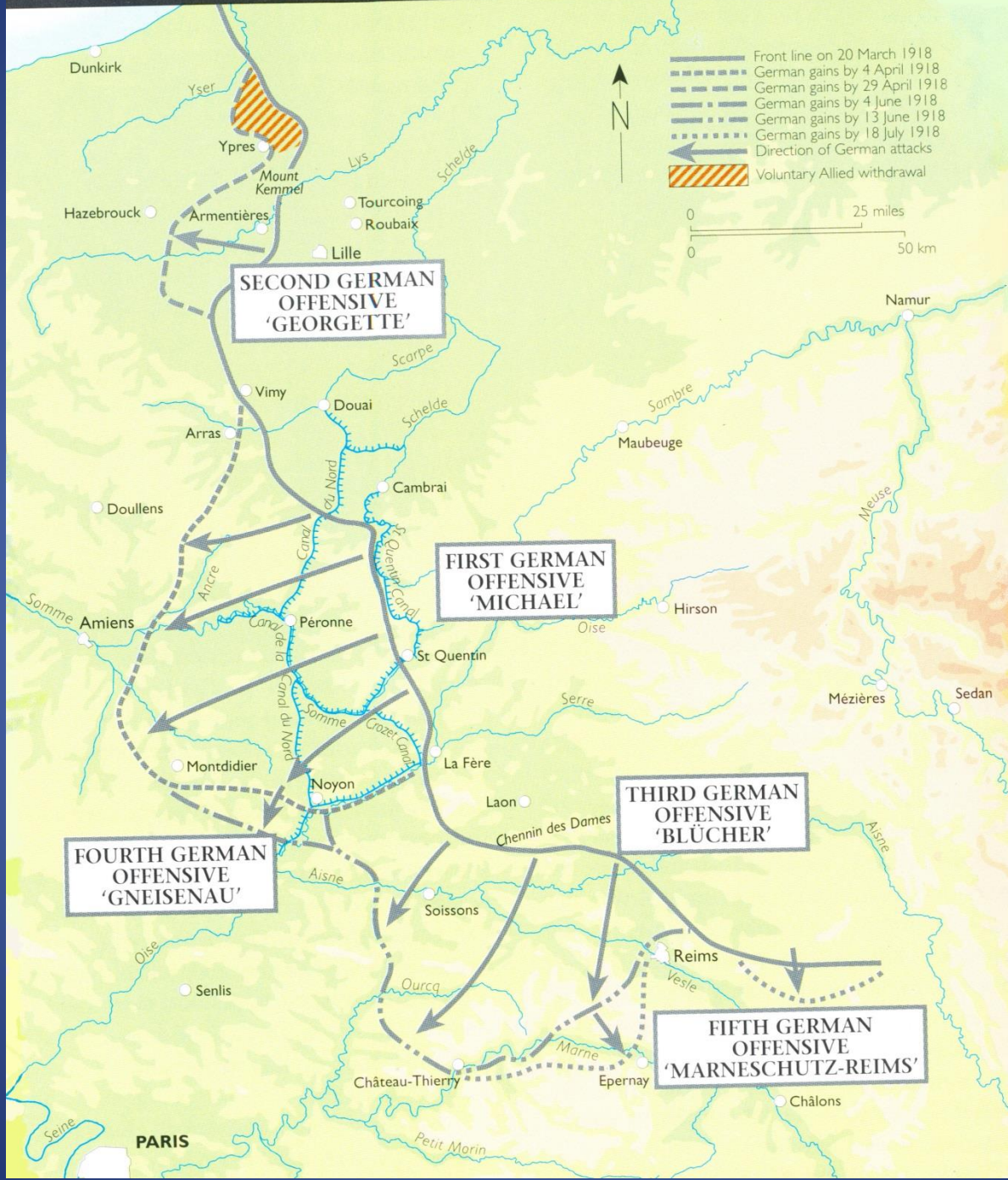




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The German offensives, March–July 1918



