

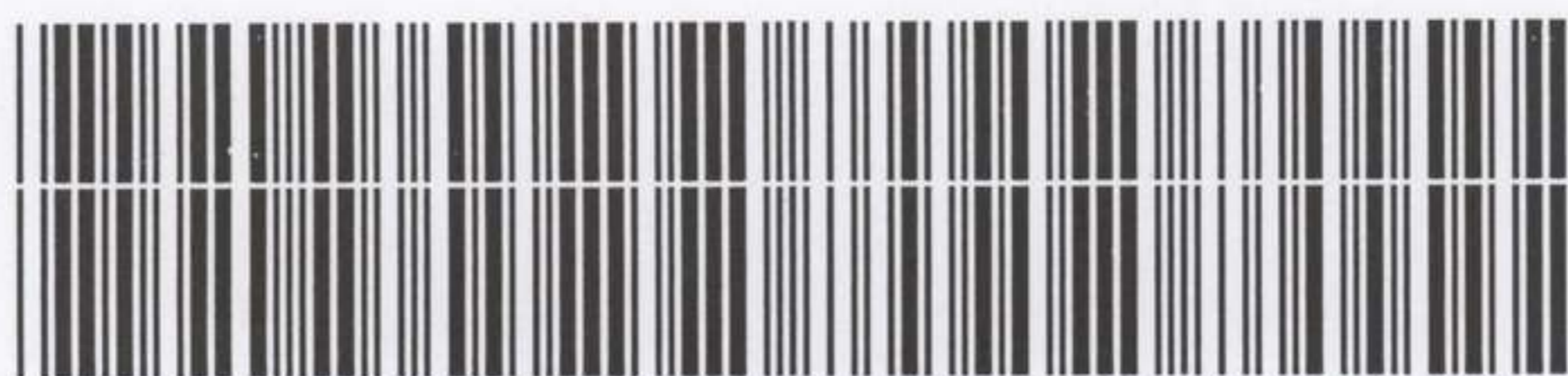
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Artillery

Item number: 13/123/24

Title: 10th Australian Light Trench Mortar
Battery

June 1918



AWM4-13/123/24

CONFIDENTIAL.

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112
108

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

~~10th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Battery~~
FOR

JUNE

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.

JUNE, 1918

(Erase heading not required.) 10th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BLANGY TRONVILLE	1st			
	2nd		No entry	
VILLERS BRETTONEUX.	3rd	1600	Bright with good visibility. Relieved the 11th A.L.T.M. Battery in line at Villers Brettoneux (B.O.110 of 1st June, 1918) 4 guns placed for S.O.S. work on 1st line defences, 4 guns in support on 2nd line defences and reserve gun teams left in billets at Blangy Tronville.. LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS - Dugout on main Amiens - Brettoneux Road. STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 63 Other ranks.	
	4th		On these days gun team in the line carried out registration on all positions.	
	5th		Weather fine and warm. Enemy shelled on both days with gas near Battery H.Q. Enemy planes very active day and night. STRENGTH 4 Off., 63 O.Rs.	ditto
	6th	1500 2100	Bright morning, dull afternoon, but visibility fair. Day quiet but at night enemy bombing planes active. 1 gun fired 50 rounds on to enemy tank U.5.B. 1 direct hit was scored. 1 gun fired 75 rounds on monument wood at U.5.B. 95.42. Good results observed. STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 63 O. Ranks	
	7th	0100	Dull warm day. Scattered shelling by enemy over Bois L'Abbe during day. 1 gun fired 50 rounds on to enemy front line in rear of tank at U.5.B. This shoot was carried out in conjunction with raid by French troops on our right at request of O. C. French left sector. STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 63 O. Ranks.	
	8th	1800	Dull and warm, visibility good. Our artillery very active. Enemy quiet during the day. Enemy aircraft very active both day and night. Enemy heavily bombarded Villers Brettoneux during night 8th/9th with gas and H.E. 1 gun fired 40 rounds on to E. M. G. at U.5.b.9.5. (active on previous night) Direct hits were obtained on position. STRENGTH 4 Offs., 63 O. Ranks	
	9th	17,30	1 gun fired 45 rounds on to E.E. Line U.5.b.7.4. A very effective shoot. Dull day. Enemy's bombardment intermittently continued in early morning, also active by day and night over Bois l' Abbe - STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 66 O.Ranks	

REFERENCE MAP

- 1/40,000 62 E
- 1/20,000 62 D SW
- 1/20,000 62 D SE
- 1/40,000 62 D

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JUNE, 1918

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10th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Battery

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VILLERS BRETTONEUX	10th	1700	Dull day, little rain, brighter towards evening. Enemy planes active. 1 gun fired 45 rounds on to U.6.A.10.70. Considerable movement had been reported round this position. STRENGTH - 4 Officers, 67 O. Ranks.	MAP REFERENCE 1/40,000 62 E 1/20,000 62 D SW 1/20,000 62 D SE 1/40,000 52 D
	11th		Clear day, good visibility. New work done to position in line. STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 67 O. Ranks.	
	12th	0200	Fine and bright, visibility good. 2 guns fired 40 rounds each on to Enemy communication trench at O.36.D.31.07 and enemy M.G. position at O.36.D.7.7. These shoots were fired in conjunction with minor operation by 37th Battalion of the Brigade. STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 70 other ranks.	ditto
	13th	0430	Dull and warm. 1 gun fired 70 rounds on to Monument wood. Shoot was observed to be satisfactory. Very little enemy action by day but at night his artillery active. Gas and H.E. fired from our sector on to enemy roads by our artillery.	ditto
	14th		Warm and dull. Day and night quiet. Registration was carried out on enemy hangar and Machine Gun positions at P.35.c.91.25. STRENGTH 4 Offs., 69 O. Ranks. 1 O. R. to T. M. School.	
	15th	14.15	2 guns fired 75 rounds each on to Hangar at P.35.c.91.25. Many direct hits obtained. Clear and warm. Day normal. STRENGTH 4 Offs., 69 O. Ranks.	ditto
	16th	0027- 0030 2200	4 guns fired 45 rounds each on to U.5.b.88.55., U.5.b.89.46 and U.5.b.99.53 This shoot was carried out in conjunction with a Brigade Minor Operation Shooting observed very good. 1 gun fired 30 rounds on to O.36.d.5.2. Shoot effective. Enemy put up two red lights during shoot. Lt. Fidler from school. Warm day, fair visibility. Situation normal	
	17th	1155 2230	1 gun fired 60 rounds on to E.F.L. at O.36.d.5.3. 1 gun fired 30 rounds on to E.F.L. at O.36.d.5.1. Both were effective. Enemy showed red lights. STRENGTH 5 Offs., 69 others	ditto

