

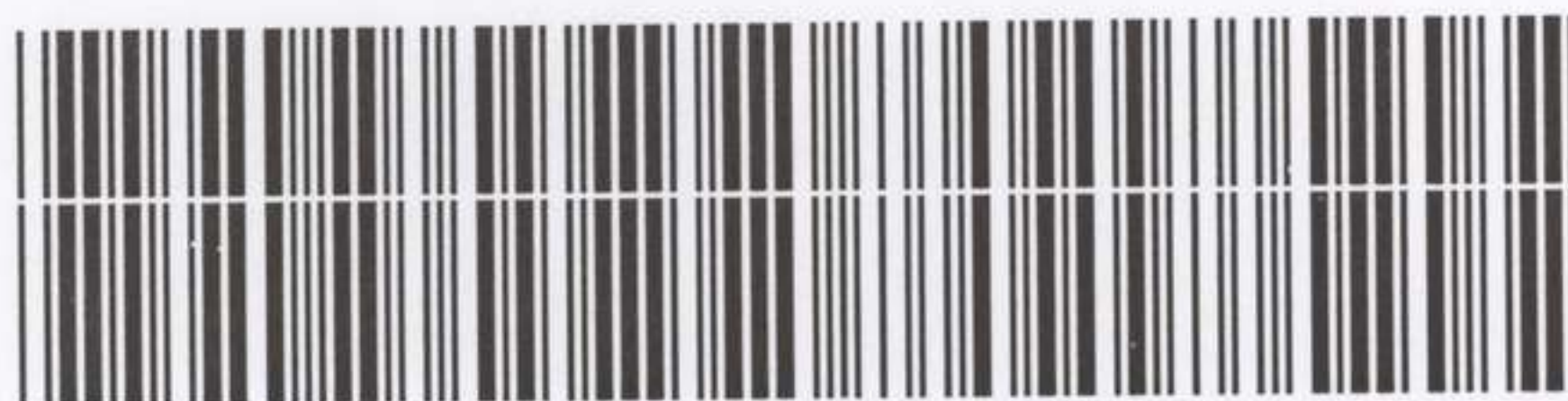
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Artillery

Item number: 13/29/45

Title: Headquarters, 1st Australian Field
Artillery Brigade

August 1918



AWM4-13/29/45

CONFIDENTIAL.

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TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE, A.I.F.

FOR

month of AUGUST, 1918.



R. M. Thomson

Signature of Officer compiling *Captain.*
Adjutant 1st. A.F.A. Brigade.

R. M. Thomson

Signature of Officer Commanding *Lt.-Colonel.*
G. O. 1st. A.F.A. Brigade.

(Erase heading not required.)

1st 17 F A Bde
August 1918

Summary of Events and Information

D. D. & E., London E.C.
(19349) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 3/18 E 688 Forms/62115/16

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918.			<u>SHEET</u>
	Aug.	7th.	1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade came under command of Right Group, 2nd. Aust. Div. Arty. for forthcoming operation by Australian and Canadian Corps.	62.D.
		8th.	4.20 a.m. 1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade took part in the attack by Australian and Canadian Corps. Battle positions of Batteries were as follows :- B. H. Q. 0.19.D.50.80. 1st. Battery 0.36.C.40.80. 2nd. " 0.36.B.16.18. 3rd. " 0.36.B.02.15. 101st. " 0.36.B.42.32.	1/4000
		5.30 a.m.	3rd. Battery report two casualties up to date, and the 101st. Battery one casualty. All wounds were slight.	
		7.00 a.m.	Lieut. O.C. ZEHNDER and Lieut. C.J. GATES sent forward as mounted Officer patrols to gain touch with our Artillery which has advanced, and to reconnoitre roads etc. which will be used to advance over, and to report upon their condition. Lieut. R.R. MURRAY. M.M. is acting as Forward Observing Officer with advancing Infantry.	
		10.30 a.m.	Message received from Lieut. ZEHNDER that he is now on road between WARFUSEE - ABANCOURT and BAYONVILLERS. Tracks and roads are good condition and water is available in both villages.	
		10.40 a.m.	Message received from Lieut. Zehnder that 12th. Army. Brigade, Aust. Field Arty. are crossing road in Square Q.33. North of BAYONVILLERS.	
		12.30 p.m.	Message received from Lieut. GATES as follows :- "Defensive Artillery in gully running through P.11. and P.17. Offensive Artillery moved forward early, have not yet located them. All roads from VILLERS BRETTONEUX - MARCELCAVE - WARFUSEE - ABANCOURT and HAMEL are passable."	
		1.20 p.m.	Message received from Lieut. ZEHNDER as follows :- "13th. Brigade - defensive Artillery are operating in Q.32. English Artillery between Q.35. and W.16." From 8.20 a.m. to-day 1st. A. F. A. Brigade came under control of C.R.A., 1st. Aust. Division, and forms part of Corps Mobile Reserve Artillery.	
		9th.	4.00 a.m. Orders received from 1st. Aust. Div. Arty. H.Q. for Brigade to advance and come into action in Squares W.4. and W.10. just West of HARBONNIERES.	

D. D. & L., London E.C.
(10340) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 3/18 E 688 Forms/C2118/16

Adjutant. 1st. F.A. Brigade.
Captain.

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will be prepared in manuscript.				Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Place	Date	Hour			
	1918.				SHEET.
	Aug.	9th.	6.30 a.m. C.O. and B.C's. went forward to reconnoitre Battery positions. 7.00 a.m. Brigade moved from positions at VILLERS BRETONNEUX and were ready for action at 10.30 a.m. B.H.Q. established at GUILLAUCOURT, W.15.A. 10.00 a.m. Lieut. F.F. DRAKE, Forward Observation Officer reported that he was then in old German line and our Infantry had gone on forward. Tanks have dealt successfully with enemy machine guns. 3.15 p.m. Lieut. L.F. IRWIN, 2nd. Battery Forward Observing Officer, reports front line now approximately X.9.Central to X.28.Central. 4.00 p.m. 1st. A.F.A. Brigade H.Q. established at W.16.D.50.20. 5.45 p.m. Lieut. IRWIN reports that we have reached RED LINE in places, opposition very strong. Artillery fire urgently required beyond RED LINE. 101st. Battery instructed to fire at a steady rate on to Central Grid line in X.29. extending South for 250 yards and searching back. 2nd. Battery ordered to fire on same co-ordinates at with 40 rounds per gun. 1st. Battery ordered to fire East from Central Grid line in F.29.D. 30 rds. per gun. 6.05 p.m. Message received from Lieut. IRWIN reads; "Huns are massing in CREPY WOOD, X.30.A. and are moving forward to trenches on West side of wood. Trenches in X.23.B. are heavily held. Enemy guns on True Bearing 108° firing from X.23.B. Six inch How. requested to fire on CREPY WOOD." 6.20 p.m. Major J. W. SEXTON, 101st. Battery, reports; "Huns are now retiring in disorder and enemy guns near the front line have ceased firing." 6.30 p.m. All Batteries ordered to move forward and occupy new positions in X.19., X.25. and X.27. 10.00 p.m. Batteries ready for action in positions as follows :- 1st. Battery X.19.C.80.70. 2nd. " X.19.D.20.40. 3rd. " X.19.C.50.70. 101st. " X.25.B.55.45.		62. D. 1/40000.
	10th.	8.00 a.m.	All Batteries took part in operation at 8 a.m. in support of 2nd. Aust. Inf. Brigade, by which new front line was established in front of LIHONS. B.H.Q. moved to X.26.D.40.50.		
D. D. & L., London E.C. (10340) W1 W3300/P713 750,000 3/18 E 688 Forms/C2118/16					Captain. Adjutant. 1st. F.A. Brigade.

