

**AWM4**

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

Artillery

**Item number: 13/4/11**

**Title:** General Officer Commanding, Royal  
Artillery, 1st ANZAC Corps and  
Headquarters, Royal Artillery,  
Australian Corps

March 1918



AWM4-13/4/11

**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
DUPLICATE.  
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Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

Headquarters, R.A., AUSTRALIAN Corps.

FOR

MARCH

1918.

HEADQUARTERS,  
AUSTRALIAN CORPS  
ROYAL ARTILLERY.  
No. 5/8710  
Date 5/4/18

Signature of Officer compiling

*H. E. Smith*

Captain,  
R.O.R.A., AUST. Corps.

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Edmund Colson*

Brig-General,  
G.O.C.R.A., AUST. Corps.

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	1918. March 1st.		<p>During the day two hostile batteries were engaged, one with aeroplanes &amp; one with visual observation, resulting in one pit being destroyed, several damaged &amp; causing 5 fires. 25 neutralizations and 4 concentrations on hostile batteries were also carried out. Hostile artillery was very quiet. During early part of night Right Divnl. Arty. carried out gas bombardments on area in vicinity of WARNETON.</p> <p>9.50pm. Enemy raided our trenches on Left Divnl. Front. Left &amp; Centre Divnl. Artilleries and Heavies opened fire and Corps on Left assisted with counter-battery work.</p> <p>10.40pm. All quiet - raid reported a failure. During raid enemy barrage was very heavy but his counter-battery work practically Nil.</p>	
	2nd		<p>Personnel of 1st Australian Divisional Artillery from superimposing Left Divisional relieved personnel of 4th Australian Divisional Artillery in the line on Left Divisional Front, Personnel of 4th Aust. Divnl. Arty. going into positions vacated by 1st Aust. Divnl. Arty. 1st Aust. Divnl. Arty. thus becoming the Divisional Artillery in the line on Left Divisional front and 4th Aust. Divnl. Arty. the superimposing artillery on that front.</p> <p>During early part of night Right Divisional Artillery bombarded with gas the area in vicinity of WARNETON. 7 hostile batteries were concentrated on and 16 were neutralized by Heavies. Hostile fire very quiet - only light scattered shelling reported.</p>	
	3rd	10.30pm	<p>Heavy Artillery neutralized 13 and concentrated on 5 hostile batteries.</p> <p>Centre Division carried out raids on WHIZ FARM and enemy trenches at 28/U.5.d.70.28 and 0.35.d.8.8; simultaneously Right Division raided enemy trenches opposite WARNETON. Artillery of Right and Centre Divisions covered the raids whilst Left Divisional Artillery fired in support of Chinese Raid. Heavies assisted by counter battery work. Hostile fire during the raid was only moderately heavy, was very slow in commencing and was very erratic. Quick bursts of fire were directed against scenes of the raids at varying times throughout the night. Hostile artillery during the remainder of the day was light and scattered. 259 Siege Battery had a few harassing rounds directed against it after the raids were finished.</p> <p>Artillery instructions No. 213, <del>stating amounts of ammunition to be held at guns, dumps and reinforcing positions, issued to day</del> giving details and use of the gas shell.</p>	1.

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FLETRE	4th		Heavies neutralized 10 hostile batteries and concentrated on 8 others. Hostile artillery very quiet, and except for a few rounds harassing fire against 117 Siege Bty. in the afternoon no shelling of any importance was reported.	
FLETRE	5th	12.50am.  2.6am.	<p>Enemy trenches opposite WARNETON raided by Right Division, supported by their artillery. At same time Artillery of Centre Division placed barrage round the points which they raided on night of 3/4th. Heavies co-operated with counter-battery work. Hostile fire in reply to raid was slow in opening up and then light and scattered.</p> <p>Centre and Right Divisions opened fire on an S.O.S. signal; enemy infantry action was only on Centre Divisional Front. Hostile fire during S.O.S. was heavy, Minnewerfers being largely used, hostile counter-battery work however was practically Nil.</p> <p>Throughout the night bursts of fire were directed against enemy trenches opposite the point of his raid and on the scene of our raid. During the day 3 hostile batteries were engaged by Heavies with aeroplane observation resulting in 2 pits being destroyed and 5 explosions being caused, in addition 7 hostile batteries were neutralized and 4 concentrated on. Hostile fire throughout the day was very light, but in the evening and later on became more active on Northern areas.</p> <p>6th Army Brigade A.F.A. from action on Right Divisional Front withdrew to wagon lines under the command of C.R.A. Centre Divisional Artillery.</p> <p>Artillery Instructions No. 214 with addenda issued dealing with the work to be done and the order in which it is to be done on present, reinforcing and 2nd zone positions.</p>	2.
FLETRE	6th		<p>18 hostile batteries were neutralized by Heavies and several working parties dispersed by Field Artillery. Hostile fire showed a slight increase on Northern areas, heavy gas shelling being directed against dugouts in Northern divisional area during day.</p> <p>Between 2 and 3 p.m. 15" Howitzer demolished the famous WARNETON Tower in six rounds.</p> <p>Two sections per battery 6th Army Brigade A.F.A. from wagon lines moved into action in positions superimposing the Left Group of the Centre Divisional Artillery.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	7th	6 pm.	<p>43 hostile batteries were neutralized and concentrations carried out on 13 others by heavy artillery. Field artillery dispersed several working parties and during night (7/8th) Centre Divisional directed minor bombardments against communications, tracks, etc. in expectation of enemy relief.</p> <p>Left Division opened fire in response to S.O.S. on Right of XXII Corps front - as no infantry action resulted on our front Left Division ceased firing at 6.15 p.m. Heavies assisted the XXII Corps with counter-battery work. Hostile artillery fire shewed an increase <i>at night</i> on Right - one field and one heavy battery were shelled without <i>any</i> damage being caused to guns or personnel.</p> <p>Remaining section per battery 6th Army Brigade A.F.A. moved into action on Centre Divisional Front.</p>	
	8th		<p>2nd Divisional Artillery commenced trek from ALQUINES area to MERRIS area.</p> <p>Heavy Arty. engaged one hostile battery with aeroplane observation obtaining two explosions, neutralized 41 and concentrated on 14 others. Field Artillery carried out minor harassing programmes and at 9 p.m. and 12 midnight bombarded the WARNETON trench system and M.W. positions in the area immediately North of WARNETON to which the enemy replied by heavily shelling our corresponding front line trench system. Hostile artillery fire throughout the day was quiet on Northern areas but heavy on Southern forward and battery areas, one battery only however being shelled without causing any damage.</p>	
	9th		<p>Destructive shoots were carried out by Heavies with aeroplane observation on 3 hostile batteries, several "O.K.'s" being reported and 3 explosions and 2 fires caused, in addition 71 hostile batteries were neutralized and 7 concentrated on. Hostile artillery very active all day especially on Southern portion of Corps area. This increased activity on Southern areas is probably due to our own increased artillery and raiding activity. One battery left division had one gun damaged by hostile shell fire.</p>	
	10th		<p>Field Artillery of Centre Division during night (10/11th) directed bursts of harassing fire on enemy tracks, communications, etc. in expectation of local relief. During the day Heavies destroyed one pit and caused four fires and 8 explosions in destructive shoots with aeroplane observation on two batteries, 41 batteries in addition were neutralized and 13 concentrated on. Hostile artillery shewed great activity all day, very heavy shelling being directed against forward and battery areas of Centre and Right Divisions where an increase in the number of</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	10th (Contd)		77 m.m. guns firing was reported. One battery only was engaged by hostile fire, no damage being caused.	
	11th	5.15 am.	68 neutralizations and 3 concentrations were carried out by Heavies during the day. Enemy bombarded the Left Division of XV Corps and M.W. which were very active on the right of our front were engaged and neutralized by the Right Divisional Field guns.	
		10.30 pm.	Infantry of Centre Division raided enemy trenches with barrage by field guns, and counter-battery work and neutralization of hostile M.W's by the Heavies; at same time right Division fired a diversion barrage and Left Division supported a Chinese attack. At various periods after completion bursts of fire were directed against the trenches raided. Hostile fire:- Barrage in reply to raids was heavy. Throughout the day, was distributed over battery and forward areas and though heavy, shewed a decrease on Right and Centre Divisional fronts.	
		10 am.	Command of the Artillery covering the Left Divisional front passed from the C.R.A. 4th Aust. Divnl. to the C.R.A. 1st Aust. Divnl. One section per battery 2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty. relieved one section per battery 3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty. in the line covering Right Divisional front.	
	12th		Field Artillery during evening and night 12/13th fired bursts of fire - gas and H.E. - on enemy tracks, communications, etc. in expectation of enemy relief. Heavy artillery directed destructive shoots with aeroplane observation against 3 hostile batteries, destroying 2 pits and causing 3 explosions and one fire in addition 64 hostile batteries were neutralized. 6" Hows. with aeroplane observation destroyed a bridge over the LYS in rear of WARNETON - enemy unsuccessfully attempted to screen the target with smoke clouds. Field artillery of Centre Division assisted by 6-inch Howitzers carried out annihilating shoot on hostile M.W. North of WARNETON. Hostile artillery for period has been very active. Remaining two sections per battery 2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty. relieved remainder of 3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty. in the line. 2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty. moving from MERRIS area to wagon lines vacated by 3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty. who take over wagon lines in MERRIS area. Artillery instructions No. 215 issued stating amounts of ammunition to be held at guns, dumps or reinforcing positions.	
	13th		6-inch Howitzers with aeroplane observation demolished bridge just South of DEULEMONT. Four hostile batteries were engaged with aeroplane observation destroying two pits, damaging 5 others and causing four explosions and two fires. 41 neutralizations and 2 concentrations were	

