

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/116/22

Title: 3rd Australian Light Trench Mortar
Battery

January 1918



AWM4-13/116/22

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

3rd A.I.F. Bde

FOR

January 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

[Handwritten signature]

Signature of Officer Commanding

.....

WAR DIARY of 3rd ALT.M.B.

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.)

for January 1918.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Messines South U 3 A 1.1.	1/1/18		Inter battery relief carried out without mishap. No firing carried out	Sheet 28 SWISE (Parts of)
	2/1/18		Between 2100 and 2300 No 5 gun fired 15 rds on to 035 B2.9. and 035 B4.5. No 4 gun fired on to MG position Cinema Rd. 20 rds being expended. No 3 gun fired 21 rds at suspected M.G. and 15 rds on Bent Trench	
	3/1/18		Harrasing fire was carried out on Enemy Trenches. No 2 gun 30 rds and No 1 gun 20 rds	
	4/1/18		Situation in line very quiet. No 4 gun fired on to enemy positions 035 B5.3 to 035 B7.0 and on to Cinema Rd 036 A2.1. 40 Rds being expended. 136 Rds carried fwd to guns	
	5/1/18		Harrasing fire was carried out on Enemy Trenches - U6 C4-b. to U6 C4.0. by No 1 gun - 40 rds expended. Inter-Battery Relief carried out without mishap	
	6/1/18		No 4 gun fired 20 rds on to enemy positions 035 D8.9 to 35 B7.2. No 5 gun fired on to 035 B4.1 to 035 B4.5. Good shooting reported by Officer of Patrol. Enemy artillery very active during night. Lt Wagner relieved Lt Cooke	
	7/1/18		No 1 + 2 guns fired on to Enemy MG + Minnenwerfer position 30 rds being expended. 100 rds carried forward	
	8/1/18		Harrasing fire carried on enemy line of occupied shell holes & strong posts at 035 B9.4. 35 rds expended. 80 rds carried fwd. Messines Souths heavily shelled by enemy.	
	9/1/18		at 0500 No 2 gun carried out steady traversing fire on Enemy main line & C.T. 30 rds being expended. Situation in line very quiet. Inter Battery relief carried out without mishap	
	10/1/18		at 0200 30 rds were fired on enemy M.G. position approx 035 D8.9. Officer of the line reported very good shooting. MG effectively silenced. 75 rds ammunition carried forward	
	11/1/18		at 0345 30 rds were fired on enemy MG position - 035 D8.9. at 0415 Enemy M.G. firing from U6 C2.9. was silenced with 15 rds	
	12/1/18		Harrasing fire was carried out by No 4 gun on enemy strong post 035 D6.9. - 30 Rds expended. 60 Rds carried forward	
	13/1/18		Harrasing fire was carried out by No 4 gun at 0400 on enemy line of shell holes & strong posts 035 D8.8 to 035 B8.3 - 30 rds No 3 gun fired 35 rds on enemy main line & C.T. No 5 gun put out of action by enemy shell fire. Inter battery relief on right sector carried out without mishap.	

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 75 .0.0. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Form C. 2118/14.

Howard Phillips Lt.
OC 3rd ALT.M.B.

121

WAR DIARY

of 3rd ALT.M.B.

Army Form C. 2118.

52

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.)

for January 1918

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Messines	14/1/18		80 Rds expended on enemy main line + C. 1.0. + suspected M.G. position.	Sheet 28 SW and SE 1/20000.
South	15/1/18		Relieved by 2 nd ALT.M.B. Hqs moved to Fort Pinkie T.6.A. Owing to very stormy weather relief of crews in line not completed.	
USA.1.1	16/1/18		Relief completed 0500. Heavy rains flooded out quarters - Troops resting.	
Fort Pinkie	17/1/18		All ranks engaged cleaning clothing + equipment + repairing dugouts.	
T.6.A.	18/1/18		Bath at Wulverghem. + change of underclothing obtained.	
	19/1/18		Training - Gas drill + inspection of helmets. Gun drill + Platoon drill - Recreational Training.	
	20/1/18		" Battery drill - Lecture "T.Ms in attack" - Quick setting up of guns + change of target.	
	21/1/18		" Section drill - Gas drill - Platoon drill - Lecture - T.Ms in attack - Recreational Training.	
	22/2/18		Route March - Capt A. J. Newlands evac sick - Lt Y. A. Miles takes over command.	
	23/2/18		Relieved 2 nd ALT.M.B. in line - 8 crews in line - Relief completed 1900 without mishap - 2 guns on night withdrawn to defensive positions. owing to the bad state of emplacements.	
	24/1/18		86 Rds expended on enemy M.G. position and strong posts.	
	25/1/18		27 Rds expended on enemy M.G. position at 035 B 5.5. No 2362 Cpl Lewis J. wounded.	
	26/1/18		No 3 gun silenced enemy M.G. firing from 035. D 8.9. - 17 rds expended.	
	27/1/18		63 rds expended on various targets. General situation very quiet.	
	28/1/18		No 6 gun carried out harrasing fire on enemy positions from 029 D 2.9 to 029 B 2.2. on working party. 11 rds expended.	
	29/1/18		No 3 gun carried out harrasing fire on enemy strong post at 035 D 8.9. - 20 rds and on enemy M.G. at 035 B 5.5. effectively silencing same with 15 rds.	
	30/1/18		Enemy working party dispersed at 035 D 8.8 + enemy M.G. engaged at 029 B 3.4. 58 rds expended.	
	31/1/18		Situation in line very quiet. Relieved by 8 th ALT.M.B. in line - Relief completed 2030 without mishap. Moved to Aldershot Camp T 20 A 1.1. Move completed 2300.	

Thomas Miles Lt.
OC. 3rd ALT.M.B.