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Army Form C. 2118.

12

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918.			SHEET.
	Aug.	10th	12.00 noon 1st. Battery moved to X.27.c.00.50; 2nd. Battery to X.27.c.40.50; 3rd. Battery to X.28.c.00.00 and 101st. Battery to X.27.c.50.00.	62. D.
		6.15 p.m.	101st. Battery ordered to concentrate 5 Hows. on to cross roads at A.1.d.10.10 where nests of M.G.'s. are holding up our Infantry. Expenditure 8 rounds per gun and How.	1/40000
		6.45 p.m.	C. R. A. advised of position.	
		5.15 p.m.	Lieut. C.P.GAME, Batt. Liaison Officer, reports front line being shelled. Front line now runs F.7.c.4.0. to F.7.c.7.4. to F.6.c.7.6. to F.6.a.8.0. Canadian Line from F.6.c.4.0. to A.8.a.0.4.	
		7.15 p.m.	3rd. Battery ordered to fire 20 rds. on to cross roads in A.7.c.10.10. using all H.E.	
		11th.	4.00 a.m. Opened fire again, attack renewed for BLUE LINE.	
		6.45 a.m.	Lieut. O. C. ZEHNDER, F.O.O., (X.26), requests that protective barrage be put down again as Infantry have not yet reached BLUE LINE.	
		7.00 a.m.	Opened fire at slow rate - 1 rd. p.g.p.m.	
			Locations of 1st. A.F. A. Brigade :-	
			B. H. Q. X.26.d.40.50. (In Foundry). Wagon lines W.16.d.40.50.	
			1st. Battery. X.28.d.42.38. Wagon lines W.17.b.60.40.	
			2nd. Battery. X.27.c.50.50. " " W.10.d.80.60.	
			3rd. Battery. F.3.b.50.50. " " W.24.b.70.60.	
			101st. Battery. F.3.b.80.40. (2 Hows). " " X.25.b.50.30.	
			do. F.4.b.00.25. (4 Hows).	
		5.00 p.m.	Protective fire put down on S.O.S. Lines at slow rate - 1 rd. p.g.p.m. 3rd. Battery reports casualties from "booby trap" (Enemy telephone instrument).	
		12th.	2nd. Aust. Inf. Bde. relieved by 1st. A. I. Bde. at W.26.b.central.	
		11.00 a.m.	C. R. A. visited Bde. H.Q.	
		13th.	12.10 a.m. Message received from D.A.H.Q. that Bosch are massed in considerable force in trenches on east side of LIHONS.	
			3rd. Battery ordered to fire 30 rds. per gun on enemy trenches in A.10.c & d.	

W. H. Thomson

Captain

Adjutant. 1st. F.A. Brigade.

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	1918.			SHEETS.
	Aug.	13th.	12.10 a.m. 1st. Battery, 2nd. Battery and 101st. Battery ordered to fire 30 rds. per 18-pdr. and 20 rds. 4.5" Hows. per gun and How. on to enemy trenches in A.4. and 10 as detailed in schemes B. and C. of Operation Order No. 11.	62 d. 1/40000
		5.20 p.m.	For 1 hour ROSIERES was shelled by hostile 5.9" H.V. gun - about 30 rds. fell causing very little damage, but several men were slightly wounded.	
		9.30 p.m.	2nd. and 3rd. Batteries ordered forward and occupied battle positions as follows : 2nd. Battery F.6.c.20.85. 3rd. Battery F.6.c.20.95.	
			During the night enemy artillery fire was considerably above normal. Roads and villages behind our lines being subjected to very heavy fire.	
	14th.	11.30 a.m.	Enemy 5.9" Hows shelled X.26.d. from direction of CHAULNES. 40 rds. fired and small fire started in R.E. Dump, ROSIERES.	
	15th.	5.00 p.m.	Locations Received orders from 1st. AUST. DIV. ARTY. H.Q. to withdraw to wagon lines preparatory to marching to FOUILLOY (Corps Reserve) at 5.00 a.m.	
			16/8/18. Ammunition to be handed over to 4th. Aust. Div. Arty.	
		8.00 p.m.	B.H.Q. and Batteries withdrew to wagon lines.	
	16th.	5.00 a.m.	Brigade marched via GUILLAUCOURT - BAYONVILLERS - WARFUSEE - ABANCOURT + FOUILLOY to AUBIGNY and bivouaced.	
	17th.)		Brigade remained in camp at AUBIGNY.	
	18th.)		Divisional Artillery swimming sports took place.	
	19th.)		Brigade received orders to go forward and occupy Wagon Lines in "C" Divisional Area prior to going into the line.	
	20th.		Brigade and Battery Commanders went forward to reconnoitre Battery positions to be occupied in the line.	
		8.00 a.m.	The Brigade marched via FOUILLOY to Wagon Lines previously reconnoitred as follows:-	
		8.00 p.m.	B. H. Q. Q.21.D.00.30. 2nd. Battery Q.14.D.20.50. 1st. Battery Q.21.C.70.30. 3rd. Battery Q.14.D.40.70. 101st. Battery P.24.B.70.90.	
			During the night 20th/21st. ammunition was placed at Battery positions.	
	21st.		Batteries prepared gun pits and ammunition shelters ready for occupation on the night 21st/22nd. Batteries moved guns into action at following locations :-	
				Captain. <i>[Signature]</i> Adjutant. 1st. F.A. Brigade.

