## AWM4

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

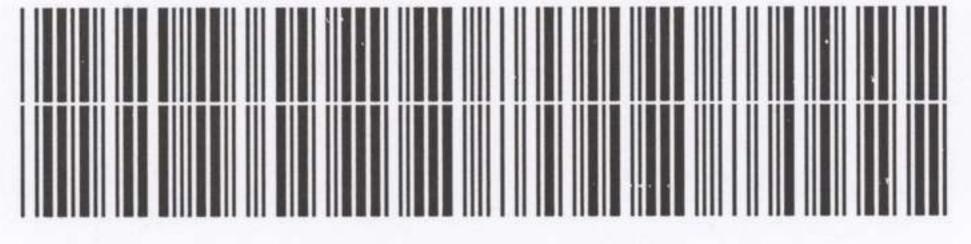
# Artillery

Item number: 13/123/27

Title: 10th Australian Light Trench Mortar

Battery

September 1918



AWM4-13/123/27

R.20,000-5/18-11069.

CONFIDENTIAL.

# ORIGINAL. DUPLICATE. TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

# WAR DIARY

OF

10th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Battery

FOR

SEPTEMBER 191 8

Signature of Officer compiling

Signature of Officer Commanding

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1009527

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence

#### INTELLIGENCE SHIMMARY

will be p	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information								
CURLU				PERENCE MAP ourt Sht. 1/20,000 1/20,000 1/40,000							
to	2nd 4th		Clear and hot. During stay in this area enemy aeroplanes were very active dropping bombs at night. Battery rested. Clean clothing and hot baths were provided the men.  STRENGTH - 1 Off., 43 O. Ranks - HEADQUARTERS - CURLU -2 O.Rs. T.M. School	ditto							
RY SUR SOMME	5th	1900	Battery moved to old trenches near Clery at I.2.b. During this march a terrific thunderstorm was experienced and the men underwent great discomfiture by the heavy rain that followed. STRENGTH - 1 Off., 44 O. Ranks.  LOCATION OF H.Q I.2.b. 1.5. Clery	ditto							
	6th		Men were engaged in drying their clothing and preparing for forthcoming operation. STRENGTH, 1 Off., 44 O. Ranks.								
ISEL	7th	0900	Bright and warm.  Battery under command of Lt. Cheeseman moved forward with guns Nos. 1 & 2 in co-operation with 37th Bn. under Sgt. Oliver, and Nos. 3 & 4 guns under Sgt. Oliver with 38th Bn. Nos. 1 & 2 guns took up their position at Montigny Farm at K.36.c. Nos. 3 & 4 guns their positions at K.17.c.5.4. Bty H.Q. at K.19. c.4.4 (Tincourt) During the move guns were not required to fire.  STRENGTH - 1 Off., 43 O. Ranks HEADQUARTERS - Tincourt- K.19.c.	ditto							
	8th		Battery H. Q. with 38th Battn moved to position forward at K.21.c.6.2. At night when 39th and 40th Battalions moved into their position in line the guns under Sergt. Oliver remained with 37th Battn., but those under Sergt. Lorensini were instructed to move from 38th Battn. and attach themselves to 40th Battn for further operations. An additional 2 guns and crews under Cpl. Mildrenving Declaration in their advance moved forward to L.31.c.25.03 but as no opposition	ditto							

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

#### INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

SEPTEMBER, 1918 (Erase heading not required.) 10th Aust. Light Trench Mortar Battery

