

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/30/8

Title: Headquarters, 2nd Australian Field
Artillery Brigade

July 1915



AWM4-13/30/8

WAR DIARY

2nd. F. A. Brigade
1st. Division A. I. F.

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Ass. Adj. General
3rd Echelon. M. E. F.
10 AUG. 1915
CENTRAL REGISTRY
No MFC/

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1915. KABA TEPE Judges	July 1		Each battery fired a series at targets ordered in arrangement with an aeroplane observation. The results actually obtained being of small value from information standpoint. The remainder of the day was quiet occasional targets being fired on by 5 th & 8 th Batteries. Lieut. Edwards returned to duty 8 th Battery.	Col. Parker's apdite
		2	An enemy gun in DOMINO Trenches having fired on QUINN'S TRENCHES at very short range the 5 th How. engaged it and though failing direct hits silenced it. Lt. Goodwin's work brought to attention of OC. DA.	
		3	4 th 5 th & 8 th Batteries engaged enemy guns several times during the day. In conjunction with 5 How. 4 th + 5 th Batteries fired on the gun in Turkish trenches annoying QUINN'S POST.	Col. Col.
		4	4 th Battery was subjected to heavy fire by large how. No special firing remarked. A further series fired by 5 th how. at Turkish trench gun also 5 th Battery, no definite result observed. Later a mountain gun 26 th Bty got one shell righting embrasure. From other guns the Turks fired an increased number of rounds, one 6 th how. especially causing damage to CLAYTON'S trenches. All enemy guns were engaged.	Col.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
KABATEPE	July 5		<p>Commencing at day break 04.00 Guns carried on very heavy bombardment from seven positions being located.</p> <p>5th & 8th Batteries were engaged & fired a considerable number of rounds.</p> <p>4th Battery had one gun put out of action</p> <p>5th how. were used.</p> <p>8th Battery 1 killed 3 wounded</p> <p>Attention drawn by OC. Bde. to short supply of ammunition and necessity for greater amount of fire.</p> <p>6. A very quiet day until about 1800 when enemy 6th how. opened on our trenches doing much damage & causing casualties.</p> <p>5th & 8th Batteries endeavoured to silence his gun but having no H.E. could not do much with shrapnel. The fire of 5th how. was recommended.</p> <p>WO. Cameron reported that he had been improperly addressed by Capt Harris</p> <p>Staff Capt. Matter closed after report to OC. Bde.</p> <p>7. A quiet day. 5th & 8th Batteries fired in reply to enemy gun but owing to limitation of ammunition no special steps taken. Making gun put on Ashley Road</p>	<p>Cal.</p> <p>Cal.</p> <p>Cal.</p>

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KABA TEPE	1915 July 8		Another quiet day. Efforts were made during the afternoon to draw enemy fire with some effect.	Col.
	9		Applications for commissions for 29 Dws. were considered. BSM Parker, Sgt. Holgate & BSM Scarlett being recommended. The batteries kept positions under observation and some firing was done by 5 & 8 Batteries. The question of further supply of ammo was considered.	Col.
	10		A very quiet day, no special features - Gun pits on Artillery Road commanding JOHNSTON'S HILL and LONESOME PINE proceeded with	Col.
	11		During the day at intervals searching rounds were fired by 5 & 8 Batteries bringing replies from enemy, jaws almost invariably 'C' and SANDPIT RIDGE. The LOTHIAN 5" how. were used but found very slow, not taking advantage of fleeting opportunities. They were used on 'C' target and usefully bombarded JOHNSTON'S HILL. The means of telephonic communication were brought before D.A.H.Q. & request made for an officer from 5" How. to be constantly at 8 Bty AFA	Col.

