

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/117/12

Title: 4th Australian Light Trench Mortar
Battery

November 1918



AWM4-13/117/12



CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

4th A.L.T. M Bty

FOR

November 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

W. J. M. B. B.

Signature of Officer Commanding

W. J. M. B. B.

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.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Stungest Sur Somme	1918			
	Nov	1	<p>Fine. Lecture on Stokes Mortar + dud firing. Football Honours + Rewards as follows promulgated 4th Aust Div R.O. 30/10/18. Dist Conduct medal. N° 1543 CPL M.W. O'Connor MM. Military medal ^{3433 a Corporal Munster} and 3695 CPL J. Bassall of this unit.</p>	
		2	<p>Dull light rain. Battery picquetted Railway line west and east of level crossing on absence drive.</p> <p>afternoon football. M.M.C.A. marquee opened for use of troops</p>	
		3	<p>Dull fine Church parade. football</p>	
		4	<p>Fine Gas Drill close order drill bayonet fighting lecture to N.C.O.s</p> <p>afternoon party proceeded by lorry to Bouvelles for inter Divisional boxing tournament. lecture by M.O. on Gases</p>	
		5	<p>Wet. Lectures Gun Emplacements + choice of same.</p> <p>Troops paid. 2.4600 cigarette received from American Red Cross Society</p>	
		6	<p>Wet. Lecture Responsibility + duties of N.C.O.s.</p>	
		7	<p>Dull. Physical Drill + Bayonet Fighting. Lectures Gun Emplacements + choice of same. Practice + recognition of angles. Football</p>	
	8	<p>Dull Route march. Afternoon wet.</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em;">A.S.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Stungate	Nov	9	Fine Clear. Gas Drill Gun Drill with Gas masks. Football. Prepared to move - cancelled later.	
		10	Fine Clear Church Parade.	
		11	" " Close order Drill. Hostilities ceased at 11 am under terms of Armistice. Football	
		12	Fine Recreation. Orders to move suspended, 24 hours. 1 Officer to UK on leave. 3 O/s rejoined from school.	
		13	Fine clear frosty. Billets & surroundings cleaned up ready to move. 1 Officer & 5 O/s marched out at 9.45 am with transport for Cully sur Somme.	
Rosiel		14	Arrived 1.30 am & entrained at once. Train moved at 7.45 am & arrived at Rosiel 6.30 pm. Troops detrained & with transport marched to outskirts of town & billeted for night in huts. Cold frosty day & night. Got tea awaited arrival of troops.	
		15	Fine cold frosty Reveille 6.30 am. Breakfast 6.30 am. Porridge bacon tea. Moved out at 8 am full marching order for Rosiel Light Railway entrained & started at 9.30 am. Transport proceeding by road. detrained 1.30 pm & proceeded to Fresnoy.	

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11/18

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Fresnoy le Grande	1918			
	Nov	15	le Grande took over billets in Rue de Republique. Transport arrived at 4 pm. Hot meal was immediately prepared. Cold frosty night.	
		16	Sunny cold frosty. 9.15 am Route march. Strength of unit 4 officers 54 ORs. 2 officers 16 ORs. being away on leave to UK. During week leather jerkins, woollen cardigans & gloves have been issued to all rank.	
		17	Fine frosty. Church Parade march past G.O.C.	
		18	Fine frosty. Route march afternoon clean up of billets. 1 case cocoa & milk, 1 case cakes received from Aust. Comfort Fund.	
		19	Dull misty. Route march afternoon cleaning of mortars and checking of spare parts. One OR rejoined from hospital details.	
		20	Fine cold. Route march afternoon Battalion Paid	
		21	Fine cold. Route march " Football	
		22	Fine cold. Close order Drill. Bath & change of under clothing.	
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IV 223

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Fresnoy-le-Grand	Nov 1918	22	Honours awards were promulgated in 14th Aust Brigade Routine Order 22-11-18. Tempy Captain A. Martin 16th Bn Commanding 14th Aust Brigade Military Cross, Lieut. H.W. Burt 13th Bn Military Cross. No 4939 Sgt S.W. Waywood awarded Distinguished Conduct Medal.	
		23	Fine sunny frosty. Reville 6 am Breakfast 6.30 am. Full in full marching order 8.30 am. 1 L.S. Waggon having been allotted to unit from 14th P.A.C. - blankets whole and extra gear entire carried on same. Battery moved out with Brigade at 9 am passing through Bequigny Wazinghem to St Souplet arriving at latter place 1.30 pm, troops being billeted for night in several houses.	
St Souplet (Valencienne) 1/100000		24	Fine cold frosty. Reville 6 am Breakfast 6.30 am. Battery moved out of St Souplet with Brigade + proceeded via Wazinghem to Catillon where halt was made at midday for lunch. Lrisches was reached at 4 pm + troops billeted in farmhouse on outskirts of town. Hot meal being prepared + partaken of.	with transport
Lrisches ditto		25	Dull some rain. No parade troops resting.	
		26	Dull heavy cold mist. Reville 6 am Breakfast 6.30 am Battery and transport moved out at 8.30 am joining up behind 14th Battalion.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Frisches Sains Sains.	1918 Nov	26	proceeding via Bartrignes + Boulogne sur Mer to Sains. Halt for midday meal was made near Boulogne. Sains was reached at 3.45 pm + batteries were comfortably billeted in a large hotel in the town. Books immediately prepared a hot meal. Three day march was accomplished without any man falling out or being carried by transport or ambulance. Clean under clothing + socks were issued while at Sains.	
		27	Wet + parade inspection + cleaning arms + equipment. 1 OR evacuated for sickness.	
		28	Wet Examination arms + equipment + refitting of men requiring clothing boots etc.	
		29	Fine Brigade paraded in large factory 10.30 am and Demobilization scheme was explained by Brig General E A Drake-Brockman Lt Col 250 total ranks. 4 ORs rejoined unit from hospital + 2 ORs from leave to U.K. Total strength of batteries being 11 Officers 54 ORs	
		30	Dull misty following a frost - Route march + Football.	

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Martin Baker