

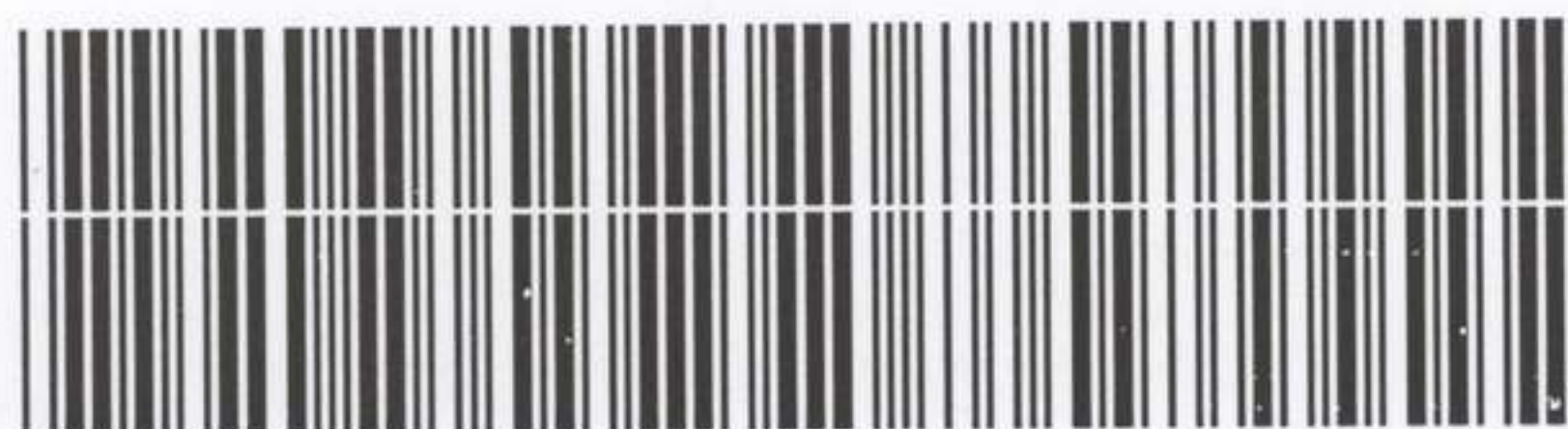
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,  
1914-18 War**

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/4/14

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

June 1918



AWM4-13/4/14



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HEADQUARTERS.  
AUSTRALIAN CORPS  
ROYAL ARTILLERY  
J/82/13  
No. ....  
Date 6-7-18

Australian Imperial Force.

# WAR DIARY

OF

Headquarters R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

FOR

JUNE 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

*H. F. Wood.*  
R.A. Australian Corps.

Captain.

Signature of Officer Commanding

*James Coker.*

Brig-General.

G.O.C.R.A. Australian Corps.



# WAR DIARY

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BERTANGLES	June 1		<p>Enemy Artillery has been fairly active; the villages of RIBEMONT and MERICOURT and the area south of FOUILLOY (O.15, 16) have been subjected during the night and early morning to a fairly bombardment of Gas (mainly Yellow Cross) and High Explosive. High Velocity guns continue to show lively activity in back areas, chiefly during the night - DAOURS being shelled by a 60-pdr battery. Full advantage was taken of the good visibility - 11 destructive shoots on hostile batteries being carried out, two of which were with balloon observation. During the night 8 sections of 6" Howitzers were run up to forward positions and carried out a gas concentration on Hostile Batteries in the southern portion of the CERISY - WARFUSEE - ABANCOURT Valley. At 4.48 a.m. a G.F. Call on 10 Tanks in P.16 was answered, a heavy concentration put down on this area at 5.55 a.m., and later on a destructive shoot by 12" Howitzers with aeroplane observation was attempted but target was obscured by a smoke screen put up by the enemy. Other fire consisted of the engaging of enemy movement, destructive shoots on trenches, works etc., and harassing fire.</p>	heavy
	2nd.		<p>A slight increase of hostile shelling has been reported, mainly during the early morning when heavy spasmodic bursts of shelling - both gas and high explosive - were put down on several areas along the Corps front.</p> <p>Our Artillery engaged two hostile batteries in destructive shoots, one with balloon and one with aeroplane observation. Concentration, Harassing fire and destructive shoots on various targets, including a Headquarters were also carried out. Artillery Instructions No.237 issued.</p>	1.
	3rd.		<p>Slightly less hostile Artillery activity has been shown - bursts of fire on various areas being again the chief form of shelling. From 12.50 to 1.30 a.m. QUERRIEU was shelled by a High Velocity gun, firing Yellow Cross Gas shells. Suspected shell hole Ammunition dumps in K.16.b. were engaged in a destructive shoot with aeroplane observation, one explosion being caused. Balloon observation was used for a destructive shoot on a suspected Headquarters in P.16.c. Last night the Third Australian Divisional Artillery relieved the Fourth Australian Divisional Artillery in "A" divisional sector - the command of Artillery in that sector passing to C.R.A. Third Australian Division at 10 a.m. today. Fourth Australian Divisional Artillery proceed by road to the HALLENCOURT R.A. Area in Army Reserve. Artillery Instructions No.238 issued.</p>	2.
	4th		<p>Hostile shelling has been mainly in the form of harassing fire on battery and occupied areas, including back villages by High Velocity Guns. Practically no Gas shelling has been reported</p>	/and



