

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

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/7/9

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

December 1916



AWM4-13/7/9



HEADQUARTERS,  
1st ANZAC  
HEAVY ARTILLERY.

# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Confidential.

Army Form C. 2118.

319

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.

ORIGINAL

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VIVIER MILL	December 1st - 14th		<p>Eight batteries withdrawn from line and sent to XV Corps complete</p> <p>Two batteries withdrawn from line and sent to 1st Army</p> <p>Two batteries changed position in order to better cope with counter battery work on the new Corps front work put in hand on roads and on Decauville railways in order to be able to move other batteries with a view to more effective counter battery work.</p>	<p>6 per. Orders &amp; forwarding of Batteries issued during month.</p>
	15 - 20th		<p>Weather continued foggy throughout whole period.</p> <p>Work continued on road leading from GUINCHY to new positions.</p> <p>Road tested by passing a 4.7" Gun over it.</p> <p>Batteries withdrawn from rest in order to change position.</p> <p>Advanced party 229 Supp (6" Homs) arrived on 19th reported to 3rd HAG via a 6" Hms Bty to go to another Army.</p> <p>RA officers and RFA officers attached to RFA and Batteries respectively so as to establish more close liaison.</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
VIVIER MILL	December		Counter battery work almost at a stand still owing to continuous and dense fog.	
	21 <sup>st</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup>		Weather conditions very unfavourable. No aeroplane observation owing to mist rain and low clouds. 229 Siege took over from 149 and was allotted to 3 <sup>rd</sup> HAG on the 24 <sup>th</sup> .	
	25 <sup>th</sup>		At 11.30 am every gun & howitzer in the command fired two rounds into positions of importance. Again at 9 pm with four rounds a gun. The enemy scarcely replied.	
	26 <sup>th</sup>		Weather conditions bad, no observation. Rain & strong wind. 38 Battery AFA (181st) & 111 How Bty AFA attached to 2 HAG for Counter Battery work. Orders received for 213 Siege to replace 67 Siege moved to another Army. We gave assistance to 14 <sup>th</sup> Corps during a prearranged bombardment. Rounds fired 3 <sup>rd</sup> HAG: 205. 14 <sup>th</sup> : 170. 73 <sup>rd</sup> : 189. 69 <sup>th</sup> : 68. 62 <sup>nd</sup> : 586	



# 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
VIVIER MILL	1916 December			
	27.		<p>Fine day. Observation good. One successful aeroplane shoot. More hostile activity than usual. B.A.B. French Code taken into use.</p> <p>Rounds fired:- 3<sup>rd</sup> HAG. 229. 14<sup>th</sup> 188. 73<sup>rd</sup> 69. 69<sup>th</sup> 68. 62<sup>nd</sup> 430.</p>	
	28		<p>Clear morning but thick fog later. Enemy shelled new Artillery (ordnance) road in T.7 with 8" hows ranged by aeroplane. Gun positions of 118 HB &amp; 116 HB damaged.</p> <p>Rounds fired:- 3<sup>rd</sup> HAG. 279. 14<sup>th</sup> 140. 73<sup>rd</sup> 53. 69<sup>th</sup> 38. 62<sup>nd</sup> 398.</p>	
	29		<p>Rain &amp; mist. Enemy active in afternoon. 73<sup>rd</sup> HAG moved Headquarters to S18c4.4.</p> <p>Rounds fired: 3<sup>rd</sup> HAG. 177. 14<sup>th</sup> 150. 73<sup>rd</sup> 74. 69<sup>th</sup> 60. 62<sup>nd</sup> 378.</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
VIVIER MILL	1916 December 30		Clear but strong wind. Road in T7 and GINCHY heavily shelled. Rounds fired:- 3 <sup>rd</sup> HAG 198. 14 <sup>th</sup> 155. 73 <sup>rd</sup> 89. 69 <sup>th</sup> 29. 62 <sup>nd</sup> 562.	
	31		Clear, strong wind. Enemy fairly active. Short bombardment at 11.1 pm of important enemy positions by all guns & howitzers. No reply from enemy. Rounds fired:- 3 <sup>rd</sup> HAG 162. 14 <sup>th</sup> 333. 73 <sup>rd</sup> 51. 69 <sup>th</sup> 52. 62 <sup>nd</sup> 812.	

