

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

Machine Guns

**Item number:** 24/20/8

**Title:** 15th Australian Machine Gun  
Company

October 1916



AWM4-24/20/8

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

464

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.

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 1

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the field	1/10/16	night 1/2	Lieut Holmes and one "other rank" on leave to England. Success in front line swept enemies parapet and wire. Indirect fire used on communication trench N.22.c.9.2 to N.22.a.7.3/4, and on road N.22.b.9 1/2. 5 1/2 to N.16 d.u.6.	
	2/10/16	night 2/3	Direct fire on enemies parapet and wire. Indirect fire on lumber dump at N.8. d.8.1, and on communication trench N.15.c.8 1/2 9 1/2 to N.15.a.5.8.	
	3/10/16	night 3/4	Two "other ranks" attended one days course at Divisional Gas School. New gun position built at N.10. a. 1/2. 6 1/2. Indirect fire on junction of roads at N.16. d. 3 1/2. 6 1/2, and on communication trench N.22. a. 6.2 to N.22. c. 9.7. Direct fire on enemies wire and parapet.	
	4/10/16	night 4/5	Indirect fire directed on enemy trenches running from N.15. a. 8.5 to N.15. c. 8 1/2. 9 1/2, and from N.10 d. 2 1/2. 4 to N.17. a. 0.6. Direct fire on enemies parapet and wire.	
	5/10/16		Two U.C.O's attended one days course at Divisional Gas School. Two "other ranks" reported back to unit after	

*C. J. H.*

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	5/10/16 Contd.		<p>attending unwarrior's course, Calais. One signaller to school, One officer and one "other rank" from leave.</p> <p>Fired on road at N. 23. a. 3.4 1/2 during day, whether conditions did not permit of observation.</p> <p>Swept enemy parapet and No 7 main band in conjunction with Lewis guns. Indirect fire was used on communication trench running from N. 10 d. 24.4 to N. 17. a. 0.6, and on dump at N. 8. d. 8.1.</p> <p>Intermittent fire on enemy wire. Indirect fire on junction of roads at N. 16. d. 4.6; also on communication trench running from N. 22 a. 7.1 to N. 22. e. 9.7. Fired on enemy wire after bombardment of enemy line by our artillery.</p> <p>One officer and two "other ranks" on leave to England.</p> <p>Issued orders for relief of sections in the line by the sections in "Indirect Fire" and "Reverse" Billels. Relief effected.</p> <p>Saps in enemy wire and parapet kept under water.</p>	
		night 5/6		
		night 6/7		
		7/10/16		
		night 7/8		

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

64

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.

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 3.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	7/10/16	night 7/8	intermittent fire. Indirect fire on road running from north end of Hayem-Fronelles road, N. 16 d. 29.65 to N. 16. a. 82.52, and on junction of roads at Hayem N. 16 a. 38.65.	
	8/10/16	night 8/9	Fired on road at N. 23. a. 1. 4½ during day. Saps on enemy's wire swept with intermittent fire. Indirect fire on Hayem-Fronelles road from N. 16. d. 35.60 to N. 22. b. 95.55, and on crossing of tramway on Rue des Fuses N. 16 d. 55.90.	
	9/10/16	night 9/10	During day fired on Fronelles road N. 23. a. 1. 8½. Direct fire on enemy's wire and parapet damaged by trench mortars. Indirect fire on Hayem-Fronelles road from N. 16. d. 35.60 to N. 22. b. 95.55, and on crossing of tramway on Rue des Fuses, N. 16. d. 55.90.	
	10/10/16	night 10/11	Indirect fire on communication trench running from N. 11. c. 75.75 to N. 11. d. 11.45, and on road from N. 16. a. 82.50 to N. 16. d. 32.63.	
	11/10/16		Received Brigade Operation Order No. 52 in action	

W.C.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 4.