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	1918.			SHEET.
	Aug.	21st.	<p>1st. Battery R.19.C.20.05. 2nd. Battery R.19.A.21.83.</p> <p>3rd. Battery R.13.C.00.00. 101st. Battery Q.24.A.92.12.</p> <p>B. H. Q. located at Q.23.C.60.80.</p> <p>1st. Battery position was heavily shelled during the day, resulting in Capt. W.S. LAIDLEY being badly wounded and two gunners killed. 1st. Battery position was then re-established at Q.30.D.40.95. and guns were moved into this latter position during the night 21st/22nd.</p> <p>The Brigade came under command of 1st. Aust. Div. Arty. H.Q. forming part of Left Sub-Group under Lieut-Colonel D. H. MOORE. D.S.O., C.O., 2nd. A. F. A. Brigade, this Sub-Group again forming part of Right Group, under Lieut-Colonel H.W. LLOYD. C.M.G., D.S.O., C.O., 12th. Aust. Army Brigade, A.F.A.</p> <p>No firing to be done prior to attack by Australian Corps on 23rd. August</p>	62.D.
		22nd.	<p>All Batteries now established in their positions.</p> <p>Capt. W.S.LAIDLEY now reported to have died of wounds at Casualty Clearing Station and buried at DOURS to-day.</p>	1/40000.
		23rd.	<p>4.45 a.m. All Batteries took part in attack by Australian Corps on the enemy territory from the river SOMME to the main VILLERS BRETONNEUX road.</p> <p>5.30 a.m. Lieut. L.F. IRWIN., F.O.O. reports enemy artillery retaliation slight.</p> <p>7.30 a.m. 101st. How. Battery moved forward.</p> <p>8.30 a.m. O.C. 101st. How. Battery reports Battery in action at R.21.D.20.20. at 8 a.m.</p> <p>8.35 a.m. 12 enemy 'planes overhead in Q.24. flying low, and dropping bombs and using machine guns, on roads, etc.</p> <p>8.45 a.m. 1st. Battery on the move to R.21.D.25.70.</p> <p>9.45 a.m. O.C. 3rd. Battery reports forward position selected at R.26.B.90.85.</p> <p>10.15 a.m. 3rd. Battery moved forward. 1st. Battery now in action.</p> <p>11.15 a.m. O.C. 3rd. Battery reports in action at new position.</p> <p>12 noon B.H.Q. moved forward to Headquarters selected at Q.24.D.20.50.</p> <p>2.00 p.m. 3rd. Battery ordered to fire 20 rounds per gun on CUISINE WOOD, M.15.D. and M.21.A. and B.</p> <p>2.30 p.m. Battalion Liaison Officer reports much enemy movement in M.26.C.50.60. to 90.90. 2nd. Battery ordered to fire 30 rounds per gun on to area East of N. and S. Grid. Line running through M.26.A.40.00. to M.26.C.40.00. to Central N. and S. Grid through M.26. 3rd. Battery ordered to fire similar amount on same target.</p>	

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	1918.			SHEET.
	Aug.		1st. ordered to fire 20 rounds per gun on to the same target. Battery locations are as follows :- 1st. Battery R.21.D.21.68. 2nd. Battery R.19.A.21.83. 3rd. " R.26.B.90.85. 101st. " R.21.D.20.20.	62.D. 1/40000.
		6.00 p.m.	1st. Battery report four casualties to-day, 3 men wounded and 1 gassed. 101st. Battery ordered to fire 40 rounds on enemy 77 mm. Battery firing from M.26.B.80.10.	
	24th.	1.00 a.m. to 5.00 a.m.	Batteries ordered to put down harassing fire on likely targets in M.26.D. and M.27.A. C. and D.:- 1st. Battery 1 a.m. to 2 a.m. 2nd. Battery 2 a.m. to 3 a.m. 3rd. " 3 a.m. to 4 a.m. 101st. " 4 a.m. to 5 a.m. 100 rounds per Battery to be expended.	
		9.45 p.m.	2nd. Battery moved forward and came into action at R.14.B.45.50. From 8 p.m. to-day 1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade comes under Centre Group Headquarters, commanded by Liet-Colonel ARCHDALE. D.S.O., C.O., 16th. Brigade, R.H.A.	
	25th.	1.35 p.m.	101st. Battery ordered to fire 30 rounds on to enemy Battery at M.9.D.9.7. in response to "N.F." call from the air.	
		4.05 p.m.	101st. Battery fired 20 rounds on to T.M. firing from M.8.D.4.9. at request of Infantry.	
		6.20 p.m.	101st. Battery fired 30 rounds on to above target, increasing range in 25 yards lifts to 100 yards. This at request of B.M. 1st. Aust. Infantry Brigade.	
		6.45 p.m.	2nd. and 3rd. Batteries ordered to fire irregular bursts on to T.M. and Trench at M.8.D.4.9. 101st. Battery ordered to repeat adding 50 yards.	
		10.00 p.m.	Group Commander ordered one Section of Hows. to be on M.8.D.4.9. as S.O.S. point and to include it in harassing fire.	
	26th.	5.15 a.m.	Group Commander orders cease fire on M.8.D.4.9. and 101st. Hows. to fire 20 rounds on to PYLONE WOOD.	
		3.05 p.m.	At request of 1st. Aust. Inf. Bde. Batteries ordered to engage following areas :- 2nd. Battery, M.15.D.40.80. to Eastern extremity of CUISINE WOOD then Lift East to TOUFEN WOOD, 30 rounds per gun on each target. 3rd. Battery, M.21.A.70.40. to Southern Grid of Square M.15. then lift to Wood in M.22.A. and B. 300 rounds per gun on each target.	

R. H. Thomson
Captain.
Adjutant. 1st. F.A. Brigade.

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	1918.											
	Aug.		<p>101st. Battery on CUISINE WOOD and TOUFEN WOOD, 25 rounds per How. to be expended on each target.</p> <p>1st. Battery on CUISINE WOOD from Southern Grid of M.15.D. to M.15.D.40.80., 30 rounds per gun. Then lift to TOUFEN WOOD between Southern Grid of M.16.C. and M.16.C.40.80. 30 rounds per gun.</p> <p>4.56 p.m. 101st. Battery fired 30 rounds in response to an "N.F." call on M.16.C.8.5.</p> <p>7.00 p.m. 2nd. Battery moved to new position at R.16.D.10.20.</p> <p>1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade is now under Right Group, commanded by Lieut-Col. H. W. LLOYD. D.S.O.</p> <p>5th. Aust. Div. Arty. Headquarters relieved 1st. Aust. Div. Arty. Headquarters.</p> <p>27th. 1.00 p.m. All Batteries fired concentrated shoot on area as follows :-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Southern Boundary - M.26.C.00.80.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Northern Boundary - M.26.A.00.80.</p> <p>Starting line N. and S. Grid in M.26. searching back to Central N. and S. Grid in M.33. Zero hour 1 p.m. Five minutes at 2 rounds per gun per minute, five minutes silent period, five minutes 2 rounds per gun per minute, ten minutes silent period, three minutes intense fire, then STOP.</p> <p>28th. During the night 2nd. Battery fired 300 rounds and 101st. Battery 150 rounds on harassing fire in M.23. Brigade received orders to advance during the day, and to take up positions as "advanced guard artillery." C.O. and Battery Commanders went forward at 8.30 a.m. and selected following positions :-</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>1st. Battery</td> <td>M.29.C.95.90.</td> <td>2nd. Battery</td> <td>M.29.C.70.60.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3rd. "</td> <td>M.29.B.05.10.</td> <td>101st. "</td> <td>M.29.B.00.60.</td> </tr> </table> <p>Batteries were in action as follows:-</p> <p>101st. Battery 2 p.m., 1st. Battery 2.30 p.m., 2nd. and 3rd. Batteries at 3. p.m. B.H.Q. established Headquarters at M.30.A.Central.</p> <p>C.O. got into touch with Headquarters 30th. Battalion at M.25.C.00.60. Battalion line runs N.19.C.00.80. along trench S.E. to N.25.D.9.0. to N.32.A.20.70.</p> <p>4.00 p.m. Liaison established with 31st. Battalion in M.30.D.Central. This Battalion is continuing the attack and two Artillery F.O.O's were sent forward to accompany Infantry in the attack. (Lieut. J.L.G. JOHNSTONE and Lieut. H.R. BEER)</p> <p>Infantry reports no targets available and for the present artillery support not required.</p>	1st. Battery	M.29.C.95.90.	2nd. Battery	M.29.C.70.60.	3rd. "	M.29.B.05.10.	101st. "	M.29.B.00.60.	<p>SHEET.</p> <p>62.D. 1/40000.</p>
1st. Battery	M.29.C.95.90.	2nd. Battery	M.29.C.70.60.									
3rd. "	M.29.B.05.10.	101st. "	M.29.B.00.60.									

