

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/7/33

Title: Brigadier General, 1st ANZAC Corps
Heavy Artillery and Headquarters,
Australian Corps Heavy Artillery

December 1918



AWM4-13/7/33

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

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HEADQUARTERS, AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTILLERY.	
No.	3/35
Date	24.1.19.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

HEADQUARTERS, AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTILLERY.

FOR

DECEMBER, 1918

Signature of Officer compiling J.M. Kennedy Captain, R.A.
 Brigade Major, Aust. Corps Heavy Arty.

Signature of Officer Commanding M. A. Robson Brig. General,
 Commanding Aust. Corps Heavy Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS
 AUSTRALIAN CORPS
 HEAVY ARTILLERY.
 No.
 Date.....

WAR DIARY

Confidential.

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.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BUSIGNY	1918 Dec.		During the period 7th.- 12th.Dec. the command consisting of 14th, 23rd., 68th., 76th., and 93rd.Brigades R.G.A. moved by road to the area North of BEAUMONT, villages being allotted to Brigades for billeting purposes as shown in H.A.Location Lists attached.	
			On Dec.8th. 12th & 83rd. Brigades left by road for DINANT, on transfer to X Corps.	
BEAUMONT			On 9th.Dec. Headquarters moved from BUSIGNY to BEAUMONT (NAMUR Sheet)	
			On 22nd.Dec.Lt-Col.H.ROWAN ROBINSON.D.S.O. Officer Commanding 14th.Brigade R.G.A. was appointed B.G.,H.A.,AUST:Corps and took over the command from Lt-Col.H.J.KELSALL, Officer Commanding 12th.Brigade R.G.A. who had been temporarily commanding in Brig-Genl.L.D.FRASER'S absence.	
			The programme of drills and training has been continued and an education scheme set on foot.	
			<i>J. Kennedy</i>	
			Capt.R.A. Brigade Major.AUSTRALIAN Corps Heavy Artillery	

WAR DIARY

OF

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HEADQUARTERS, AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTY.

FOR

DECEMBER, 1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

1. Heavy Artillery Routine Orders.
2. Heavy Artillery Location List.

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By
Lieut-Col H.J.KELSALL, R.A.
Commanding AUSTRALIAN Corps Heavy Artillery.

1. FIELD GENERAL COURT MARTIAL.

A F.G.C.M. composed as under will assemble at Headquarters, 93rd Brigade, R.G.A. Sheet 57B. Q.33.d.8.8 (ST.SOUPLET) on WEDNESDAY, December 4th, 1918, at 1000 hrs for the trial of No. 280363 Gunner J.LUCAS, 11 (S) Battery, R.G.A. (14th Brigade, R.G.A.), No. 121862 Sgt. C.F.HENDERSON, 231 (S) Battery, R.G.A. (93rd Brigade, R.G.A.), and such other person or persons as may be brought before them :-

PRESIDENT.

Major A.C.L. THEOBALD, DSO, R.G.A. 498 (S) Bty, R.G.A.

MEMBERS.

A Subaltern to be detailed by 14th Bde, R.G.A.
A Subaltern to be detailed by 93rd Bde, R.G.A.

The Corps Courts-Martial Officer.

The accused will be warned and all witnesses duly required to attend.

O.C. 14th Brigade, R.G.A. will detail a Prosecutor in the case of No. 280363 Gunner J. LUCAS.

O.C. 93rd Brigade, R.G.A. will detail a Prosecutor in the case of No. 121862 Sgt. C.F.HENDERSON.

2. APPOINTMENTS.

Major W.N.BUDGEN, DSO., 23rd Bde, R.G.A. to be Acting Lt-Col. whilst commanding a Brigade, R.G.A. (7th Novr.1918).

Lt. (A/Captn.) E.MAJOR, (SR) to be Acting Major whilst commanding 355th Sge. Bty. R.G.A. from 29th to 31st August 1918, when he reverts to the acting rank of Captn. as second in command Battery.

