

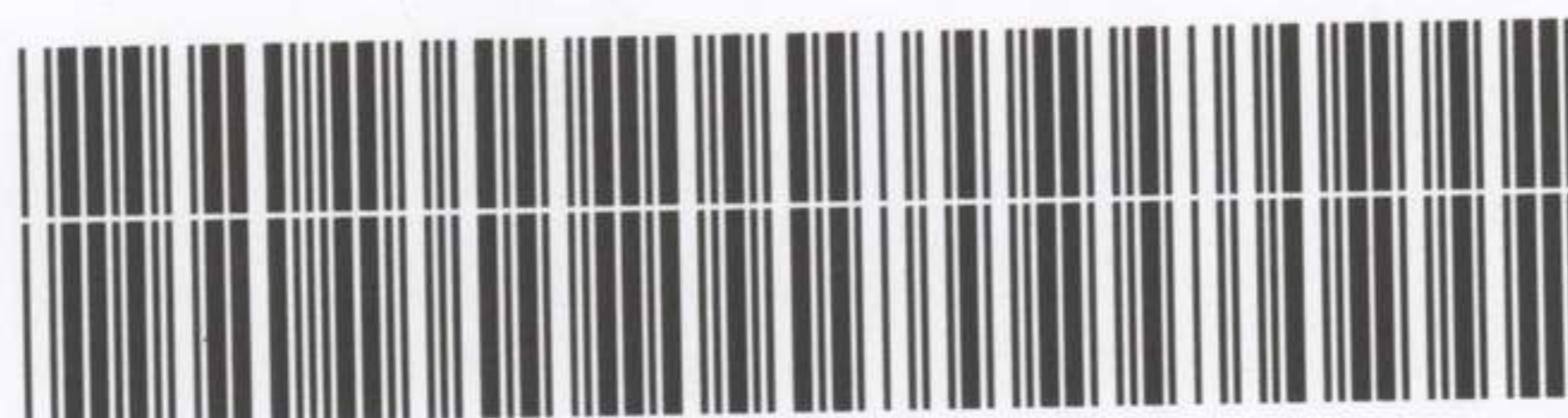
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/11/21

Title: 6th Australian Machine Gun
Company

November 1917



AWM4-24/11/21

2ND AUSTRALIAN DIV.

Original
WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

20

No. _____
Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II,
and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages
will be prepared in manuscript.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Summary of Events and Information *VOL A 15 PAGE 1*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>NEAR PRES</i>	<i>1917</i>			
	<i>No 2</i>			
	<i>1</i>		<i>Work of preparation going on. Company Officers went forward to reconnoitre positions.</i>	
	<i>2</i>		<i>Preparatory work still going on.</i>	
	<i>3</i>		<i>At 9 AM 20 gun crews went forward & placed the 5th Australian Machine Gun Co on S.O.S lines near Albania Wood. Relief being complete by 2 pm</i>	
	<i>4</i>		<i>Wide operations order and Report attached.</i>	<i>Operation Order attached for this period.</i>
	<i>5</i>		<i>do</i>	
	<i>6</i>		<i>do</i>	
	<i>7</i>		<i>do</i>	
	<i>8</i>		<i>do</i>	
	<i>9</i>		<i>do</i>	
	<i>10</i>		<i>do</i>	
<i>11</i>		<i>Preparations being made prior to departure to Steenwerde Area.</i>		
<i>12</i>		<i>The whole company left Belgian Chaplain at 9 am and</i>		

A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C. 2118/14.