Operation Michael: The plan

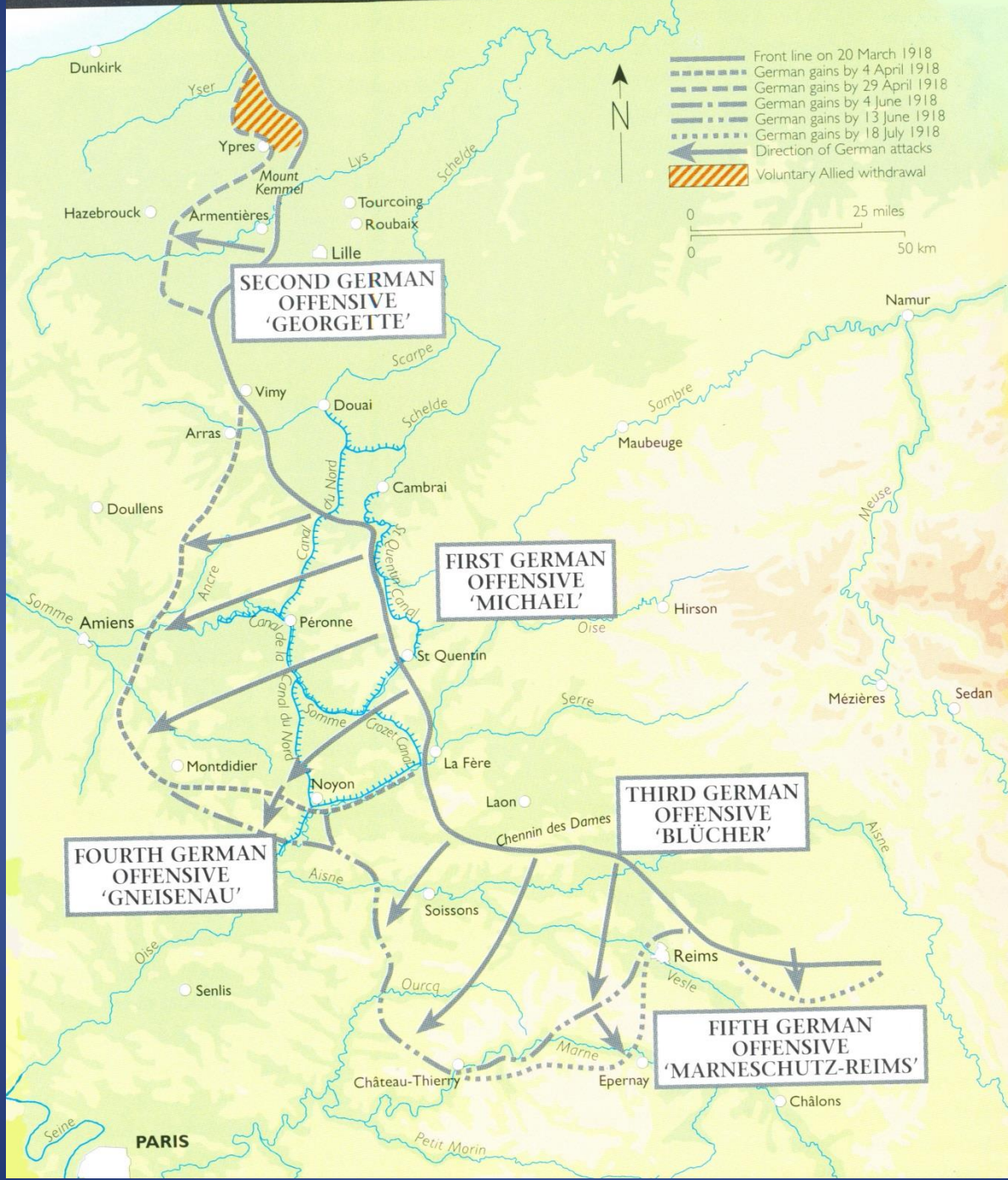






German transport – mostly horse-drawn – on the Albert–Bapaume road, March 1918. (IWM)

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- Questions