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FLETRE	13th (contd)		<p>also carried out. Field Artillery dispersed several working parties. Hostile fire fairly active though a steady decrease is still shewn on Right Divisional Front. H.V. guns shelled MESSINES, WYTSCHAETE, KEMMEL and BAILLEUL.</p> <p>From to-day all units under Fourth Army come under Second Army, General Sir Herbert PLUMER having assumed command.</p> <p>10am. Command of the Artillery in the line covering Right Divisional front passed from C.R.A. 3rd Aust. Division to C.R.A. 2nd Aust. Division. 3rd Australian D.A.H.Q. located at BAILLEUL.</p> <p>Artillery instructions No.216 issued dealing with the practising of answering S.O.S. and LL calls.</p>	4.
	14th	3.30am	<p>Field and Heavy Artillery supported infantry raiding enemy trenches on Centre Divisional front At same time a Chinese attack was supplied by Left Division and a diversion fired by the Right Division.</p> <p>During the day Heavies engaged 5 hostile batteries with aeroplane observation, destroying 4 pits and causing several explosions and fires. Several working parties were dispersed by Field Artillery who also, assisted by Heavies, carried out a concentration on hostile M.W's. opposite Centre Division. Hostile fire fairly active mainly in forward areas, though two Field and two Heavy batteries were engaged by enemy without causing any damage.</p>	
	15th	4.35am	<p>Heavies engaged one hostile battery with aeroplane observation obtaining four hits on pits and causing one explosion. In addition 41 neutralizations and four concentrations were carried out. Hostile artillery shewed normal activity, two heavy and three field batteries having harassing fire directed against them, One gun (Heavy) being damaged.</p> <p>Left Divisional Artillery opened up for 5 minutes in reply to S.O.S. signal.</p> <p>Artillery instructions No.217 issued giving daily allotment of ammunition to Divisions and the Heavies.</p>	5.
	16th		<p>Heavy Artillery: 40 neutralizations, 1 concentration on hostile batteries, concentrations on M.W's North of HOLLEBEKE and 1 destructive shoot with aeroplane observation on hostile battery, Several O.K's, 1 fire and 1 explosion being caused. Field Artillery dispersed several working parties. Hostile artillery has been less active but spread over forward and battery areas, no damage however being done to our batteries. High velocity guns again active on back areas.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	17th	4.30am.	<p>Heavies carried out with aeroplane observation destructive shoot on 8 hostile batteries, resulting in 10 pits being hit and 5 explosions and 8 fires being caused. Neutralizations 30.</p> <p>Left Division put down barrage in No Mans Land in order to catch any enemy patrols or working parties. Hostile artillery in day fairly quiet, but between 10 and 12 p.m. a very heavy gas bombardment was directed against forward and battery areas of Left and Centre Divisions, 11 Field and 8 Heavy batteries having gas shelling directed on them, two Field guns being damaged.</p>	
	18th		<p>Heavy Artillery carried out one shoot on a hostile battery with aeroplane observation causing 2 fires. In addition 66 hostile batteries were neutralized. Field Artillery carried out minor bombardments and neutralized hostile M.W's. Hostile fire shows increased activity - gas shelling on battery areas. of the Northern Divisions being fairly heavy. One Heavy Battery had neutralizing fire directed against it without however doing any damage.</p>	
	19th	2.30am.	<p>Left Divisional Artillery supported Right Division XXII Corps in raid on enemy trenches. Heavy artillery engaged three hostile batteries with aeroplane observation, destroying four pits and causing 4 explosions and 6 fires, including one which burnt for an hour. Neutralizations 45, concentrations 4. Field Artillery dispersed several working parties and at 4-30am. Left Division placed a five minute barrage on No Mans Land to catch enemy patrols, etc.</p>	
		10.30pm.	<p>Field Artillery supported a discharge of gas from projectors on Right and Centre Divisional Fronts. Hostile Artillery active - gas shelling directed against battery areas of Northern Division. Two of our Heavy batteries were harassed without causing any damage. High velocity guns were very active in all towns and villages in back areas.</p>	
	20th		<p>Heavies neutralized 35 hostile batteries. Field Artillery carried out general harassing fire and neutralized hostile M.W's with gas. Hostile fire throughout the day was fairly quiet, activity being confined mainly to area shoots on battery areas, 4 Heavy and 4 Field batteries being included. 2 Heavy pits were damaged.</p>	
	21st	3.45am.	<p>Right Division supported infantry raiding PONT ROUGE (Sheet 28/U.29).</p>	
		4.50am.	<p>Owing to heavy gas shelling of battery areas in the North Heavies opened <del>fire</del> up on Programme targets.</p>	
		5.46am.	<p>Fire opened on S.O.S. signal from Left Battalion of Left Division; ceased firing 5.52 am.</p>	
		6.30am.	<p>Fire opened on S.O.S. on Right of Left Division and at 6.40 on Centre Division at 7.3am. everything reported quiet.</p>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	21st	(contd)	<p>During the day 2 hostile batteries were engaged with aeroplane observation, causing 2 fires and 4 explosions, in addition 65 neutralizations were carried out. Field Artillery carried out minor bombardments and dispersed several working parties. During the night 20/21st Centre and Left Divisions carried out special harassing programmes in expectation of enemy relief. Hostile fire has been very active, both on forward and battery areas of Northern half, and on back areas by High Velocity guns. During night 20/21st the enemy directed heavy gas bombardment against battery areas in Northern sectors - 10 Heavy and 8 Field batteries being included. During the day 2 Field Batteries were engaged, resulting in 1 gun and 2 pits being damaged. All villages towns and Centres in back areas were fired on by H.V. guns, several casualties being caused in wagon lines.</p>	
	22nd	3 am.	<p>In reply to Heavy bombardment on forward areas of Right Division Heavy Artillery opened up on <del>Right-Division</del> Programme Targets. During the day and night Field Artillery carried out minor bombardments and harassing fire. Heavy Artillery 46 neutralizations and 3 concentrations. Hostile artillery, with the exception of the heavy bombardment of our forward system at 3 am. was fairly quiet. High Velocity guns however still being active on back areas and some gas shelling of battery areas during the night. Harassing fire was directed against 3 of our Heavy and 3 of our Field batteries without causing any damage. One destructive shoot was directed against one of our Field batteries causing damage to one gun..</p> <p>Artillery Instructions No. 218 issued detailing amounts of ammunition to be held at gun positions and dumps by Field Artillery.</p> <p>3rd Squadron A.F.C. moved from aerodrome at BAILLEUL to ABEELE.</p>	6.
	23rd		<p>Heavy Artillery engaged four hostile batteries with aeroplane observation resulting in 6 pits being destroyed and 3 fires and 7 explosions being caused. In addition 34 neutralizations and 6 concentrations were carried out. 6-inch Hows. with aeroplane observation demolished an enemy strong point. Field Artillery carried out minor bombardments, wire cutting and dispersed several working parties. Hostile artillery has been less active than usual. Light shelling of forward areas and harassing fire on 2 Heavy and 3 Field batteries, causing damage to three pits, being reported.</p> <p>Artillery Instructions No. 219 issued dealing with the re-allotting of Field Artillery covering Corps front consequent upon withdrawal of 5th Aust. Divnl. <del>Arty</del> Infantry from the line and the re-organising of the Corps front into two Divisional sectors.</p> <p>All leave both for Officers and Other Ranks cancelled from to-day.</p>	7

