

AWM4

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/123/11

Title: 10th Australian Light Trench Mortar
Battery

June 1917



AWM4-13/123/11

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

10th A L I M Bly

FOR

June 1917.

Signature of Officer compiling

Signature of Officer Commanding

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.)

JUNE, 1917

10th A. L. T. M. Battery

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PLOEG STEERT	1st	0830	2 guns in conjunction with 37th raid fired ϕ 100 rounds each (as per Brigade Order 44 of 31/5/17)	MAP REFERENCE. 1/10,000 28 SW 4 Ed 4 B
		1430	32 men engaged on loading ammunition at Hyde Park Corner, when explosion through a faulty shell occurred, causing 400 Stokes shells, dumps of S.A.A. and Very Lights to explode and over 100 casualties to the men working in the vicinity. CASUALTIES - sustained through explosion of a faulty stokes shell at Hyde Park Corner on the 1/6/17. Killed: No. 1246 Pte. Martley S.H. Died of Wounds:- No. 57 Pte. Cameron J. Wounded: No. 60 L/Cpl. Calwell, C.P. " 1354 Pte. Carroll, J.J. " 808 " Anderson, W.L. " 900 " Hannagan, M.J. " 797 Cpl. Harrison, W. " 174 Pte. Moyes, W. " 154 Cpl. Dorensiri, W.R. " 529 Pte. McKinney, J.J. " 394 " Robinson, N. " 1726 " Scott, R.S. " 1268 " Delahunty, J.A. " 6043 " Jackson, S.J. " 2167 " Waters, M.W. " 255 " Wright, J.A. " 3926 " Wallis, W.J. " 3148 " Sheppard, A.W. STRENGTH, 3 Offs., 39 Other ranks. DECORATIONS:- No. 1160, Sgt. Cargill, R.E., awarded M.S.M. (A.I.F. O. List 208 -20/7/17)	
ROMARIN	2nd	1800	Relieved by the 11th A. L. T. M. Battery and marched out of PLOEGSTEERT WOODS.	1/20,000 28 SW Ed.5a
		1900	Arrived at Camp, ROMARIN.	
		1100	Situation normal. - STRENGTH - 3 Offs., 39 Other ranks. 1 O.R. to England (w) LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS: Romarin- Le Bissett Road.	

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10th Aust. L. T. M. Battery

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ROMARIN	3rd	1100	Ammunition carried to forward dumps. - STRENGTH, 3 Off., 39 O.Rs.	REFERENCE MAP 1/20,000 28 SW Ed. 5a.
"	4th	1000	Battery Bathing Parade to Pont-de-Nieppe Baths. Situation normal. (1) (w) to England. STRENGTH, 3 Offs., 39 O. Rs.	ditto
"	5th		200 rounds of ammunition placed in sand bags and taken by battery men to 38th and 37th Battalions in preparation for Operations. CASUALTIES - Nil. STRENGTH - 3 Offs., 93 Other ranks. 2 O. Rs. (w) to England, 12 O. Rs. attached for duty, 44 carriers attached.	
"	6th	1700	2 gun teams under Lt. Oliver reported to 38th Battalion at Brune Gaye, loaded 200 rounds on to hand carts for carriers, 38th Battalion. Situation, normal. STRENGTH 3 Offs., 93 O. Ranks. PROMOTIONS, 2 A/Corpls., 2 L/Corpls. 2100 Moved off from Brune-Gaye via Brown Route to Rendezvous at Farm. 2130 2 guns under Lt. Browne left ROMARIN and marched via Suicide Corner to 37th Bn. Rendezvous. 2200 C.O. moved off with 2 reserve guns and teams. During the march to Rendezvous all parties were subjected to very intense gas shelling by enemy, causing consider- able delay in reaching their Rendezvous Reserve guns with 39th Battalion.	1/20,000 28 SW Ed 5a 1/10,000 28 SW 4 Ed 4B
ONLY WAY TRENCH	7th	0300	Guns with 38th Battalion reached rendezvous. Guns with 37th. Time laid down for reaching rendezvous 0500 but delayed through the gas shelling	ditto
		0307	Zero for Messines Offensive.	
		0311	2 guns with 38th Battn. moved forward to objective and were set up in rear of Bethlehem Farm, covering Black Line.	
		1500	2 guns with 37th Battn. passed through 38th Battn. and took up position as follows:- 1 Gun covering Green Line, the 2nd gun had to be withdrawn owing to casualties to the whole of Gun team. During day 1 Reserve gun moved forward to support 39th Battn. With exception of machine gun fire, enemy's resistance on this day weak. Advance satisfactory. STRENGTH:- 3 Officers, 63 Other ranks.	