will be p	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
OISEL	9th		was met with, were not required to fire. The guns which were to report to 40th Bn. Spec	NE 1/20,000
OISEL	9th		The 39th Bn. was located and these guns reported to C.O.Bn. and established positions at K.3O.b.6.6. During this day the guns did not fire.	ditto
	loth	1830	In afternoon enemy machine guns were located north of Jeancourt, giving trouble, and were engaged by our guns.  I Gun with instructions from 0. C. "D" Coy., 37th Bn moved forward to position at R.1.d.8.8. in conjunction with advance carried out by 12th Platoon, C. Coy.  2nd Bn. who had come into line for relief. During this advance much enemy machine gun fire was encountered on the left flank and the active enemy guns were fired on with 30 rounds by our guns, dispersing the enemy, causing them casualties, silencing the guns and leaving position clear. At this time 1 gun under the instructions from C.0., 39th Bn moved forward to position at K.19.d.1.3 in support to the 2nd Battalion but did not fire.  Battery was relieved by the 1st A.L.T.M. Battery and moved back to Mont. St. Quentin at I.10.c.10.30. The enemy during whole operation was very active with his artillery M. G. fire and bombing machines but did not offer much resistance to our advance.  During the march back to Mont. St. Quentin after being relieved the Battery experienced heavy bombing by enemy aircraft and together with this and the long march back the men were much fatigued. STRENGTH 1 Off., 39 O. Rs. SICK - 4 O.Rs., CASUALTIES - No.1642 Cpl. Dunn L.V. and No. 877 Pte. Fanning J., wounded.	ditto
ONT ST.	11th 26th	- 10	During stay in this area battery was engaged in battery drill and was prepared for forthcoming operation in connection with which Lt. Cheeseman attended several conferences at Brigade. The weather was very fine during the period. STRENGTH - 1 Off., 43 other ranks. LEAVE - 1 O.R. to England - 3 (s) and 2 (w) to England.  LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS - Bivouac at I.10.c.3.1- Mt. St. Quentin.	ditto
			LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS - Bivouac at I.10.c.3.1- Mt. St. Quentin.  D. D. & L., London E.C.  (10340) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 3/18 B 2688 Forms/C2118/16.	

Army Form C. 2118.

#### INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information  REFERENCE MAP  Remarks and references to Appendices
ST EMILIE- ONSSOY	27th		Battery marched to position at E.20.b.8.8. in old trenches behind1/20,000 Spec.Wiancourt Sht.  Ronssoy with the "D" Coy. of 38th Bn., but on reaching position,1 /20,000 62 C NE owing to non-accommodation and cover for the men, they were with-1/40,000 62 C drawn to old system of trenches at St. Emilie at E.24.b.80.25. Battery remained in this position till ordered to move.  STRENGTH - 3 Off., 49 O. Ranks. CASUALTIES No. 3628 Pte. Rennie, N. and No. 216 Pt. Ross E., killed  No. 154 Sgt. Lorensini - died of wounds HONORS & AWARDS - 1 M.M. PROMOTIONS, 1 T/Cpl. 2 L/Cpls.  LEAVE - Paris - 1, England 1.
	28th	1	No entry
to	29th 30th		4 guns moved forward, 2 under Lt. Cheeseman in co-operation with 38th Bn and 2 under Lt. Brydie with 39th Bn, The Bns. to which these guns were attached wereheld up by enemy M.G. fire before reaching the Brown Line. The 2 guns attached to 38th Bn. under orders from "A" Coy. at 1100 nsuccessfully tried to advence on enemy line, reaching an approximate depth of 300 yds. It was found impossible to proceed further. The 2 guns then withdrew to the former jumping off position, under orders from C.O. Bn. to be called on when required. Owing to sickness of the Officer in Charge, of these guns, Cpl. Lewis tookmcharge of same. The 2 guns attached to 39th Bn did excellent work during the operation. When this Bn. was held up Lt. Col. Henderson with Lt. Brydie, went forward to reconnoitre and find out location where enemy's machine guns were causing hold-up. After going along Duncan Trench for about 100 yards they encountered a party of about 20 enemy. These were dealt with by Lt. Brydie wounding 1 and taking the remainder prisoners. Prior to their capture these prisoners were suspected of sniping. They had evidently been despatched to the rear as prisoners by the Americans earlier in the day. Shortly after this event both officers again went forward for reconnaissance purposes, going about 500 yards when they sighted about six of the enemy. They immediately fired on this party, the Colonel killing one and the Batman of Lt. Brydie killing two. On the Colonel firing his second shot he was fired from the right, being instantly killed. At this stage Lt. Brydie organised a party of Americans together and instructed the N.C.O. in charge to rush the sighted enemy post. On receipt of word from "D" Co., 30th Bn. that enemy movement was noticed 1 gun at about 1200 fired 12 rounds on to Gillemont Ruins, two direct hits being obtained. Enemy's S.O.S. immediately went up and resulted with a heavy enemy barrage of artillery on our positions. Our gun which caused this had much difficulty in getting to the position from which it fired owi

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.