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KABA TEPE	1915 11 July		ready to reply at once to "C" TURKS HUMP OR SANDPIT. Also suggested 6" how. should supplement the 5".	Cal.
	12		Brigade fired on enemy trenches to draw fire. 5" & 8" Batteries successfully doing so, and engaging enemy while 5" how. came into action. During the day very heavy fire was sustained, TURKS HUMP SANDPIT SCRUBBY KNOW and MORTAR RIDGE all opening. The damage done to trenches was severe and Bde. HQ. Sphours rendered unfeasible for a time. The 5" & 8" Batteries did effective shooting and the 5" how. placed some satisfactory rounds. A recommendation to place a 5" Bty. gun on PLUGGERS PLATEAU was made to G.A.H.Q.	Cal.
	13		The 6" how. did not assist with fire on SCRUBBY KNOW where guns were still unlocated. A further very heavy shelling experienced from same positions as yesterday. 4, 5 & 8" Batteries engaged and several times temporarily caused them to cease fire and 5" how. usefully answered.	Cal.

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KABA TEPE	14/5 14.		<p>The benches were damaged and casualties considerable. O.C. recommended more energetic policy and less restriction in ammunition supply, and submitted a scheme of concentrated fire from all batteries. Also suggested aeroplane reconnaissance.</p> <p>A quiet day. "C" opened and concentrated fire stopped it at once. SANDRIT RIDGE was silenced by 5" + 8" Batteries assisted by 5" how. The enemy 6" how. fired but had no appreciable effect. The difficulty of locating his gun was again pointed out.</p> <p>Attention drawn to faulty ammunition, shells breaking up in the bore. A fair amount of firing from concealed guns was experienced. 7.5^{mm} 15^{mm}. 12^{mm}. and a 16" how. opened on us. The 5" how. Bty. was prompt in reply and with 5" + 8" Btys. caused the enemy to cease fire quickly. An arrangement was made to better attract fire off our Infantry benches onto our guns by firing directly on the Turkish benches instead of searching for their guns.</p>	<p>Col.</p> <p>Col.</p> <p>Col.</p>

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KABA TEPE	1915 July 16		<p>Enemy fire was particularly violent fire being maintained at frequent intervals. "C" fired and was engaged by all 4, 5 & 8 Btys. most effectively, being silenced for the remainder of the day.</p> <p>The 6" How. at TURKS HUMP fired 19 rds. but was engaged so promptly that the usual precision was lacking and shooting erratic. The 75^{mm} opened and were quickly engaged by 5" & 8" Batteries. SCRUBBY KNOWL was engaged but the O.C. Bde. again made representations for further gun power to engage this position. The 8" Battery was registered on the 75^{mm} gun position from N.E. lines by adpt. no. notification having been sent by NZ. Atty. that they had observed this position.</p> <p>5" how. rendered valuable assistance. "C" did not fire and the result of day's work showed the Brigade had established a control over enemy artillery.</p> <p>17 Enemy fire much less energetic though one detachment of 8" Battery was hit 2 killed one wounded. "C" group still silent.</p>	<p>Col.</p> <p>Col.</p>