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BERTANGLES.	June 4th.		and no Counter Battery work except light harassing fire carried out. Our heavy Artillery carried out 6 successful destructive shoots with aeroplane observation, and with balloon observation. A High Velocity gun on railway mounting was observed at V.12.b.4.0. This was engaged by a forward 60-pdr. and each time the gun opened fire it was neutralised. When this had occurred five times, the gun moved off and did not re-appear - in four hours the gun only fired 8 rounds.	
	5th.		From 2.45 a.m. to 3.45 a.m. enemy Artillery heavily bombarded our forward system opposite MORLANCOURT, supporting an attempted raid, and at same time gassed the battery areas between the ANCRE and SOMME. Except for this no shelling of importance has been reported. Five successful shoots with aeroplane observation, and one with balloon observation have been carried out on hostile batteries - other shooting consisted of the usual harassing and destructive fire, including the neutralisation of several enemy Anti-Aircraft batteries.	
	6th.		Hostile shelling has shown a slight decrease - consisting almost entirely of harassing fire well distributed over the Corps front. High Velocity guns have also been less active, and practically no gas shelling has been reported. Four destructive shoots with aeroplane observation and two with balloon observation <del>observed</del> have been successfully carried out. A forward 60-pdr. engaged a High Velocity gun on railway mounting in W.8.a. with the result that the gun moved off without opening fire. A destructive shoot with balloon observation was discontinued owing to the observer being convinced that the flashes coming from this position were dummy ones. MARCELCAVE Station Railway trucks in W.7.b., movement and enemy works were engaged.	
	7th.		Hostile Artillery has shown less activity - the shelling being in the nature of scattered harassing fire over the front generally, including the vicinity of a few of our batteries. Our aeroplanes observed 15 successful destructive shoots on hostile batteries, and our balloons two. Our forward 60-pdrs. continue to harass with most successful results the High Velocity gun on railway mounting that comes into position in W.8.a. Yesterday afternoon when neutralised it moved off, having fired only three rounds. Twice today the gun came into position and moved away having fired only five rounds and two rounds respectively.	
	8th.		Hostile Artillery has again been very quiet. Neither during, nor after our gas bombardments last night was there any Artillery reaction. Our battery areas have been lightly harassed and High Velocity guns have been fairly active on back areas. We carried out three successful	

/destructive



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BERTANGLES	June 8th		destructive shoots on Hostile Batteries - two with aeroplanes and one with balloon observation. The Railway gun in W.7.d. was again successfully neutralised on three occasions. Commencing at 9.30 p.m. last night, heavy Artillery carried out a heavy gas bombardment lasting two and a half hours, upon the Valley East of <del>HAMEL</del> HAMEL extending south to ARQUAIRE and ACCROCHE WOODS ( See Artillery Instruction No. 237 of 2nd June). This bombardment was repeated at 3.30 a.m. by Field Artillery. A successful destructive shoot by a 12" Howitzer with aeroplane observation was carried out on an enemy Headquarters at P.16.e.2.5.	
	contd.			
	9th.		<p>Hostile Artillery commencing at about midnight showed a great increase in activity, probably this activity on our front was in connection with enemy attack on the French front further south. Between 12 midnight and 2.30 a.m. our forward systems especially on right and centre divisional fronts were subjected to a heavy bombardment with all calibres, at the same time the battery areas were shelled with High Explosive and Gas. Since this bombardment hostile Artillery has been fairly quiet, fire consisting of occasional bursts and short concentrations at irregular intervals on our communications and battery areas. Back areas have also been harassed by High Velocity Guns.</p> <p>One prearranged destructive shoot with aeroplane observation on a hostile battery was carried out and an N.F. call on another battery was converted into a successful destructive shoot. Counter preparation Phase 1.A. (a maximum of Counter Battery work) was fired during the enemy bombardment this morning. The High Velocity Railway mounting gun was again successfully neutralised. Four times it attempted to fire but only succeeded in getting off a total of 8 rounds. 6" Howitzers with ground observation destroyed an active Minenwerfer. Last night the 69th Brigade R.G.A., from Army Reserve, completed the relief of the 65th Brigade R.G.A. in the line. The 65th Brigade R.G.A. proceeding to the RIVIERE R.A. Area in Army Reserve.</p>	
	10th.		<p>Little Hostile shelling has been <sup>or</sup> reported other than the general scattered harassing of battery and occupied areas. VILLERS BRETONNEUX and vicinity have received the most attention. Several destructive shoots on hostile batteries with ground observation have been carried out including one with double line observation, and two by ranging first on a datum point and then switching over to the battery position before firing for effect. The High Velocity Gun in W.8. was again twice neutralised and a small explosion caused.</p>	

/At 9.45 p.m.



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BERTANGLES.	June 11th.		At 9.45 p.m. last night the Infantry of the 2nd Australian Division attacked and captured the Ridge between SAILLY LAURETTE and MORLANCOURT. Artillery support was given, rolling barrage covering the scene of the operation, with diversions on either flank, strong Counter Battery work and the bombardment of all known and suspected Machine Guns, Minenwerfers, O.P.s. etc., including all possible assembly areas. The immediate retaliation to our fire was very light, later on it became heavy; during the remainder of the night and throughout the day, this newly gained area has been intermittently kept under fairly heavy harassing fire. The enemy Counter Battery work during our operation was very poor consisting of area shelling which caused practically no damage. Unfavourable weather conditions have made destructive shooting with aeroplane observation on Hostile Batteries impossible. A shoot by datum and switch method was however successfully carried out, the datum point being registered by double line observation. Balloon observation enabled another hostile battery to be successfully neutralised - 5 direct hits and 2 explosions being obtained.	
	12th.		The enemy's Artillery exhibited increased activity yesterday afternoon and last night, mainly on the area involved in the recent operations between the ANCRE and the SOMME. At about 2 a.m. this morning this activity decreased, since when very little shelling has been reported. No deliberate enemy Counter Battery work has been reported. BUSSY LES DAOURS was harassed during the night by a High Velocity gun firing Gas shell. Six hostile batteries were successfully engaged in destructive shoots with aeroplane observation and during the night numerous hostile batteries were harassed. Heavy Trench Mortars carried out a very successful shoot on the MONUMENT and Buildings in U.6.a.	
	13th.		Hostile fire has been mainly in the nature of scattered light harassing fire on our communications and occupied areas, with a slight increase in Counter Battery work, and the harassing of back areas with High Velocity Guns. Weather conditions have been unfavourable for either aeroplane or balloon observation consequently no destructive shoots by these means have been carried out, two heavy concentrations were however put down on two hostile battery positions, and another position was attacked with ground observation.	
	14th.		Hostile Artillery has shown a slight increase but only in the form of harassing fire on both forward and back areas. Our Artillery carried out two successful destructive shoots with aeroplane observation, two with balloon observation, two by the datum and switch method, and	one