07

SEPTEMBER, 1918

(Erase heading not required.)

10th Aust. L. T. M. Battery

168

Place Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
T. EMILIE 29th 30th		The work done by the men of this guncrew was excellent and showed much dash and pluck in d)carrying out the shoot which they did through intense enemy shelling. On the Battalions moving forward to Canal Tunnel, the guns and teams accompanied them and consolidated there, but were not needed for any further firing, the enemy now offering very little resistance. During the whole of the operation, enemy artillery fire, machine gun fire etc. was very heavy, especially round and about rear areas. He also used much gas shell. The dispositions of battery for this operation were:  H.Q. in line, Q.M. Store at St. Emilie, Nucleus and Fack Store at 3rd Div. Rft. Wing, Peronne. On-night-ef-2/10/18-all-guns-with-Btyv-H.Qwere-withdrewn-te-pesitie GASUALTIES:  Wounded:- No. 1926 Pte. Wallis W.J. 29.9.18  " 1854 " McDonald W. "  " 1897 " Price R.W.J. "  " 2675 " Walsh J.H. "  (G) " 3419 " Leech H.L. "  " 1901 " Mills H.P. "  " 3125 " Cameron J. 30/9/18  " 1306 " Strachan A.V. "  " 954 " Milton C.F. "  STRENGTH - 1 Off., 39 O. Ranks - SICK - 4 O.Rs.	
		D. D. & L., London E.C (10366) Wt W3300/P73 750,500 3/18 E 688 Forms/C2118/16	

#### 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.

Lember (Erase heading not required.)

10 R Q- S- S- M.B.

Place	Date	Hour			Summary	of Events	and Inform	nation						Remarks and references to Appendices
RANCE.	SOMME			ocation f H.Q.			Sick	Crimes	H.& A.	Prom.	To Aust.	Leave	Remark	
5/9/18. to		19.00	Battery moved to old I trenches near Clery at I. 2. b.	. 2. b. 1. Clery.	1 off	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil-		
6/8718.			During this march, a terrific thunderstorm was experienced and the men underwent great		44 OF									
			discomfiture by the heavy											
		014/18.	on the 6th, the men were engaged in drying their cloth and preparing for forthcomin											
perations 7/9/18	dati	N JALANA	operation. At 09.00 on 7/9/18, Bty.	incourt	1 0ff	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		
10 /9/18 DISEL.	*		man moved forward with 4 Kguns - Nos. 1 & 2, in co-op-		43 Or									
			Sgt. Oliver, and Nos. 3. &4 guns											
			under Sgt.Oliver, with 38th. Rt. Nos.1.& 2 guns took up their position at Montigny Farm at											
			K. 36.c Nos. 3. & 4. guns their position at K. 17.c. 5. 4. Bty											
			H.Q. at K. 19.0.4.4. (Tincourt) Duringbithe move gnd next day 8/9/18 guns were not required											P
			on day 8/9/18, Bty.H.Q. with H 38th.Btn.moved to position	amlet.										TO TO
4			forward at K. 21.c.6.2. K On night 8/9/18 when 39th.&	, 21. c.			3							Z
			40th.Btn.moved into their position in line, the guns											Z
			D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A7883) Wt. W803/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Form	s/C/2118/14			Vig.		THE PARTY		THE PERSON NAMED IN		100	A TOP I

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE.			Chief Incident Of H.Q. of Unit Cas. Sick Crimes H.& A Prom. Aust Leave Remark	
Operations	Same and the same and	ng	under Sgt.Oliver remained with 37th.Btn., but those under	
10/9/1	1.4		Sgt.Lorensini were instructed to move from 38th.Btn.and	
(contd)			attach themselves to 40thBtn for further operations.	
			An additional two guns and crews wader Cpl. Mildren were	
			sent forward in co-operation with 39th. Btn. The guns with	
			moved forward to L. 31. c. 25. 03	
			but as no opposition was met with, were not required to fire.	
			The guns who were to report to 40th. Btn. could not do so	
			owing to casualties to the crew, and most of the teams being evacuated to hospital	
	· · ·		with Debility. These guns were thus placed out of action	
			for the remainder of the time	D
			it was impossible to obtain  Reserves owing to lack of	D
		- V	men. The 2 guns under Cpl. Mildren moved forward and	111
			took up their position with "C" Coy. 37th. Btn, owing to	0
		-	the guides being unable to locate 39 th. Btn.	×
			D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A7883) Wt. W803/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Forms/C/2118/14	6

/6 8 Army Form C. 2118.