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KABA TEPE	1915 July 7		<p>Recommendations made that NZ arty. be asked to co-operate in observing fire from Brigade on concealed guns behind TURKS HUMP and also to engage them.</p> <p>Suggested our 6" How. should register SCRUBBY KNOW. Assistance requested by Infy. for fire on machine guns and suggestion made for co-operation with Bde. 700's.</p> <p>18 Turks fired a large number of rounds widely distributed apparently searching for 5" Batteries. One 8" gun landing a good many shells very close but doing no damage. The 75 "fm 16" how. was very severe, destroying one of Bde. 700's stations and nearly bumping Lt. Goodwin & his telephonist. Lt. pointed out difficulty of obtaining effect without HE shell and again asked for increased gun power to engage SCRUBBY KNOW.</p> <p>19 Very quiet until 16.30 when heavy firing opened from SANDPIT and TURKS HUMP. Area fired on was widely distributed. The Brigade maintained a vigorous reply assisted by 5" how.</p>	<p>Col.</p> <p>Col.</p> <p>Col.</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
KABA TEPE	July 20		<p>SANDPIT guns opened on Inf. trenches with effect but was caused to cease fire by 8 Batteries. MORTAR RIDGE opened but not engaged by NZ artilly. though advised by Bde. CO.</p> <p>An aeroplane series was fired by How. Batteries. after which SANDPIT again opened and were engaged by 8 Bty. 4 & 5 Batteries opened on enemy trenches and enemy gun ceased fire.</p> <p>21</p> <p>Owing to newly arrived How. Brigade registering most of the day the 2nd FA Bde. avoided firing to facilitate observation. Most of the enemy guns opened at intervals but the firing was not intense and day comparatively quiet.</p> <p>"C" has never opened since 16th inst. so presumably was either put out of action or removed. This battery had fired more rounds and more regularly for ten weeks than any other Turkish guns.</p> <p>22</p> <p>Owing to newly arrived Howitzer Batteries registering target no firing was done by this Brigade. Enemy's artillery was very quiet today.</p> <p>No. 1314 Cpl. of Hutchinson Bde was wounded while on beach today.</p>	<p>Col.</p> <p>Col.</p> <p>Col.</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
KABA TEPE	23/7/15		<p>Another comparatively quiet day, no firing done by Brigade to facilitate Howitzer registration of targets. A concealed 75 mm gun from the direction of SANDPIT fired about 30 rounds at intervals during the day. An unlocated gun somewhere EAST of JOHNSTON'S SLOPE fired two series of about 10 rounds each, doing considerable damage to parapets of firing trenches. A trench mortar located east of MORTAR RIDGE fired with considerable effect. It placed one bomb at between 600 & 700 yds. range into a machine gun emplacement blowing two men to pieces.</p> <p>Bde. remained in observation all day and the few targets which presented themselves were engaged by some of the Howitzer Batteries. A trench mortar from behind MORTAR RIDGE did a considerable amount of damage and although our Howitzer batteries fired at it they were unable to stop it. Two guns on MORTAR RIDGE fired but our howitzers were unable to get any direct hits. Three or four concealed guns, which we have been unable to locate fired</p>	<p>Cal.</p> <p>Cal.</p>
	24/7/15			

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Angae	24/7/15		several bursts during the day. no. 1096 G. J. Patterson, ^{5th Bty.} was wounded today.	C.I.
	25/7/15		Bde. again remained in observation. Positions of some of the enemy's guns cannot be located and Hd. Qr. Div. Art. were requested to obtain information from our extreme left who should be able to supply some information. The trench mortar EAST of MORTAR RIDGE again caused considerable damage.	C.I.
	26/7/15		Bde. remained in observation all day. Today was a comparatively quiet day. Unlocated 75 ^{mm} guns fired about 15 rds. 6" Howitzer from a position behind BATTLESHIP Hill fired 12 rds. and the trench mortar behind MORTAR RIDGE fired 5 rds. The following casualties occurred today:- no. 861 B. K. Turner 4 th Bty. wounded no. 4012 G. Lea C.I. att to Hd. Qr. Killed no. 2911 - headw. of Hd. Qr. Wounded. no. 4019 D. Langford R.I. att to Hd. Qr. Wounded.	C.I.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Anzac	27/7/15		Bde. remained in observation all day. Between 1800 and 1900 fire was received from TURKS HUMP howitzer, an unlocated howitzer from direction of BATTLESHIP HILL; a heavy mortar from EAST of MORTAR RIDGE and a new howitzer firing from somewhere EAST of the JOLT. Considerable damage was done. These guns were engaged by our howitzers, who, although they kept fire down did not succeed in silencing enemy.	Col.
	28/7/15		Bde. remained in observation all day. The unlocated howitzer - one from direction BATTLESHIP HILL and the other near SCRUBBY KNOW continue to do an immense amount of damage.	Col.
	29/7/15		Bde. remained in observation all day. Today was very quiet. The enemy doing very little firing.	Col.
	30/7/15		Bde. remained in observation all day. Enemy fired very little today and were well kept in hand by our howitzer batteries. at 1/30. a Taube flew over and dropped two bombs but no damage was done.	Col.

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5.12

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Anzac	31/7/15		<p>Day was comparatively quiet. Very little firing was done by the enemy. At 0712 a hostile aeroplane flew over and dropped three bombs, two falling into SHRAPNEL VALLEY. An Infantry observer reported that he had seen 40 mules or horses dragging a gun in MULE TRACK. This target was fired at by 1st Battery and was registered by B Battery by Bde. RFA</p>	<p>Enl.</p>