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FLETRE	23rd	(contd)	<p>3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty. moved by road from MERRIS Area to MORBECQUE, rejoining its Division in G.H.Q. Reserve and moving on subsequent days by road to ISBERGUES, VALHUON, LUCHEUX, thence under orders of Third Army. 4th Aust. Divn. Arty. from line superimposing Left Division moved to Merris area to wagon lines vacated by 3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty. and thence on subsequent days to BUSNES area under Third Army. 52nd Brigade R.G.A. from line moved to STRAZEELE area to G.H.Q. Reserve.</p>	
	24th		<p>Heavy Artillery with aeroplane observation engaged 4 hostile batteries causing 5 fires, 4 explosions and damaging 4 pits, 38 batteries in addition were neutralized and one concentrated on. Field Artillery carried out harassing programmes - including gas - wire cutting neutralization of active M.W's and dispersed several working parties. Hostile fire except for some heavy gassing North of WYTSCHAETE during the night was very light and scattered. Two of our heavy batteries were neutralized without damage being caused.</p> <p>12th Army Brigade A.F.A. from G.H.Q. Reserve in RAVELSBURG area commenced trek by road to ROBECQ area coming under First Army. 50th Brigade R.G.A. also moved by road to ROBECQ area.</p>	
	25th		<p>Heavy Artillery engaged 6 hostile batteries with aeroplane observation destroying 2 pits and causing 5 fires and 4 explosions, they also neutralized 20 other hostile batteries. Field Artillery destroyed a small dump, new work at a strong point, silenced M.W's and engaged a hostile battery. Enemy artillery activity was very slight and except for High Velocity gun activity on back areas only light scattered shelling of forward areas was reported.</p> <p>Artillery Instructions No. 220 issued giving new allotment of ammunition for Field Artillery as from noon 26th.</p> <p>393 Siege Bty. moved from ARNEKE by rail to First Army. 52nd Bde. R.G.A. moving from STRAZEELE area to ROBECQ under First Army.</p>	82
	26th		<p>Field Artillery dispersed working parties, engaged hostile M.W's and carried out general harassing programmes. Heavy Artillery engaged three hostile batteries with ground observation, destroying one pit and causing 2 fires and 2 explosions. 13 neutralizations also carried out. Hostile fire was quiet except for H.V. shelling of BAILLEUL and a few rounds of mustard gas East of Hill 63.</p> <p>Responsibility for the Artillery covering that portion of the line from NORTH Farm Sheet 28/J.32.a inclusive to boundary with XXII Corps passed to G.O.C.R.A., XXII Corps at 10 a.m.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PLETRE	27th	4.15am.	<p>Left Division Artillery and Heavies opened fire on S.O.S. Lines until 4.45 when all was reported quiet. Field Artillery engaged a hostile 77 m.m. battery with ground observation. Heavy Artillery engaged one hostile battery with balloon observation and three with aeroplane observation resulting in 2 pits being destroyed and 3 explosions caused. Hostile fire quiet except for Heavy barrage on our front system at 11 p.m. 26th. One Heavy battery and one Field Battery were engaged by 210 m.m. Hows. causing several casualties to the Heavy Battery, destroying the wireless mast and damaging one gun in the Field battery. H.V. guns fired a few rounds into BAILLEUL and DRANOUTRE.</p> <p>Artillery Instructions No.221 issued giving new allotment of ammunition for Field and Heavy Artillery as from noon 26th.</p> <p>Artillery Instructions No.222 issued giving detail of relief of 14th Brigade A.F.A. in the line by 38th Army Bde R.F.A.</p> <p>One section per battery 38th Army Brigade R.F.A. relieved in the line one section per Battery 14th Brigade 5th Aust.Divnl.Arty. 38th Brigade R.F.A. marching in from XXII Corps.</p>	<p>9.</p> <p>10.</p>
	28th	4.15am.	<p>Field and Heavy Artillery opened fire in response to S.O.S. signal on Left Divisional Front. Heavy Artillery neutralized 43 hostile batteries. Field Artillery carried out minor harassing bombardments including gas.</p> <p>At 9.3 p.m. Right Divisional Artillery assisted XV Corps in raid on enemy trenches. Hostile fire has not been active except for a little scattered artillery shelling of forward areas, a little gas on Left sector during night and harassing of two Heavy and two Field batteries, one Field gun being damaged. Remaining two sections per battery 38th Army Brigade R.F.A. relieved remainder of 14th Bde. A.F.A.</p> <p>Artillery Instructions No.223 issued giving new allotment of ammunition for Heavies as from Noon 28th.</p>	<p>11.</p>
	29th		<p>4.5-inch Hows. of Left Division engaged successfully a hostile 77 m.m. battery. Heavies carried out 23 neutralizations. Hostile fire, except for Heavy gas and H.E. shelling of battery areas North of WYTSCHAETE in the early morning has been very quiet. 3 Heavy and 2 Field batteries were in the shelled area - only one gun (Field) being damaged however.</p> <p>5th Australian D.A.H.Q., 14th Brigade and 5th D.A.C. entrained for Third Army at GODEWAERSVELDE and HOUPOUTRE.</p> <p>11.3pm. Right Divnl.Arty. assisted Corps on Right in raid on enemy trenches.</p>	

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FLETRE	30th		<p>Heavy Artillery engaged 2 hostile batteries one with ground and one with balloon observation, In addition they carried out 32 neutralizations and 4 concentrations. 6-inch gun fired 22 rounds on WERVICQ Station. Field Artillery engaged a hostile 4.2-inch How., silenced active Machine guns and M.W's and gassed pill box centre opposite Left Divisional Front. Hostile artillery did not show any great activity, shelling being mainly scattered on forward and battery areas, the DOUVE Valley and the DAMMSTRASE receiving the most attention.</p> <p>Artillery instructions No.224 issued dealing with the relief of 2nd Aust.Divnl.Arty. by 11th Army Brigade R.F.A. and 19th Divisional Artillery.</p>	12.
	31st	1am.	<p>Right Divisional Artillery supported projector gas attack on WARNETON. Heavy Artillery engaged one hostile battery with ground observation. 6 rounds believed to have <del>been</del> target and 2nd Aust. Siege Battery carried out shoot with aeroplane observation on a hostile battery by which it was being registered, destroying one gun. Field Artillery carried out an area shoot on 28/P.2 and d. much enemy movement being reported there. Hostile fire was not heavy - 2 Heavy and 1 Field battery were harassed without damage and M.W's were active in early morning opposite PLOEGSTEERT WOOD.</p>	

*Dawson Coker*  
 Brig-General,

2nd April 1918.

G.O.C., R.A., AUSTRALIAN Corps.

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.

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APPENDIX,

# WAR DIARY

OF

Headquarters, R. A., AUSTRALIAN Corps.

FOR

M A R C H 1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Artillery Instructions No. 213.
2.	Artillery Instructions No. 214.
3.	Artillery Instructions No. 215.
4.	Artillery Instructions No. 216.
5.	Artillery Instructions No. 217.
6.	Artillery Instructions No. 218.
7.	Artillery Instructions No. 219.
8.	Artillery Instructions No. 220.
9.	Artillery Instructions No. 221.
10.	Artillery Instructions No. 222.
11.	Artillery Instructions No. 223.
12.	Artillery Instructions No. 224.

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 213  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

APPENDIX /

3rd March 1918.

1. FIRING OF GAS SHELL.

The gas shell is rapidly becoming one of the most formidable of weapons used by the Artillery. Its full power, however, cannot be developed without a knowledge of the role which each type of shell is destined to perform.

2. DETAILS OF GAS SHELL.

The attached Table - Appendix 1 - gives sufficient detail of each shell to ensure its correct use, and will serve as a guide to all gas shelling carried out in this Corps.

3. ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS.

When gas shelling is contemplated, the Corps Chemical Adviser will arrange for wind readings to be sent half-hourly to the Headquarters concerned from Zero minus 3 hours until the completion of the bombardment. The final decision as to whether the bombardment may take place will be made on these reports.

4. M.P.I.

The M.P.I. of the 4.5" Howitzer and 60-pdr Gun should be 15 or 20 yards to windward of the target, and that of the 6" Howitzer 30 to 40 yards.

5. SURPRISE EFFECT.

C.G., C.B.R., V.N., J.L., J.B.R. should be used for surprise effect only. They should be fired in concentrated bursts of 3 or 4 minutes duration at the opening of a bombardment.

Their persistency is practically nil, and the German Drum, when new, gives good protection against them for 4 or 5 hours; hence if K.S.K. is fired first, the enemy adjusts his protection without having casualties, and is safe during a fairly long bombardment of lethal shells which may follow.

V.N., J.L., J.B.R. in strong concentrations cause immediate death; in low concentrations they cause very little inconvenience.

The width of the lethal zone (under Appendix 1, Column 3 (a) of C.G., P.C., N.C., and C.B.R. is about 50 yards; that of V.N. about 10 yards.

With a wind velocity of four or five m.p.h. an unprotected man would become a serious casualty at about 1000 yards from the area of a heavy bombardment with the above gases. Severe lachrymation would be caused by P.G. and N.C. at about 1800 yards, and, as the effect of P.G. and N.C. is cumulative to a certain extent, an unprotected man would become a casualty.

6. NEUTRALIZATION OF HOSTILE BATTERIES AND WEARING DOWN PROTECTION.

For this purpose P.G., N.C., P.S. and K.S.K. are useful, as a much slower rate of fire can be used, and their persistency and lachrymatory effect are greater.

P.G., N.C. and P.S. are also lethal, and even in low concentrations penetrate the German Drum.

7. SHORT BOMBARDMENTS.

Burst of lethal.	C.G., C.B.R., V.N. (vide App.1, Col.8(a)	3 mins.
Rest.		10 to 12 mins.
Steady fire.	P.G., N.C. or P.S. (vide App.1, Col.8(b)	15-25 mins.