#### WAR DIARY

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.)

Remarks and references to Summary of Events and Information Place Hour Date Appendices To Location Stgth. FRANCE. Aust. Leave Remarks Sick Crimes H.& A Prom. of H.Q. of Unit Cas. Chief Incident MOTORITIE perations dating on 9/9/18 the 39th.Btn.were 7/9/18. to C.O. Btn. and established positions at K. 30, b. 6, 6. During this day the guns did not fire. On afternoon of 10/9/18, enemy machine guns were located North of Jeancourt, giving trouble, and were engaged by our guns. 18.30 1 gun, with instructions from 0.C. "D" Coy. 37th. Btn. moved forward to position at R. L. d. 8.8., in conjunction with advance carried out bylath. Platoon, "C"Coy., 2nd. Btn. who had come into line for relief. During this advance, much enemy machine gun fire was encountered on the left flank thd the active enemy guns, were fired on with 30 rounds by our guns, dispersing the enemy, causing them casualties, silencing the guns, and leaving position clear. At this time, 1 gun under the 1 instructions from C.O. 39th. Bin., moved forward to position at K. 19. d. 1. 3., in support to the And. Battalion, but did not fire. Nil-21.00 Battery was relieved by the 39 Or 1642 Chlippen. L. y. 1st. A. L. T. M. Bty., and moved back to Mont St. Quentin at 1.10.0.10.30.

The expression with the serious with his arbillery, and fine and bombing anchines, hat did not offer much severance. To our addrner.

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.

Place	Date	Hour		8	Summary o	f Events an	d Informat	ion						Remarks and references to Appendices
ANCE. NT St.QUEN	TIN.		Chief Incident	of H.Q.	Stgth. f Unit	Cas.	Sick	Orimes	H.& A.	Prom.	To Aust.	Le'ambe.	Remar	ks
10/9/18.(	contd	)	During the march back to Mont St. Quentin, after being re- lieved, the Battery experience											
			heavy bombing by enemy aircra	ft.										
n ·			long march back, the men were much fatigued.								2012		7 ( )	V2
11/9/18.			Battery was engaged in Batter	r at	45 Or	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1 Eng	2 (W)	可留。
26/9/18.			Drill, and wese prepared for forthcoming operation, in	Mont-	1.									
			Theeseman attended several	StQuentin	3 Off 49 Or	- 11	- 11	2		I T/CD	. 11	l Par	s	
EMILIE-RO 27/9/18.	NSSOY	18.30	Battery marched to position at H. 20. b. 8. 8. be old trenches	St.Emil	le II	2 (k)	1	Nil	L M.M	Nil	(I	1 Eng.		
			behind ROMSSOY, with the "D"Co		9	3628. Ple. P.	ALTERNATION OF THE PARTY OF THE	1 / 10 - 1						
			position, owing to non-accomo- dation, and cover for the men	,		154. Sqr. 7	armen	WR. (045)						
			they were withdrawn old syste	m										San.
			E. 24. b. 80. 25. Battery remain in this position till ordered	ed										7
erations d		06.18	to move forward.  4 guns moved forward - 2, und	er Twenthe	3 000	77.47	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		7
2/10/18.	29/	11/18	Lt.Cheeseman, in co-operation with 38th.Bn., and 2 guns, unde Lt.Brydie, with 39th.Bn. The	r on Bony &	43 03									7
4	mind fil	1	Battns. to which these guns we attached were held up by ehen	re Ronss	oy							1/18		
			Machine Gun fire before reach the Brown Line, London, E.C.											
			(A7883) Wt. W803/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Form	s/C/2118/14						The state of the s			A.A	

Army Form C. 2118.