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	11/10/16	night 11/12	<p>as against enemy's trenches.</p> <p>Direct fire on gaps in enemy's parapet and wire. Indirect fire on (a) junction of roads and communication trench at N. 14. d. 45.28, (b) on communication trench from N. 15. e. 80.98 to N. 15. e. 97.56, (c) junction of roads and communication trench at N. 17. b. 33.80, and (d) on junction of roads and communication trench at N. 21. b. 93.45.</p>	
	12/10/16		<p>Issued movement order No 1. One officer and one "other rank" sent on as collecting party to Estaires.</p> <p>The 59<sup>th</sup> Battalion carried out a raid on a sector of the enemy's line at 7.30 p.m. Two Vickers guns were so placed in the front line as to enfilade the flanks of the raided area.</p>	(App "A")
	13/10/16 14/10/16		<p>(1) Company relieved by 1<sup>st</sup> New Zealand M.G. Co. and moved to billets in Estaires.</p> <p>(2) Marching but state and inventory of stores, etc, handed over to 1<sup>st</sup> N.Z. M.G. Co.</p>	(App "A") B + C

*C. J. H.*

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 5.

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	16/10/16	7.45 a.m.	Second blanket in bundles of twenty-five transferred to Brigade Transport Wagons in Square, Estaires	
	17/10/16	night 7/18	Issued movement order No. 2. Transport moved out of lines to Square, Estaires, thence via BERQUIN to BAILLEUL main station. Moved out of billets at 11.15 p.m. to join buses in Square, Estaires. Left Estaires at midnight, entrained at Bailleul leaving at 4.28 a.m. (Entraining state attached to Appendix D)	Att "D"
	18/10/16	3.15 p.m.	Arrived at LONGPRE station, and marched to VAUCHELLES village and billeted.	
	19/10/16		Issued movement order No. 3. Ballot taken re conscription in Commonwealth of Australia	
	20/10/16	11.30 a.m.	Transport moved out with Brigade Group to LONGPRE and ARGDEUVES; march to be continued to RIBEMONT on 21st October.	Att "E"

C.H.H.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

54

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.

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 6.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	21/10/16		Company moved on to road between Ailly and Monplaisir at 8.30 a.m., and were transported by motor lorry with 15 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade to RIBEMONT. Marched to Fricourt, arriving there at 5 p.m. and camped.	Oth "E"
	22/10/16		Company (including transport) moved out at 10 a.m. for camp at MONTAUBAN. Arrived at 12 noon.	
	23/10/16		Examined Box Respirators and gas helmets; overhauled all equipment and stores.	
	24/10/16		Transport moved to new position with Brigade transport. Two reinforcements taken on strength from 5 <sup>th</sup> Divisional Base Depot.	
	25/10/16		Instruction to company. Received Brigade Secret Order No 58.	
	26/10/16		Instruction to company.	
	27/10/16		Instruction to company, and inspection of section equipment and stores.	

C.H.H.

WAR DIARY

64

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.

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 7.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	28/10/16		One section complete moved out at 10 a.m. to relieve the 14 <sup>th</sup> Aust. M. G. Coy. in front line. Took over at 3.30 p.m. Company relieved 14 <sup>th</sup> Company in Reserve at Flag trench at 4.15 p.m.	} App "F"
	29/10/16		Sent twelve men to Brigade Headquarters to act as runners.	
	30/10/16		Section in line relieved at midday, having completed period of approximately 48 hours.	
			Heavy rains. No cooking practicable after midday. dug-outs and trenches flooded out, many dug-outs falling in.	
	31/10/16		Received orders that 14 <sup>th</sup> Aust. M. G. Coy. would take over front line during afternoon. Order cancelled later. Company relieved in front line at 9 p.m. and in Reserve Trench at 7 p.m. Company, less one section, arrived back in camp Montauban at 10 p.m. Remaining section arrived in camp at 10 a.m. next day (1/11/16).	

C.H.H.

7



16A  
Secret  
W. J. P. M.  
C. J. M.  
Page 8

15<sup>th</sup> Aust. M. G. Coy Order No 1

12<sup>th</sup> October 1916.

Ref Hazebrouck SA 109,000.