A. H. Thomson Captain.
Adjutant, 1st. F.A. Brigade.

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	Aug.			
		7.15 p.m.	Major J.W. SEXTON, O.C. 101st. How. Battery, seriously wounded by shell splinters. Lieut. F.F. DRAKE appointed to take charge of 101st. How. Battery on evacuation of Major Sexton. 101st. Battery ordered to fire 5 rounds per How. on to roads in N.27.B. 2nd. Battery ordered to open fire with 10 rounds per gun searching Northern half of N.27.B. 3rd. Battery ordered to fire 10 rounds per gun searching Southern half of N.27.B. 1st. Battery ordered on to same target as 3rd. Battery. Wagon Lines have been established as follows :- B. H. Q. M.27.A.30.80. 1st. Battery M.25.D.10.50. 2nd. Battery R.11.C.90.10. 3rd. Battery M.26.C.50.70. 101st. Battery M.15.D.80.80.	62.D. 1/40000.
		10.10. p.m.	101st. Battery ordered to fire 10 rounds per How., at rate of 1 round p.h.p.m., on to Wood in N.21.D. at request of 31st. Battalion. 2nd. Battery ordered to fire 20 rounds per gun on to same target. 1st. Battery ordered to fire 15 rounds per gun, time shrapnel, into RAEBONE COPSE, N.21.B. 3rd. Battery ordered to fire 10 rounds per gun on Wood in Southern half of N.15.D.	
		10.20 p.m.	101st. Battery ordered to fire further 20 rounds on to Wood in N.21.D. at request of Infantry.	
		10.30 p.m.	Line of outposts now runs - N.27.A.5.5. - N.27.D.7.9. - N.27.D.7.4. - N.33.B.9.9. - N.33.B.9.4. - N.33.B.0.7. Brigade S.O.S. Line for the night given on line 400 yards East of above. 31st. Battalion report they are in touch with 32nd. Battalion on the Left, and on the Right with Imperial Division at N.33.C.5.6.	
	29th.	4.00 a.m.	Barrage arranged to start 700 yards East of above line at 4.30 a.m. as follows :- 18-Pdrs. On start line for 2 minutes, then lift East 200 yards every 2 minutes to a depth of 2000 yards. Rate of fire 2 rds. p.g.p.m. 4.5" Hows. 200 yards plus of 18-Pdr. Barrage. Rate of fire 1 rd. p.h.p.m. Barrage fired in support of Infantry advance.	
		7.00 a.m.	2nd. and 101st. Batteries ordered to occupy positions in N.28. or 29. at once. 1st. and 3rd. Batteries to follow on completion. All Battery Commanders went forward to make a reconnaissance.	

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	Aug.			
		7.15 a.m.	Message received from F.O.O.- "Our line now runs approximately N.24. to N.30 - 36. Infantry about to advance through VILLERS CARBONNELS	62.D.
		9.40 a.m.	Message received from 31st. Battalion Headquarters reads, "Line now runs O.26.C.8.4. 0.32.A.6.3. Right flank is not yet in touch. VILLERS CARBONNEL being shelled from direction LE MESNIL BRUNTEL.	1/40000.
		10.15 a.m.	1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade Headquarters N.30.D.9.6. Batteries came into action as follows :- 101st. Battery N.35.B.9.4. at 11.45 a.m. 3rd. Battery at N.29.B.2.2. at 1 p.m. 2nd. Battery N.29.C.00.50. at 1 p.m. 1st. Battery N.29.B.3.3. at 1 p.m. 101st. Battery instructed to engage enemy Battery in O.22.A.9.9., silencing same effectively.	
		11.06 a.m.	31st. Battalion Headquarters report enemy Battery in action at O.22.D.0.0.	
		11.30 a.m.	Infantry ask for fire on to BRIE, O.27. and the Eastern exits for one hour. Orders given to the 101st. and 2nd. Batteries to carry this out, 101st. Battery to fire 60 rounds and 2nd. Battery 100 rounds, fire to be intermittent.	
		1.30 p.m.	C.O. interviewed G.O.C., 15th. Australian Infantry Brigade in trench system O.31.B.4.0., and from notes of his intentions to force bridgehead, sent same to Right Group C.O. by runner. Relief of the 8th. Aust. Inf. Bde. by the 15th. Aust. Inf. Bde. for purpose of the attack was ordered for 5.30 p.m. In view of this 18-Pdr. Batteries were ordered to dump 300 rounds per gun and 4.5" Hows. 200 rounds per How.	
		3.00 p.m.	Infantry advised that no further shooting is to be done on to BRIE, the line being then established from O.26.B.1.0. along the canal bank N.E. of the Eastern edge of ETERPIGNY. Heavy casualties were caused the infantry in this advance from concealed machine gun fire in river bed. Bridges at O.26.D. and O.32.B. blown up by the enemy. Enemy trench systems from LE MESNIL in O.17. Central to O.33. were heavily manned but afforded no opportunities for field guns. The ridge to the East of LE MESNIL and also ATHIES WOOD contained heavy guns which were out of reach of our field guns.	
		5.00 p.m.	M G.O Right Group advised that 1st. A. F. A. Brigade would probably withdraw during the night. March orders received from 1st. Div. Arty.	
		5.30 p.m.	Relief of the 8th. Infantry Brigade by the 15th. Inf. Bde. cancelled, although the	

D. D. & L., London E.C.
(10340) Wt W5300/P715 750,000 3/18 E 688 Forms/C2118/16

10
Adjutant, 1st. F.A. Brigade

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
	1918.			SHEET.
	Aug.		relief was then in progress and partially completed. Projected attack indefinitely postponed.	1/40000.
		9.00 p.m.	Orders received from Right Group Headquarters to withdraw to Wagon Lines and orders for the following days march were issued to Batteries.	
			From 10 p.m. until 3 a.m. following morning Batteries were occupied in withdrawing to Wagon Lines in vicinity of N.26.	
30th.		6.30 a.m.	Brigade marched via FOUCAUCOURT - MORGOURT and GERISY to SAILLY LAURETTE area and bivouacked by 11 a.m.	
31st.			Lieut. Colonel E.T. DEAN. D.S.O., resumed command of 1st. A. F. A. Brigade and Major (Temp. Lieut-Col.) J.C. SELMES. D.S.O., relinquished temporary command of Brigade and marched out to 1st. Aust. D.A.C.	
			<u>SUMMARY.</u>	
			<u>EVACUATIONS.</u> Casualties:- 1 Officer died of wounds. To Hospital Sick.	
			4 Other Ranks killed in action.	
			2 " " died of wounds. 51 O/R.	
			1 Officer wounded.	
			34 Other Ranks wounded. Returned to Australia	
			Total 42. on transport duty, 7 O/R.	
			<u>REINFORCEMENTS.</u> 52 O/R taken on strength from Base Details, all men with previous service.	
			2 Officers and 11 O/R rejoined from hospital.	
			<u>CASUALTIES to HORSES :-</u> 31 killed in action, 12 wounded and 5 evacuated for other reasons.	
			<u>REMOUNTS :-</u> 25 horses taken on strength from Remount Depot.	
			<u>TOTAL BRIGADE STRENGTH 31.8.18.</u>	
			Offs. 32. O/R 815.	
			Horses and mules 620.	
			<i>R. H. Thompson</i> Captain	
			Adjutant, 1st. F.A. Brigade.	