[Signature]

MACHINE GUN COY.
2nd AUSTRALIAN DIV.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NEAR STEENVORDE	12		marched to billets near Steenvorde. Move being completed by 3.30 pm.	
	13		Overhauling guns + gear, shortages taken	
	14		Presentation of Medals + Ribbons by Corps Commander Lieut. General Sir W. R. Birdwood. Lt F. L. Wright of this Coy was presented with the ribbon for the Military Cross. The decoration being awarded for conspicuous work during the operations of Oct 14 th .	
	15		Sun Drill	
	16			
	17			
	18		The whole Company moved from billets + proceeded by road to Loches. Billets being occupied at Pasture Camp	
	19		Training as per syllabus	
	20		"	
	21		"	
	22		"	
	23		"	

VOL A 15 PAGE 2

F. M. Dunning

Original
WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BELGIUM	1917			
	NOV			
LOCRE	24		<i>Training as per syllabus</i>	
	25			
	26			
	27			
	28			
	29			
	30			

VOL A 15 PAGES

[Signature]

Report of 6th Aust M.G. Coy. from the 3rd to 10th Nov. 1917.

On the 3rd Nov the Company relieved the 5th Aust M.G. Coy at S.O.S. Barrage group lines near Albanian Wood. Relief was completed by 9 P.M. The group consisted of 20 guns divided into 4 Batteries as follows

A Battery 4 guns J4C 40.16 B Battery 6 guns J4C 10.36
C " 6 " J3d 65.24 D " 4 " J4C 55.37.

On the 4th nothing to report 1 O.R. casualty.

5th Orders received from D.M.G.O. that 8 guns were to go and assist the 1st Aust Division in their Barrage who were assisting Canadian attack on 6th. Lieut Wright took charge of Battery which was under 3rd Aust M.G. Coy. Commander. Battery got into position on evening of 5th at D22 & 95.70, gun positions were prepared & guns laid. 2 guns were blown out by shell fire but were replaced by guns from S.O.S. group. Battery was to fire on target E 130 45.55. to E 130 30.95. Opened fire at zero on Nov 6th & continued firing for 2 hrs & then stood by for S.O.S.

The remaining guns in S.O.S. group had to be ready to cover the Div. front for night of 5th & then in the morning of 6th. In accordance with 2nd Australian Divisional order no 152 dated 5th Nov 17 to assist in simulating an attack on Woodbrooke Spur preparation was made with 10 v.m. guns to barrage a line passing through D30 & D24 central from positions J4C 40.16 & J4C 10.36.

On zero day (6th Nov) at zero time (6 am) fire was opened from above positions. From zero time & 4 minutes rapid fire 250 v.m. was applied & from zero + 2 until zero + 70 fire at the rate of 2000 rounds per gun per hour was maintained ground 100 yds in rear and 200 yds in front of above line was searched 28000 rounds were expended.

On completion of firing the guns were again on S.O.S. lines & ready if required for S.O.S. Casualties Nil.

Lieut Wright with 8 guns returned at 8 P.M. on 7th Orders having been received from D.M.G.O. that the S.O.S. group would now only consist of 12 guns divided into 2 Batteries A & B each of 6 guns the arrangements were made accordingly & Div front was covered by 12 guns 2 A & B Batteries
A J3d 65.24 B J4C 10.36.

On 7th Coy was relieved on S.O.S. Barrage group by 7th M.G. Coy relief was completed by 2.30 P.M. Coy then moved to front line positions & relieved the 5th M.G. Coy relief was completed by 6.30 P.M. 12 guns were taken over, divided into three groups of 4 guns each called Right, left, & support groups respectively & each gun position numbered from 1 to 12 consecutively gun positions as follows

Right group	tbl	Qns	D290	65.05
left	"	"	D290	55.95.
Gun positions	no.			
"	1		J50	55.03
"	2		J56	08.35.
"	3		J56	12.52.
"	4		D290	12.20
"	5		D290	80.20
"	6		D230	18.32.
"	7		D230	28.48
"	8		D220	73.20
"	9		J46	70.10
"	10		D280	95.26
"	11		D280	50.62.
"	12		D280	40.80.

Right & left gun groups were purely defensive guns.
 Support group guns had three tasks

- 1 S.O.S. lines
- 2 By day anti aircraft work
- 3 Battle positions on defensive line in case of break through

8th Nothing to report. Casualties our O.P. work.
 9th Ditto.

10th Relieved by 10th W. & Coy. relief complete by 6 P.M.
 all men returned to transport lines by 8.30 P.M.