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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

JUNE TO
OCTOBER 1944

ORIGINAL

'B' HEAVY BATTERY

Original

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

Unit "B" Aust. Hvy. Battery

Date and Time.—From 1st June To 31st August

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Bou	8th June		MAJOR DAVIES-Arrived H.Q. M.B.B.S.A. 1300 hours, received warning to move all equipment immediately. Supposed to move within 3 days-appreciation of work involved to Commander. Approximated two weeks to have all men and equipment at Gilli. Picked up tools and repository stores-arrived Bou 1900 hours.	
Bou	9th June		MAJOR DAVIES-Cut new track down slope for moving guns. Moved Bofor gun on double blocks down to camp area. Sent for F.C. barge, but heavy seas persisted and barge could not come.	
Bou	9th June		LIEUT. WARD- No. 4 ordered to move to Battery site. Searchlights and generator ready for shipment	

G.H. Scarp H.

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Unit "B" Aust. Hvy. Battery

Date and Time.—From 1st June To 31st August

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			Friday night.	
Bou	9th June		LIEUT. SCAIFE—Ammunition to be shifted approximately 1000 cartridges and 689 shells mostly on the battery position necessitating some means of lowering them down hill. Flying fox engaged in hauling repository stores so very few shells were lowered by fox on Friday. To remove cartridges from No. 2 gun and 2 strand 8 gauge wire was stretched from No. 2 gun approximately 100 yards to proximity of flying fox stand. This was used as a non-return flying fox with a camouflage net doubled acting as a buffer at the receiving end. All the cartridges were removed during the	

G. H. Scaife Lt.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			course of Friday and Saturday from No. 2 gun in this manner. Cartridges from No. 1 gun were loaded into locally constructed improvised sleds and skidded down the hill.	
Bou	9th June		LIEUT. SMEE- All B.O.P. and C.D.B.O.P. instruments removed, all telephones disconnected and assembled. Plotting instruments packed.	
Bou	10th June		MAJOR DAVIES- Moved No. 1 gun trails first half down slope—although very safe method, found difficult to manoeuvre as trails dug deeply into slope, consequently steering was tedious process, Heavy rain fell and wind was bitterly cold. Steel portable mount removed.	

J. H. Sharp Lieut.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Bou	10th June		LIEUT. WARD- Trailer moved to Battery per beach low tide. All stores and personnel moved to Battery. Weather bad and heavy seas. Removal of Killerton held up pending weather conditions for F.C. barge. Killerton personnel move all equipment except searchlight to West End Sandy Beach.	
Bou	10th June		LIEUT. SCAIFE-All cartridges were removed from No. 1 gun position in this manner by Saturday mid-day. Shells were also slid down the hill by sleigh from No. 1 gun during the course of Saturday afternoon.	
Bou	10th June		LIEUT. SMEE-Plotting room packing completed with exception of F.O.P. B.O.P. stand dismantled and brought to bottom of hill.	
Bou	10th June		LIEUT. POISON-Our 3 ton truck bogged loaded with stores and	<i>G. H. Sciffe Lieut</i>

Govt. Printer, Brisbane

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			ration. Six trucks sent from 129 General Transport.	
			4 bogged. Earlier in heavy seas wharf washed over	
			and seas lifted barge on top of it. Heavy sea	
			bounced barge up and down on wharf, damaging	
			steering and opening up beam 18" long under engine.	
			Barge towed up on beach stern first waiting for	
			towing vessel. Saturday night heavy seas carried	
			away all moving lines washing barge up sideways on	
			beach. Canopy washed away and side split from stern	
			to stern; hull completely U.S. Engine under water	
			but may be possible to salvage.	
Bou	11th June		MAJOR DAVIES—Sea calmed down—F.C.'s barge arrived to move	
			F.O.P. and No. 3 C.A.S.L.—completed movement of	
			No. 1 gun and brought into camp area. Move difficult	

J.H. Sargeant

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Unit "B" Aust. Hvy. Battery

Date and Time.—From 1st June

To 31st August

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			right to bottom of slope and gun had to be	
			menhandled most of the way. Major Buring (S.O.2)	
			arrived mid-day on L.C.M. with tractor-F.C.	
			arrived 2300 hours.	
Bou	11th June		LIEUT. WARD—No. 4 searchlight, trailer and generator	
			maintained ready for shipment. No. 3—Killerton Is.	
			moved from east end to west end Sandy Beach. F.C.	
			Jap barge used to transport the equipment and all	
			stores to battery. Stores left at Killerton. 100gals	
			petrol, 8gals S.A.E. oil, 1x4-Fly spray, 2x200galls	
			tanks 10 taps. Half roll fly wire. D.E.C. huts,	
			kitchen, E.R. searchlight emp. left intact. One gal.	
			of a brew left in action? (in kitchen).	
Bou	11th June		LIEUT. SCAFF—Jeep trailer was hauled to top of hill and used	