WAR DIARY

APPENDIX

12

OF

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY
B R I G A D E.

FOR

month of AUGUST, 1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.		
I.	Operation Orders	-	Nos. 1 - 11 (Series A)
II.	Instruction	-	No. 1. do.
III.	Operation Orders	-	Nos. 1 - 8 (Series B)
IV.	Instruction xx	-	No. 1. do.

NOTE :- Above appendices attached to ORIGINAL copy of diary.

*Es. Jean
20.6.18*

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

OPERATION ORDER NO. 1.

(SERIES 'A')

By Major J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.

Headquarters,
7th. August, 1918.Reference Maps: 62 D. S.E. & S.W. 1/20000.

1. 2nd. Aust. Div. Arty. Instructions No. 15, 16 and 17 have been issued to all Batteries.
2. INTENTION, etc.:- Special attention is drawn to paras 1, 2, 3, 5, and 7 of 2nd. Aust. Div. Arty. Instruction No. 15.
3. 10 1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade will detail for F.O.O's. party to report to Right Group H.Q., one Officer, one signaller, and two O/R with D III telephone and one Lucas lamp. They will report to Right Group, O.28.C. 50.40., at 4 p.m. on 7th. August.
Special attention is directed to S.S. 191 Intercommunication in the Field, paras 8 and 9.
4. (a) OCCUPATION of POSITIONS :- In accordance with 2nd. Aust. Div. Arty. Order No. 142, Batteries will occupy positions on night 6th/7th. August. There will be no fire from these positions nor will S.O.S. be answered, except upon the order from Group H.Q.
(b) Every precaution must be taken to screen all movement during the hours of daylight, so that the enemy may not see any abnormality of movement.
5. (a) All Batteries will wire "BYRON" on reaching Battle Positions with their guns.
(b) By 10 p.m. on the night 7th. August all Batteries will have their guns on their actual fighting platform ready to open fire, and upon completion will wire code word "JERRY"
6. ~~AMMUNITION~~ Ammunition has been dumped at Battle Positions in the proportion of 600 rounds per 18-Pdr. gun and 500 rounds per 4.5" How., and in addition 40 rounds of Smoke shell per 18-Pdr. and 4.5" How.
7. COMMUNICATION :- A forward exchange has been established by Brigade Signal Officer at O.36.B.60.05.
8. LIGHT SIGNALS :- See Para 6 of 2nd. Aust. Div. Arty. Instruction No. 16.
9. (a) Barrage maps have been issued to all Batteries and Brigade Zone is allotted as follows :-

Lane "A"	-	2nd. Battery.
Lane "B"	-	1st. Battery.

(b) 3rd. Battery is superimposed over Lanes "A" and "B".
(c) 101st. How. Battery is superimposed over 1st. A.F.A. Brigade and 298th. Brigade R.F.A., combined Zones.
(d) Starting line is as shown on maps for 18-Pdrs.
(e) 4.5" Hows. will be 200 yards in advance of 18-Pdrs. throughout barrage.

O.O. No. 1.

(2)

10. 12

(f) PROCEDURE :- The barrage lifts at Zero plus 3 at the rate of 100 yards per 2 minutes for two lifts. Then the rate decreases to 100 yards per 3 minutes for eight lifts. From the eleventh lift onwards the barrage advances at the rate of 100 yards every 4 minutes.

(g) As each gun reaches the Protective Barrage line, it will fire 3 rounds of Smoke at gunfire.

(h) Fifteen minutes after the Protective line is reached, alternate guns will search to a distance not exceeding 1000 yards East of that line.

Method of fire to be by bursts.

10.

RATES of FIRE :-
Times.

Rounds per gun
per minute. 4.5"
18-Pdrs. Hows.

Zero to Zero plus 51 minutes	3	2
Plus 51 to plus 87	4	3
plus 87 to arrival at Protective Barrage Line	3	2
On Protective Barrage Line <i>Protective</i>	1	1
Guns searching East from <i>Protective</i> Barrage line	3	1

11.

AMMUNITION :-
18-Pdrs.

- (a) Start Line. 3 rounds Smoke in the proportion of 1 in 3 will be fired.
- (b) From Start Line to Protective Barrage Line. H.E. with delay fuzes as far as supplies admit ; if during the Creeping Barrage, supplies of delay fuzes are found insufficient, time shrapnel with 50% bursts on graze will be used. It will be employed as far as possible on barrage lines which cover enemy trench systems.
- (c) During Protective Barrage. All shrapnel as far as fuze lengths permit, otherwise H.E. with 106 fuzes.
- (d) 4.5" Hows. 106 fuzes throughout as far as possible.

NOTE :- In the event of wet weather a small proportion of Smoke in addition to that laid down above, will be used in the barrage to replace the Smoke and dust caused by the burst of shells on dry ground.

To carry this out all guns and hows. will, every 10 minutes from Zero plus 15 minutes inclusive to Zero plus 240 minutes, fire one round smoke each.

This procedure will only be carried out under orders from this H.Q. One of the following Code Words will be sent to Groups on "Y" Day :-

"WHITE" - meaning 'Smoke will be used.'
"BLACK" - meaning 'Smoke will NOT be used.'

12.

- (a) Zero Hour will be notified in writing on "Y" day.
- (b) Synchronisation of watches will be carried out on "Y" day by representative from this Brigade H.Q. Telephones are not to be used for this purpose.

O.O. No. 1.

(3)

12

13.

(a) COMMAND :- From Zero plus 240 onwards 1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade will come under direct orders of C.R.A., 1st. Aust. Div.

(b) At Zero plus 240, Batteries will cease fire and hold themselves in readiness for such action as may be detailed.

14.

S. O. S. Lines. In event of S.O.S. Fire being ordered by Group H.Q. all Batteries will open fire on Sattring Line on Barrage Map plus 300 yards.

15.

A C K N O W L E D G E.

R. M. Thomson
Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

Distribution.

Copy	No.	1.	Retained.
"	"	2.	War Diary.
"	"	3.	2nd. Aust. Div. Arty.
"	"	4.	1st. Battery, A. F. A.
"	"	5.	2nd. do. do.
"	"	6.	3rd. do. do.
"	"	7.	101st. do. do.

Distribution of Barrage Maps.

Copy	No.	72.	Retained.
"	"	75.	1st. Battery, A.F.A.
"	"	76.	2nd. Battery. do.
"	"	77.	3rd. do. do.
"	"	78.	101st. do. do.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

OPERATION ORDER NO. 2.

(SERIES A)

By Major J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.