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BERTANGLES.	June 14th		one Zone Call was observed by aeroplane and carried on to a successful shoot. From 10.15 to 10.35 p.m. last night Counter preparation Phase 1.b. (maximum of harassing fire) was put down by both field and heavy Artillery. Artillery Instructions No. 239 issued.	3.
	contd.		Last night the 27th Brigade R.G.A. completed the relief - commenced on night 12/13th - of the 6th Brigade R.G.A. which is proceeding to the Fourth Army R.A. rest Area.	
	15th.		Hostile shelling has been quite normal, no activity of any special interest, except a short concentration on HEILLY at midday, being reported. Two successful shoots with aeroplane observation have been carried out and concentration effected on 5 Hostile Batteries. Artillery support - field and heavy - was given last night to Infantry raiding enemy trenches East of VILLE SUR ANCRE; no unusual enemy shelling in reply to these was reported. Artillery Instructions No. 240 issued.	4.
	16th.		Hostile harassing fire has been general showing no increase, but hostile Counter Battery work has shown more activity. Last night minor Infantry raids in enemy trenches south west of HAMEL were supported by Field and Heavy Artillery. Six destructive shoots on hostile batteries with aeroplane observation, and one with <del>balloon</del> <sup>ground</sup> observation, were successfully carried out. High Velocity railway mounting guns firing from V.12. and W.7. were several times successfully neutralised by forward 60-pdrs. A shoot on suspected shell hole dump at P.22. d. 90.85. with aeroplane observation caused several explosions.	
	17th.		A slight increase in hostile shelling has been reported. Several batteries have been subjected to light harassing fire. During the afternoon BUSSY was persistently shelled by a 15cm. gun firing both High Explosive and Yellow Cross Gas shells. At 3.30 p.m. yesterday a concentration of 10.5 and 15cm Howitzers was put down on HEILLY, and one of our heavy batteries there was several times neutralised. We carried out several shoots on hostile batteries - 5 with aeroplane observation and two with balloon observation. One N.F. call was also carried on to a successful shoot. At 5.15 a.m. a High Velocity gun on railway mounting came into position in W.8.a. It was engaged by 6" Guns and withdrew, having fired only 5 rounds. Shortly after 8 a.m. the gun again came into action at the same place and was engaged by both 6" guns and forward 60-pounders. The gun had only fired one round when a direct hit was obtained on the gun, another on the engine and one on some ammunition. This area was then kept under fire. Eventually at 12.5 p.m. a new engine came rapidly up and withdrew the gun. This engine was engaged without success by our batteries.	
			Artillery Instructions No. 241 and 242 were issued.	5 & 6

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BERTANGLES.	18th.		HEILLY and the batteries in the vicinity were again subjected to a heavy and harassing fire during the hours of day <sup>light</sup> <del>night</del> . Between 1.30 and 2 a.m. enemy attempted unsuccessfully to raid our trenches East of VILLERS BRETONNEUX, supporting his effort by a heavy bombardment of VILLERS BRETONNEUX and trenches in U.4 and 5. Except for this special activity, enemy shelling has been very light. Four pre-arranged destructive shoots and one MQNF were carried out with aeroplane observation and one with balloon observation. Another destructive shoot with balloon observation was discontinued owing to the balloon being destroyed by an enemy aeroplane. Many active batteries were successfully neutralised with ground observation.	
	19th.		A slight increase in enemy artillery activity has been reported - the bulk of the shelling <del>fall</del> falling in the neighbourhood of HEILLY. This village has been harassed regularly, and this morning between 3 and 9 a.m. the area was heavily shelled with a mixture of Gas and High Explosive. 8 successful destructive shoots with aeroplane observation and 1 with balloon observation have been carried out, and, in addition, one battery was subjected to a heavy concentration. Suspected shell hole ammunition dumps in P.16.d., P.21.b. and K.21.a. were engaged with aeroplane observation by Heavy Artillery. In two cases explosions were obtained. Last night 189th Army Brigade R.F.A. from rest completed the relief in the line of the 77th Army Brigade R.F.A. who are moving to Fourth Army R.A. Rest Area in Army reserve. 222nd Siege Battery R.G.A. (6" Gun) was also relieved by 50th Siege Battery R.G.A.	
	20th.		Harassing fire was still maintained by all calibres on HEILLY and vicinity - the front line between E.19 and K.13 and the villages of BUIRE and TREUX have also been fairly heavily shelled. Weather conditions prevented any observed destructive shoots on hostile batteries, attention being confined to the neutralization of active ones.	
	21st.		Hostile artillery has again remained quiet except for the continued shelling of HEILLY. VILLERS BRETONNEUX has also been subjected to harassing fire. Weather conditions have again been unsuitable for observed shooting, heavy concentrations were however placed on several hostile batteries and many were neutralised. Many casualties are reported from our shooting on enemy movement.	
	22nd.		Enemy artillery has been quiet and a noticeable decrease in the shelling of HEILLY has been reported. Concentrations and light harassing fire have been directed against VILLERS BRETONNEUX. Between 4 and 5 p.m. yesterday the Right Divisional Artillery bombarded enemy	

