

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

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/122/9

**Title:** 9th Australian Light Trench Mortar  
Battery

January 1919



AWM4-13/122/9

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.  
DUPLICATE.  
TRIPLICATE.

166

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

9th. AUST& LIGHT TRENCH MORTAR BATTERY.

FOR

J A N U A R Y . 1919.

Signature of Officer compiling

*R. Crowland Capt*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*R. Crowland Capt*

# 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.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ACHEUX EN VIMEU.	1:1:19.		Battery had quiet New Years Day. and Men visited men in neighbouring villages. O.C. attended dinner of 23rd. A.S.C.Coy. in evening. Fine day. Fighting Strength. 2 Off. 7 N.C.O. 30 Men.	
	2:1:19.		Training was carried out as per Syllabus. Appendix 1.	
	4:1:19.		Battery route marched to TOUFLES - TOURS EN VIMEU - and ACHEUX EN VIMEU during the morning.	
		19.00	In Evening an English Literature class was held by Lt. Mailer.	
	5:1:19.		Sunday. After Inspection the Battery was dismissed to their own occupation at 10.00.	
	6:1:19.		Parades were carried out as per Syllabus. French Class under 733 Gnr. F.J.Cahill. had an attendance of 10. English Literature under Lt. Mailer continued their studies at 11.00 for an hour and had an attendance of 11. O.C. Attended a lecture by Brig. Gen. McNicholl on the Repatriation & Demobilisation Scheme.	
	7:1:19.		Training carried out as per Syllabus. 1754. Gnr. W.R.Blevin lectured on Political Economy. Classes on "Rent". French Class met from 11.00 to 12.00. In the evening the Unit Literary and Debating Society held an "Impromptu Speeches" Night; two prizes being given value 15. & 5 Francs. Some Speeches were very good. 1st. Prize was won by 2786. Gnr. K.C.Davis. 2nd. Prize by 124. Cpl. H.L.Marshall M.M. Evening was a success.	
	8:1:19.		Training was carried out as per Syllabus. French <sup>class</sup> met from 11.00 to 12.00. APPENDIX II.	
	9:1:19.		Mobilisation Stores and Submitted final Indents for deficiencies. A kit inspection was held and men signed for all equipment on their charge.	
	10:1:19.		Training as per Syllabus. A second Lecture was given by 1754. Gnr W.R.Blevin to the Political Economy Class on the Subject of "Rent". French Class met from 11.00 to 12.00.	
	11:1:19.		A route march was held to TOURS EN VIMEU and return. French Class met as usual and had an attendance of 10. Lt.H.R.Mailer proceeded on Leave to DIEPPE. Fighting Strength. 2 - 7 - 30.	
	12:1:19.		Sunday. Weather fine. After inspection men devoted day to their own amusements.	
			Lt. H.R.Mailer returned from Short Leave.	
	13:1:19.		Training as per Syllabus. Appendix 3 <u>III</u> . French and English Literature Classes had an Attendance of 10 & 8 Respectively..	
	14:1:19.		Training as per Syllabus. Political Economy Class met from 10.00 to 11.00. French Class from 11.00 to 12.00. During the evening a "Members Evening" was successfully held by the Battery Literary & Debating Society. Songs, Recitations, Anecdotes, and Choruses were indulged in by all whilst sitting round the fire.	
15:1:19.		Weather was wet. Fete Day was celebrated by the French Villagers with great ceremony.		

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(A8001) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

## WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118. 166

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ACHEUX EN VIMEU.	15:1:19.		Training as per Syllabus. Demobilisation Precedence Roll was completed.	
	Contd.			
	16:1:19.		Training as per Syllabus. French and English Literature Class met as usual. At Organised Games each morning "Soccer" was played and enjoyed by all ranks. A detailed Kit Inspection was held during the morning.	
"	17:1:19.		O.C. attended a Conference at B.H.Q. where it was decided to attack the Battery to Battalions for purposes of Demobilisation; the Battery to retain its Identity and Administration Etc. to be continued by Battery Hdqrs. In the Evening an interesting Lecture was illustrated by Lantern Slides was given by Capt. Calder. 34th. Battalion.	
	<del>18:1:19.</del>			
	18:1:19.		SUNDAY. After inspection Battery was dismissed and men had Leave in the Divisional Area. Fighting Strength. 2 Off. 7 N.C.O. 30 Men.	
	19:1:19.		Training was carried as usual. Wether cold. Battery Orderly Room made preparations for handing over and effecting re-adjustment of Battery as per Instruction S/O 58/32. Attached.	
	20:1:19.		Training as usual. Organised Games. comprising almost whole period. Very cold and frosty.	
	21:1:19.		Training as usual O.C. proceeded to OISEMONT and drew pay from Divn. Paymaster. which was disbursed to Battery at 5.0 pm.	
	22:1:19.		Training as usual. All Mob. Stores turned over and Cleaned and Stored. Major J de Floermel was evacuated to 2nd. Stat. Hosp. ABBEVILLE. Suffering from Influenza.	
"	23:1:19.		All final arrangements were made and papers completed for Attachement as per detailed List attached. Appendix. <u>IV</u> .	
	24:1:19.		At 10.00 Battery moved off to respective Battalions. @@@@	

*R. C. Crawford*  
*cc a Compiling Officer.*

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# WAR DIARY

OF

9th. A . L . T . M . Bty.