- 2 -

8. PROLONGED BOMBARDMENTS.

For prolonged bombardments the method employed should be somewhat as follows :-

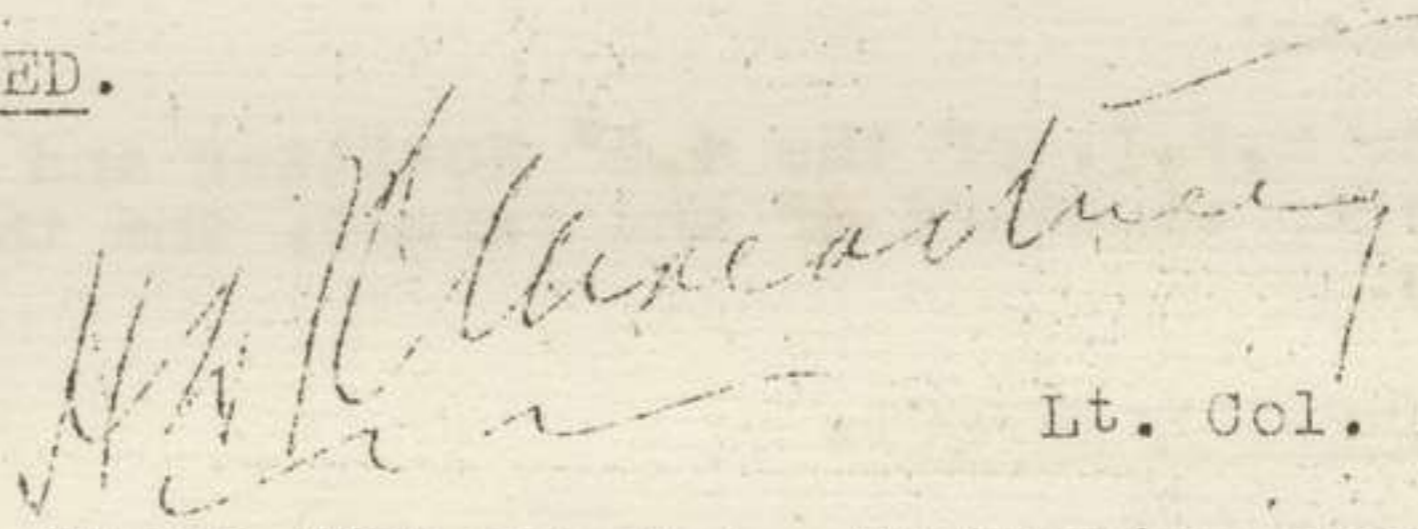
- (a) Burst of lethal C.G., C.B.R., V.N. (vide App.1, Col.8(a)) 3 mins.  
 Rest. 10 or 12 mins.  
 Steady fire. P.G. or N.C. or P.S. or K.S.K.,  
 (vide App.1, Col.8(b)) 30 mins.  
 Rest. 15 mins.  
 Steady fire. K.S.K. (vide App.1, Col.8 (b)) 30 mins.  
 Slow rate. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  rate of steady fire) K.S.K. 30 mins.  
 Burst of lethal C.G., C.B.R., V.N. or P.G., N.C. or P.S. 3 mins.

(b) Repeat procedure as above, or with variations.

9. INDENTS FOR CHEMICAL SHELL.

Indents for Chemical Shell should be carefully worked out in conjunction with Appendix 1 and the foregoing instructions.

10. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

  
 Lt. Col. A.I.F.  
 Staff Officer R.A. Australian Corps.

Issued as under :-

- |                 |                                |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Copies 1 and 2. | Heavy Arty. Aust. Corps.       |
| 3.              | 1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.         |
| 4.              | 2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.         |
| 5.              | 3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.         |
| 6.              | 4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.         |
| 7.              | 5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.         |
| 8.              | 3rd Army Bde. A.F.A.           |
| 9.              | 6th Army Bde. A.F.A.           |
| 10.             | 12th Army Bde. A.F.A.          |
| 11 and 12.      | R.A. Fourth Army.              |
| 13 to 24.       | Chemical Adviser, Aust. Corps. |
| 25 to 34.       | Aust. Corps "G".               |
| 35.             | Aust. Corps "Q"                |
| 36 to 38.       | Diary.                         |
| 39.             | File.                          |
| 40 to 45.       | Spare.                         |

## APPENDIX 1.

1	2	3		4	5	6			7	8		9
		(a)	(b)			(a)	(b)	(c)		(a)	(b)	
C.G.	RED WHITE RED	1	1		Slight	5 mins.	hours. -	4 - 5	2000 yds.	300 (c) 220 (d) 160 (e)	-	Under 7
P.G.	WHITE WHITE	3	2	2	3	8 hours	100	5 - 6	2000 yds.	250 (c) 180 (d) 130 (e)	150 (c) 120 (d) 75 (e)	Under 10
N.C.	WHITE RED WHITE	5	3	1	2	5 hours	120	10-12	3000 yds.	250 (c) 180 (d) 130 (e)	150 (c) 120 (d) 75 (e)	Under 10
C.B.R.	RED	2	4		Slight	8 mins.	Nil.	3	2000 yds.	300 (c) 220 (d) 160 (e)	-	Under 7
P.S.	WHITE	4	5	3	4	3 hours	100	5	1000 yds.	-	150 (c) 120 (d) 75 (e)	Under 12
V.N.	WHITE RED	1 ?	6		Nil	15 mins.	60	2	400 yds.	300 (c) 220 (d) 160 (e)	-	Under 5
J.L.	RED RED	1 ?	7		Nil	10-15 mins.	?	2	400 yds.	300 (c) 220 (d) 160 (e)	-	Under 5
J.B.R.	RED RED RED	1 ?	7		Nil	10-15 mins.	?	2	400 yds.	300 (c) 220 (d) 160 (e)	-	Under 5
K.S.K.	No bands.	-	-		1	10-20 hrs.	48	15-20	2000 yds.		120 (c) 100 (d) 60 (e)	Under 12

NOTE :- C.G., P.G. and N.C. are not yet available.



EXPLANATION OF TABLE SHEWN IN APPENDIX 1.

1. Symbols for gases.
2. Colour bands round middle of shell.
3. (a) Shews the order of lethal value of a high concentration which will cause death in a few minutes.  
(b) Shews the order of lethal values of a lower concentration which is strong enough to cause casualties and necessitates the wearing of a respirator.
4. N.C., P.G., and P.S. penetrate the German mask even in low concentrations. N.C. penetrates a little better than P.G. or P.S. A new German drum gives protection against the other gases; but G.G. and C.B.R. will penetrate a drum which has been worn for four or five hours. V.N. penetrates the drum but not in sufficient concentration to cause casualties.
5. Shews the order of value as lachrymators.
6. Shews persistency values.  
(a) Gives the time after which unprotected infantry could pass over the area which had been gassed.  
(b) Gives the time after which digging could be carried on with safety by unprotected men in an area that had been gassed.  
(c) Gives the time after which trenches and shelters (not deep dug outs) would be clear of gas after the termination of a bombardment.
7. Gives the depth of the zone in the direction of the wind in which masks would have to be worn.  
Gas shell should never be fired to fall nearer than 100 yards to our own troops.
8. (a) Gives the number of rounds per hour required under 3 (a) for -  
(c) 4.5" How. at 5000 yards on 16 yards front.  
(d) 60-pdr. at 6000 yards on 20 yards front.  
(e) 6" How. at 6000 yards on 30 to 40 yards front.  
(b) Gives the number of rounds per hour required under 3 (b) for -  
(c) 4.5" How. at 5000 yards on 16 yards front.  
(d) 60-pdr. at 6000 yards on 20 yards front.  
(e) 6" How. at 6000 yards on 30 to 40 yards front.
9. Gives the wind velocity above which it is practically useless to fire Gas Shell.

APPENDIX 2.

4.5" Howitzer.

Column A gives the number of rounds required per gun on a front of 16 yards.

Column B gives the number of rounds required per gun when four or more guns are engaging a continuous front.

Correction has been made in Column A for inaccuracy of fire which does not apply when a broad front is being engaged.

Below 5000 yards guns must sweep.

<u>Range.</u>	<u>Rounds required.</u>		<u>Range.</u>	<u>Rounds required.</u>	
	A.	B.		A.	B.
1000	20	20	4000	45	45
1500	20	20	4500	55	55
2000	25	25	5000	65	65
2500	30	30	5500	85	75
3000	40	40	6000	100	50
3250	50	50	6500	120	85
3500	40	40	7000	150	90

60-pdr.

20 yards front.

<u>Range.</u>	<u>Rounds required.</u>
	B.
1000	25
2000	25
3000	25
4000	30
5000	30
6000	35
7000	50
8000	50
9000	55
10000	70

6" Howitzer 26-cwt.

30 to 40 yards front.

<u>Range.</u>	<u>Rounds required.</u>
	B.
1000	10
2000	10
3000	10
4000	10
5000	15
6000	20
7000	25
8000	30
9000	42
10000	53
11000	65