Lt. E.L.E.WHEATCROFT, (SR) 35th Bty. R.G.A. to be acting Captn. whilst employed as Second in Command of a Sge. Bty, R.G.A. (3-11-18).

Lt. W.J.THACKER, (TF) 150th Bty. to be Acting Captn. whilst employed as Second in Command of a Siege Bty. R.G.A. (14-10-18).

Lt. E.MAJOR, (SR) 355th Siege Bty, to be acting Captn. whilst employed as Second in Command of a Siege Bty. R.G.A. (1-8-18).

Major W.N.BUDGEN, DSO., relinquishes the Acting rank of Lt-Col. on ceasing to command 23rd Brigade, R.G.A. (8-10-18).

Lt. E.MAJOR, (SR) 355 Bty. R.G.A., relinquishes the Acting rank of Captn. on ceasing to be employed as Second in Command of a Siege Bty. (7-9-18).

Lt. (A/Major) P.L.BABBAGE, MC., 355th Bty., relinquishes the pay of his acting rank under the terms of G.R.O. 2678 of 9-10-18, on ceasing to command a Siege Bty. (29-8-18).

T/Lt. (A/Captn.) J.S.McCANN, 355th Bty. R.G.A. relinquishes his pay of acting rank under the terms of G.R.O. 2678 of 9-10-18, on ceasing to be employed as Second in command of a Siege Bty, R.G.A. (1-8-18).

(Authority G.H.Q. List No. 215 of 24-11-18).

P.T.O.

3. PROMOTION

No. 321578 Sergeant J.W. JAGO, 19th Siege Battery, is promoted Battery Quartermaster Sergeant and posted to 355th Siege Battery with effect from 10-9-18, vice No. 27858 Battery Quartermaster Sergeant C.H. BROWN promoted Battery Sergeant Major. Pay of rank to reckon from date of assuming duties.

1st December 1918.

Captain, R.A. Staff Capt.
A/Staff Captain, AUSTRALIAN Corps H.A.

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ROUTINE ORDER NO 205

8th DECEMBER 1918.

BY
Lieut. Col. H. J. KELSALL, R.A.;
Commanding, AUSTRALIAN Corps Heavy Artillery.

1. APPOINTMENT.

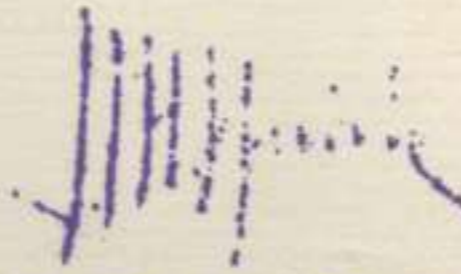
Capt. S. G. AYLWIN R.G.A. attached 76th Brigade R.G.A. is appointed Second in Command of 228th Siege Battery R.G.A. vice Lieut. (Act. Capt) F. H. FAWKES R.G.A. appointed Staff Lieut. II Corps Heavy Artillery.

Lieut. F. D. BOYCE R.G.A. 168th Siege Battery R.G.A. (68th Brigade R.G.A.) is appointed Second in Command of 114th Siege Battery R.G.A. vice Lieut. (Act. Capt) J. B. RICHARDSON R.G.A. transferred to 14th Brigade R.G.A.

2. TRANSFER.

Lieut. J. B. RICHARDSON R.G.A. 114th Siege Battery R.G.A. relinquishes his appointment as Second in Command of 114th Siege Battery R.G.A. at his own request and is transferred to 14th Brigade R.G.A.

A.F; W.3342 for the above mentioned Officers will be rendered to this Office in due course.


Capt/Staff Capt
Australian Corps Heavy Artillery.

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By
 Lieut-Col H.J.KELSALL, R.A.
 Commanding AUSTRALIAN Corps Heavy Artillery.