FOR

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 JANUARY . 1919.
 

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## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
I.	Syllabus of training & Education.
II.	" " " " "
III.	" " " " "
IV.	Disposition of Battery as at 24/1/19.

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*R. Crowland Capt.*  
*oc & Compiling Officer.*

E D U C A T I O N A L S C H E M E .

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TIME TABLE OF CLASSES

9th. A . L . T . M . Battery.

WEEK ENDING. 4 / 1 / 1910 .

Day.	10.30. to 11.00.	10.50. to 12.00.	18.30. to 19.30.
MONDAY. 30:12:18	English Literature Class.	French.	Debate.
TUESDAY. 31:12:18.	Reading Circle, Political Science.	do.	
WEDNESDAY. 1:1:19.	N E W Y E A R S D A Y .		
THURSDAY. 2:1:19.	English Literature Class.	French.	
FRIDAY. 3:1:19.	Reading Circle. Political Science.	do.	Lecture. Subject to be notified later.
SATURDAY. 4.1.19.	English Literature Class.	do.	

*L. Cranstoun* Captain.

O.C. 9th. A . L . T . M Battery.

# SYLLABUS of TRAINING APPENDIX I.

9<sup>th</sup> A.L.T.M Bty

30.12.18 to 4.1.19

Day	09.00 to 10.00	10.00 to 11.00	11.00 to 12.00	12.00 to 12.45	Remarks
Sunday 30.12.18	Inspection - Reading of Orders Physical Training Organised Games	Stokes Mortar  Drill	English Literature Class	Foot Parade Washing of Feet & application of French feet solution etc.	Debate  18.30 to 20.00
Tuesday 31.12.18	do.	Gas Training Platoon Drill Ceremonial.	Route March Acheux - Vierles - Le Preport Rd Mill - Acheux en Vimeu		Reading Circle "Money" 19.00 to 20.00
Wednesday 1.1.19	NEW YEARS DAY				
Thursday 2.1.19	do.	Guards & Sentry duties	Platoon Drill	Kit Inspection	
Friday 3.1.19	do.	Platoon Drill Bayonet Fighting	Mathematics Class	Lecture - Field sketching by Plain Table Method.	Lecture subject to be notified Later 18.30 to 20.00
Saturday 4.1.19	do.	Route March Acheux - Toeuflas - Tours en Vimeu - Acheux en Vimeu Billets			English Literature Class 19.00 to 20.00
Sunday 5.1.19	Inspection & Church Parade as arranged with Chaplains				

9th AUSTRALIAN

Capt

E D U C A T I O N A L S C H E M E .

TIME TABLE OF CLASSES:

9th. A . L . T . M . Battery.

WEEK ENDING.

~~11/1/19~~ 11/1/19

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Day.	10.30. to 11.00.	10.30. to 12.00.	18.30. to 19.30.
MONDAY. 6:1:19.	English Literature Class.	French.	
TUESDAY. 7:1:19.	Reading Circle. "Rent". Political Science.	do.	Members' Club. Impromptu Speeches.
WEDNESDAY. 8:1:19.	---	do.	
THURSDAY. 9:1:19.	English Literature Class.	do.	Organised Amusements.
FRIDAY. 10:1:19.	Reading Circle. "Rent" Political Science.	do.	Lecture by 733. Cnr. F.J. Cahill. Subject to be notified later.
SATURDAY. 11:1:19.	-----	do.	

*R. Crowlano* Capt.  
O.C. 9th. A . L . T . M . Battery.