Headquarters,
7th. August, 1918.Reference Map: 62.D. S.E. & S.W. 1/200000.

1. In accordance with 1st. Aust. Div. Arty. Instructions, from Zero plus 240 onwards, 1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade comes under command of its own Brigade Commander and under direct orders of C.R.A., 1st. Aust. Div.
2. (a) O.C. 101st. Battery will detail an Officer to man O.P. situate at O.30.C.85.90.
 (b) After the advance of the Infantry from the "Green" line the duties of this O.P. party will be to watch as closely as possible and report progress of the battle and any signals which may be sent up. The bearings of all signals seen will be transmitted with report.
 (c) In the event of the Brigade being ordered forward this F.O.O. party will be instructed to rejoin their Battery immediately.
3. (a) ACTION :- It is impossible to foretell where Brigades of "E" Divisional Artillery may be required to move during the course of the battle.
 (b) Consequently ^{Batteries} Brigades must be prepared to move to any portion of either "A" or "B" Divisional Areas. The country must be carefully studied from O.P.'s., maps and aeroplane photographs, and routes planned to different portions of the areas of "A" and "B" Divisions.
 (c) Two Officer's patrols will be furnished by this Brigade, each consisting of one Officer, three signallers and a horseholder, to push forward on "A" and "B" Division Areas to reconnoitre locations of offensive and defensive Artilleries when these latter have completed their moves forward. The Officers for this duty will be,

Lieut. O.C. ZEHNDER, 3rd. Battery.
Lieut. C.J. GATES, 2nd. Battery.

 Batteries providing the Officers will provide rest of personnel. They must be well mounted.
 These Officer's patrol parties will report to 1st. Aust. F.A. Brigade H.Q., O.19.D.5.8. at 7 am. on 8th. August.
4. WAGON LINES :- At Zero plus three hours Wagon lines of the Brigade will move to the vicinity of FOWILLOY. Units will not move along the LONGUEAU * VILLERS-BRETONNEUX road, or any road South of this.
5. 1st. Section, D.A.C. will accompany 1st. A. F. A. Brigade, if and when the Brigade is ordered forward.
6. Instructions as to stores to be carried by each Battery will be issued separately.
7. All Batteries will move forward with full Echelons.
8. Attention of all Officers and reconnoitring patrols is drawn to the necessity of carrying out their duties, not in parties or in groups, but at most two people. Ground overlooked by the enemy will be avoided as far as possible. Full advantage

O.O. No. 2.

(2)

of cover will be taken even if a detour is necessary to carry this into effect. Maps will not be opened except under cover.

9. AMMUNITION :- An Ammunition replenishing point is being established along road running through O.17.A. & C.
10. WATER :- Batteries will ensure that all water bottles are filled for the move forward and this water will not be touched except on the orders of an Officer.
11. A C K N O W L E D G E.

W. H. H. H. H.

Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F.A. Brigade.

Distribution.

Copy	No.	1.	Retained.
"	"	2.	War Diary.
"	"	3.	1st. Aust. Div. Arty.
"	"	4.	1st. Battery.
"	"	5.	do. Wagon lines.
"	"	6.	2nd. Battery.
"	"	7.	do. Wagon lines.
"	"	8.	3rd. Battery.
"	"	9.	do. Wagon lines.
"	"	10.	101st. Battery.
"	"	11.	do. Wagon lines.
"	"	12.	R.S.M. Fitzsimmons.

12/

14 F.A. Bde
O.S. No 3.

9811

(SERIES A).

1. 1st F.A. Bde will move at 6 am on 9th Aug. and will select and occupy positions to cover the advance of the infantry from the BLUE line.
2. Bty commanders with Reconnaissance parties will meet Bde. Commander at 6.15 am. at 101st How Bty. O.S. B 10.30.
3. Positions are to be selected in vicinity of BAYONVILLERS.
4. Orders have been issued to Wagon lines to move up to present Bty positions by train.
5. Brigade will be brought along by the Adjutants.
6. Move to be complete by 9 am.

RHS



12th Aust Field Art. Bde 10/10/14
 Operation Order No 6 (SERIES A)
 Ref. map 140000 Issue with the order for 4/8/14

1. Instructions from 1st Div Art. are attached

2. Lanes are allotted from Railway on the right as follows

2nd B. Battery
 1st Battery
 3rd Battery

3. Left hand boundary between B. Batteries are as follows -

Between 2nd Bty & 1st Bty - X27E 00 15 to

AQA00 15

do 1st & 3rd Bty - X27A 00 05 to

X3E 00 07

Left Boundary of Bde. zone is X29C 00 25 to 173E 10 40

4. Rates of fire and lifts are as per para 5 and 6 of 1st Div. Instr. No 6

2nd Bty will furnish 7 sp. with attacking troops.

W. H. Thomson
 Capt
 Adjutant 12th F. Bde

Aust Field Arty Bde

Operation Order No 7

119. 11-9-18

(SERIES A).

1. The 2nd and 3rd Aust Inf Bdes are continuing the attack on the BLUE line at 4 am 11th August.
2. 1st Div Arty Instrs Nos 8 are issued to Btcs and attached.
3. Boundaries and lanes are as already given in Operation Order No 6.
4. 2nd Bty will furnish liaison officer to report at Right Bn HQ at 3 am sharp.
5. Watches will be synchronised from these HQ at zero - 30 mins.
6. 4.5 Hows. will bombard L/H on from point A2A20.20 to A2A20.60 and lift East at rate of 100 yds per 3 minutes. After clearing down they will super impose over Brigade zone aide para 9 of R/L in Arty Instr No 8.
7. Action wedge

W. H. M. M. M.
C.M.
Adjutant R/L



Operation Order No. 8-11-8-11

(SERIES A)

SOS line until further orders
will be as follows. —

B.C. maps will be the paper
1/40000 issued for Phases A, B &
C and Battery lanes will
be as marked thereon.

SOS protective barrage will be put down
100' E of the central ~~main~~ grid
running N. + S through A. 3 + 9.

SOS Barrage will lift forward
200' every ^{alternate} 3 minutes —
and revert to original line.

Rates of fire { 3 rpg pm. for 5 minutes
2 " " for 10 min
1 " " " until stop.

Flows. ~~2~~ 2 rpg pm for 5 min
1 " " " " 10 min
1/2 " " " " until stop.

The flows will be superimposed
over whole Red sector.

The new ~~the~~ boundaries will not come into action
until ordered.

A. W. Thomson Captain.
Adjutant. 1st. Inf. Brigade.

1st Australian Field Arty. Bde. copy no. 2.
 Operation Order No. 9. (SERIES A) HQ.
 by LT. COL. J. C. SELMES T/Comdg. 11-8-18.

1. Copy of 1st Aust. Div. Arty. Instruction No. 9. is issued herewith.
2. 1st Austn. Field Arty. Bde. boundaries will be as follows:
 Southern Boundary = A 8 D 0.2 to A 4 central to T 25 central to T 21 central.
 Northern Boundary = A 3 A 00.15 to S 28 A 0.0. to S 24 C 00.30 to T 19 A 00.10 to T 15 C 00.70.
3. Lanes are allotted to Batteries as follows:
 From right boundary to left boundary -
 3rd Bty - 2nd Bty - 1st Bty.
 Left boundaries of Batteries are as follows:
 3rd Bty: A 9 A 35.90 to A 4 A 00.10 to A 4 A 70.70 to S 29 C 00.30 to S 30 A 25.00
 2nd Bty: A 3 C 20.50 to S 28 C 60.50. to S 30 A 00.60
 1st Bty: Northern boundary of Brigade as per para. 2.