5/1/17  
Lt Maidet  
Major P.S.A.  
for Brigade Major  
1<sup>st</sup> Amzac H.A.



1st Anzac H.A.  
No 9/133/1.  
8th Decr 1916.

1st A. & N. Z. A. C.

HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER NO 22.

Reference:-

GUEUDECOURT to THILLOY &c.  
1/10,000, 1st Edn.

1. On "Z" day, on a date to be notified later, 1st Anzac Corps are carrying out an attack to be preceded by a bombardment on the two days previous - "X" and "Y" days.
2. Heavy Artillery, 1st Anzac Corps, will carry out the following programme of bombardments in support of the attack:-  
"X" DAY (from 8 a.m. to 3.45 p.m.)  
14th H.A.G.
  - (a) BAR ALLEY and BOLT ALLEY from their junctions with METEOR TRENCH to their interjunction at N 23 d 05.80.
  - (b) Communication trenches between ATOM AND FIRE TRENCHES in N 22 b.3rd H.A.G.
  - (c) BARLEY TRENCH from sunken road in N 15 d 65.85 to N 14 b 6.1 and thence along new trench to its meeting with road in N 14 a 35.50  
 From 3.45 p.m. until 8 a.m. on "Y" day, occasional rounds at irregular intervals will be fired on the above mentioned objectives."Y" DAY from 8 a.m. to 3.45 p.m.)  
14th H.A.G.
  - (d) METEOR TRENCH from N 29 a 85.90 to its junction with ATOM TRENCH and along the latter as far as the road in N 22 b 0.8.3rd H.A.G.
  - (e) Sunken roads N 21 b 65.80 to N 15 d 70.25.  
 N 15 d 7. 5.to N 15 b 5.1.  
 N 15 d 2.5 to 4.9.
  - (f) BREAD TRENCH from N 15 d 3.8 to 40.35.
  - (g) Trench from N 21 b 95.15 through sunken road in N 21 b 6.3 to 20.85.  
 From 3.45 p.m. until 8 a.m. on "Z" day, occasional rounds at irregular intervals will be fired on the above mentioned objectives."Z" Day (from 8 a.m. onwards)  
14th H.A.G.
  - (h) MOONRAY TRENCH from N 29 a 35.90 to its junction with SUNRAY TRENCH in N 22 d 50.55 and thence along SUNRAY TRENCH to N 22 d 22.55.
  - (i) TYPHOON TRENCH and the communication trenches between MOONRAY and METEOR and ATOM TRENCHES in N 22 d and N 23 c.  
 GLEAM TRENCH from its junction with MOONRAY TRENCH at N 22 d 72.20 for 150 yards south-westwards.3rd H.A.G.
  - (j) STORMY TRENCH from N 21 a 9.5 westwards to its extremity in N 20 b 2.7.
  - (k) BAYONET TRENCH from N 20 a 30.85 to junction with sunken road in N 13 d 5.3

At zero 5 minutes on "Z" day all batteries will increase to intense fire on the objectives given above and will continue this fire till plus 4 minutes.

At plus 4 minutes batteries will lift as under:-

14th H.A.G.

- (1) Objectives mentioned in paras (a), (b), and (d), above

3rd H.A.G.



319

## 3rd H.A.G.

- (m) BARLEY TRENCH from N 15 d 3.8 to N 14 b 6.1.  
 (n) LUISEN TRENCH from N 14 c 6.1 to its extremity at N 14 c 9.0  
 (c) LUISENHOF FARM and dugouts, and the dugouts on eastern side of sunken road 200 yards south of LUISENHOF FARM.

