arrived. They have never arrived, and where all the rest of the reinforcements have disappeared is difficult to discover.

As you will gather it is very difficult to give any idea of what is the true situation unless exact information is given to me.

There is no doubt that on this occasion the concentration of Russian troops has been appallingly slow and for a great deal of the present situation the Russians have only themselves to blame.

It is to be feared that they will not now be able to hold even the Rimnik Visirou line, as they are very much outnumbered and under gunned. So what exactly will happen is hard to foretell. I should not be surprised if the whole of the Dobruja were lost as well as Braila, Galats etc, which means that the Germans would be justified in having a shot for Kishinieﬀ and Odessa. This regrettable inability of the Russians to decide or act quickly has been a great feature of the recent operations, as apart from the known poverty of railway and other communications, they have not even managed to walk half the distance without opposition as the Germans have marched while ﬁghting all the time.

The D.M.O. when the position was put to him only said that they would get out of it somehow. I expect shortly to be sending you by cable the present ordre de bataille of the whole of this front. This is extremely diﬃcult to get as I have reported before, partly because they say that we do not give them similar information.