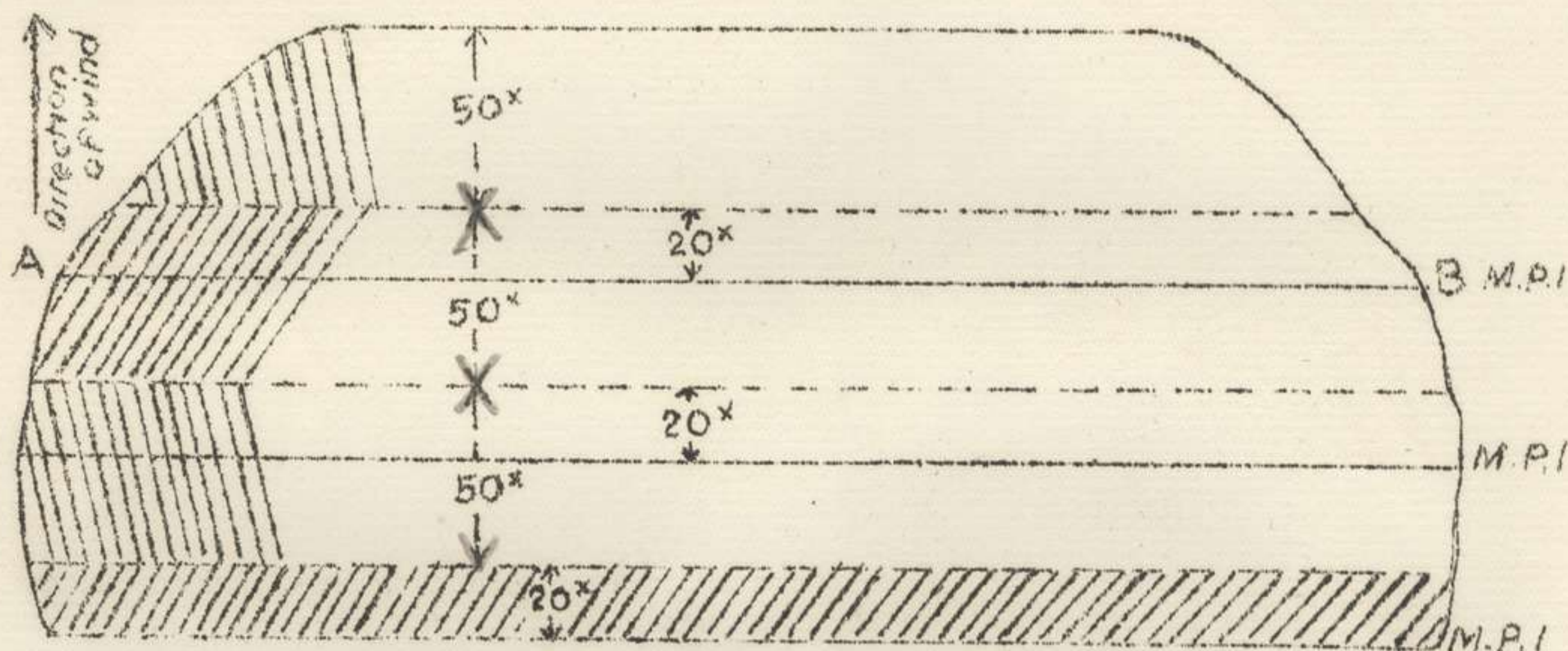
Further information in regard to 60-pdr. and 6" How. (26-cwt.) is not yet available.

## APPENDIX 3.

## D

METHOD OF GASSING A TARGET WHOSE DEPTH IS GREATER THAN 50 YARDS.

V.N., J.L., J.B.R. should NOT be used for this purpose.



The area should be dealt with as a succession of zones 50 yards in depth.

The zone to leeward will be gassed first. The range should be shortened (or lengthened) as the case may be AGAINST the wind.

The nature of the target allows of surprise on the first zone only, so that the bombardment should commence with a burst of lethal for 3 minutes on line A -----B and then each zone should be dealt with as suggested in para.7, except that each zone could be subjected to a 3 minutes' bombardment (App.1, Col.8 (a), after 60 or 80 minutes under App.1, Col.8 (b).

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 214  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

-----

5th March 1918.

1. The G.O.C.R.A. desires work to be carried out on this front in the following order :-

(a) FORWARD ZONE.

Present Positions.

- i. Existing gun positions to be strengthened.
- ii. Gas-proof arrangements to be considered at all Battery positions.
- iii. 5.9"-proof control stations to be made.
- iv. Wiring of Battery positions.
- v. Position of wagon lines to be considered with reference to the positions batteries occupy in action.

Reinforcing Positions.

- i. Make gun platforms.
- ii. Control stations to be constructed.
- iii. Wire to be placed in Control Stations labelled to shew where test point is.
- iv. Re-section of positions.
- v. Aiming posts to be placed.
- vi. Wagon lines to be chosen.
- vii. 200 rounds a gun to be at positions or in close vicinity.

(b) 2nd or BATTLE ZONE.

- i. Re-section of positions.
- ii. Gun platforms to be made.
- iii. Control Stations to be constructed, with wire labelled shewing nearest test box.
- iv. Aiming posts to be planted.
- v. Wagon lines to be chosen.
- vi. Ammunition to be dumped in suitable places in bulk. Turnover to take place.
- vii. Obtain authority to maintain an extra supply of ammunition at these places. (Vide vi.)
- viii. Approaches to be known and routes reconnoitred; and units told off when possible.
- ix. Material for further construction to be collected or salvaged. Clearing out and converting existing accommodation.
- x. Selection of Divisional Artillery Headquarters.

P.T.C.

(c) REAR ZONE.

- i. Positions to be marked with board.
- ii. Routes to be reconnoitred.
- iii. Re-filling points to be known.
- iv. Wagon line areas to be told off.
- v. Divisional Artillery Headquarters to be selected.

(d) LABOUR.

- i. Forward Zone work will generally be allotted to units in the line unless there are special reasons why the work should be speeded up; in which case units detailed to reinforce the area will assist.
- ii. 2nd or Battle Zone. Application should be made for assistance from Divisions out of the line.

2. MOBILE BATTERIES.

C.R.A's will detail one battery from each Group for use as a Mobile Reserve to be placed at the disposal of the Divisional Commander. This battery will be selected with a view to its special employment against hostile infantry which may have succeeded in breaking through, and in covering our counter-attacks.

Officers and N.C.O's of this Battery should have an intimate knowledge of the area in which they are likely to be employed.

Careful reconnaissance should be made of approaches to possible positions where single guns, sections, or a battery could be employed. These positions should be selected with reference to the likely lines of approach of hostile infantry, and should have in view the easy supply of ammunition; or dumps of ammunition in small quantities at or near these selected places should be made.

3. FORWARD or ANTI-TANK GUNS.

Ten 15-pdr B.L.C. Field Guns with all necessary stores, but without wagons, are being issued for use as forward guns and will be allotted as follows :-

"A" Divisional Sector...	2	)	Positions to be chosen and constructed.
"B" do. ...	6	)	
"C" do. ...	2	)	

These guns will be manned under arrangements to be made by C.R.A's concerned. No additional personnel, transport or horses will be provided. The only ammunition available is 250 rounds of H.E. per gun.

These guns are to be so sited that they cover likely routes for hostile tanks; concealment is essential.

In the case of a hostile attack taking place it is to be understood that although these positions are not to be given away prematurely, and although the primary object is the destruction of hostile tanks, yet full advantage is to be taken in their employment against hostile infantry should favourable opportunities occur.

4. RECONNAISSANCE OF ROUTES TO NEW POSITIONS.

Each Battery Commander in the line should know the approaches to, and should have reconnoitred the position allotted for his reinforcing battery in the forward zone, and both retired and reinforcing positions to cover the Corps and Army lines.

The above is necessary in order that guides may be provided in the event of batteries being ordered to reinforce, the personnel of which has not had an opportunity of reconnoitring this front.

- 3 -

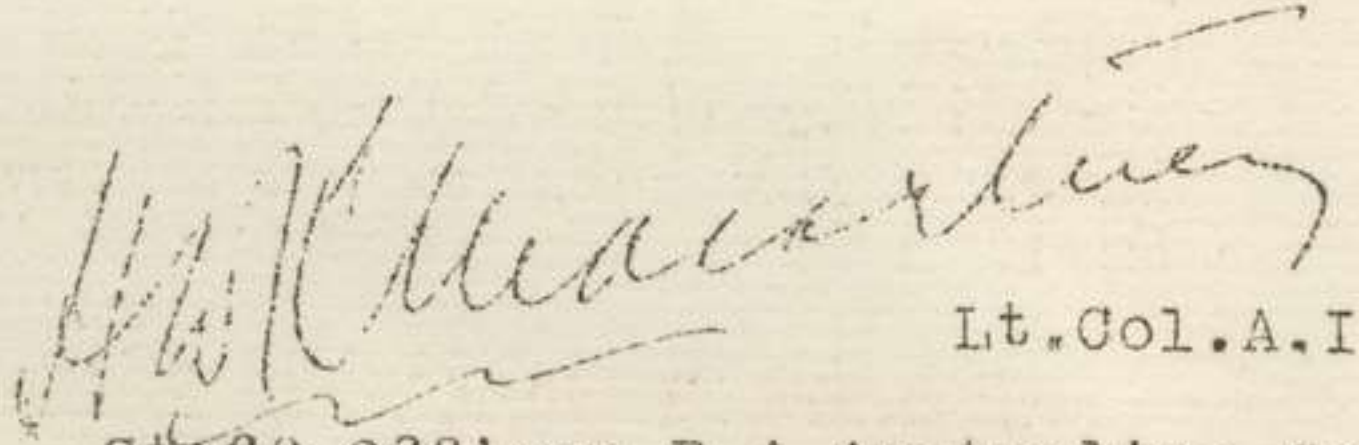
5. AMMUNITION DUMPS FOR CORPS LINE POSITIONS.

The following positions have been chosen where ammunition may be dumped with a view to a ready supply being available should Corps Line battery positions be occupied at short notice. A regular turnover of this supply should be arranged.

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
|                        | (a) T.23.c.40.75         |
| "A" Divisional Sector. | (b) T.29.d.90.50         |
|                        | (c) B.11.d.25.95         |
|                        | (a) N.21.d.8.9           |
| "B" Divisional Sector. | (b) N.27.c.9.6           |
|                        | (c) T.5.c.4.8            |
| "C" Divisional Sector. | MOATED GRANGE. O.1.a.9.2 |

100 to 200 rounds per gun should be available at these positions according to the facilities which exist.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

  
Lt. Col. A. I. F.  
Staff Officer R.A. Australian Corps.