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BERTANGLES.	June 22nd.	contd.	trenches in P.25.b., P.31.a., and O.36.d. in preparation for an Infantry raid. A daylight patrol which went out whilst this bombardment was in progress reported many walking wounded coming from the shelled area. The raid was successfully carried out at 2 a.m. without any further Artillery preparation or support. Destructive shoots on hostile batteries were carried out <del>as follows</del> as follows :- One with double line ground observation, one with single line ground observation and four by registering on a datum point and switching on to the hostile battery. Some good sniping was carried out by a 6" Gun, which had previously been registered on a point on the road in Q.24.b., casualties both to men and horses being inflicted. Last night the Fourth Australian Divisional Artillery from the R.A. rest area completed the relief of the Fifth Australian Divisional Artillery in "B" divisional sector. Command of the Field Artillery covering this sector passed from the C.R.A. Fifth Australian Division to the <del>XXX</del> C.R.A. Fourth Australian Division at 10 a.m. today. The relieved Artillery moving by road to the Fourth Army R.A. Rest Area in Army reserve.	
	23rd.		VILLERS BRETONNEUX has again been subjected to enemy concentration in which a little gas was used. At 12.15 a.m. this morning raids on enemy trenches in K.2.a. and K.13.b. were supported by field and heavy Artillery and by Trench Mortars. Diversions were fired on either flank by III Corps and our Centre divisional Artillery respectively. Yesterday afternoon enemy trenches in P.4.d. were bombarded as if in preparation for a raid. The enemy reply to our raid consisted of a light barrage on our front system and about 100 rounds in the Valley in J.24. A destructive shoot on a hostile battery was carried out with ground observation and several neutralisations including the railway gun in V.12. were effected.	
	24th.		Except for reported heavy shelling of our trench system in P.19. and P.25., enemy Artillery has been very quiet. Our Artillery effected five destructive shoots with aeroplane observation, concentrations on three hostile batteries, each three times, and on one hostile battery once, and the neutralisation of several other batteries including the railway gun. In an aeroplane observation shoot on ammunition dumps in P.21.b., two explosions were caused. 96th Army Brigade R.F.A. withdrew from action in "C" Divisional sector and concentrated in Wagon Lines preparatory to marching to the ST. OUEEN area from which they will entrain for another Army.	
	25th.		Enemy shelling continues to be quiet but shows an increase on that of the last two or three days. The principle areas affected have been VILLERS BRETONNEUX, against which concentrations of all	

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BERTANGLES.	June 25th.	contd.	calibres have been carried out, and the forward areas between the ANCRE and the SOMME, which has been consistently harassed. Two destructive shoots have been carried out one with direct ground observation and one with ground observation by the datum and switch method.	
	26th.		An increase in shelling has been reported, mainly on VILLE SUR ANCRE and the front line from VILLE SUR ANCRE to K.7., TREUX was also included. This shelling was heavy during the night and intermittently heavy during the day. At 12.30 a.m. this morning Artillery support was given to an Infantry raid on enemy trenches in K.19.d. The hostile Artillery reply consisted of a light barrage on our front line system. One partially successful shoot on a hostile battery was carried out with aeroplane observation, the shoot being discontinued, owing to bad visibility, after 140 rounds had been fired.	
	27th.		No localities are reported as having been heavily shelled, but harassing fire has been general along the front, both on the forward and back areas. Yesterday afternoon a short heavy concentration of all calibres was put down on the front line in K.1. Our Artillery carried out with aeroplane observation four successful destructive shoots on hostile batteries; in addition Trench Mortars in P.9.c. were engaged with good results. Amongst the usual movement engaged was transport in P.11.a. This shoot obtained a direct hit on one Wagon and caused several fires in others - probably ammunition burning.	
	28th.		Except concentrations by field guns on VILLERS BRETONNEUX and our trench system in that vicinity, hostile shelling was fairly light and scattered. This morning one of our heavy battery positions was ranged on by a 15cm Howitzer with aeroplane observation. Since then this battery has had neutralising fire directed against it several times, but only a few rounds have been fired. Nine destructive shoots with observation by aeroplane, and three by balloon, have been carried out, and in addition, yesterday afternoon a special shoot with aeroplane observation was carried out on the 38cm gun position at R.17.a.8.8., by a forward section of 6" Guns. After this shoot had been completed these guns fired harassing fire rounds on other targets in this vicinity. Transport in P.28.b. was engaged by field Artillery and two horse teams were seen to be hit.	
	29th.		Little hostile Artillery activity has been shown and except for a short bombardment of our trench system S.W. of MORLANCOURT yesterday afternoon no heavy shelling has been reported. We carried out six successful aeroplane observation destructive shoots with assistance in ranging by balloons. Field Artillery engaged an active gun at P.23.c.8.4., causing casualties to men seen leaving the position.	

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/Enemy



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BERTANGLES.	June 30th.		<p>Enemy shelling has been of the usual harassing nature with the addition of a few concentrations, one very heavy, one lasting three minutes at 9.30 p.m. last night on our trenches in K.1., and several less severe ones on VILLERS BRETONNEUX and the front line East of it. Successful destructive shoots with aeroplane observation were carried out on four hostile batteries, Bridge at K.31.d.42.30. and two Minenwerfer positions in P.14.b.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>GENERAL.</u></p> <p>All map references refer to Sheet 62D unless otherwise stated. Throughout the period cases of heavy shelling have been rare, hostile fire for the main part being confined to harassing fire on our communications and battery areas, and short sharp concentrations on our front line systems. Without exception the hostile fire in reply to our barrages supporting raids and minor attacks, has been very light, though after our attack on the night of the 10th the ground gained and our old front line in the vicinity was for 48 hours kept under fairly heavy harassing fire. Other heavy concentrations have been directed against special areas, for instance our activity between the ANCRE and the SOMME has probably been responsible for the large proportion of shelling that has been directed against that portion of our front. Then again our heavy batteries in HEILLY and vicinity were probably responsible for the concentrations directed against it on the 17th and succeeding days. On the night of the 8/9th preceding the offensive on the MONTDIDIER front, a species of Artillery demonstration was carried out by the enemy on our front. This took the form of intensive harassing fire directed upon a number of our positions, both Artillery and Infantry, at intervals throughout the night. Hostile Counter Battery work has only to a very small extent taken the form of deliberate destructive shoots on our batteries. Early in the month our battery areas between the ANCRE and the SOMME were consistently and fairly heavily shelled, but all shelling was in the form of area shoots, no deliberate shoots on any special batteries being reported at all. During our fire in support of raids, and Infantry operations Hostile Counter Battery work consisted of very light scattered area shelling, which caused no trouble or inconvenience to our batteries, at all. This poor work has probably been due to the extensive and successful neutralisation of enemy batteries by our heavy Artillery. Hostile shelling has been much less frequent of late, and has been confined mainly to a few heavy concentrations on selected areas, though smaller concentrations have been fired</p>	

