

**AWM4**

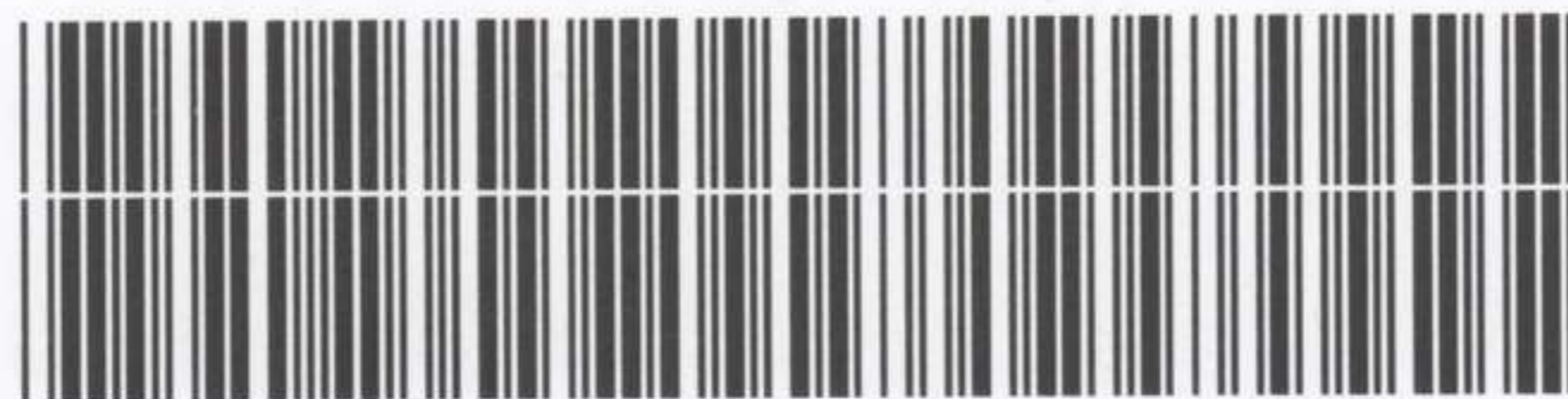
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,  
1914-18 War**

Machine Guns

**Item number: 24/21/10**

**Title: 21st Australian Machine Gun  
Company**

October 1917



AWM4-24/21/10

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

136

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cape Belge	1/10/17		all gun gear overhauled & deficiencies made up as far as possible. Lt Col Bromley, Lieut Ferree & party left Cape Belge per motor lorry to dig gun positions on Southside of Albania Wood. Positions complete by 3 am. Heavy shell fire, casualties nil.	
"	2/10/17		Men rested prior to going into line.	
"	3/10/17		6 guns & personnel under Lieut Watson & Lt Bromley proceeded to gun positions dug out just to carry out creeping barrage. Group. Commander Capt Bultholland of 3 <sup>rd</sup> AMGLy. Eight (8) men from 9 <sup>th</sup> Battalion reported as carriers. Enemy shelled positions during day & night. No aeroplane activity. Night cloudy & dull. Rain fell at 1 am. Group extended from J3D16 to J3D312.	
"	4/10/17		At 3 AM all guns in position at zero hour + 7 minutes creeping barrage was put down in accordance with programme. All guns ceased fire at zero + 4 hours 50 minutes. Total number rounds fired 212,000 guns changed & relayed. Under instructions from Group Commander all guns moved forward 200 by 1600. At 1800 S.O.S. fired on. Barrage	

138

## 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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cap Belge	4/10/17		rate for ½ hour. S.H.A. expended 40,000 rounds. One hour after final objective had been reached enemy put down a heavy 5.9 barrage along the ridge upon which the gun positions were located.	
Cap Belge	5/10/17		Fired on S.O.S. at 1100. on night. 17,000 rounds fired. Guns again moved forward. Batteries arranged by 1600. Fired on S.O.S. at 1845. 20,000 rounds expended.	
"	6/10/17		12 <sup>th</sup> AMG Coy withdrawn. S.O.S. called for at 1830. 42,000 rounds of S.H.A. expended for Group.	
"	8/10/17		6 Guns of 3 <sup>rd</sup> AMG Coy moved forward. These were replaced by sections under Lieut N. Martin, M.C. who arrived at Group at 11 pm.	
"	9/10/17		No call for S.O.S. Lieut Martin this guns withdrawn at about 1400. Harassing fire on S.O.S. line was carried out by remaining batteries to silence enemy M.G.s which were firing on newly occupied positions. 20,000 rounds expended for the Group.	
"	10/10/17		Batteries moved out of the line back to Cap Belge. Relief all complete by midday.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

136

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Camp Belge	11/10/17		The day was spent in reorganising & cleaning gun gear. 16 reinforcements marched in from 1 <sup>st</sup> Divisional Reinforcement Camp.	
" "	12/10/17		The company left Chateau Segard for RED HORSE SHOE CAMP at G 28 central <sup>via</sup> <del>for</del> DICKEBUSH, OUDERDOM & RENNINGHELST. arriving about 1600.	
Red Horse shoe camp	13/10/17		Company paid. Foot treatment & Gas Helmets inspected.	
" "	14/10/17		Inspected arms, equipment & boots.	
" "	15/10/17		Whole company engaged in building mud walls to prevent injury to mules & horses by enemy bombs. All J Brand S.H.H. discarded from boots skulk as unsuitable for M.G. work.	
" "	16/10/17		Lieut Hawkes & Lieut W.L. Martin left for Paris on leave. Company engaged in building protections for transport animals.	
" "	17/10/17		2 M.G.s mounted for H.A.C. work at G 28 A7.2 & G 28 A4, O.6, 5. Belgium & France shot 1/40000. In this area there has been considerable activity on the part of enemy bombing planes - GOTH A Type -	
" "	18/10/17		Foot treatment carried out under Section Officers & NCO's.	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.  
(A7883) Wt. W803/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Forms C/2118/14