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10th A. L. T. M. Battery

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ROMARIN	7th		<p>CASUALTIES sustained in Messines Offensive on 7/6/17:-(a) <u>Establishment</u> (b) <u>Attached</u>.</p> <p>(a) <u>Killed:</u> 1125 Corpl. Smith A.P. 518 L/Cpl Mildrin A.A. <u>Wounded:</u> 202 Corp. Alexander G. 1695 Pte. McErvale J.S. 216 " Ross E. <u>Gassed:</u> 2 " Absolom, A.</p> <p>(b) <u>Killed:</u> 2160 Pte. Wood, R.A. (38th Bn) <u>Wounded:</u> 1304 " Vincent V.V. (37th Bn) 213 " Bright E.J. (38th Bn) 204 L/Cpl Andrews, W.T. " 1808 Pte. Bray R.E. " 1896 " Phillips, A.P. (39th Bn) <u>Gassed:</u> 2113 Pte Lieaert F.P. (37th Bn) 942 " Moss B.S. " 2718 " Birch W. " 2119 " Murdoch W.F. " 2435 " Bailey H.R. (38th Bn) 954 " Milton C.F. (39th Bn) 415 L/Cpl Carter A.P. " 866 Pte. Johnstone E.J. (40th Bn) <u>Missing, believed Gassed.</u> 812 Pte. Bailey W.H. (37th Bn) 1872 " McIntyre J.R. " 1812 " Carey A.J.R. (38th Bn) 2118 " Masallach R.L. " 2031 " Burns S.H. (39th Bn) 2140 " Blanche C.H. (40th Bn) 1793 " Baker A.W. " 978 " Barrow J.H. " 2515 " Hudson W.J.T. " 707 " Porter H.G. "</p> <p>3 killed, 8 wounded, 9 Gassed, 10 missing, believed gassed.</p>	