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			<p><u>GENERAL continued.</u></p> <p>in conjunction with his usual harassing fire. Between 3 a.m. and 9 a.m. on the 19th HEILLY was heavily shelled with a mixture of gas and High Explosive. At this time the weather conditions were most unfavourable for gas shelling. This fact corroborates a recent prisoner's statement that when gas shells are to be fired, they are brought into position only an hour or so before the shoot commences and are fired off whatever the conditions.</p> <p>Enemy High Velocity guns have carried out systematic light harassing fire mainly on villages in the SOMME and HALLUE Valleys; the most interesting feature being the shelling of QUERRIEU once and BUSSY frequently with Yellow Cross Gas shell.</p> <p>The enemy on this front appears to be very nervous. This has probably been caused, firstly, by our intense Infantry activity in the form of patrols, raids and minor attacks, and secondly, by our Artillery activity, which has been very great and therefore probably very demoralising. This nervousness has been evinced by the number of times he has placed barrages in No Man's Land in response to signals sent up by his Infantry.</p> <p>The number of enemy guns located as active on this front, remains practically the same now as at the begining of the month. 77mm. guns have, except for gas shelling, been used very little the bulk of the shelling being carried out by 10.5 and 15cm. Howitzers. Only two 21 cm. Howitzer Batteries have been located on this front and shelling from these guns has been very little.</p> <p>Our fire has been very heavy and consisted of observed destructive shoots on hostile batteries, dumps, trenches, suspected Headquarters, shell hole dumps and works generally; of harassing fire (mainly by night) on all areas within range according to their importance, and of concentrations, including gas, on hostile batteries, Villages and occupied areas. Full advantage of all good weather has been taken for observation by aeroplane, balloon and ground observers. More attention has been paid to the latter method of observation - in cases where the target could not be seen, the battery was accurately ranged on a well defined point and then switched over to the target. The observation groups on this front have also observed for several shoots. Gas shelling has been extensively carried out by divisions and heavy Artillery, and one combined shoot was carried out by the Corps.</p> <p>Harassing fire has been very severe and thorough, being carried out extensively by every type of gun on the front. Hostile Anti-Aircraft guns have been consistently and successfully neutralised in conjunction with bombing and photographic patrols from the Royal Air Force. Prisoners of War state that both our Counter Battery and harassing fire have caused much damage to material and many casualties. The success of our harassing fire has several times been</p>	

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p><u>GENERAL continued.</u></p> <p>proved. At 10.30 p.m. on 20th field Artillery whilst carrying out harassing programme dispersed a party of about 60 enemy in K.20.c. forming up for a raid on our trenches.</p> <p>Another instance is :- Between 9 and 9.30 p.m. on 23rd instant, 18-pdrs of Left Group, Right Divisional Artillery, whilst carrying out their usual harassing programme fired bursts on roads in P.28.b. These bursts were entirely of the nature of harassing fire and were not fired as the result of reported movement on these roads. The Infantry of the Division on their left saw movement there but did not report it to the Artillery as it was apparently being engaged by them. The first intimation the Right Divisional Artillery received that there had been any movement on these roads was obtained from the following paragraph which appeared in the Fourth Australian Divisional Intelligence Summary No. 193 of 24th instant :-</p> <p>"Between 9 and 9.30 p.m. 30 Ammunition and G.S. Wagons seen at P.28.b.55.35. were engaged by 18-pounders and several direct hits obtained. A number of the limbers were set on fire and three were overturned."</p> <p>The following extract from Australian Corps Intelligence Summary 16-6-18 is interesting, typifying the results of our shooting on observed movement :- "While the roll was being called at midday two days ago at a battalion parade of the 104th I.R. in Q.9.b. and d. a direct hit disposed of all four Sergeant Majors and the Adjutant. Our bombs and shell fire are said to be most effective and cause casualties daily." Another prisoner made the statement that no hot meals were now given to the men in the front line in his regiment owing to the casualties caused to the carrying parties by our harassing fire. It is interesting to note that for some days after the direct hit was obtained on the High Velocity Railway mounting gun which fired from V.12. - no gun at all fired from there. Some interesting facts about the 38cm. gun which fires from ARCY Wood in R.17.a. are to hand. This gun was persistently active until midday 8-6-18. The French Corps in whose area the shells fell, reported that from pieces of driving band picked up, the lands of the gun appeared to be very much worn. Nothing was heard of the gun from 8-6-18 to the morning of 16-6-18 when it again became active. The markings of pieces of driving band picked up since that date showed that the rifling was unworn. This suggests that during the silent period, a new piece was mounted.</p> <p>Enemy shell holes suspected of being used for Ammunition still continue to show on photographs. Several shoots with aeroplane observation have been carried out on them resulting in some cases</p> <p style="text-align: right;">/in</p>	



# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p><u>GENERAL continued.</u></p> <p>in many explosions and in other cases in none, this seems to suggest, and is borne out by prisoners' statements, that as yet only a proportion are actually used for storing ammunition, the remainder being dug in readiness should an offensive be proposed. Consequently shoots are being carried <sup>out</sup> on these and results carefully watched.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <i>Walter Coker</i>            Brigadier General,            G.O.C.R.A., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.         </p>	



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## WAR DIARY

OF

Headquarters R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

FOR

J U N E1918.

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LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Artillery Instructions No.237.
2.	Artillery Instructions No.238.
3.	Artillery Instructions No.239.
4.	Artillery Instructions No.240.
5.	Artillery Instructions No.241.
6.	Artillery Instructions No.242.



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SECRET.

APPENDIX 1/14

Copy No. 32

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 237  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
-----

2nd June 1918.

1. With reference to Australian Corps Order No. 108 dated 1st June 1918, the details of the bombardment ordered therein will be as follows :-

HEAVY ARTILLERY.

9.30 p.m.

Zero to Zero	150 C.G. or C.B.R.	Rate 1.
plus 2 hours	Rest 10 minutes.	
30 minutes.	600 P.N.C.	Rate 2.
	Rest 10 minutes.	
	600 P.N.C.	Rate 2.
	Rest 10 minutes.	
	600 P.N.C.	Rate 2.
	Rest 10 minutes.	
	600 P.N.C.	Rate 2.

Total 2550 rounds.  
=====

EACH DIVNL. ARTILLERY.

3.30 a.m.