1. POSTINGS.

The following officers have reported their arrival from Reinforcement Camp on dates as shewn, and are posted to batteries as under with effect from those dates respectively :-

- Lieut: J.B.GIBBONS, RGA., (Reg.) to 113 Heavy Battery. 7/12/1918.
- Lieut: W.M.DOBSON. 2/9th Midd'x. Regt. to 168 Siege Battery. 8/12/1918.
 (Awaiting transfer to R.G.A.)

2. TOWN MAJORS.

The undermentioned have been appointed Town Majors of the villages shewn against their names in the area occupied by AUSTRALIAN Corps Heavy Artillery:-

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| ERQUELINNES | Capt: T.H.B.HAUFE. V.C. | 124 Sge. Bty. 93rd Bde. RGA. |
| SOLRE sur SAMBRE | Capt:D.F.P.REID. | 41 Sge. Bty. 23rd Bde. RGA. |
| STREE. | 2/Lt: E.F.DAUBERCIES. | 114 Sge. Bty. 68th Bde. RGA. |
| LEERS et FOSTEAU. | Lt: T.ANDERSON. | 168 Sge. Bty. 68th Bde. RGA. |
| FONTAINE VALMONT. | 2/Lt:E.H.ROBERTS. | 152 Hvy. Bty. 76th Bde. RGA. |
| BIERGE. | 2/Lt: S.D.HUGHES. | 228 Sge. Bty. 76th Bde. RGA. |
| MONTIGNIES St.) | Capt: J.QUINTON, M.C. | 233 Sge. Bty. 76th Bde. RGA. |
| CHRISTOPHE.) | | |
| THIRIMONT &) | Capt: C.A.C.GORDON, M.C. | 11 Sge. Bty. 14th Bde. RGA. |
| ROUTURE) | | |
| MAILAISE. | Lieut: C.R.BENSTEAD, M.C. | HQ: 14th Brigade R.G.A. |

H. H. Adland Boyle

13th December 1918.

Captain,
 Staff Captain,
 AUSTRALIAN Corps Heavy Artillery.

NOTICE.

1. 23rd Brigade Sports will be held at SOLRE sur SAMBRE on 21st inst.
2. The 440 yards Scratch Race is open to AUST: Corps H.A. and Units attached.
3. Entries to reach 23rd Brigade R.G.A. by 12 noon 18/12/1918.

Routine Order No.207.

17th December, 1918.

By
 Lieut-Colonel H.J.KELSALL, R.A.
 Commanding AUSTRALIAN Corps Heavy Artillery.

1. ARMY SODA WATER FACTORY.

This factory is now established at 63, Rue de Bruxelles, NAMUR, where supplies can be obtained.

2. E.F.CANTEENS.

The undermentioned branches opened and closed as stated:-

BOHAIN	Closed	Decr.	6th.
HONNECHY	"	"	3rd.
LE CATEAU	"	"	3rd.
NAMUR (Retail)	Opened	"	11th.

J.M. Combes
 Captain,
 Staff Captain,
 AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTILLERY.

17.12.18.

NOTICE.

LOST from 14th Brigade Headquarters at Wassigny during the night of December 9th, Hand-cart, common.
 Information to O.C. 14th Brigade, R.G.A.

LOST on the night of 7/8 December between 23.00 and 04.30, a Douglas Solo Motor Cycle, frame No.38132, on charge of 263 Siege Battery, R.G.A. from Battery Billets at ST.MARTIN RIVIERE, Near ST.SOUPLET (W.4.c.95.75).
 Information to O.C. 12th Brigade, R.G.A.

ROUTINE ORDER NO.208.

20TH DECEMBER, 1918.

By

Lieut-Colonel H.J.KELSALL, R.A.
 Commanding AUSTRALIAN Corps Heavy Artillery.

1. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS - OFFICERS.

With reference to G.R.O.5822. Confidential Reports - Officers.