Movement

During 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> October 1916, the 15<sup>th</sup> Aust. M. G. Coy will be relieved by the 1<sup>st</sup> N. Z. M. G. Coy & will move to billets in Estairs in accordance with instructions contained hereunder :-

Advance Party

Lieut. Fitz Gerald & N. C O will join bus at Sully station at 2 pm. 12.10.16. We will receive instructions re selection of billets on arrival.

No's 2 & 4 Sections

These sections limbers will report to Billets tonight at 6 pm & be packed with sections gear, when they will return to transport lines & be ready to move out at 9.25 am on 13<sup>th</sup> Oct.

At 7 am on 13<sup>th</sup> Oct No's 2 & 4 sections will report at Coy. H. B's in charge of their officers & receive orders to move to transport lines, where limber loads will be adjusted & checked. A copy of load tables will be handed to transport Sgt. for transmission to Coy. H. B's

The column will move out in time to cross Rly. at 9.40 am on 13<sup>th</sup> inst. Lt. Fitz Gerald will be in charge & will attend to the billeting of sections & transport in Estairs.

An extra limber (which will immediately return) will accompany this column to carry blankets which will be rolled in bundles of convenient size; this limber will also carry dries & rations unexpended for the day

No's 1 & 3 Sections

These sections will, after being relieved in the line, report to Coy. H. B's, leaving a guard over guns equipment &c at A S billet (Guard to be supplied by Mr. M. Helpton's section). Limbers will call at A S billet at 6 pm on 13<sup>th</sup> Oct & collect this gear. The guard may then be relieved. The limbers will require to report at Coy. H. B's & throw off the blankets (sections already notified)

Details of relief will be forwarded to Line sections later

W. J. P. M.

Cont.

at 7am on 14<sup>th</sup> October, Coy. H. 2's T No's 1 & 3 sections will move to transport lines where timber loads will be adjusted & tables compiled, a copy of which section Officers will hand to Lt. Holmes

Company

The company, less two sections, will move out of transport lines at 9.15 a.m. on 14<sup>th</sup> October, being in readiness to move out at 9am.

Transport.

The transport Sgt. will arrange for G.I. wagon to report to Coy. H. 2's & No's 1 & 3 sections timbers to report to A S billet at 6 p.m. on 13<sup>th</sup> October. The G.I. Wagon will remain at Coy. H. 2's overnight & is to be removed to transport lines not later than 6.30 a.m. on 14<sup>th</sup> October. The water cart is to be filled ready to move out with column.

Q.M. S  
stores.

As far as possible Q.M.S stores are to be placed in Cooks cart, leaving G.I. Wagon for blankets, valves &c

March  
table

The line of march to Billets in Estaires will be via Sailly & Nouveau Monde. The Coy will move

in Column, halting for 10 minutes at 8.50 a.m. & 9.30 a.m.

Billets.

Mt. Hackworthy will personally inspect Billets & see that they are left scrupulously clean

Dress

Kelt hat worn, helmets being carried at back of pack under supporting straps. Men in in packs

Rations

Each man will carry one iron ration, which will not be consumed except under instructions from an Officer. Unexpended portions of days rations to be carried in Cooks cart. The remainder of Rations to be sent to transport in G.I. Wagon at 6.30 a.m. on 14<sup>th</sup> Oct. Rations to be placed in sand-bags & labelled.

5/27m  
10/11/16

(Signed) Lt. St. Holmes  
for O.C.  
15<sup>th</sup> Aust. M & Coy.

Appendix "B"