<u>4.5" Hows.</u>	C.G. or C.B.R.	3 rounds per gun per minute for 5 minutes = 150 rounds.
	Rest.	10 minutes.
	N.C.	2 rounds per gun per minute for 30 minutes = 600 rounds.
	Rest.	10 minutes.
	N.C.	2 rounds per gun per minute for 30 minutes = 600 rounds.
	Rest.	10 minutes.
	N.C.	1 round per gun per minute for 30 minutes = 300 rounds.

Total 1650 x 3 = 4950 rounds.  
=====

2. 18-pdrs will harass all exits from ~~xxxxxxx~~ the gassed area from 9.30 p.m. to 1.0 a.m. and from 3.30 a.m. to 6.0 a.m. as follows :-  
'A' Divnl. Sector will be responsible South of an East and West line through P.16.d.0.0.  
'B' Divnl. Sector will be responsible for the area between an East and West line through P.16.d.0.0 and an East and West line through P.11.d.0.0.  
'C' Divnl. Sector will be responsible for the area North of the East and West line through P.11.d.0.0.
3. Arrangements will be made with "METEOR" Fourth Army to furnish wind readings hourly from 8.0 p.m. to 5.0 a.m.
4. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*H. H. Macartney*  
Lt. Col. A.I.F.  
Staff Officer R.A. Australian Corps.

FOR DISTRIBUTION - SEE OVER.



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APPENDIX

Issued as under :-

Copies 1 and 2.	Heavy Artillery Aust. Corps.
3.	2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.
4.	3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.
5.	4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.
6.	5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.
7 and 8.	R.A. Fourth Army.
9.	R.A. III Corps.
10.	R.A. V Corps.
11.	31st French Corps.
12.	15th Wing R.A.F.
13.	3rd Squadron A.F.C.
14.	35th Squadron R.A.F.
15.	13th Balloon Coy.
16.	16th Balloon Coy.
17.	Aust. Corps M.T. Column.
18 to 27.	Aust. Corps "G"
28.	Aust. Corps "Q"
29.	Chemical Adviser Aust. Corps.
30.	'METEOR' Fourth Army.
31.	File.
32 to 34.	Diary.
35 to 38.	Spare.



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SECRET.

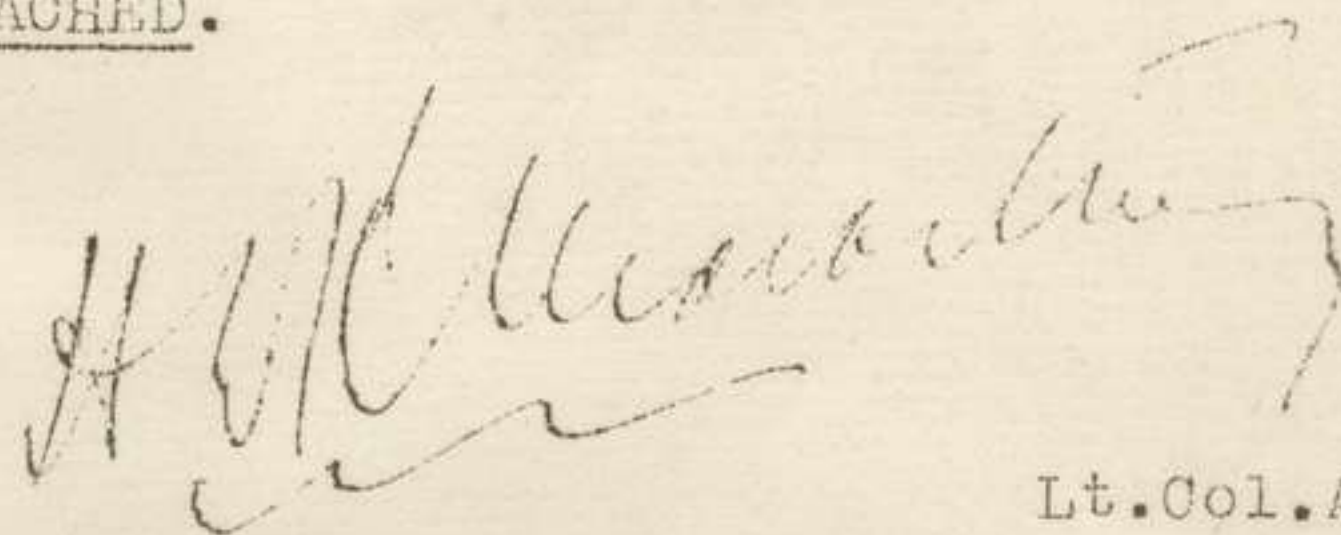
APPENDIX 2 16  
32  
Copy No.

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.238  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
-----

3rd June 1918.

ISSUED UNDER AUSTRALIAN CORPS ORDER No.109 d/- 2-6-18.

1. Guns of 77th Brigade R.F.A. will be taken over 'in situ' by 169th Brigade R.F.A. Relief to be complete by 2.0 p.m. 8th June.
2. Batteries will relieve their opposite numbers.
3. Advanced parties of 169th Brigade R.F.A. will report to 5th Australian Divnl.Artilletry H.Q. on 7th June at BUSSY les DAOURS, Sheet 62.D. H.35.c.
4. Further necessary details of this relief will be issued by C.R.A. 5th Australian Division.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.



Lt.Col.A.I.F.

Issued as under :-

Staff Officer R.A. Australian Corps.

- |                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Copies 1 and 2. | Heavy Arty.Aust.Corps.     |
| 3.              | 5th Aust.Divnl.Arty.       |
| 4.              | 77th Army Brigade R.F.A.   |
| 5.              | 169th Army Brigade R.F.A.  |
| 6.              | 2nd Aust.Divnl.Artilletry. |
| 7.              | 3rd Aust.Divnl.Artilletry. |
| 8.              | 4th Aust.Divnl.Artilletry. |
| 9 and 10.       | R.A. Fourth Army.          |
| 11.             | R.A. III Corps.            |
| 12.             | R.A. V Corps.              |
| 13.             | 31st French Corps.         |
| 14.             | 15th Wing R.A.F.           |
| 15.             | 3rd Squadron A.F.C.        |
| 16.             | 35th Squadron R.A.F.       |
| 17.             | 13th Balloon Coy.          |
| 18.             | 16th Balloon Coy.          |
| 19.             | Aust.Corps M.T.Column.     |
| 20 to 29.       | Aust.Corps "G"             |
| 30.             | Aust.Corps "Q"             |
| 31.             | File.                      |
| 32 to 34.       | Diary.                     |
| 35 to 38.       | Spare.                     |



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SECRET.Copy No. 39ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No. 239  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
-----14th June, 1918.ISSUED UNDER AUSTRALIAN CORPS ORDER No. 113 d/- 14-6-18.