The reports will be compiled as follows:-

- (1) For Officers below the rank of Substantive or Acting Major, by Battery Commandors, who will forward them to Brigade Commanders, who will add any remarks they may have to make, countersign, and forward them to the War Office, except when the report is unfavourable, when they will be forwarded through this office.
- (2) For Substantive or Acting Majors, by Brigade Commanders and forwarded to this office.
- (3) Brigade Commanders will prepare forms for themselves and fill in headings (a), (h), & (i) and qualifications under (f), and forward to this office.
- (4) In cases where subordinated officers have recently joined a unit from another unit every effort should be made by the O.C. to get into touch with the O.C. of the unit to which the officer previously belonged. The same applies in the event of an O.C. having recently joined the unit concerned.

Reports to be in duplicate and will reach this office not later than 30th December.

Attention is called to Para.4 of above mentioned G.R.O.

2. PROMOTION.

No.21706, Sergeant G.S.OFFORD, 228 Siege Battery, R.G.A. is promoted Battery Quarter-Master Sergeant and posted to 211 Siege Battery with effect from 15.11.18. vice No.23183 B.Q.M.S. F. SPARROW to England.

Pay of rank to reckon from date of assuming duties.

3. REINFORCEMENT CAMP.

The Fourth Army R.A.Reinforcement Camp closed at MARETZ at Noon, 19th instant, and opened at the Infantry Barracks, NAMUR, at the same hour.

4. SUPPLIES.

6th AUST.M.T.COY.SUPPLY DUMP closed at AVESNES on 18th instant and opened at BEAUMONT on 19th instant

J.M. Combes Captain,
 Staff Captain,

20.12.18.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTILLERY.

BY
 Lieut-Colonel H.J.KELSALL, R.A.
 Commanding AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTILLERY.

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1. TRANSFERS & APPOINTMENTS.

Capt. (A/Major) R.C.SPELLEN, (Tp. R.G.A.), 11 Siege Battery RGA. relinquishes his rank of Acting Major at his own request and is transferred and posted supernumerary to establishment to 228 Siege Battery, RGA. 27.12.18.

Capt. C.A.C.GORDON, M.C. (Reg.RGA) 14 Siege Battery, RGA. is posted to command 11 Siege Battery. 27.12.18.

A.Fs.W.3342 will be submitted for these officers forthwith.

The following appointments are published for information.

Lt.Col.H.ROWAN-ROBINSON, D.S.O.,R.G.A. (Commanding 14 Brigade RGA.) to Command Heavy Artillery, Australian Corps, and to be temp. Brigadier General whilst so employed, vice Brevet Colonel (Temp. Brigadier General) L.D.FRASER, C.B.,C.M.G. (to England). Authority A.G's No. A.G.8072 (O) dated 18.12.18.

Lt.Col.W.H.HOLDSWORTH HUNT, D.S.O.,R.G.A. attached 93 Brigade RGA to assume command of 14 Brigade RGA 29.12.18, vice Brigadier General H.ROWAN-ROBINSON, D.S.O., to command Australian Corps Heavy Artillery. Authority A.G's No. A.G. 8072 (O) dated 21.12.18.

Lt.Col.W.H.HOLDSWORTH HUNT, D.S.O., has been temporarily in command of 93 Brigade RGA, from 4.12.18 to 28.12.18 (inclusive).

Lt.Col.E.L.BOND, D.S.O. has been temporarily in command of 76 Brigade RGA. since 9.12.18.

2. EDUCATIONAL CLASSES.

Officers Commanding Brigades are authorized to hold Educational Classes during parade hours in the fore-noon instead of, or in addition to, the evening.

N.C.O's and men who are desirous of attending any class and who can be spared from the ordinary parade will be allowed to do so.

Attendance at Educational Classes is voluntary, but any N.C.O. or man who puts his name down to attend a class must, if he does not attend the class, attend the ordinary parade.

3. AUST. CORPS FIELD PUNISHMENT COMPOUND.

Aust. Corps Field Punishment Compound has now been established at FLORENNES. Rations from R.S.O., FLORENNES.