Rapid fire will be carried out on the objectives (a) to (c) from plus 4 minutes to plus 14 minutes, it will then cease altogether from plus 14 minutes to plus 18 minutes and, recommencing at plus 18 minutes, will continue at a gradually decreasing rate untill plus 30 minutes, when all fire will cease.

3. Three days notice will probably be given before "X" day bombardment. The bombardment will be deliberate on "X" day and will gradually increase in intensity on "Y" and "Z" days.

4. Ammunition will be allotted on the following scale:-

	"X" DAY	"Y" Day.	"Z" Day.
9.2" How.	250	300	450
8" How	200	250	350.
6" How (26c)	150	200	275.

The figures above are rounds per battery per diem, exclusive of batteries at rest. For the operation, 42nd Siege Battery is placed at the disposal of the 3rd H.A.G.

5. Group Commanders will avail themselves of every opportunity for registration from now onwards, the services of the R.F.C. being utilised whenever possible.

6. From zero onwards counter-battery work will be carried out vigorously on the hostile artillery. In addition to the batteries of the 62nd H.A.G. the following batteries will be available for counter-battery work:- 78th, 126th and 51st Siege. For the operation those batteries will remain under their present Group Commanders as laid down in para 5, 1st Anzac H.A. ~~Secret~~ letter No 1/38/5 of 29th November.

7. O.O. 69th H.A.G. will arrange at plus 4 minutes to plus 20 minutes on "Z" day to open a rapid fire of shrapnel shell from all guns of 58th Siege Battery on the reverse slopes of the hill in N 16 a. b. and d. with a view to dispersing any supports massing in that vicinity. Beginning at plus 4 minutes, 44th Siege Battery will also fire 10 rounds at the PUMPING STATION in N 11 a and the same number into the sunken road in N 16 d - 17 c.

8. Watches will be synchronised with this office at about 10 p.m. on the day previous to "X" day and on "X" day at about 7.15 a.m.

9. Group Commanders will please submit copies of their orders for the operation.

10. Please acknowledge.

(signed) L.FRASER.

Brigadier General, R.A.  
 Commanding, 1st Anzac H.A.



- 3rd H.A.G. (m)  
1st H.A.G. (m)  
2nd H.A.G. (c)  
3rd H.A.G. (c)  
4th H.A.G. (c)  
5th H.A.G. (c)  
6th H.A.G. (c)  
7th H.A.G. (c)  
8th H.A.G. (c)  
9th H.A.G. (c)  
10th H.A.G. (c)  
11th H.A.G. (c)  
12th H.A.G. (c)  
13th H.A.G. (c)  
14th H.A.G. (c)  
15th H.A.G. (c)  
16th H.A.G. (c)  
17th H.A.G. (c)  
18th H.A.G. (c)  
19th H.A.G. (c)  
20th H.A.G. (c)  
21st H.A.G. (c)  
22nd H.A.G. (c)  
23rd H.A.G. (c)  
24th H.A.G. (c)  
25th H.A.G. (c)  
26th H.A.G. (c)  
27th H.A.G. (c)  
28th H.A.G. (c)  
29th H.A.G. (c)  
30th H.A.G. (c)  
31st H.A.G. (c)  
32nd H.A.G. (c)  
33rd H.A.G. (c)  
34th H.A.G. (c)  
35th H.A.G. (c)  
36th H.A.G. (c)  
37th H.A.G. (c)  
38th H.A.G. (c)  
39th H.A.G. (c)  
40th H.A.G. (c)  
41st H.A.G. (c)  
42nd H.A.G. (c)  
43rd H.A.G. (c)  
44th H.A.G. (c)  
45th H.A.G. (c)  
46th H.A.G. (c)  
47th H.A.G. (c)  
48th H.A.G. (c)  
49th H.A.G. (c)  
50th H.A.G. (c)  
51st H.A.G. (c)  
52nd H.A.G. (c)  
53rd H.A.G. (c)  
54th H.A.G. (c)  
55th H.A.G. (c)  
56th H.A.G. (c)  
57th H.A.G. (c)  
58th H.A.G. (c)  
59th H.A.G. (c)  
60th H.A.G. (c)  
61st H.A.G. (c)  
62nd H.A.G. (c)  
63rd H.A.G. (c)  
64th H.A.G. (c)  
65th H.A.G. (c)  
66th H.A.G. (c)  
67th H.A.G. (c)  
68th H.A.G. (c)  
69th H.A.G. (c)  
70th H.A.G. (c)  
71st H.A.G. (c)  
72nd H.A.G. (c)  
73rd H.A.G. (c)  
74th H.A.G. (c)  
75th H.A.G. (c)  
76th H.A.G. (c)  
77th H.A.G. (c)  
78th H.A.G. (c)  
79th H.A.G. (c)  
80th H.A.G. (c)  
81st H.A.G. (c)  
82nd H.A.G. (c)  
83rd H.A.G. (c)  
84th H.A.G. (c)  
85th H.A.G. (c)  
86th H.A.G. (c)  
87th H.A.G. (c)  
88th H.A.G. (c)  
89th H.A.G. (c)  
90th H.A.G. (c)  
91st H.A.G. (c)  
92nd H.A.G. (c)  
93rd H.A.G. (c)  
94th H.A.G. (c)  
95th H.A.G. (c)  
96th H.A.G. (c)  
97th H.A.G. (c)  
98th H.A.G. (c)  
99th H.A.G. (c)  
100th H.A.G. (c)