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10th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																								
ROMARIN	7th		<p><u>HONORS AND AWARDS:-</u></p> <table><tr><td>Lieutenant G. S. Browne</td><td>awarded</td><td>M.C.</td></tr><tr><td>No. 553 Sgt. Oliver J.J.</td><td>"</td><td>D.C.M.</td></tr><tr><td>No. 519 Cpl. Mildren C.J.</td><td>"</td><td>M.M.</td></tr><tr><td>No. 932 L/Cpl. Smith W.A.</td><td>"</td><td>M.M.</td></tr><tr><td>No. 27 Cpl. Biggen E.H.</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>No. 528 Pte. McKinney G.W.</td><td>)</td><td>Mentioned in Brigade Routine Order</td></tr><tr><td>No. 643 " Martin A.E.C.</td><td>)</td><td>103 of 27/6/17.</td></tr><tr><td>No. 2096 " Harder W.J.C.</td><td>)</td><td></td></tr></table>	Lieutenant G. S. Browne	awarded	M.C.	No. 553 Sgt. Oliver J.J.	"	D.C.M.	No. 519 Cpl. Mildren C.J.	"	M.M.	No. 932 L/Cpl. Smith W.A.	"	M.M.	No. 27 Cpl. Biggen E.H.)		No. 528 Pte. McKinney G.W.)	Mentioned in Brigade Routine Order	No. 643 " Martin A.E.C.)	103 of 27/6/17.	No. 2096 " Harder W.J.C.)		<p><u>REFERENCE MAP</u></p> <p>1/20,000 28 SW Ed. 5a 1/10,000 28 SW 4 Ed. 4 B</p>
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"	8th		<p>During night enemy heavily bombarded with Gas shells, but no casualties caused to gun crews.</p> <p>1000 Enemy opened bombardment till 22,00</p> <p>1400 1 gun sent forward to replace withdrawn gun with 38th Battn. 1 gun sent forward to replace one gun with 37th Battn destroyed in action.</p> <p><u>STRENGTH:</u> 3 Offs., 63 Other ranks.</p>	<p>ditto</p>																								
"	9th	0500	Battery relieved by the 11th A. L. T. M. Battery and withdrawn to ROMARIN (Brigade Order No. 50 of 9/6/17)																									
		0900	Arrived at ROMARIN Camp. Rest of the day Battery rested. STRENGTH 4 Offs, 73 O. Rs. 1 Off., 9 O. Rs. returned from Nucleus Camp.	ditto																								
"	10th	1000	Battery Bathing Parade. Rested remainder of the parade - STRENGTH: 4 Offs., 70 O. Rs. SICK - 2 O. Rs., - 1 (s) to England.	ditto																								
"	11th	1000-1500	Battery engaged in the cleaning and setting up of all equipment, arms, guns etc. 14 remaining carriers returned to their respective battalions. STRENGTH, 4 Offs., 70 other ranks.	ditto																								
KORTEPYP	12th	1500-1515	<p>Marched out of ROMARIN Camp (See Bde. Order 51 - 11/6/17)</p> <p>Arrived at Kortepyp Camp, Romarin.</p> <p>1 (w) to England.</p> <p>LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS - KORTEPYP - STRENGTH 4 Offs., 70 O.Rs.</p>	<p>1/20,000 28 SW " 36 NW</p>																								

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KORTEPYP	13th-0900- to 17th 1600		Battery training consisted of Gun Drill, Lectures, Church Parades STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 55 O. Ranks - SICK 1 O. Rank. PROMOTIONS - 1 Corporal, 1 T/Corpl.	REFERENCE MAP 1/20,000 28 SW " 36 NW
DE SEULE	18th 1800 1830		Marched out of KORTEPYP Camp to Bivouacs, De Seule Corner (Bde. Order 52, of 17/6/17). Arrived DeSeule Corner Camp - STRENGTH 4 Offs., 55 O. Ranks. LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS - DE SEULE	ditto
"	19th to 22nd.		Searches for lost hand carts. Training whilst in this area consisted of Squad Drill, Battery Drill etc. - STRENGTH 4 Offs., 57 O. Ranks - SICK 1 O. R. Lieuts. Browne & Oliver taken on strength of Battery from attd. 19/6/17. 1 O. R. (w) to England.	ditto
ALDERSHOT CAMP	23rd 0915 1100		Marched out of De Seule. (Bde. Order 53 & 54 - 21/23 - June 1917.) Arrived Aldershot Camp - STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 57 O. Ranks. LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS - ALDERSHOT.	ditto
KEMMEL HILL	24th 1110 1230		Marched out of Aldershot Camp to La Douve Valley as per Brigade Order 54 of 23rd June, 1917. Arrived Douve Valley, Kemmel Hill. LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS - Tent, Douve Valley, Kemmel Hill. STRENGTH 4 Offs., 57 O. Ranks. PROMOTIONS, 1 L/Sergt.	ditto
"	25th to 30th		Training whilst in this area consisted of Battery Drill and Dummy Firing, Re-organization, Battery Competitions and ordinary Infantry Training. Lectures to N.C.O's by various Brigade Officers. STRENGTH 4 Offs., 56 O. Ranks. 3 men returned to Battalions. 3 men attached to replace same 12 O. R. (w) to England. 1 to Anz. T.M. School. 2 men to Rest Camp, Boulogne	