W. J. Bond

CAPTAIN.
 Staff Captain,
 AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTILLERY.

23/12/18.

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Routine Order No.210.

31st December, 1918.

By

Licut-Colonel H.J.KELSALL, R.A.
Commanding AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTILLERY.

1. ORDNANCE STORES.

- (1) Attention is directed to Fourth Army Standing Orders 98 to 104. All losses of equipment through neglect will in future be charged for as laid down in the above orders.
- (2) Units are failing to return 90 % of their unserviceable clothing when issued with new. The value of the deficiency of unreturned clothing will be charged by the Ordnance Authorities to the Unit Commander.

I. I. W. A. Clarendon

Captain,
Staff Captain,
AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTILLERY.

31.12.18.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS HEAVY ARTILLERY.

Map Ref: N A M U R. Sheet 1/100,000

LOCATION LIST.

SECRET

H.A. Hdqrs: BEAUMONT.

Copy No. No.1/131.

Brigade or Battery. Nature and Establishment. Location. Officer Commanding.

14th Brigade, R.G.A. H.Q. MALAISE. Lt-Col. H. ROWAN ROBINSON, DSO. a/Maj. R. C. SPELLEN. 11 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 6 THIRIMONT. a/Maj. J. T. LAUGHLAND, MC. 150 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 4 " a/Maj. A. R. HUTCH. 296 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 4 "

23rd Brigade, R.G.A. H.Q. SOLRE-sur-SAMBRE. Lt-Col. W. N. BUDGEN, DSO. 41 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 6 " T/Maj. F. B. OSBORNE. 327 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 4 " a/Maj. F. F. OATS. 355 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 4 " Major B. A. SANDFORD, DSO. (Attached. (189 Sge. Bty. 6" Gun Mk. XIX.4 " a/Maj. A. M. MONCRIEFF.

28th Brigade, R.G.A. H.Q. (Chateau, Lt-Col. C. W. SWINTON, DSO. (LEERS et FOSTEAU. 114 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 6 STREE. a/Maj. R. F. KINLOCH, MC. 168 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 6 LEERS et FOSTEAU. a/Maj. W. CAM, MC. 211 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 4 " a/Maj. W. J. GILPIN, MC.

36th Brigade, R.G.A. H.Q. (MONTIGNIES - Lt-Col. A. H. W. HAYWOOD, DSO. (ST. CHRISTOPHE. 113 Hvy. Bty. 60-pdr. 6 FONTAINE HAUTE. Major T. C. GOFF. 132 Hvy. Bty. 60-pdr. 6 " a/Maj. J. R. WILLIAMS, MC. 19 Sge. Bty. 3" H: Mk. VII. 6 BIERCEE. a/Maj. J. M. DICKSON. 228 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 6 " a/Maj. C. E. HARE, MC. 233 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 6 (MONTIGNIES - a/Liaj. B. J. BEWLEY, MC. (ST. CHRISTOPHE.

93rd Brigade, R.G.A. H.Q. SOLRE-sur-SAMBRE. Lt-Col. H. C. MOULTRIE, DSO. 2/1 Lowland HB. 60-pdr. 6 " a/Maj. A. E. GAYER. 35 Hvy. Bty. 60-pdr. 6 " a/Maj. E. McMORPHY, MC. 124 Sge. Bty. 9.2" How: 6 ERQUELINNES. a/Liaj. J. E. W. WHEATLEY, MC. 231 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 6 SOLRE-sur-SAMBRE. a/Maj. J. PERRIN, MC. 232 Sge. Bty. 6" How: 6 " a/Maj. C. N. AYTOUN.

H.Q. 'K' Siege Park. ERQUELINNES. Major G. E. GOLDSMITH, DSO, A.S.C.

J. J. Kennedy

Captain, R.A.

13/12/1918.

Brigade Major, Aust: Corps Heavy Artillery.