Marching Out" State

Page 10

15th Aust. Mt. Co

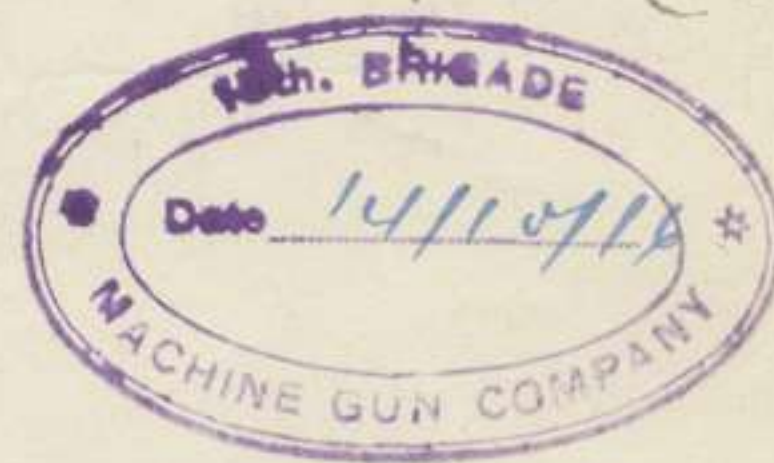
*Colours*

14/10/16

Route	off	ofr	Total	Changors	Light straight	Total	Includes
13/10/16	3	66	69	3	20	23	From 200 Wh. 6.
14/10/16	4	97	101	8	25	33	From 200 Wh. 6 From Wh. 7 Attached 14.5.
Total	7	163	170	11	45	56	15

(Signed) *Carst. Holmes* Sr.

*C.H.H.*



464

Coy

Received from the 15<sup>th</sup> Aust Mach. Gun Coy the following French Stores and ammunition.

Article	No	Remarks
Mountings, French	17	
Brigade French Maps Area L	6	
" " " " M	2	
" " 36 SW 1	10	
" " 36 SW 2	20	
" " 36 NW 3	1	
" " 36 NW 4	10	
Special Maps, Tracings &c	16	
Aeroplane Photographs	42	
Instructions for A.S & P.S posts	1	
Horns, Shombos	1	
Mountings, anti-aircraft	4	
Boots, French thigh	60 pr	
Soles felt, for trench boots	160 pr	
S.A.A	<del>22500</del> 22500 rounds	
Mills Grenades (in boxes)	5	
" " loose	82	

W. S. Jennings Capt NZSC

14/10/16

O.C. 1<sup>st</sup> NZ, M.G. Coy.

15<sup>th</sup> Aust. M. G. Coy.

Movement Order No 2.

Ref. Hambrook SA.  $\frac{1}{100,000}$ 17<sup>th</sup> October, 1916.

## Entrainment.

The 15<sup>th</sup> Aust. Inf. Brigade will entrain at Bailleul on 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> October, 1916, for LONGPRE. The M. G. Coy will act as advance party for the 4.28 A.M. train on 18<sup>th</sup> October.

## Transport

The transport under Lt Fitzgerald will move out of the transport lines at 10.35 p.m. on 17<sup>th</sup> October. The column will include 5 wagons from Bde Hdqtrs, and one wagon from A.L.T.M.B. The column will enter the square from the east, and will leave at 11.5 p.m. The route to be taken is via VIEUX BERQUIN. On arrival at railway (Bailleul Train Stn) the whole of the transport will be loaded.

## Loading

The entrainment must be completed half an hour before the time of departure of train.

## Breast Ropes

The transport officer will see that these are available. (Lt Fitzgerald)

## Company

The company will move off to join buses in Square Estavis at 11.15 p.m. Fall in: 11 p.m.

## Blankets

One blanket will be carried by each man. The second blanket will be picked up later.

Supply Wagon.

This will accompany the transport of the Unit.

Cyclists

Cyclists will follow in rear of transport column, leaving at 10.35 pm.

loading  
at  
Station

The U.L. Coy will load all transport of the column leaving at 11.5 pm.

Accommodation.

Buses: There will be 5 buses available, each bus carrying 30 men. Section Officers will travel with their sections, and any men over the complement will be sent to the 5<sup>th</sup> bus, on which Coy HQ will be travelling and any extra men.

Train

No 9

The unit will be accommodated in trucks, each probably holding 40 men. These parties will be in two of 20 men each, under the charge of a Sergeant. A carriage will be available for officers.

Guard.

Privates for each end of the train will be detailed later. Lt Kerr will be in charge of these privates, which are to be posted by an U.L.C. These duties will be to prevent train leaving train or platform. They will require to be located at either end of train, so that they can readily get out, at

at prolonged stoppages, and at other times keep watch.