4. S.O.S.

The following will be the S.O.S. lines:
 3rd Bty: A 9 B 10.60 to A 9 B 00.90



2nd Bty = A 9800.90 to A 3000.15.
 1st Bty = A 3070.95 to A 3A65.20
 6. 18 pds. Batteries. Rates of Fire:
 3 rds p. g. p.m. for 5 minutes
 2 " " " 10 "
 1 " " " until STOP
 50% A 50% AX.

6. 4.5. Hows.
 3 Hows: A 3D20.50 to A 3D20.75.
 3 Hows: A 3A95.30 to A 3A95.55
 Rates of fire:

2 rds p. h. p. m. for 5 minutes.
 1 rd do do 15 do
 1/2 rd do till STOP.

7. All Batteries after first 3 minutes
 will lift their fire 200 yards east
 for 3 minutes + then revert to starting
 line.

8. The above order will come into
 operation upon receipt of Code word
 "SYDNEY" 10 at and zero hour.

9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

W. H. Thompson

Adj. W. F. A. Bell
 Capt

Distribution
 Copy No. 2. War Plans
 3. 1st Ang. Bde
 4. 1st Inf. Bde
 5. 1st Bty
 6. 2nd Bty
 7. 3rd Bty
 8. 10th Bty

12

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.OPERATION ORDER NO. 10.

(SERIES 'A')

By Lieut-Col. J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.

Headquarters,
12th. August, 1918.S.O.S. Lines.

1. The following arrangements for S.O.S. will come into force during the period until the next attack is launched.

2. The 1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade Lane is -

Southern Boundary. Railway Line.Northern Boundary. Line running due East from A.3.A.O.1.

3. S.O.S. for Batteries will be as follows :-

3rd. Battery. A.9.D.40.45. to A.9.D.40.70.2nd. Battery. A.9.B.30.10. to A.9.B.30.35.1st. Battery. A.3.A.80.10. to A.3.C.80.85.101st. Battery. A.9.D.40.75. to A.9.D.40.25.All Batteries will, after first 2 minutes, lift 200 ^{EAST} yards ^{EAST} for 2 minutes and then revert to starting line, and so on every 2 minutes.

4. Rates of Fire for all Batteries :-

For first 8 minutes	-	4 rds. p.g. and h. per min.
next 7 "	-	3 " " "
after 15 "	-	STOP.

If S.O.S. signal is repeated the fire will be again opened and repeated at the above rates.

5. AMMUNITION :- 18-Pdrs. 75% "A". 25% "AX".4.5" Hows. H.E. 106 fuze.

6. Battery Commanders will arrange to register above lines as early as possible.

7. ACKNOWLEDGE.*R. A. Thomson*Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.Distribution.

Copy No. 1.	Retained.
" 2.	War Diary.
" 3.	1st. Aust. Div. Arty.
" 4.	Brigade Major, 1st. Aust. Inf. Bde.
" 5.	Art. Liaison Officer.
" 6.	1st. Aust. Battery.
" 7.	2nd. do.
" 8.	3rd. do.
" 9.	101st. do.
" 10.	Orderly Officer, 1st. A.F.A. Brigade.

SECRET.FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.COPY NO. 21AMENDMENT TOOPERATION ORDER NO. 10.By Lieut-Col. J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.Headquarters,
13th. August, 1918.

1. Delete present co-ordinates in para 3 of Operation Order No. 10. and substitute the following:-

<u>3rd. Battery.</u>	A.9.C.20.80. - A.9.A.20.12.
<u>2nd. Battery.</u>	A.9.A.25.28. - A.9.A.25.55. 10.80.
<u>1st. Battery.</u>	A.3.C. 23.95. - A.3.A.10.12.
<u>101st. Battery.</u>	A.9.A.25.95. - A.3.C.25.50.

2.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

R. A. Thomson
Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

Distribution :- Normal.

SECRET.COPY NO. 2...FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.SECOND AMENDMENT TOOPERATION ORDER NO. 10.By Lieut-Col. J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.Headquarters,
13th. August, 1918.

1. Delete co-ordinates for 1st. Battery and 101st. Battery and substitute the following :-

1st. Battery. A.3.C.30.50. to A.3.C.30.80.101st. Battery. A.9.A.50.70. to A.3.A.50.20.

2. 2nd. and 3rd. Batteries will remain as at present.

3. A C K N O W L E D G E.

R. A. Robinson
Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

Distribution :- Normal.

12

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.OPERATION ORDER NO. 11. (SERIES A).By Lieut-Col. J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.Headquarters,
12th. August, 1918.Counter Preparation.

1. Brigade Lane for Counter Preparation will be the same as that for S.O.S. detailed in Operation Order No. 10.
2. (a) Brigade Lane from 100 yards East of starting line for S.O.S. to 1000 yards East of starting line will be divided into four Zones each 250 yards in depth and lettered A, B, C and D, from West to East.

(b) The Brigade Lane for Counter Preparation is again divided into four Lanes from South to North, which will be covered by Batteries from South to North as follows :-

3rd. Battery.	
2nd. Battery.	
101st. Battery.	
1st. Battery.	
3. Battery boundaries for para 2 (b) will be as follows :-

<u>3rd. Battery.</u>	Right Boundary	-	Railway Line.
	Left Boundary	-	Line drawn through A.9.D.75.95. to A.11.C.00.50.
<u>2nd. Battery.</u>	Right Boundary	-	Line drawn through A.9.D.75.95. to A.11.C.00.50.
	Left Boundary	-	Line drawn through A.9.B.45.70. to A.11.A.00.30.
<u>101st. Battery.</u>	Right Boundary	-	Line drawn through A.9.B.45.70. to A.11.A.00.30.
	Left Boundary	-	Line drawn through A.3.D.20.45. to A.5.C.00.15.
<u>1st. Battery.</u>	Right Boundary	-	Line drawn through A.3.D.20.45. to A.5.C.00.15.
	Left Boundary	-	Line drawn due East through A.3.A.0.1.
4. Batteries may be ordered to fire on either the A, B, C or D Zone, in which case they will fire on that portion of the Zone which lies in their own Counter Preparation Lane.
5. (a) During Counter Preparation all roads, tracks, and likely places of assembly in the Zone detailed will be thoroughly searched.

(b) Unless otherwise ordered, rate of fire will be 60 rounds per gun and how. per hour.

6. A C K N O W L E D G E.

R. H. Thomson
 Captain.
 Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

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APPENDIX

APPENDIX

FIRST AUSTRALIAN TROOP ARTILLERY BRIGADE

OPERATION ORDER NO. 11

By Lieut-Col. J. G. SUMMERS, D. S. O., Temp. Commanding

Headquarters,
15th August, 1918.

Counter Preparation.

Brigade Lane for Counter Preparation will be the same as that for S.O.S. detailed in Operation Order No. 10.