Issued as under :-

- |                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Copies 1 and 2. | Heavy Arty. Aust. Corps. |
| 3.              | 1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.   |
| 4.              | 2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.   |
| 5.              | 3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.   |
| 6.              | 4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.   |
| 7.              | 5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.   |
| 8 and 9.        | R.A. Fourth Army.        |
| 10.             | R.A. XV Corps.           |
| 11.             | R.A. XXII Corps.         |
| 12.             | 2nd Wing R.F.C.          |
| 13.             | 3rd Squadron A.F.C.      |
| 14.             | 6th Balloon Coy.         |
| 15.             | No. 2 Group Survey.      |
| 16.             | No. 4 Group Survey.      |
| 17.             | "M" S.R. Section.        |
| 18.             | "W" S.R. Section.        |
| 19 to 28.       | Aust. Corps "G"          |
| 29.             | Aust. Corps "Q"          |
| 30.             | File.                    |
| 31 to 33.       | Diary.                   |
| 34 to 36.       | Spare.                   |

304

APPENDIX  
APPENDIX 21

SECRET.

APPENDIX  
Copy No. 32

ADDENDA TO  
ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.214.  
dated 5th March.

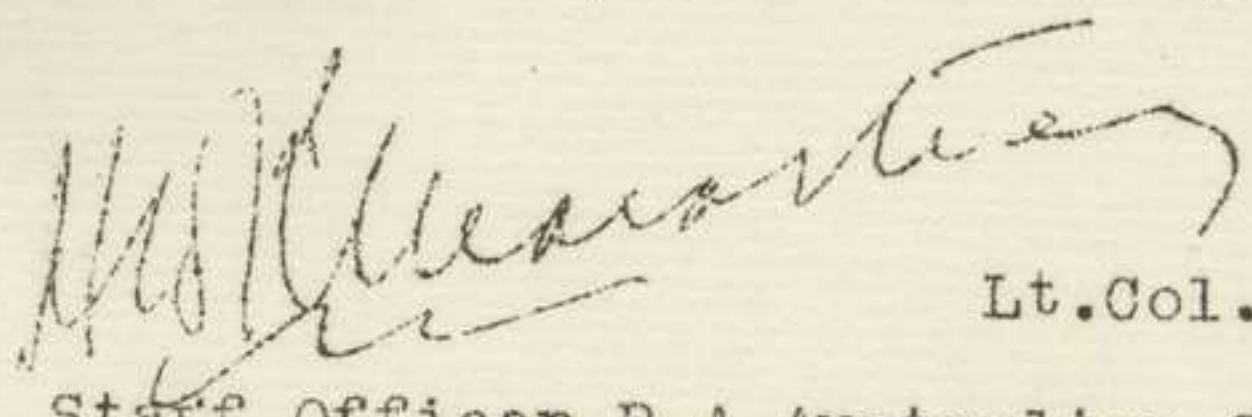
1. With reference to paragraph 1 of Artillery Instructions No.214 of 5th March 1918, attention is directed to Fourth Army Artillery Policy, paragraph 3 - POSITIONS.

Should any variation exist in the sequence in which work is ordered to be performed, Fourth Army Instructions are to be adhered to in all cases.

Sub-para.III of paragraph 3 of Army Policy says "Protection of ammunition against shell fire and weather. It is of great importance that ammunition dumps should be small in size, and scattered."

This instruction is to receive special attention when constructing positions.

2. O.P's. both for the use of Heavy and Field Artillery have been constructed for the Corps line positions by the C.E. in accordance with Corps policy, and are allotted to Divisional fronts as shewn in Appendices 1 and 2 of Artillery Instructions No.208 of 3rd Feb. 1918. O.P's for the forward system have been constructed under supervision of the C.R.E's in the line, and their distribution is in accordance with Appendices 1 and 2 of Artillery Instructions No.208 of 3rd February 1918.



Lt.Col.A.I.F.

Staff Officer R.A.Australian Corps.

9-3-18.

304

22

SECRET.

Copy No.

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.215  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

12th March 1918.

AMMUNITION TO BE HELD AT GUNS AND DUMPS.

1. All previous instructions regarding amounts of ammunition to be held at guns, dumps or reinforcing positions are cancelled.
2. The following amounts of ammunition will be held forward of Railhead over and above echelons for full establishment of guns :-

18-pdr.	600	rounds per gun in line.
4.5" How.	500	do.
60-pdr.	260	do.
6" How.	325	do.
8" How.	200	do.
9.2" How.	200	do.
12" How.	70	do.
15" How.	50	do.
6" Gun.	130	do.

These figures are exclusive of Special Shell. Guns and Hows. of superimposing Brigades, in the case of Field Artillery, will be counted for purposes of ammunition as in the line.

3. Field Artillery ammunition will be held as follows :-

	<u>18-pdr.</u>	<u>4.5" How.</u>
In the line at or near the gun.	450 per gun.	350 per gun.
For Corps line positions.	150 do.	150 do.

4. The ammunition for Corps line positions will be held in dumps as follows :-

"A" Divnl.Sector.	(a) T.23.c.40.75
	(b) T.29.d.90.50
	(c) B.11.d.25.95
"B" Divnl.Sector.	(a) N.21.d.8.9
	(b) N.27.c.9.6
	(c) T.5.c.4.8
"C" Divnl.Sector.	MOATED GRANGE. 0.1.a.9.2

A regular turnover of ammunition in these dumps will be arranged.

5. These amounts of ammunition will not be exceeded without authority from Corps. To maintain this establishment, Divnl.Artilleries and Heavy Artillery should anticipate large expenditure for raids, etc., and apply to Corps H.Q. for an increased allotment to cover the estimated expenditure. These applications should be submitted at least four days before the date of the expenditure.
6. Special emphasis is laid on the firing of 60-pdr ammunition. As the large expenditure of ammunition means wear of guns, every endeavour must be made to use reduced charges whenever possible, thereby extending the life of the gun.  
All Brigade and Battery Commanders should be fully impressed with the importance of carrying out these instructions.

P.T.O.



- 7. The expenditure of allotment of 6" Gun ammunition must be closely watched, and, as far as possible, reduced to a minimum, thereby saving the life of the gun.
- 8. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Lt.Col.A.I.F.

Issued as under :-

Staff Officer R.A. Australian Corps.

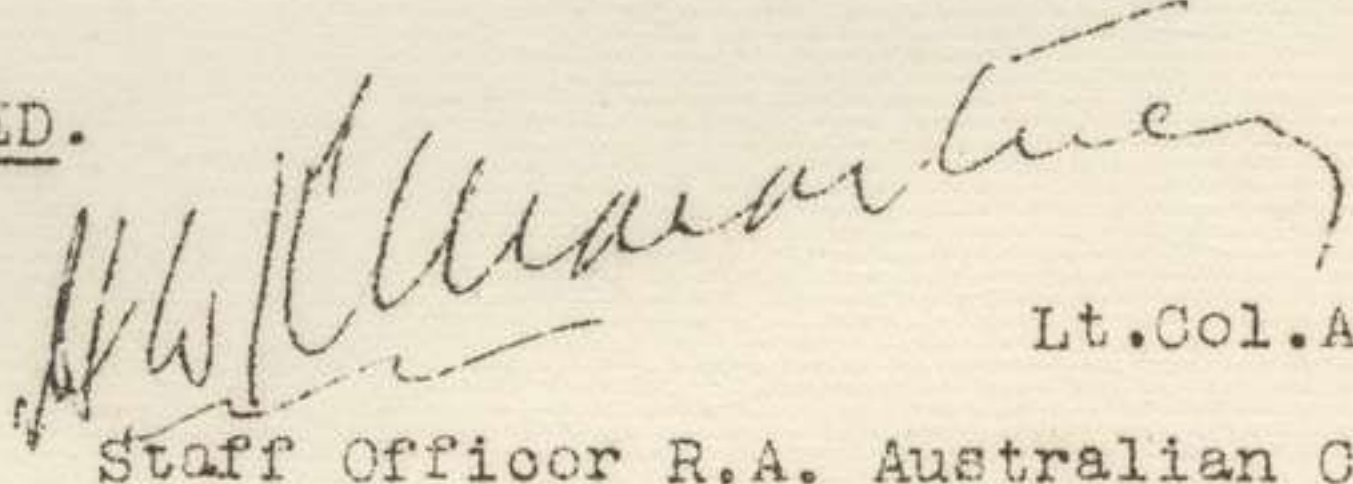
- Copies 1 and 2. Aust.Corps Heavy Arty.
- 3. 1st Aust.Divnl.Arty.
- 4. 2nd Aust.Divnl.Arty.
- 5. 3rd Aust.Divnl.Arty.
- 6. 4th Aust.Divnl.Arty.
- 7. 5th Aust.Divnl.Arty.
- 8 and 9. R.A. Fourth Army.
- 10 to 19. Aust.Corps "G"
- 20. Aust.Corps "Q"
- 21. "K" Ammunition Park.
- 22 to 24. Diary.
- 25. File.
- 26 to 28. Spare.

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.216  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
-----

APPENDIX 4

13th March 1918.