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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10th Aust. L. T. Mortar Battery

JUNE, 1918.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VILLERS - BRETONNEUX	18th	2200	2 guns fired 35 rounds each on to E. F. L. - 0.36.d. to U. 6 c.40.95., Enemy C. T. - 0.36 d. to U.6.c.45.95. During the shoot enemy appeared harassed as he put up several red lights. Until about midnight, when enemy attempted a raid, situation quiet. STRENGTH - 5 Offs., 70 other ranks.	REFERENCE MAP. 1/20,000 62 A SW 1/20,000 62 A SE 1/40,000 62 D 1/40,000 62 E
"	19th	2230	4 guns fired 30 rounds on to E. F. L. & C. T. at 0.36.d. Good shooting reported. Cloudy day, some rain. Day very quiet. STRENGTH, 5 Offs., 70 O.Rs.	ditto
"	20th	0020 0220 0245 1715 1930 2200	1 gun fired 20 rounds on to E.F.L. & C.T., U.5.b.8.3. 1 gun fired 15 rounds on to tank in U.5.b. 1 gun fired 15 rounds on to U.5.b.8.3. (Lights were again fired by enemy and were followed by enemy artillery fire.) 1 gun fired 25 rounds on to E.M.G. at 0.36.d.7.2. 2 guns fired 20 rounds each on to E.F.L. & C.T. at 0.36.d.8.9. 2 guns fired 25 rounds each on to E.F.L., C.T., and M.G. at 0.36.d.4.2. Many direct hits were scored during the day. Cool day with light rain. Bois l' Abbe shelled with gas by enemy at night. STRENGTH - 5 Offs., 70 other ranks.	ditto
"	21st	0310 0430	1 gun fired 25 rounds on to E.M.G. at 0.36.d.4.2. 1 gun fired 25 rounds on to Enemy C.T. at 0.36.d.8.9. STRENGTH - 5 Offs., 69 O. Ranks. Cool day, slight showers, early.	ditto
"	22nd		1 gun fired 10 rounds on to enemy working party at Tank at U.5.b. Dull day, drizzling at first, but cleared later. Very quiet day. SUMMARY - During the period in the Villers Bretonneux Sector, the Battery reliefs were carried out every 4 days, the four teams in billets relieving the four teams in support, and the latter teams relieving the teams in first line. The reserve teams back in billets, assisted by the teams in support line, constructed dugout in Bois l' Abbe on main Amiens Road. On two occasions the 8 guns were taken from S.O.S. position to support Brigade Minor operation on left Brigade sector. These guns did not fire as artillery assistance was required. Much work was entailed owing to ammunition (450 rounds) having to be carried to and withdrawn from these positions each time. STRENGTH-5 Offs., 69 O.Ranks	ditto

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JUNE, 1918

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10th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Battery.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BLANGY - TRONVILLE.	23rd	1600	Bright day, good visibility. Battery was relieved by the 11th A.L.T.M. Battery; withdrawn to billets at Blangy-Tronville. (Bri gade Order No. 113 of 20/6/18) LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS - BLANGY TRONVILLE. STRENGTH - 5 Offs., 69 O. Ranks.	<p style="text-align: center;">REFERENCE MAP.</p> 62 A SW, 1/20,000 62 A SE, 1/20,000 62 D , 1/40,000 62 E , 1/40,000
to	24th 26th		Inspection and cleaning of guns, clothing etc. Training consisted mostly of swimming and sport. Weather clear. STRENGTH - 5 Offs., 70 O. Ranks. CASUALTY - Lt. Fidler, G.A., aced. injured.	
ALLONVILLE BOIS DE MAI	27th	1400	Marched out of Blangy-Tronville and proceeded to Bois de Mai. LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS - ALLONVILLE WOOD. STRENGTH - 5 Off., 69 O. Ranks.	ditto
QUERRIEU	28th	1000	Marched to huts in the Chateau grounds, Querrieu, relieved 6th A.L.T.M. Battery. Hot and bright. LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS - CHATEAU, QUERRIEU, STRENGTH, 4 Off., 68 O. Ranks	ditto
"	to	29th 30th	Weather very fine and warm. Training consisted of dummy firing, practice with new magnesium smoke and flare bomb. 2 guns took part in field operation with tanks, using new flare bomb, to direct tanks to supposed enemy machine gun posts. Practice, Brigade "Stand to". Swimming and cricket indulged in. Enemy planes were very active at night, dropping many bombs. CASUALTIES - No. 1644 Pte. Deans E.J., (acc. wounded) No. 1964 Pte. McErvale J.L. (wounded) SCHOOLS - 4 other ranks. STRENGTH - 4 Offs., 61 other ranks.	ditto

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