Prisoners.

The men under arrest will travel with a guard - they will carry their gear during the movement.

Fatigue

Lt Whulpton will be in charge of loading operations, facilitated by Lt Fitzgerald who will be in charge of transport. Lt Whulpton will see that any men required for fatigue work are first accommodated in their trucks, having first placed their equipment etc. there before they commence loading operations, and that they are marched back on completion.

Vacating  
Billet

The billet is to be vacated by 10.30 p.m., and the Orderly Officer will make a tour thereof at that hour and arrange for it to be cleaned.

Transport  
Sergeant

The Transport Sergeant will make arrangements for Officers' horses (saddled) to go with transport, utilising any batmen required to ride them.

Brakeman

Section Commanders will submit the names of 3 men from their sections to act as brakemen, and to accompany the limbers. These men are to be selected carefully having regard to physique.

11/10

Page 4

Telling off  
Bus and Train  
loads.

On falling in at 11 p.m. the boys  
will fall in by sections; any men  
over the number of 30. will be  
instructed to Coy Headquarters section.

(signed) Gustaf Holmes Lt  
for O.C. 15<sup>th</sup> Aust. Inf. Co.

War Diary Copy.

(Extracts from Brigade Bus and  
Entraining schedules. attached.)

H.W.P.



Page 16 &amp; 17

15<sup>th</sup> Aust. Infantry BrigadeTable of Bus Movements night 17/18 October, 1916

<u>Escort</u> Brigade Hdqtrs. Advance Party.	<u>Strength.</u>	<u> Vehicles allootted</u>	<u>Time of departure</u>	<u> Troops ready at</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
	150.	5	12 midnight	11.50 p.m.	Parade in Square, Estaries

(1) Transport and Horses with the necessary escort will be despatched by each unit so that it reaches its station 3 hours before departure of train.

(2) Other Ranks will carry one blanket each.

also

Entrainment Train Table (Issued with 15<sup>th</sup> Brigade Order No 55)

Date.	Unit.	Entraining Station.	No. of Train.	Train Departs	Retraining Station
Extract 18/10/16	15 <sup>th</sup> Bde H-2.	Bailliant Train Station	9.	4.28	Longpre.
	Bde Signal Section			18/10/16	
	15 <sup>th</sup> M.G. Co.				
	15 <sup>th</sup> M. T.M.B.				

Note: Battalion transport and the first company will report at the station 3 hours before departure time - remaining companies one and a half hours.  
Other units will arrive at the entraining station 3 hours before hours of departure.

C.H.H.

APPENDIX 7

15th Aust. M.G. Co.  
Entraining Station

17/10/16 Page 19

Personnel		Animals			Bicycles	Motor bicycles	Vehicles		Station of Entrainment.
Off	On	Packs	Horse + Mules				21st	4th	
			H.D.	L.D.					
9	168	11	<del>44</del> me	344	3	me	2	13	Bulleit train Sta.

C.H.H.

(Signed) Christ Holmes S.I.  
per O.C.



15<sup>th</sup> Aust. Machine Gun Co.

19<sup>th</sup> October, 1916.

Movement Order No. 3.

Transport.

At 10.30 a.m. on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 1916, the M.G. Coy transport will move by road to Thongpre and Argdenves. The march will be continued to Ribemont on 21<sup>st</sup> Oct.

(1 from later Base Area)

The transport of the following will ~~accompany~~ <sup>constitute</sup> the Brigade group which will be in charge of hunt. Fitzgald viz:- Brigade 16 Coy, Brigade Signalling Co, 15<sup>th</sup> A.L. 2. M.B.

The head of the column will halt ~~already~~ to debouch on main road opposite the centre of MOUFLERS village.

Lt Fitzgald will report personally to Capt W.H. Berry opposite Mouflers Church at 11 a.m.

Loading.

Wagons will be loaded by 9 a.m. and be ready to move out by 10 a.m.

Riding Horses.