1. Guns of 77th Army Bde. R.F.A. will be taken over 'in situ' by 189th Army Bde. R.F.A. Except B/77th Battery, which will withdraw from the line without relief.
2. Relief to be complete by 2 p.m. 17-6-18.
3. Advanced parties of 189th Army Bde. R.F.A., consisting of Battery Commander, 1 Subaltern, 4 Signallers per Battery, will report to 5th Australian Divnl. Artillery Headquarters, on 16th June, 1918 at BUSSY LES DAOURS.
4. Further necessary details relating to this relief will be issued by C.R.A., 5th Australian Division.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*H. Clearing*  
Lt.Col. G.S.  
R.A. Australian Corps.

Issued as under :-

Copy	1.	77th Army Bde. R.F.A.
	2.	189th Army Bde. R.F.A.
	3. & 4.	R.A. Fourth Army.
	5.	<del>5th Bde. R.A.F.</del>
	6.	2nd Aust. Div. Arty.
	7.	3 Aust. Div. Arty.
	8.	4th Aust. Div. Arty.
	9.	5th Aust. Div. Arty.
	10.	O.C. 4th Army R.A. Rest Area.
	11.	G.O.C.
	12.	AQ.
	13.	Aust Corps "A".
	14.	Aust Corps "Q"
	15.	Ig.
	16.	A.D. Signals.
	17.	Aust. Corps Siege Park.
	18.	S.M.T.O.
	19.	Aust. Corps Signal Coy.
	20.	A.D.O.S.
	21.	D.D.M.S.
	22.	D.A.D. Posts.
	23.	A.P.M.
	24.	A.D.V.S.
	25.	Chemical Adviser.
	26.	Area Commandant RENANCOURT.
	27.	" " ST.OUEN R.A. Area (BOURDON)
	28.	O.O. File.
29 to	38.	Aust. Corps "G"
39 to	41.	Diary.
42 to	46.	Spare.



ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.240  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

APPENDIX 4.240

15th June 1918.

ISSUED UNDER AUSTRALIAN CORPS ORDER No.113 d/- 14-6-18.

1. These instructions cancel Artillery Instructions No. 238 of 3-6-18 and No. 239 of 14-6-18.
  2. The 189th Army Bde. R.F.A. (less "C" Battery) will march from RENANCOURT Area to Wagon lines in BUSSY Area on 17th June where accommodation will be arranged by C.R.A. 5th Australian Division.  
Route via AMIENS Northern avoiding road, then main AMIENS-ALBERT road.
  3. Advanced parties of 189th Army Bde. R.F.A., consisting of Battery Commander, 1 Subaltern, 4 Signallers per Battery, will report to 5th Australian Divnl. Artillery Headquarters, BUSSY LES DAOURS, at 2 p.m. 16-6-18.
  4. The 77th Army Brigade R.F.A. will be relieved by the 189th Army Brigade R.F.A. as follows :-  
2 Sections per Battery on night 17th/18th June.  
1 Section per Battery on night 18th/19th June.  
189th B.A.C. will relieve 77th B.A.C. on 18th June.
- 'B' Battery 77th Army Brigade R.F.A. will withdraw from the line without relief, under orders to be issued by C.R.A. 5th Australian Division.
- All reliefs to be completed by mid-night 18th/19th June.
5. On relief, the 77th Army Brigade R.F.A. will withdraw to its wagon lines, moving to the RENANCOURT Area on 19th June.  
Route - main AMIENS-ALBERT road, thence via AMIENS Northern avoiding road.  
No restrictions as to time.
  6. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*[Signature]*  
Lt.Col.G.S.

Issued as under :-

R.A. Australian Corps.

- |          |     |   |
|----------|-----|---|
| Copy No. | 1.  | 77th Army Brigade R.F.A.                    |
|          | 2.  | 189th Army Brigade R.F.A.                   |
| 3 &      | 4.  | R.A. Fourth Army.                           |
|          | 5.  | 2nd Aust. Divnl. Arty.                      |
|          | 6.  | 3rd Aust. Divnl. Arty.                      |
|          | 7.  | 4th Aust. Divnl. Arty.                      |
|          | 8.  | 5th Aust. Divnl. Arty.                      |
|          | 9.  | Fourth Army R.A. Rest Area.                 |
|          | 10. | A. D. Signals.                              |
|          | 11. | Aust. Corps M.P. Column.                    |
|          | 12. | S.M.T.O.                                    |
|          | 13. | Aust. Corps Signal Coy.                     |
|          | 14. | Area Commandant RENANCOURT.                 |
|          | 15. | Area Commandant ST OVEN R.A. Area (BOURDON) |
| 16 to    | 25. | Aust Corps "G".                             |
|          | 26. | Aust Corps "Q".                             |
|          | 27. | File.                                       |
| 28 to    | 30. | Diary.                                      |
| 30 to    | 34. | Spare.                                      |



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SECRET.

APPENDIX 219

Copy No. 22

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.241  
by  
G.O.C.R.A., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
-----

17th June 1918.