G. H. Scobie Lieut

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			for conveying shells from No. 2 gun position to the flying fox for transportation down the hill by this method. More use was made of the fox for lowering shell, fuze and S.A. ammunition than previously. Flat bottom boat salvaged from the sea was also conveyed to the hill position and used to slide shells down from No. 1 gun position. As many as 40 shells were taken at one time using a safety lowering rope and a 1" wire cable attached to a truck at the foot of the hill for pulling purposes. 89 grummetted HE shells loaded on truck for return to R.S.D.	
Bou	11th June		LIEUT. SMEE- F.O.P. withdrawn, instruments maintained.	
Bou	11th June		LIEUT. POLSON-Tractor arrived, no blade, no winch. Recovered	

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G. H. Scarfe Lieut

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Unit "B" Aust. Hvy. Battery

Date and Time.—From 1st June

To 31st August.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			truck, made new road along beach-very difficult without dozer. Towed No. 1 gun into camp.	
Bou	12th June		MAJOR DAVIES-Moved No. 2 gun muzzle first-from site past No. 1 gun position with aid of flying fox engine-proceeded down slope in same position and proved comparatively easy to manoeuvre-moved into camp area by 1700 hours. No. 2 mount dismantled. F.C. advised M.E.B.S.A. equipment ready to move.	
Bou	12th June		LIEUT. WARD-Killerton light run for 1 hour to dry out, maintained and ready for shipment. Both trailers serviced and all associate stores. Searchlights run into trailers with cable and sparr etc., All equipment ready for shipment. Switch and contact assembly from searchlights sent to "H" Battery.	

G. H. Scaple Lieut

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Unit "B" Aust. Hvy. Battery

Date and Time.—From 1st June

To 31st August

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Bou	12th June		LIEUT. SCAIFE-644 Bofof rounds loaded on truck for return to R.S.D. Remainder of shells on hill with exception of 20 rounds-brought to bottom of hill. Three (3 ton) trucks loaded with cartridges for conveyance to transshipment area at Gilli.	
Bou	12th June		LIEUT. POLSON- All day cleaning gun brought down Sunday. Mud very sticky and in places 6" thick, all tools had to be cleaned before use-mud. Towed No. 2 gun into camp. Another check and further improvements on new road.	
Bou	13th June		LIEUT. SCAIFE- 3 ton truck loaded with cartridges early in morning and convoy of 4 ammunition trucks departed for Gilli at 0800 hours. Flying fox engine placed back in position so that fox could	

Lt H. Scaife Lieut

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			be operated and by this means also by sled	
			remainder of ammunition on hill was brought down	
			Work proceeded with cleaning and grummetting	
			shells. No. 1 mount which had been dismantled	
			the previous day was slid to the bottom of the	
			hill. No. 2 mount completely dismantled and	
			removed in a similar manner to the bottom of the	
			hill. One 3 ton truck returned from Gilli at	
			approximately 1500 hours and was reloaded with	
			the remainder of the cartridges for transport.	
			to Gilli.	
Bou	14th June	MAJOR DAVIES-	A 200 ton flat top barge in tow was beached at	
			Bou and worked commenced loading equipment and	
			vehicles.	

J. H. Scarfe Lieut

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Unit "B" Aust. Hvy. Battery.

Date and Time.—From 1st June To 31st August.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Bou	15th June		<p>MAJOR DAVIES- Advance party consisting of three officers and thirty other ranks departed for Gilli by road transport. Barge departed 0730 hours for Gilli conveying forty odd personnel and their equipment and arrived Gilli 1300 hours and immediately commenced unloading at Pontoon wharf. Barge completely unloaded and equipment and vehicles placed in storage area to await shipment, continuous guard posted and remainder of personnel departed to staging camp. Rear party which had been left at Bou after departure of barge to complete necessary work such as filling in of latrines, burning off rubbish etc., arrived at staging camp/</p>	

J. H. Scobie Lieut

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Unit "B" Aust. Hvy. Battery Date and Time.—From 1st June To 31st August