# SYLLABUS of TRAINING

APPENDIX II

9<sup>th</sup> - A L T M Bty

6-1-19 - 11-1-19

Day	09.00 to 10.00	10.00 to 11.00	11.00 to 12.00	12.00 to 12.45	Remarks
Monday 6-1-19	Inspection Reading of Orders Physical Training Organised Games	English Class Guards & Sentry Duties	FRENCH Bayonet Fighting	Platoon Drill	Bathing Parade as per allotment.
Tuesday 7-1-19	do	Political Science Rent I Stokes Mortar Drill	FRENCH Recreation	Bay Training	Impromptu Speech Competition 18.30 to 19.30
Wednesday 8-1-19	do	Gas Training Platoon Drill Ceremonial	FRENCH	Cleaning of Web equipment	
Thursday 9-1-19	do	English Class Kit inspection	FRENCH	Cleaning of Mob Store	Organised Amusements 18.30 to 19.30
Friday 10-1-19	do	Political Science Rent II	FRENCH	Inspection of S.B.R.	Lecture - Germany's peaceful penetration by F. J. Cahill 18.30 to 19.30
Saturday 11-1-19	do	Route March to Acheul en Vaux	FRENCH TOURS 2	Return to	

NOTE - Church Parade as arranged with Chaplains.

*A. C. Snowdon*  
9<sup>th</sup> A L T M Bty AIF

E D U C A T I O N A L S C H E M E .

TIME TABLE OF CLASSES:

9th. A . L . T . M . Battery.

WEEK ENDING. 18 / 1 / 1919 .

Day.	10.30. to 11.00.	10.30. to 12.00.	18.30. to 19.30.
MONDAY. 13:1:19.	English Literature Class.	French.	
TUESDAY. 14:1:19.	Reading Circle. Political Science.	do.	Members Evening.
WEDNESDAY. 15:1:19.	-----	do.	
THURSDAY. 16:1:19.	English Literature Class.	do.	Organised Amusements.
FRIDAY. 17:1:19.	Reading Circle.	do.	Lecture.
SATURDAY. 18:1:19.	-----	do.	

*R. Crowther* Capt.  
O.C. 9th. A . L . T . M . Battery.

# SYLLABUS of TRAINING

APPENDIX  
III  
18-1-19  
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9<sup>th</sup> A L T M BATTERY

WEEK ENDING 18-1-19

Day	09.00 to 10.00	10.00 to 11.00	11.00 to 12.00	12.00 to 12.45	Remarks
Monday 13-1-19	Inspection Reading of Orders Physical Training Organised Games	English Literature Class	FRENCH	Stokes Mortar Drill	Bathing Parade as per allotment
Tuesday 14-1-19	do	Guard & Sentry Political Science	do	Ceremonial Drill	Members Evening 18.30 to 19.30
Wednesday 15-1-19	do	Platoon Drill FRENCH	do	Bayonet Fighting	
Thursday 16-1-19	do	English Literature Class FRENCH	do	Gas Training Inspection of S. B. R. S.	Organised Amusements 18.30 to 19.30
Friday 17-1-19	do	Political Science FRENCH	do	Cleaning of Equipment & Clothing	Lecture: Subject to be notified later.
Saturday 18-1-19	do	Route March Touffles - Acheux FRENCH	Chaussoy - do	Application of Trench feet powder Washing of feet	
Sunday	Church Parade as arranged with Chaplains				

O.C.

Capt  
 9<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN  
 LIGHT TRENCH MORTAR BTRY.