1. It is considered that the Artillery, and more especially the Field Artillery owing to their limited opportunities, require further practice in replying to aeroplane calls, consequently the following instructional tests will be carried out.
2. The tests will take the form of answering "LL" and "SOS" calls; but in order that test call shall not be mistaken for a genuine "LL" or "SOS" call, "MM" and "CQD" respectively will be substituted for practice purposes. These calls will be replied to in precisely the same manner as "LL" or "SOS" calls, except that in the former case one salvo only will be fired, and in the latter case the fire will be limited to a duration of one minute.  
*TWO*
3. The tests will take place on *TWO* days, namely the 15th and 17th March if the weather permits of flying. On the first day Field Artillery only will reply, and on the second day Heavy and Field Artillery will answer the practice "LL" and "SOS" calls.
4. The results will be forwarded to R.A. Corps Headquarters within 24 hours of the practice taking place, in the following form :-
  - (a) Time message was received at Wireless Station of Brigade or Battery.
  - (b) Time message was received at Battery.
  - (c) Number of batteries replying to the call.
  - (d) Number of guns fired, and time opened fire, on call or calls.
  - (e) Co-ordinate of target engaged.
  - (f) Any remarks from B.C. or Group Commanders relative to test.
5. The Flying Corps are being asked to note the time when messages are sent, and to observe the results.
6. These instructions are to be read in conjunction with paragraphs 26 to 28 inclusive of "CO-OPERATION OF AIRCRAFT WITH ARTILLERY" of December 1917.
7. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

  
Lt. Col. A. I. F.Issued as under :-

Staff Officer R.A. Australian Corps.

- |              |     |                       |
|--------------|-----|-----------------------|
| Copies 1 and | 2.  | H.A. Aust. Corps.     |
|              | 3.  | 1st Aust. D.A.        |
|              | 4.  | 2nd Aust. B.A.        |
|              | 5.  | 3rd Aust. D.A.        |
|              | 6.  | 4th Aust. B.A.        |
|              | 7.  | 5th Aust. D.A.        |
|              | 8.  | 12th Army Bde. A.F.A. |
| 9 and        | 10. | R.A. Fourth Army.     |
|              | 11. | R.A. XV Corps.        |
|              | 12. | R.A. XXII Corps.      |
|              | 13. | 3rd Squadron A.F.C.   |
|              | 14. | 2nd Wing R.F.C.       |
|              | 15. | 3th Balloon Coy.      |
| 16 to        | 25. | Aust. Corps "G"       |
|              | 26. | Aust. Corps "Q"       |
| 27 to        | 29. | Diary.                |
|              | 30. | Filo.                 |
| 31 to        | 33. | Spare.                |

SECRET.

COPY No. 27

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 217  
by  
G.O.C.R.A., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

15th March 1918.

1. The following is the daily allotment of Ammunition expenditure until further notice commencing 14th March 1918.
2. All existing ammunition allotments will be cancelled and unexpended balances will lapse.
3. Nothing in the above should be taken as restricting expenditure in case of attack by the enemy. In such cases ammunition will be expended solely with regard to the tactical requirements.

18-pr	(Left Divn.	850		(Left Divn.	300
	(Centre Divn.	1300	4.5" How.	(Centre Divn.	400
	(Right Divn.	850		(Right Divn.	300
	60-pdr.	...	...		250
	6" How.	...	...		1000
	6" Gun.	...	...		30
	8" How.	...	...		200
	9.2" How.	...	...		150
	12" How.	...	...		14
	15" How.	...	...		5

4. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*E. H. H. H. H.*  
for  
Licut-Colonel, A.I.F.,

Staff Officer R.A., AUSTRALIAN Corps.

Issued as under.--

Copies 1 and 2.	Aust. Corps Heavy Arty.
3.	1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.
4.	2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.
5.	3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.
6.	4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.
7.	5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.
8 and 9.	R.A., Second Army.
10 to 19.	Aust. Corps "G".
20.	Aust. Corps "Q".
21.	<i>Aust Corp No. 9. Cd.</i>
22 to 24.	Diary.
25.	File.
26 to 28.	Spare.

SECRET.Copy No. 23

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.218  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN COMS.

-----

22nd March 1918.

AMMUNITION TO BE HELD AT GUN POSITIONS AND DUMPS BY FIELD ARTILLERY.

1. The ammunition allotment as laid down in "Instructions for the Defence - No.11" issued by Australian Corps on 14-3-18, and allotted for Corps Zone positions in paras.3 and 4 of Artillery Instructions No.215, is only to be taken on Divisional charge in case of emergency and then only on application being made to Corps R.A.
2. Authority is now given for the dumping of ammunition in reinforcing positions in both Forward and Battle Zones (Second Army letter No.(G) 37/5 of 16-3-18) as follows :-
  - (a) Forward Zone.  
100 rounds per gun to be dumped in the unoccupied reinforcing positions already selected for each Battery as shown in App.I, column 3 (except under XXR) of Artillery Instructions No. 208.
  - (b) Battle Zone.  
150 rounds per gun to be dumped in the positions of the Second Zone, both reinforcing and retired positions, as shown in columns 6 and 7 (except under XX2R) of App.I of Artillery Instructions No.208.
3. The 4.5" How.charges for the ammunition dumped in the unoccupied reinforcing positions of the Forward Zone will be held in Divnl. A.R.P's, and for the Battle Zone in the selected dumps mentioned in Artillery Instructions No.215, para.4, of 12-3-18.
4. Boxed ammunition must remain boxed, and arrangements must be made for a turnover. All ammunition must have adequate cover from weather. This is especially necessary in the case of 18-pdr ammunition which will not be dumped before the protection is provided. In arranging this protection, ventilation must be secured to prevent sweating.
5. Attached is a scale shewing the amount of ammunition which should be held on Divisional Artillery charge when the dumping of this ammunition is completed.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*G. Sheppard Capt*  
for

Lt.Col.A.I.F.  
Staff Officer R.A. Australian Corps.

Issued as under :-

- |                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Copies 1 and 2. | H.A.Aust.Corps.        |
| 3.              | 1st Aust.D.A.          |
| 4.              | 2nd Aust.D.A.          |
| 5.              | 3rd Aust.D.A.          |
| 6.              | 4th Aust.D.A.          |
| 7.              | 5th Aust.D.A.          |
| 8 and 9.        | R.A.Second Army.       |
| 10.             | Aust.Corps M.T.Column. |
| 11 to 20.       | Aust.Corps "G"         |
| 21.             | Aust.Corps "Q"         |
| 22.             | File.                  |
| 23 to 25.       | Diary.                 |
| 26 to 28.       | Spare.                 |

TOTAL AMOUNTS OF AMMUNITION TO BE HELD ON CHARGE OF DIVISIONAL ARTILLERIES EXCLUSIVE OF ECHELONS.

	No. of Guns.		No. of <i>rods</i> .		No. of rounds.	
	18-pr.	4.5" How.	18-pr.	4.5" How.	18-pr.	4.5" How.
<u>"A" Division.</u>						
Guns in Forward Zone.	36	12	450	350	16200	4200
Occupied reinforcing positions in Forward Zone. )	---	---	---	---	---	---
Unoccupied reinforcing positions in Forward Zone. )	36	12	100	100	3600	1200
Occupied positions in Battle Zone. )	---	---	---	---	---	---
Unoccupied positions in Battle Zone. )	72	24	150	150	10800	3600
<u>"B" Division.</u>						
Guns in Forward Zone.	54	18	450	350	24300	6300
Occupied reinforcing positions in Forward Zone. )	12	6	450	350	5400	2100
Unoccupied reinforcing positions in Forward Zone. )	42	12	100	100	4200	1200
Occupied positions in Battle Zone. )	6	---	150	---	900	---
Unoccupied positions in Battle Zone. )	102	36	150	150	15300	5400
<u>"C" Division.</u>						
Guns in Forward Zone.	36	12	450	350	16200	4200
Occupied reinforcing positions in Forward Zone. )	---	---	---	---	---	---
Unoccupied reinforcing positions in Forward Zone. )	36	12	100	100	3600	1200
Occupied positions in Battle Zone. )	36	12	450	350	16200	4200
Unoccupied positions in Battle Zone. )	36	12	150	150	5400	1800

SECRET.

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 219  
by  
G.O.C.R.A., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
-----

23rd March 1918.

Issued under Aust. Corps Order No.29, dated 23.3.18.

1. In order to facilitate the withdrawal of the 5th Australian Divisional Artillery from the line the C.R.A., 5th Aust.Divnl.Arty. will make the following arrangements:-

(a) The Front now covered by three Groups will be divided into two only -

The Northern from HOLLEBEKE to the WAMBEEK, and  
The Southern from the WAMBEEK to the DOUVE.

(b) The 3rd Army Brigade A.F.A. will be allotted positions from which it can cover the Northern Sector, namely from HOLLEBEKE to the WAMBEEK.

(c) The 6th Army Brigade A.F.A. will be allotted positions from which its guns can cover the Southern Sector, namely the WAMBEEK to the DOUVE.

(d) The above Sectors will be taken over by the 3rd and 6th Army Brigades A.F.A. respectively.

The 5th Aust.Divnl.Arty. will be so disposed as to superimpose the two Brigades, one over the Northern and one over the Southern Group Sectors.

(e) Group Headquarters are to be allotted, and all the necessary moves are to be completed with guns registered on their new lines by 10 a.m. 26th March.

2. On completion of the above arrangements the 3rd Army Brigade A.F.A. and its superimposing Brigade of the 5th Aust.Divnl.Arty. will pass to the Command of the C.R.A., 1st Aust.Divnl.Arty., and the 6th Army Brigade A.F.A., and its superimposing Brigade of the 5th Aust.Divnl.Arty., to the C.R.A., 2nd Aust.Divnl.Arty.

3. On completion of these moves the C.R.A., 5th Aust.Divnl.Arty. will render location report to this office.

4. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*H. G. Macintyre*  
Lieut-Colonel, A.I.F.,

Staff Officer R.A., AUSTRALIAN Corps.