All riding horses will accompany wagons, and be under orders of Transport officer. Officers will arrange for their batmen to leave officers' chargers saddled by 10 a.m. (rings to be strapped at rear of saddle. The following officers will send their batmen to transport lines at 9 a.m. to report to Transport Sergeant viz: Capt Munro, Lt Ridgway, Lt Kerr. Privates Hennessey and Slater will also report. Transport officer to instruct.

Passage Guard.

Each section will detail three men as baggage guard (to act also as brakeman) - Nos 1 and 2 sections detailing 4 men each. These men will put blanket, water proof sheet, steel helmet, spare boots, and bore <sup>fire</sup> respirator on wagon. The remainder of the equipment will be carried on the man.

Page 2.

bicyclists.

bicyclists whose machines are in good order will accompany column; bicycles in bad repair will be loaded on G. S. Wagon.

Order of March.

The column will follow the 15<sup>th</sup> Field Coy. and will be followed by 57<sup>th</sup> Battalion.

Company.

The 15<sup>th</sup> Inf Brigade will move by motor lorry to Ribemont on 21<sup>st</sup> Oct. One blanket will be carried on the person. The company will fall in on road outside men's billets at 8 a.m. on this date. The unit will move on to road between Ailly and Thoulens, and be in position by 9 a.m. in column of route facing east between B. 16.2 and A. K. 2. U. S. The group taking up 150 yards of road space.

(1/2 hour earlier)  
13500. Order.

knives.

Knives will be carried for the Transport Section only, the remainder will be retained by the company and carried on the motor transport by the respective Sections.

2nd Arrangements.

The 2nd U.S. will go on the G. S. Wagon with the transport, leaving the assistant 2nd U.S. with the unit. On 20<sup>th</sup> Oct. he will arrange for two days rations to be drawn.

Officers' Valises.

Officers' valises will require to be placed on the transport by 8 a.m. on 20<sup>th</sup> October.

(sgt) Chas Holmes Lt

19/10/16

for Lt. 15<sup>th</sup> W.G. Co. H.C.

Low Wavy Copy.

15<sup>th</sup> Aust. M. G. Coy.

Copy No.

## Operation Order No. 4

Ref. Sheet 57<sup>c</sup>  $\frac{1}{20,000}$ .27<sup>th</sup> October 1916

The 15<sup>th</sup> Bgde. will receive the 14<sup>th</sup> Bgde. in the Left Sector on 28<sup>th</sup> October 1916. The M. G. Coy will take over as outlined hereunder:

No. 4 Section

No. 4 Section will move out at 10 am on 28.10.16 to Cullion Trench where guides will be met at 12 noon. Signed copy of Inventory of any trench stores taken over is to be forwarded to new Coy. HQs in Reserve Trench with report when change over is completed.

Company

The Coy, less one section, will move out with 58<sup>th</sup> Batt at 1 pm on 28.10.16 to Cullion Trench where guides will be met at 3 pm.

Belt-Boxes

No belt boxes will be carried, arrangements having been made to exchange ammunition with the 14<sup>th</sup> Coy.

Transport

The Transport will remain in its present position. Sgt. Fitz Gerald will arrange for <sup>hacks</sup> horses to be available in sufficient time to be loaded to accompany sections.

Blankets  
+  
Packs

Blankets & Packs will be stored in hut occupied by Coy HQs, due hour before time of sections moving out. Sgt. Hutton will be in charge of a guard over hut to be detailed later.

Formation

Forwards of Cullion Trench, if weather conditions are favourable sections may move as a whole, otherwise they will be split up into smaller bodies.

Rations

The unrescanned portion of the days ration will be carried on the men. Section <sup>Officers</sup> will personally inspect the iron rations carried to see if they are correct - any differences to be reported 1 hour before moving out.

Care of feet }

Section Officers will be held responsible for seeing that every man's feet in their section is massaged with oil before moving out.

(Signed) Chas. J. Holmes Lt.  
for OC  
15th Aust. M G Coy

W.H.

Appendix "G"  
Strength, Casualties etc.