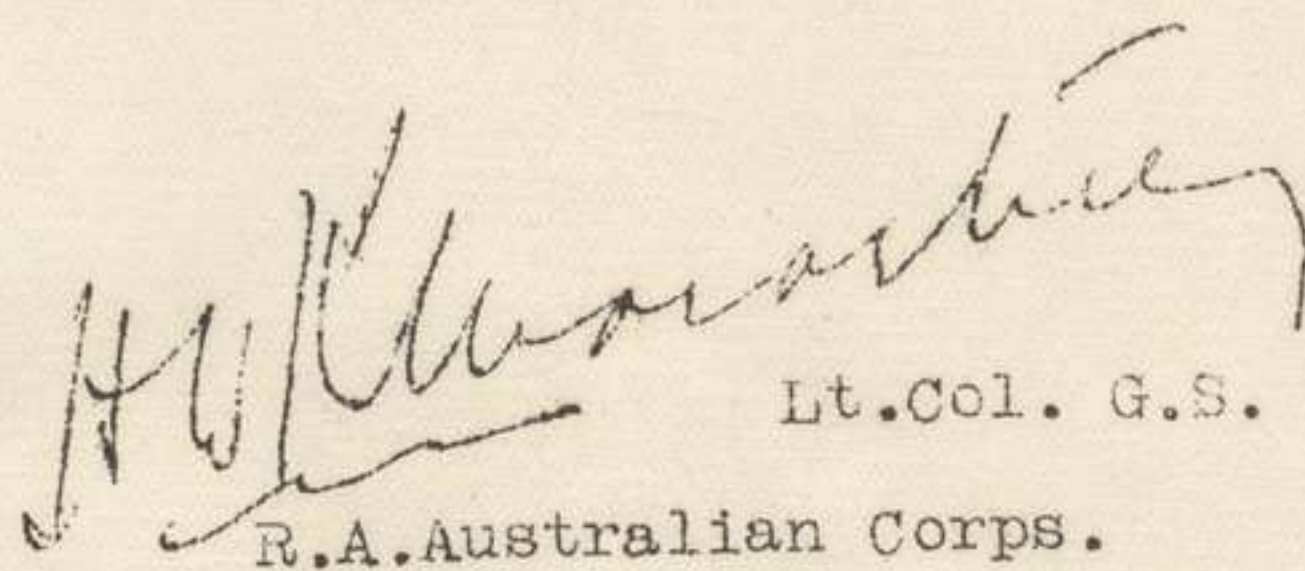
1. The following daily allotment of Ammunition is made from noon 14th June :-

	<u>Rounds.</u>
60-pdr.	1400.
6" How.	4000
8" How.	400
9.2" How.	200
12" How.	15
6" Gun.	300

<u>18-pdr.</u>	<u>Rounds.</u>	<u>4.5" How.</u>
"A" Div. 5000		1500
"B" Div. 5000		1500
"C" Div. 4000		1000

2. In the case of attack by the enemy, ammunition will be expended solely with regard to the tactical requirements.

3. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

  
Lt.Col. G.S.  
R.A.Australian Corps.

Issued as under :-

- Copies 1 and 2. Heavy Arty.Aust.Corps.  
3. 2nd Aust.Div.Arty.  
4. 3rd Aust.Div.Arty.  
5. 4th Aust.Div.Arty.  
6. 5th Aust.Div.Arty.  
7 and 8 R.A.Fourth Army.  
9. Aust.Corps M.T.Column.  
10 to 19. Aust.Corps "G".  
20. Aust.Corps "Q".  
21. File.  
22-24.Diary.  
25-28.Spare.



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SECRET.

APPENDIX 6 20  
Copy No. 29

ARTILLERY INSTRUCTIONS No.242  
by  
G.O.C.R.A. AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

17th June 1918.

ISSUED UNDER AUSTRALIAN CORPS ORDER No.114.

1. The relief of the 5th Australian Divisional Artillery by the 4th Australian Divisional Artillery will take place as follows:-

Serial No.	Relief		No. of Sections	Date.	Hour to be complete	Move to
	of	by				
1.	5th Aust.D.A.	4th Aust.D.A.	2 per Battery.	20/21	12.0 midnight	RENANCOURT Area 21st June.
2.	5th Aust.D.A.	4th Aust.D.A.	1 per Battery.	21/22	12.0 midnight	RENANCOURT Area 22nd June.
3.	5th Aust.D.A.C.	4th Aust.D.A.C.	Complete	20th.	2.0 p.m.	RENANCOURT Area 20th.
4.	5th Aust.MEDIUM Trench Mortars.	4th Aust.MEDIUM Trench Mortars.	Complete	20th.	2.0 p.m.	RENANCOURT Area 20th.
5.	C.R.A. 5th A.D.	C.R.A. 4th A.D.	---	22nd.	10.0 am.	---

2. Guns in the line will be exchanged in all cases; anti-tank guns excepted, which will be taken over 'in situ'. 6" Trench Mortars will be taken over 'in situ'.
3. Route in moving to and from the line and the RENANCOURT Area will be via ALBERT-AMIENS road - AMIENS Northern avoiding road. The 4th Aust.Divnl.Artilletry, in moving from the Area, will avoid roads through AMIENS. SALOUEL
4. The 5th Aust.D.A.C. will move with echelons empty, refilling at EAUCOURT. Batteries will move with echelons full.
5. Further details regarding this relief will be mutually arranged between C.R.A's concerned.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE ON FORM ATTACHED.

*[Signature]*  
Lt.Col.G.S.  
R.A. Australian Corps.

Issued as under :-

- |                 |                     |        |                                   |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Copies 1 and 2. | H.A.Aust.Corps.     | 13.    | 35th Squadron R.A.F.              |
| 3.              | 2nd Aust.D.A.       | 14.    | 13th Balloon Coy.                 |
| 4.              | 3rd Aust.D.A.       | 15.    | 16th Balloon Coy.                 |
| 5.              | 4th Aust.D.A.       | 16.    | Aust.Corps M.T.Column.            |
| 6.              | 5th Aust.D.A.       | 17-26. | Aust.Corps "G"                    |
| 7 and 8.        | R.A.Fourth Army.    | 27.    | Aust.Corps "Q"                    |
| 9.              | R.A. III Corps.     | 28.    | File.                             |
| 10.             | 31st French Corps.  | 29-31. | Diary.                            |
| 11.             | 15th Wing R.A.F.    | 32-35. | Spare.                            |
| 12.             | 3rd Squadron A.F.C. | 36.    | Area Commandant, RENANCOURT Area. |