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Milne Bay	29th June		MAJOR DAVIES- Left by Liberty ship at 1145 hours.	
Brisbane	4th July		Arrived Brisbane 1200 hours.	
Brisbane	7th July		Queensland and Northern New South Wales personnel departed on leave.	
Brisbane	8th July		New South Wales personnel south and west of Sydney departed on leave.	
Brisbane	15th July		Rear party consisting of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia personnel under Lieut. Ward stored unit equipment at Lytton and departed on leave on the 15th July. Personnel at expiration of leave returned to Lytton to await reforming of their unit.	
Brisbane	28th Aug.		Lieut. Scalf arrived Lytton. Battery personnel who had already returned had been attached to "K" Battery for Administration.	
Brisbane	29th Aug.		"B" Battery personnel were detached from "K" Battery, a	

Capt. Prister, Brisbane

G. H. Scalf Lieut

Unit "B" Aust. Hvy. Battery Date and Time.—From 1st June To 31st August.

J. H. Scripps Lieut

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13 NOV 1944

Army Form C.2118
(adapted)

Unit "B" Aust. Heavy Battery (AIF)

Date and Time—From 1st September, 1944 To 31st October, 1944.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LYTTON	1. 9. 44.		Personnel returning from leave being made D.P. 1. Maintenance of equipment.	
	9. 9. 44.		Received warning order for movement of "B" Aust. Heavy Battery with all equipment and stores from Lytton to Wallgrove. Withdrew guns and equipment which had been sent to Ordnance for overhaul with the exception of the Bofof gun and DRF which were completely dismantled in the process of being repaired. Stores and equipment prepared for movement.	
	16. 9. 44.		Headquarters Coast Artillery notified that equipment was assembled and Battery was ready to move. Cubic tonnage and deadweight tonnage assessed and forwarded.	
	17. 9. 44		Movement order for equipment and personnel.	
	18. 9. 44		Equipment entrained at Clapham Junction and stores at South Brisbane. Equipment and stores with four escorts departed for Sydney.	
WIDDEBROOK	19. 9. 44		Personnel entrained at South Brisbane.	

G. H. Scarp

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Unit "B" Aust. Heavy Battery (AIF)

Date and Time—From 1st September, 1944 To 31st October, 1944

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<i>Middle Head.</i>	20. 9. 44.		Personnel arrived Sydney and marched in to Middle Battery and established camp.	
	21. 9. 44.		Equipment and stores arrived Sydney and transported to camp area Middle Head.	
	22. 9. 44.		Proceeded to check and maintenance stores and equipment.	
	24. 9. 44.		Two 155MM guns moved to Ordnance, Victoria Barracks for overhaul and modification.	
	25. 9. 44.		Working parties supplied to Coast Artillery to dismantle camouflage at Middle Head and construct swimming pool and tennis court South Head.	
	26. 9. 44.		Battery assisting Victory Loan Rallies by supplying Bofor Gun and Sperry Searchlight alternatively Friday nights and Saturday mornings for a period of three weeks. D.P. 1 procedure being continued as personnel returned from leave and dental and medical facilities are available.	
	15.10. 44.		Received movement order to move all equipment to La Perouse and occupy	<i>J. H. Scarpe St.</i>

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Unit "B" Aust. Heavy Battery (AIF)

Date and Time—From 1st September, 1944 To 31st October, 1944.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			New South Wales Golf Club House.	
LA PEROUSE? N.S.W.	16.10.44.		Movement completed.	
	17.10.44.		Work commenced settling in new quarters. Works Section contacted to carry out essential repairs to fittings and installations.	
	18.10.44.		Bofor Gun and box of optical instruments arrived by rail from Brisbane and transported to La Perouse.	
	24.10.44.		On instruction from Sydney Fortress 1 Sergeant, 1 Bombardier and 8 Gunners were detailed to take over guard duty at North Head Barracks.	
			Process of making personnel D.P. 1 continued. Average of 30 personnel continuously in hospital with malaria during September and October.	
	27.10.44.		Scrub fire started accidentally by fishermen on the foreshores quickly spread, fanned by a strong wind to the scrub adjoining New South Wales Golf Club House. Battery personnel detailed as beaters and Fire Brigade notified. Four fire units arrived and assisted by Battery personnel	

G. H. Scipio Lt.

Unit "B" Aust. Heavy Battery (AIF).....

Date and Time.—From 1st September, 1944 To 31st October, 1944.

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