The figures above are rounds per battery per day, exclusive of batteries at rest. For the operation, 42nd Siege Battery is placed at the disposal of the 3rd H.A.G.

Group Commanders will avail themselves of every opportunity for registration from now onwards, the services of the R.F.C. being utilised whenever possible.

From zero onwards counter-battery work will be carried out vigorously on the hostile artillery. In addition to the batteries of the 2nd H.A.G. the following batteries will be available for counter-battery work:- 78th, 126th and 51st Siege. For the operation these batteries will remain under their present Group Commanders as laid down in para 5, 1st ANZAC H.A.G. Secret letter No 1/38/5 of 29th November.

O.C. 60th H.A.G. will arrange at plus 4 minutes to plus 30 minutes on "Z" day to open a rapid fire of shrapnel shell from all guns of 52nd Siege Battery on the reverse slopes of the hill in N 16 a, b, and d, with a view to dispersing any supports meeting in that vicinity.

Beginning at plus 4 minutes, 44th Siege Battery will also fire 10 rounds at the PUMPING STATION in N 11 a and the same number into the sunken road in N 16 d - 17 c.

Watchers will be synchronised with this office at about 10 p.m. on the day previous to "X" day and on "X" day at about 7.15 a.m.

Group Commanders will please submit copies of their orders for the operation.

Please acknowledge.

(signed) L. FRASER.  
Brigadier General, R.A.  
Commanding, 1st ANZAC H.A.G.



SECRET.

1st Anzac H.A.  
No 9/140.  
30th Decr 1916.

1st A. &amp; N. Z. A. C.

## HEAVY ARTILLERY ORDER NO 23.

Reference:-  
GUEUDECOURT, 1/10,000 1st Edn.

