

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

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/9/4

Title: 4th Australian Machine Gun
Company

October 1916



AWM4-24/9/4

~~Handwritten notes~~
 + 119
 VOLUME V
 Sunday 1st October 1916.



Gun position O2 d. 4.2. Completed and occupied. Enemy opened intense machine gun fire on the whole of our front line about 8.30 p.m. and continued throughout night at hourly intervals.

Monday 2nd October 1916.

Everything quiet - usual indirect fire carried out on Enemy's roads and communication trenches.

Tuesday 3rd October 1916.

Enemy's trench mortars are dropping heavy bombs in vicinity of our gun pit at O2 d. 4.2. - No damage done to pit but communication trenches badly knocked about - It is noticeable that the activity of the Enemy's trench mortars have considerably increased of late. Several new kinds of bombs have fallen in our trenches during the past two days.

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Wednesday 4th Oct 1916.

Indirect fire was maintained through out the 24 hours. All day the Enemy have shown great bombing activity on our left Sector. This position was raided during the night but enemy only succeeded in throwing hand grenades into our front trench.

Vickers Machine Gun at O3C 92.9 was left without an escort but gunners remained at their posts. I consider when a Vickers machine gun is placed in the front line at least 6 men should be detailed from the platoon occupying that post to stand by the gun until such time as gun is ordered to be withdrawn. Trenches were badly knocked about but our Emplacements withstood the bombardment.

Thursday 5th Oct. 1916.

Arrangements being made for our relief by the 13th Coy. Indirect fire was continued as usual.

Friday 6th Oct. 1916.

Company relieved at 11.30 a.m. & proceeded to billets in Chippewa Camp

7th October 1916

to
12th October 1916, inclusive.

Company training carried out -
route marching much ~~out~~ⁱⁿ of Evidente.

13th October 1916

No 1 Coy relieved 9.30 am.
This company taking over following Sector
I 33. c. 8.0. to I 35 a. 7.1.

Guns are in following positions:-

Front line: I 34 b. 5. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. I 34 ~~b. 2. 9.5~~

Support line: I 34 c. 5. 7. I 34 ~~b. 2. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$~~

I 34 b. 1. $\frac{1}{2}$. Defensive guns I 34 b. 7. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$

I 29 c. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. 3. I 29 c. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. 4. I 28 d. 8. 3. I 28 d.

$\frac{1}{2}$. 2. I 28 d. 5. $\frac{1}{2}$. I 33 d. 7. 3.

Indirect guns were placed at I 27 d. 5. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$

I 27 d. 6. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. - two guns being held in

Reserve

14th October 1916.

Two indirect guns in I 27 d. were
given the following target O. b. a -
junction of tramline & railway. Time
of firing being 6 to 9 p.m. & 4 to
7 a.m. This time to be changed at
different periods.

Monday 16th Oct: 1916.

Gun in position at I 28c. 5.1
was given a position at I 28c. 4 1/2
indirect target at I 35 Central.

Gun at I 28 d. 4 1/2. S was given
same target.

Tuesday 17th Oct: 1916

Two guns in position I 27 d. 9 1/2. 7
were given following targets. I 35c. 7. 3
+ roadway running through I 35c and
d. to Hollebeke.

Wednesday 18th Oct: 1916

Indirect fire was carried out
+ arrangements made for our
relief by the 140th W.G. Coy.

Thursday 19th Oct: 1916.

5. 30 p.m. relief completed
by 140th Coy. who took over
our gun positions in the
Bluff Sector. Company returned
to billets at Chippewa

Friday 20th Oct: 1916

Guns cleaned & limbers packed

Orders received to be prepared to move out at 9 am. 21/10/16, en route for Steenwoorde.

Sat. 21st Oct 1916.
Arrived Steenwoorde 3.30 p.m. & went into billets.

Sunday 22nd Oct 1916
Programme of training carried out.

Monday 23rd Oct 1916
Programme of training carried out. Orders received to be prepared to proceed on 25th October 1916.

Tuesday 24th Oct 1916
~~Tha.~~ Programme of training carried out.

Wednesday 25th Oct 1916.
Programme of training carried out. Orders received to entrain at Caeshe at 8.15 a.m. on morning of 26th.

Thursday 26th Oct^r 1916.

Entertainment carried out -
detrained at Pont Remy 4 p.m.,
went into billets at Eaucourt.

Friday 27th Oct^r 1916.

Programme of training carried out

28th Oct^r 1916

to

31st Oct^r 1916

Programme of training carried
out

A. Mitchell
C.O.

No 4 MACHINE GUN CO. A.I.F.