DISPOSITION OF 9th. A. L. T.M. BATTERY AS AT 24 : I : 19. *APPEN. IV*

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No.	Rank.	Name.		Detached to.	Remaining at.
	Capt.	Nowland	R. C.	34th. Battn.	9th. Bde. Hdqrs.
	Lieut.	Varley.	A. S. M. C.	35th. "	3rd. Divn. "
	"	Mailer.	H. R.	34th. "	"
	Major	Ploermel	J. de.	35th. "	Now Hosp. 2nd. Stat.
705	Gnr.	Arbuckle	"M.M" A. G.	34th. "	"
I752	"	Anderson	A. V.	34th. "	9th. Bde. Hdqrs.
7448	"	Bromham	H. J.	34th. "	" " "
2538	"	Byrnes	T. W.	34th. "	"
2530	"	Bracegirdle	H.	34th. "	"
I754	"	Blevin	W. R.	34th. "	"
I625	"	Channon	C.	35th. "	"
2775	L/Cpl.	Capell	A. H.	34th. "	With Leave (France.)
I299	Gnr	Churchill	A. E.	35th. "	"
I093	"	Clough.	S.	34th. "	"
I765	"	Cox	E. L.	34th. "	"
II02	M/Sgt.	Charters	E. A.	34th. "	9th. Bde Hdqrs.
I378	Gnr.	Dickenson	J.	34th. "	"
2786	"	Davis	K. C.	34th. "	"
2793	L/Cpl.	Doherty	"M.M" C. B.	34th. "	"
II08	Cpl.	Denning	D.	34th. "	"
I617	Gnr.	Druhan	R. W.	34th. "	"
I550	"	Fox	C. S.	35th. "	3rd. Divn. Hdqrs.
II22	"	Fitzgibbon	A. E. J	34th. "	24th. Coy. A.S.C.
922	"	Fisher	G. F.	34th. "	9th. Bde. Hdqrs.
448	Sgt.	Hapgood	"M.M" A. E.	34th. "	Now Hosp. 9th. Fld. Amb.
I855	"	Hall	W. A.	34th. "	3rd. Pioneer Battn.
I400a	Gnr	Hayes	A. A. E.	34th. "	9th. Bde. Hdqrs.
I662	"	Howard.	F. J.	34th. "	"
233I	"	Hogan	J.	34th. "	"
2084	"	Humphreys	M.	34th. "	"
II67	"	Leggett	S.	34th. "	9th. Bde. Hdqrs.
II68	"	Leggett	H. W.	34th. "	9th. Fld. Coy. Engrs.
2095	Cpl.	Lowder	G. E.	34th. "	"
2808	"	Lynch	"M.M" L. J.	34th. "	"
495	"	Murphy	W.	34th. "	9th. Fld. Coy. Engrs
I24	"	Marshall	"M.M." H. L.	34th. "	9th. Bde. Hdqrs.
3058	Gnr	Murphy	J.	34th. "	"
I419	"	Mills.	H.	34th. "	"
2834	L/Cpl.	Marr	W. P.	34th. "	"
3094	Gnr.	McLachlan	D. L.	34th. "	"
I399	"	McGee	W.	34th. "	40th. Aux. Petrol Coy.
I285	"	McGrath	H.	34th. "	"
2II2	Cpl.	Nilson	G. O.	34th. "	Aust. Corps Workshops.
27962	Gnr.	Newton	G.	34th. "	"
522	"	Newburn	A.	34th. "	"
I799	"	O'Brien	P. V.	34th. "	"
529	"	Olsen	T. J.	34th. "	"
I656	Sgt.	Pont	"M.M." W. F.	34th. "	"
882	Gnr	Rocke	A. S.	34th. "	"
I603	"	Smith	B.	34th. "	"
I597	"	Smith	J. H.	34th. "	"
2659	"	Sawyer	S. W.	34th. "	"
I598	L/Cpl.	Skinner	E. C.	34th. "	"
5099a	Gnr	Wade.	W. R.	34th. "	"
I284	Cpl.	Wardhaugh	"M.S.M" T. Y.	34th. "	Aust Corps Workshops.
I607	"	Williams	W. J.	34th. "	"

ATTACHED.

I444	Dvr.	Richardson	E. E.	From 35th. Bn. now to 9th. Bde. Hdqrs.
733	Pte.	Cahill	F. J.	From 9th. Bde. Hqrs now to 35th. Battn.

NUMBERS DETACHED TO BATTALIONS.

34th. Battn.	2 Officers.	49.	Other Ranks.	@ Includes 1 Off. & 20/Rs. Attached.
35th. "	2 "	4	" "	
9th. Bde. Hqrs.	0	1	" "	
TOTAL.	4 Officers.	54	Other Ranks. @	

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- 33rd Bn.
- 34th Bn.
- 35th Bn.
- 9th A.L.T.M. Batty.
- Bde. Transport Off.
- Bde. R.Q.M.S.

Personnel of the 9th A.L.T.M. Battery will be absorbed into Battalions forthwith. O.C. 9th A.L.T.M. Battery will arrange to send men to whichever unit they prefer, advising such unit and forwarding nominal roll and complete kit inventory with each party.

Captain R.C. NOWLAND, one batman, one clerk and one storeman will remain attached to Brigade Headquarters for administration, and other personnel will be shown by Battalions as attached ex 9th A.L.T.M. Battery. They will come under C.O.'s. units for all matters with the exception of weekly A.F. B. 213 which will still be rendered as formerly.

Men so attached will retain their indentivity and wear green color patches.

All Mob. Stores, guns etc. will be carefully checked and stored by arrangement with Brigade Q.M. at or near Brigade Q.M. Store. Transport at present used by 9th A.L.T.M. Battery will be handed over to Brigade Transport Officer. Any furniture, tables, forms etc. made recently for billets, cook-houses etc. will be handed over to Brigade Q.M.

Chaplain PLOERMEL will be attached to 35th Bn.

C.O. 9th A.L.T.M. Battery will report completion and render statement showing distribution of Battery.

Units will include all such attachments on their Precedence Roll, and by arrangement with O.C. 9th A.L.T.M. Battery include numbers on pro forma "B" due at this Headquarters on 24th instant.

*J. Paterson*  
 Captain.  
 Staff Captain.  
 Ninth Australian Infantry Brigade.

19-1-1919.