<u>Effective Strength.</u>	<u>Off</u>	<u>OKhs</u>	<u>Total</u>
at 30. 9. 16	8	138	146
" 31. 10. 16	9	143	152

Joined

<u>Off</u>	<u>OKhs</u>
1	-
-	1
-	14

From Secondary list.  
From 114<sup>th</sup> Battery 14<sup>th</sup> F. Art.  
From Div. base hospital.

Practically all new men joining unit during month have been through a machine gun school at Depot & have proved to be very satisfactory.

Off Strength

<u>Off</u>	<u>OKhs</u>
-	2
-	2
-	6

same details  
wounded  
Sick

no men have been wounded since coming to the Somme front.

In Field  
Ambulance

OKhs  
7

C.H.H.



Appendix H

Ammunition - October, 1916

On Hand 30/9/16      Rounds S. A. A.  
88,000

Drawn during  
October      129,000

219,000

Handed Over to  
1<sup>st</sup> N.Z. M. G. Co (on relief)      22,500  
194,500

Expended during  
October, 1916      68,500  
127,000

On Hand 31/10/16      127,000

C.H.H.

APPENDIX H

Athenais "I"

Guns Equipment etc

Belt Boxes

The wooden belt boxes are entirely unsuitable for the weather experienced in France. Apart from not being strong enough, they do not keep out water, and this would appear to be the first essential as there is very small facility to dry belts. If they are wet storages are prevalent. The tin flanges provided on some get bent & knocked off on transport in handling. The German belt-boxes possess two strong advantages over ours, apart from holding an additional horse belt; firstly they do not suffer in handling because of their strength (unlike our metal boxes which get bulged & bent), and secondly they have a small strong flange & strong cover catch on side, which prevents any lateral play & effectively keeps out water. These belt-boxes have been picked up in mud & water & yet the belts inside have been found dry.

Spare Parts

A.H.

It has been found in many cases that spare parts are not correctly shaped to a minute degree, thus handicapping the guns in working, for instance, in the case of Lumpers, I have noticed

APPENDIX 9

(Continued)

Guns Equipment etc

That the length & shape of the Tail varies to a slight degree. If the tail is a fraction too long or is curved a trifle too much it causes an undue amount of the recoil energy being spent, as the screwed head & connecting rod bearing up on the backward movement is, by reason of the above defect in manufacture, forced to rotate the Gunbler further than is necessary, thus probably giving N:1 stothages. Considerable trouble has in the past been experienced through Lock Springs breaking & this may have some influence in regard to this, causing undue compression of the Lock Spring.

The Gun Store parts generally appear too brittle, not having had the requisite tempering.

C.H.M.

APPENDIX 'D'

Appendix "J"  
Interior Economy

Cooking

It was found impracticable to utilise stoves for cooking on the front + 300 yd line on the Somme front, the dearth of dry wood in any quantity being the chief disability. Even in the Reserve line it was found more satisfactory + convenient for the men to do any cooking in their mess tins.

Dugouts

The small dugout recesses in the trenches (or at any rate those in the Reserve line) mostly fell in with the advent of wet weather. The earth formation is very deceptive inasmuch as it held well before the heavy rain came, but this soil in the Somme district being porous, few dugout recesses, however small, stood much of a chance when the rain fell heavily. From observation two things are evident (1) that dugout recesses should be at least 1 foot above trench floor level & (2) that all dugout recesses should be ~~at~~ partially supported. Most of the dugout recesses are below trench floor level & few are supported. Those in the Reserve line occupied by our Coy were either flooded or the roofs had fallen in.

J.H.

APPENDIX "J"

Appendix "K"

Equipment drawn during October 1916

Clothing etc.

Jumies	15
Breeches	15
Boots (ankle)	45/ps
Boots (top)	5/ps
Puttees	20 ..
U' Pants	150 ..
Sox	300
Jowels	150
Cardigans	150
Shirts	150
Belts Cholera	150

Gun Parts &

Feed Blocks	5
Barrels, spare	8

Spare parts were drawn to a limited extent.

Anti-Gas

Box Resps.	180 (in place of No. 1 case)
Gas Helmets P.H.	150 (in lieu of P.H.G)

*Handwritten initials*