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

136

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Red Horse Shoe Camp.	19/10/17		Inspected all equipment & arms in the Company. Carried out practice in I.A. The Company was also paid on this date.	
"	20/10/17		Capt Sewell accompanied DMGO to HQs of 4 <sup>th</sup> AMGLay in the line. Going via ROULERS Railway & returning by FREZENBURG ROAD to YPRES. Preliminary arrangements made for relief of 4 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup> AMGLays.	
"	21/10/17		Lieut Wood, Sgt Bobert & a Corporal visited right S.O.S. group of 24 <sup>th</sup> AMGLay. Lieut Fernee & Corporal H. Chay. visited the left S.O.S. group of 4 <sup>th</sup> AMGLay. These parties proceeded from RENNINGHELST. at 4.30 AM by motor lorry to a point on LONNIEBEKE ROAD. They returned to RENNINGHELST. by midday. Company left for CAFÉ BELGE.	
Café Belge	22/10/17		Relief of 24 <sup>th</sup> AMGLay completed by 7.30 AM. Right Battery 8 guns at D22. D95. S.O. in charge of Lieut Watson & Lieut Wood. Left Battery 8 guns at D7C 2.5, 6.0. in charge of Lieut Raymond & Lieut Fernee.	
"	23/10/17		18 Reinforcements joined the Company.	
"	24/10/17		Two filled belt boxes sent up to Right Battery. Two guns in forward area put on H.A.C. work. Fired 600 rounds on S.O.S. call.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

136

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cap Bidge	25/10/17		S.A.H. expenditure on S.O.S. Call 15,000 rounds. Three slight casualties. Replaced from Transport lines.	
" "	26/10/17		Lussault shell fire all day & much activity by enemy aircraft. 48,000 rounds of S.A.H. fired on two S.O.S. calls. Received orders to change S.O.S. line.	
" "	27/10/17		A S.O.S. call was fired on by the left Battery at 1700. 10,000 rounds being used. Right Battery expended 10,000 rounds on a line from D8.B.5.0 North to ROULERS railway.	
" "	28/10/17		Relief for personnel of batteries now in the line left. Transport line at 0300. Right Battery relief under Major H. J. Martin M.C. Left Battery relief under Lieut. H. Martin M.C. & Lieut. Hawks. Relief complete by 0600. Three casualties during relief. S.A.H. expended 6,000 rounds on line from D18.B.5.0 North to ROULERS Railway. S.O.S. call at 2100 to which both batteries responded. Left Battery fired 2,500 rounds on YPRES-ROULERS railway & vicinity at D18.B.4.9 to E7.C.8.5. Enemy Gas shells in large numbers in vicinity of	

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

136

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cape Helge	28/10/17		D22. D95. 9 in vicinity of level crossing in D26 B. from 1100 to 0300 Shells of small calibre high velocity. Vicinity of D26 B. 95. to ST JOSEPH'S INSTITUTE. heavily shelled with 5.9 HE from 9.30 AM until 1 P.M.	
"	29/10/17		26000 rounds expended of which left battery fired 3500 rounds on YPRES-ROULERS, the balance being fired on two S.O.S. calls, one at 2030 & the other at 2135. Gas shells fell amongst the right battery during the night. 12000 rounds of S.H.A. was carried to Left Battery 411000 to Right Battery. Lieut W. Martin M.C. & Lieut R. Hawkes were killed by a <del>direct hit</del> shell which made a direct hit on their dugout. Lieut Raymond & Lt Ferree sent up to the line to fill their positions	
"	30/10/17		Right Battery fired 18500 rounds. Left Battery 3000 Rounds. The 3000 rounds were fired on to YPRES-ROULERS railway between E12 D9.5.1.5 to E7 C80.50. The 18500 rounds were fired on to DETECT CROSSING, and E13 A B C. There was a large number of Gas Shells in the vicinity of	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.  
(A7883) Wt. W803/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Forms/C/2118/14

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

136

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cap Bidge	26/19/17		ZONNEBEKE Road from the Railway crossing to the village. Casualties one (1) killed & one (1) seriously wounded.	
"	31/10/17		A shell burst in the doorway of the pillbox used as C.H.Q. Capt Sewell of 21 <sup>st</sup> A.M.G. Coy. wounded in the head, arm & buttock. He came down to transport lines before leaving for C.C.S. Sgt Watson assumed command for the time being. New S.O.S. line put into action. Fired in response to an S.O.S. call at 1730. 23000 rounds being expended. Heavy firing by the Artillery for some time afterwards.	
<div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;"> <p>21ST AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY</p> <p>No. <i>1000</i></p> <p>Date. <i>31/10/17</i></p> </div>				