1. A concentrated bombardment is being carried out from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. on 1st January 1917 on the Right Divisional Front, 1st ANZAC Corps.
2. Heavy Artillery 1st Anzac will carry out the following programme:-  
14th H.A.Group.  
(a) MOONRAY TRENCH from N 29 a 3.7 to its junction with SUNRAY TRENCH in N 22 d 50.58.  
(b) GLEAM TRENCH from its junction with MOONRAY TRENCH in N 22 d 72.22 to N 22 d 58.00.  
(c) SUNRAY TRENCH from its junction with MOONRAY TRENCH in N 22 d 50.58 to N 22 d 30.55.  
(d) METEOR TRENCH from N 29 a 85.95 to its junction with ATOM TRENCH in N 23 c 40.45.  
3rd H.A.GROUP.  
(e) ATOM TRENCH from N 23 c 40.45 to N 22 b 1.5.  
(f) FIRE TRENCH from N 23 a 3.1 to N 22 b 45.53.
3. The Right Divisional Artillery Group is bombarding the above trenches simultaneously with the Heavy Artillery, particularly on the flanks.
4. Counter-battery work will be carried out vigorously from 2 p.m. onwards.  
Separate instructions will be issued by the Counter Battery Staff Officer.
5. Rates of fire:-  
9.2" and 8" How. One round per gun every two minutes.  
6" How. One round per gun every minute and a half.
6. Every effort will be made to obtain air observation in addition to all visual observation ~~possible~~ *available*.
7. Watches will be synchronised with this office at noon, 1st Jan.
8. Please ACKNOWLEDGE.

(signed) C.G.PRITCHARD.  
Lieut, Col. R.A.  
for Brigade Major, 1st Anzac H.A.

Issued at 3 p.m.

Copies to:-

- No 1. R.A. 1st Anzac.
2. 3rd H.A.G.
3. 14th H.A.G.
4. Right Div (2nd)
5. Left Div (1st)
6. 3rd Squadron R.F.C.
7. 13 K.B.S.
8. XIV Corps H.A.
9. File.
10. Spare.



## 1st ANZAC HEAVY ARTILLERY.

GROUP	GROUP COMMANDER	BATTERY	NATURE	B.C.
RIGHT SIEGE GROUP (14th)	Colonel T.R.C.Hudson	✓24 Siege ✓47 Siege ✓88 Siege 191 Siege. 195 Siege	6" How. 8" How. 6" How. 9.2" H. 6" How.	Maj.R.S.Bunbury. Maj.R.V.M.Garry. Maj.H.R.Adams. Capt. H.Holland. Capt.F.D.Field.
LEFT SIEGE GROUP. (3rd)	Lt.Col. R.B.Fife.	✓229 Siege * ✓2 Siege ✓34 Siege ✓67 Siege ✓101 Siege. <del>149</del> Siege	6" How 6" How. 9.2" H. 8" How. 6" How. 6" How.	Capt.J.R.Collins. Maj.H.F.Burke DSO. Maj.J.G.M.B.Cooke. Maj.L.R.E.W.Taylor. Maj.G.E.Smart. Maj.E.H.Casper.
COUNTER- BATTERY. GROUP. (23rd)	Lt.Col. C.G.PRITCHARD.			
HOWITZER C.B.GROUP. (73rd)	Lt.Col. E.F.Corbett.	✓42 Siege ✓51 Siege. ✓78 Siege ✓126 Siege	9.2" H. 6" How. 8" How. 8" How.	Maj.W.N.Budgen. Maj.P.M.Pearce. Maj.Hon.N.A.Hood. Capt.W.M.Wood.
GUN C.B. GROUP. (62nd)	Lt.Col. H.W.Iles.	✓26 Heavy ✓110 Heavy. ✓116 Heavy. ✓125 Heavy. ✓118 Heavy. 1/2 Lances H.	60-pr.(6) 60-pr.(6) 60-pr.(6) 60-pr.(6) 4.7" 4.7"	Maj.R.E.Harman. Maj.A.Creery. Maj.O.R.Swayne DSO Maj.C.F.Liardet. Maj.A.F.B.Fishe. Maj.W.P.McLaughlin
LONG RANGE GROUP. (69th)	Lt.Col. W.F.T.Corrie.	✓44 Siege ✓53 Siege ✓58 Siege.	12" H (Ry) 9.2" Gun 6" MkVII Gun.	Capt.E.B.Morris. Maj.P.L.Spicer. Maj.L.V.Roche.

\* 229 Siege relieved 149 Siege end of December 1916.

10th December 1916.