Issued as under.-

Copies 1 and 2	Heavy Arty., Aust. Corps.	20 "M" S.R. Section.
3	1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.	21 "W" S.R. Section.
4	2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.	22 to 31 Aust. Corps. "G".
5	3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.	32 Aust. Corps. "Q".
6	4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.	33 Aust. Corps. M.T. Col.
7	5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.	34 File.
8	3rd Army Bde. A.F.A.	35 to 37 Diary.
9	6th Army Bdo. A.F.A.	38 to 40 Spare.
10	12th Army Bde. A.F.A.	
11 and 12	R.A., Second Army.	
13	R.A., XV Corps.	
14	R.A., XXII Corps.	
15	2nd Wing R.F.C.	
16	3rd Sqdn., A.F.C.	
17	6th Balloon Coy.	
18	2nd Group Survey.	
19	4th Group Survey.	

SECRET.

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 220  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

-----

25th March 1918.

1. The following is the daily allotment of ammunition expenditure until further notice, commencing noon 26th March 1918 :-

18-pdr.	{	Left Divn.	1500	4.5" How.	{	Left Divn.	500
		Right Divn.	1500			Right Divn.	500

2. The ammunition allotted to Heavy Artillery remains the same as laid down in Artillery Instructions No. 217.

3. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*W. Sheppard Capt.*  
for Lt. Col. A. I. F.

Issued as under :-

Staff Officer R.A. Australian Corps.

Copies 1 and 2. Heavy Arty. Aust. Corps.  
3. 1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.  
4. 2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.  
5 and 6. R.A. Second Army.  
7 to 16. Aust. Corps "G"  
17. Aust. Corps "Q"  
18. Aust. Corps M.T. Coy.  
19. File.  
20 to 22. Diary.  
23 to 25. Spare.

SECRET.COPY No. 20

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 221  
by  
G.C.C.R.A., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

-----

27th March 1918.

- The following is the daily allotment of ammunition expenditure until further notice commencing noon 26th March 1918.
- All existing ammunition allotments are cancelled, and unexpended or overdrawn balances will lapse.

18-pdr.	{ Right Divn. 1650		4.5" How.	{ Right Divn. 550
	{ Left Divn. 1650			{ Left Divn. 550
	60-pdr.	.. ..	350	
	3" How.	.. ..	1200	
	3" How.	.. ..	800	
	9.2" How.	.. ..	260	
	12" How.	.. ..	25	
	15" How.	.. ..	12	
	6" Gun.	.. ..	35	

- In the case of attack by the enemy ammunition will be expended solely with regard to the tactical situation.
- ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*Wheeler Capt*  
for

Lieut-Colonel, A.I.F.

Staff Officer R.A., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

Issued as under :-

Copies 1 and 2.	Heavy Arty., Aust. Corps.
3.	1st Aust. Div. Arty.
4.	2nd Aust. Div. Arty.
5 and 6.	R.A., Second Army.
7 to 16.	Aust. Corps. "G".
17.	Aust. Corps. "Q".
18.	Aust. Corps M.T. Col.
19.	File.
20 to 22.	Diary.
23 to 25.	Spare.



SECRET.

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 232  
by  
G.O.C.R.A., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

27th March 1918.

1. In accordance with Australian Corps Order No. 54 of 27th March 1918, the relief of the 14th Brigade A.F.A. will be carried out as follows:-

Date.	Relief		To be complete by
	of	by	
Night 27/28th March.	1 Section of each battery of 14th Brigade A.F.A.	1 Section of each battery of 38th Army Bde. R.F.A.	10 p.m. 27th.
28th March.	2 Sections of each battery of 14th Brigade A.F.A.	2 Sections of each battery of 38th Army Bde. R.F.A.	Noon 28th.

2. Guns to be taken over in situ, except that outgoing Howitzer batteries will move with No. 1 Carriers 4.5-inch Howitzer complete.
3. The wagon lines vacated by the 14th Brigade A.F.A. will be occupied by the 38th Army Brigade R.F.A. on 29th March, under orders to be issued by the C.R.A., 1st Australian Division.
4. The 14th Brigade A.F.A. and 5th Aust. Divnl. Ammunition Column will march with Echelons full.
5. Further details of the relief will be arranged by Orders from C.R.A.'s concerned.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Lieut-Colonel, A.I.F.,  
Staff Officer R.A., AUSTRALIAN Corps.

Issued as under :-

- |                 |                           |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Copies 1 and 2. | Heavy Arty., Aust. Corps. |
| 3.              | 1st Aust. Divnl. Arty.    |
| 4.              | 2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.    |
| 5.              | 5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.    |
| 6 and 7.        | R.A., Second Army.        |
| 8.              | R.A., XV Corps.           |
| 9.              | R.A., XXII Corps.         |
| 10.             | 38th Army Bde. R.F.A.     |
| 11.             | 2nd Wing R.F.C.           |
| 12.             | 3rd Sqdn. A.F.C.          |
| 13.             | 6th Balloon Coy.          |
| 14.             | 2nd F.S. Coy.             |
| 15.             | 4th F.S. Coy.             |
| 16.             | "M" S.R. Section.         |
| 17.             | "W" S.R. Section.         |
| 18 to 27.       | Aust. Corps "G".          |
| 28.             | Aust. Corps "Q".          |
| 29.             | File.                     |
| 30 to 32.       | Diary.                    |
| 33 to 35.       | Spare.                    |

SECRET.ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 223  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
-----COPY No. 2028th March 1918.

1. The allotment of ammunition expenditure for Heavy Artillery laid down in Artillery Instructions No. 221 of 27th March 1918 is cancelled and the following allotment comes into force as from noon 28th March 1918.-

30-pdr. .. ..	350	12" How. .. ..	25
6" How. .. ..	1050	15" How. .. ..	12
8" How. .. ..	440	6" Gun. .. ..	35
9.2" How. .. ..	180		

2. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*W. H. Macarthur*  
Lieut-Colonel, A.I.F.

Staff Officer R.A., AUSTRALIAN Corps.

Issued as under.-

Copies 1 & 2. Heavy Arty. Aust. Corps.	17.	Aust. Corps "Q".
3. 1st Aust. Div. Arty.	18.	Aust. Corps M.T. Col.
4. 2nd Aust. Div. Arty.	19.	File.
5 & 6. R.A. Second Army.	20 to 22.	Diary.
7 to 16. Aust. Corps "G".	23 to 25.	Spare.

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.224  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

30th March 1918.

ISSUED UNDER AUST.CORPS ORDER No.39 of 30th MARCH 1918.

1. The following reliefs will take place as detailed below :-

Serial No.	Relief		Sections per Battery.	Date.
	of	by		
1.	5th Aust.D.A. Medium T.M.Btys.	1st and 2nd Aust.D.A. Medium T.M.Batteries.	-	6.0 p.m. 1st April.
2.	5th Brigade 2nd Aust.D.A.	11th Army Bde. R.F.A.	3	2nd April.
3.	6th Army Bde. A.F.A.	One Brigade of 19th Divnl.Arty.	3	3rd April.
4.	2nd Aust.D.A.C.	19th D.A.C.	-	3rd April.
5. *	2nd Aust.D.A. Medium T.M.Btys.	19th D.A. Medium T.M.Batteries.	-	10.0 a.m. 3rd April.
6.	4th Brigade 2nd Aust.D.A.	6th Army Brigade A.F.A.	3	Complete 10.0 a.m. 4th April.

2. The 13th Aust.F.A. Brigade, 5th Aust.D.A., will withdraw from the line to its wagon lines on the night of 1st/2nd April, and will ontrain on 3rd April.

3. One Brigade, 19th Divnl.Arty. will occupy positions vacated by 13th A.F.A. Brigade on the night of 3rd/4th April.

4. Guns of units referred to in Serial Nos. 2, 3, and 6 will be taken over 'in situ'. The guns of the Brigade of 19th Division which relieves 6th Army Brigade A.F.A. will be handed over to 4th Brigade, 2nd Aust.Divnl.Artilletry.

5. Owing to the withdrawal of the 13th A.F.A. Brigade unrelieved on the night of 2nd/3rd April, the C.R.A. 2nd Aust.Division will make the necessary distribution of guns to cover the front vacated by the 13th Brigade until the arrival of one Brigade of the 19th Division.

6. Outgoing Divisions will take Medium Trench Mortar personnel only with them. Mortars will be handed over to incoming Divnl.Artilletries.

7. Attached is a statement showing transfer of wagon lines.

8. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

\* Only Mortars handed over by 5th Aust.Divnl.Artilletry.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Lt.Col.A.I.F.

Issued as under :-

Copies 1 and 2.	H.A.Aust.Corps.	15.	6th Balloon Coy.
3.	1st Aust.D.A.	16.	2nd F.S.Coy.
4.	2nd Aust.D.A.	17.	4th F.S.Coy.
5.	19th Div.Arty.	18.	"M" S.R.Section.
6.	11th Army Bde.R.F.A.	19.	"W" S.R.Section.
7.	13th Bde. A.F.A.	20.	Aust.Corps M.T.Column.
8.	6th Army Bde.A.F.A.	21-30.	Aust.Corps "G"
9 and 10.	R.A.Second Army.	31.	Aust.Corps "Q"
11.	R.A. XV Corps.	32.	File.
12.	R.A. XXII Corps.	33-35.	Diary.
13.	2nd Wing R.F.C.	36-38.	Spare.
14.	3rd Sqdn.A.F.C.		

Staff Officer R.A. Australian Corps.