#### WAR DIARY

or

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE.			Chief Incident Das. Sick Crimes H. & A. Prom. Aust. Deave Remarks	
29/9/18	dat in	3.	The 2 guns, attd. 38th. Bn. under	
2/10/18 (contd	*		11.00 unsuccessfully tried to	
Conca			an approximate depth of 300 yards.  It was found impossible to	
			proceed further, the 2 guns them withdrew to the former	
			from the C.O.Bn.to be called	
			on when required. Owing to the sickness of the Officer in	*
			took charge of same.	
			The 2 guns attd. 39th. Bn. did excellent work during the operation. When this Bn. was	
			held up.Lt.Col.Henderson, with Lt.Brydie, went forward to	
			reconnoitre, and find out location where enemy's machine guns were	
			causing the hold-up. After going along Duncan Trench for about	
			100 yards, they encountered a party of about 20 enemy. These	Ū
			were dealt with by Lt. Brydie, wounding one, and taking the	Z
			their capture, these prisoners	0
			were suspected of sniping. They had evidently been dispatched	×
			to the rear of the prisoners by the  American we want of the proposition of the seal and the sea	-

Army Form C. 2118.

#### WAR DIARY

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.

Place	Date	Hour			of Events		ation						Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE. RONSSOY. Operations	datir	Œ	Chief Incident of H.Q.	Stgth.	Cas,	Sick	Crimes	H.& A	Prom.	To Aust.	Leave	Remarks	3
29/9/18	Chicago and Street Street		Shortly after, this event, both Officers again went										
2/10/18. (contd.)	and Street		forward for reconnaisance purposes, going about v500										
10022000		3	yards when they sighted about six of the enemy. They immed-										
			iately fired on this party, the Colonel killing one, and										
			the batman of Lt. Brydie killing two. On the Colonel firing										
			from the Right, being instantly										
			killed. At this stage, Lt. Brydie organised a party of Americans together, and instructed the										
			N.C.O. in charge to rush the sighted enemy post,										
			On receipt of word from "D" Coy. 39th.Bn.that enemy movement was										
			noticed, 1 gun at about 12.00 fired 12 rounds on to Gillemont										
			Ruins, two direct hits being obtained. Enemy's S.O.S. immed-										
			a heavy enemy barrage of artillery										0
			fire on our positions. Our gun which had caused this, had much difficulty in getting to the										
			position from which it fired, owing to an open gap, which was										5
			being continually swept with machine gun fire, having to be cros	sed.							1		5
			D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A7883) Wt. W803/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Forms/C/2118/14										0

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.

Place	Date	Hour			Summary	of Events	and Inform	nation						Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANCE.			Chief Incident	Location of H.Q.	Stgth.	Cas.	Sick	Or imes	H.& A	Prom.	To Aust.	Leave	Remark	S.
Operations 29/9/18	dati		The work done by the men of											
2/10/18			this guncrew was excellent, and shewed much dash and											
(contd.)			pluck in carrying out the shoot which they did through											
	•		intense enemy shelling. On the Battalions moving											
			forward to Canal Tunnel, the											
			them and consolidated there,											1
->			but were not needed for any further firing, the enemy no	W					7					
			offering very little resists During the whole of the											
			operation, enemy wasillery : machine gun fire etc. was											
			very heavy, especially round and about rear areas. He al	0										
			used much gas shell. The dispositions of Battery											
			for this operation was :- H.Q. in line, Q.M. Store at											
			St. Emilie, Nucleus and Pack	tore										· · · · ·
			Peronne.		3 Offa	10 (m)	77 1 7	Nil	Nil	1 Set	· Nil	1 Eng.	2 (w)En	g.
		50	on the night 2/10/18, all gur with Bty.H.Q. were withdraw:	1 Ct Timin	3 Offs 34 Or.	200	21 2 2	21 35.15		1 Cpl				
St.EMILIE 3/10/18	- 1187V-V	William.	to position at St.Emilie at E. 24.b. 80.25. Battery rested at this posi	ion "	- 11	Nil	11	- 11	11	Bil	- 11	Nil	1 (w)En	g.
HATTALLA	NES	til	Drders received for move to	ecount-	5.							-/-		
dizeron	U'	12.00	By MESS WE WISS MIGT: 1350,000 1914 Sch. 528 Fo	orms/C/27/8/14										