

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/123/22

Title: 10th Australian Light Trench Mortar
Battery

May 1918



AWM4-13/123/22

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

10th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Battery

FOR

MAY

1918

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.)

MAY, 1918.

10th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Battery

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEILLY to	1st to 4th		<p>Weather fine and good visibility.</p> <p>During this period men in the line were engaged on improvements to gun positions in dugouts. Registration was carried out on S.O.S. lines. Ammunition in S.O.S. positions was overhauled and further supplies brought forward to the guns. The position in the line was generally improved and the line gradually advanced. STRENGTH - 40 off, 65 O.Rs.</p> <p>CASUALTIES - Aced. Injured No. 1271 Pte. Romar G. Evac. Sick - 1 O.R. LEAVE - England, 1 O.R.</p>	<p>REFERENCE MAP</p> <p>1/20,000 62 D N.E. 1/40,000 62 D. 1/40,000 62 D Ed. local</p>
	5th	1600 1900	<p>Bright morning. Showers during day. Intermittent shelling by enemy on Heilly.</p> <p>3 guns fired 35 rounds each on to E.M.G. position at E.25 C. 30.70</p> <p>3 guns fired 30 rounds each on to enemy new trench E.25.A.17.10</p> <p>Both shoots appeared good.</p> <p>STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 65 O. Rs.</p>	
	6th	1500 1900 2100	<p>Dull day, visibility fair. Rained during day. Exceptionally dark night. Enemy artillery very active over the Ancre Valley.</p> <p>3 guns fired 30 rounds each on to enemy position in Ville Sur Ancre.</p> <p>3 guns fired 40 rounds each xx on to enemy's post at E.25. A. 60. 40.</p> <p>2 guns in Treux were moved forward to J. 6. A. 82. 30 in old front line.</p> <p>STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 65 O. Ranks.</p> <p>CASUALTIES - wounded - No. 1354 Pte. Carroll, J.J., 2075 Pte. Hemmings G.A.</p> <p>Sick - 1 O. R. evacuated</p>	ditto
	7th		<p>Dull and wet morning, but fair in afternoon</p> <p>Guns in J. 6. A. 82.30. were registered on both cross roads in K.1.A.</p> <p>Planes active from 4 p.m. to dark. E.M.G. active at night.</p> <p>STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 62 O. Ranks.</p>	ditto
	8th	0100 2200	<p>Dull day, visibility fair.</p> <p>1 gun fired 10 rounds on to E.M.G. at E. cent. The M.Gs. were silenced.</p> <p>Heilly was shelled by enemy very heavily with rapid bursts. On night of 8/9th strong patrols of 39th and 40th Battns. reconnoitred Ville sur Ancre to see whether it was still held by enemy and as it was found so the proposed operation to capture the village was cancelled. T. M's. were in readiness but were not needed.</p>	ditto

(10340) Wt W3300/P713 750,000 3/18 E 688 Forms/C2118/16

WAR DIARY

or

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MAY 1918

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ALLONVILLE	9th	1300	Bright day, visibility fair. Day in the line quiet.	REFERENCE MAP 1/20,000 62 D N.E.
		2100	Men in billets at Franvillers marched out to ALLONVILLE.	1/40,000 62 D
			Men in the line relieved by the 6th A.L.T.M. Battery, withdrawn and marched from BUIRE to billets at ALLONVILLE. B.O. 108 -9/5/18	1/40,000 62 D Ed B Local
			STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 62 O. Ranks.	
	10th to 16th		Weather for period very fair. General Light Mortar training was the main instruction given during stay in this area. STRENGTH 4 Offs., 62 O. Ranks.	ditto
	17th	1415	Inspected by the C. in C. Field Marshall Sir Douglas Haig on Allonville aerodrome ground. STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 63 O. Ranks.	ditto
	18th to 21st		During this time officers and N.C.Os. made reconnaissance of defensive system round Querrieu. Battery was frequently entertained by Brigade Pierrot Troop in the Allonville aerodrome. During this time enemy bombing planes were very active at night. On occasional days enemy shelled ALLONVILLE with high velocity shells. STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 63 O. Ranks. Sick, 6 O. Ranks evacuated. 1 minor crime.	ditto
BLANGY TRONVILLE	22nd	1045	Hot and close. Very hazy. Marched out of Allonville, proceeded via La Motte to Blangy Tronville for relief with Brigades of 4th Divn. (B.O. 109 - 20/5/18)	1/20,000, 62 D. SW 1/20,000 62 D SE 1/40,000 62 D
		1300	Situation normal. Arrived at billets, Blangy Tronville, Strength - 4 Offs., 63 O. Rs.	1/40,000 62 E
	23rd to 31st		The weather on these days mostly very hot. Poor visibility. During this time battery was in Divisional Reserve and supplied duty men each day to Area Commandant. Full advantage was taken of the opportunity of swimming in the Somme. Enemy bombing planes gave much trouble at night. On the 27th Gen. Sir. W. R. Birdwood presented medals and ribbons at a parade near La Motte and took the opportunity of saying farewell to the officers on his leaving the Australian Corps. Enemy shelled Blangy occasionally with high velocity shells but did little damage. Lt. Brydie, W. taken on strength 15/5/18. Lt. Fiddler G.A. taken on strength 16/5/18. Capt. Munday promoted to 1/capt. and to be C/O vice Capt. Anderson, sick, 27/5/18	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BLANGY TRONVILLE	23rd		SCHOOLS - Lt. Fidler, G.A. with 2 O. Ranks - T.M. School.	
to	31st	cont'd	EVACUATIONS sick - 1 O.R. Crimes - 1 O.R. PROMOTIONS - 1 T/Capt.	