(a) Brigade Lane from 100 yards East of starting line for S.O.S. to 1000 yards East of starting line will be divided into four zones each 250 yards in depth and lettered A, B, C and D, from West to East.

(b) The Brigade Lane for Counter Preparation is again divided into four lanes from South to North, which will be covered by Batteries from South to North as follows :-

Distribution.

Copy No.	1.	Retained
"	2.	War Diary
"	3.	1st. Aust. Div. Arty.
"	4.	Art. Liaison Officer.
"	5.	Brigade Major, 1st. Aust. Inf. Bde.
"	6.	1st. Aust. Battery.
"	7.	2nd. do.
"	8.	3rd. do.
"	9.	1st. do.
"	10.	Orderly Officer, 1st. A.F.A. Brigade.

Line drawn through A.9.D.75.95. to A.11.C.00.50. - Right Boundary. 2nd. Battery.

Line drawn through A.9.B.45.70. to A.11.A.00.30. - Left Boundary.

Line drawn through A.9.B.45.70. to A.11.A.00.30. - Right Boundary. 101st. Battery.

Line drawn through A.9.D.30.45. to A.5.C.00.15. - Left Boundary.

Line drawn through A.9.D.30.45. to A.5.C.00.15. - Right Boundary. 1st. Battery.

Line drawn through A.9.A.0.1. - Left Boundary.

Batteries may be ordered to fire on either the A, B, C or D zone, in which case they will fire on that portion of the zone which lies in their own Counter Preparation Lane.

(a) During Counter Preparation all roads, tracks, and likely places of assembly in the zone detailed will be thoroughly searched.

(b) Unless otherwise ordered, rate of fire will be 60 rounds per gun and how. per hour.

A C K H O W L E D G E

Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.
Captain.

12

INSTRUCTION NO. 1. (SERIES A).

By Lieut-Col. J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.

Headquarters,
 13th. August, 1918.

1. As for the present our forces are advancing and adopting open warfare, the C.R.A. desires special attention to be devoted to -
 - (a) Manoeuvre of Battery.
 - (b) Manoeuvre of Wagons for supply of ammunition.
 - (c) Avoidance of roads.
 - (d) Placing of Wagon Lines.

2. As to the first of the above many faults not quite unexpected present themselves.
 - (a) (i) No Battery prepared for action from position of assembly or adopted battle formation.
 - (ii) Guns had unnecessary impediments upon them and Battery Commanders will issue definite instructions that gun carriages are to be kept clear of baggage so that when the trail is dropped the gun is in action.
 - (iii) Some Batteries moved forward to occupy their positions in charge of the Captain. This is quite wrong - it is the duty of Battery Leaders and Battery guide.
 - (iv) Column of Route formation was adopted for occupation of positions. In open country, that is quite wrong, and too vulnerable for enemy gun and aerial fire. Where hostile fire is experienced in occupying, other methods of necessity are required and provided for. Line formation is the method laid down as the normal procedure to be followed so soon and as often as country permits.
 - (b) The same remarks apply to supply of ammunition. Wagons must be sent up in orthodox F.A.T. methods when and wherever possible.
 - (c) Roads should, as far as practicable, be avoided.
 - (d) Wagon Lines owing to lack of railhead facilities are in some cases too far advanced with the consequent result that D.A.C. teams are at present unable to cope with the work. B.C's. will instruct their Battery Captains accordingly.

3. It is probable that for a few days Batteries may be ordered to draw ammunition direct from a dump now being established at W.15.B.2.8. Order re this will be issued later.

4. Water supply is of course difficult and largely at present governs position of Wagon Lines.

Wagon Lines will never be so placed as to offer greatest vulnerability to aerial fire especially, not more than ~~one~~ ^{ten} ~~sub-section of~~ horses ~~to~~ to be together. Where necessary this change is to be effected at once.

5. B.C's. must see that all Officers of their command are more fully conversant with Battery tactics than they at present appear to be - mostly for want of practice after such a long period of stagnant warfare.

W. H. H. H. H.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.OPERATION ORDER NO. 1. (SERIES B).

By Lieut-Col. J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.

Headquarters,
22nd. August, 1918.

1. 1st. Aust. Div. Arty. Instructions Nos. 19, 20, 21, 22, and Amendment No. 1 to Instruction No. 19, with barrage map are issued herewith to Batteries.
2. With reference to para 2 of 1st. Aust. Div. Arty. Instruction No. 19, 1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade lane is that marked "D" on barrage map.

Apportionment to Batteries is as follows, from Right to Left :-

D 1.	1st. Battery.
D 2.	101st. Battery.
D 3.	3rd. Battery.

2nd. Battery will superimpose over whole of Brigade lane, and will be prepared to answer N F, G F, and L L calls as per para 2 (d) of Instruction No. 19.

3. MOVES - 1st. Aust. Div. Arty. Instruction No. 23 :-

(a) In accordance with para 3 of above Instruction the order of moves of Batteries of the Brigade will be as follows :-

101st. Battery	to	R.21.C.
1st. do.	to	R.21.C.
3rd. do.	to	R.20.C.

2nd. Battery will remain as at present.

(b) Battery Commanders will, immediately upon selection of positions, forward to Brigade Headquarters approximate location, and also notify B.H.Q. when move is complete.

(c) Brigade Headquarters, until completion of moves, will be at present location.

4. A C K N O W L E D G E.

A. H. Thomson
Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

Distribution.	
Copy	No.
"	"
"	"
"	"
"	"
"	"
"	"

1.	Retained.
2.	War Diary.
3.	1st. Battery.
4.	2nd. Battery.
5.	3rd. Battery.
6.	101st. Battery.

BARRAGE MAP.

Copy No.	59.	1st BTY.
"	79.	2nd "
"	58.	3rd "
"	78.	101st "

12

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.ADDENDUM NO. 1. (SERIES B).To 1st. A. F. A. Brigade Operation Order No. 1.By Lieut-Col. J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.Headquarters,
22nd. August, 1918.

1. ZERO HOUR will be 4.45 a.m., 23rd. August, 1918.
2. e O's C. 1st. and 2nd. Batteries will each detail an Officer to report to this Headquarters at 7 p.m. to-day.
Officer from 1st. Battery will bring a watch from his own Battery and a watch from 101st. Battery.
Officer from 2nd. Battery will bring a watch from his own Battery and a watch from 3rd. Battery.
3. Addendum No. 1 to 1st. Aust. Div. Arty. Operation Order No. 64 is issued herewith.
4. A C K N O W L E D G E.

J. Selmes
for Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade. Captain.

Distribution :- Normal.

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APPENDIX

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

OPERATION ORDER NO. 2. (SERIES B)

By Lieut-Col. J. C. SELMES. D. S. O.? Temp'y Commanding.

Headquarters,
23rd. August, 1918.

1. Harassing fire will be carried out to-night from
1 a.m. to 5 a.m.
2. Times are allotted as follows :-

<u>1st. Battery.</u>	1 a.m. to 2 a.m.
<u>2nd. Battery.</u>	2 a.m. to 3 a.m.
<u>3rd. Battery.</u>	3 a.m. to 4 a.m.
<u>101st. Battery.</u>	4 a.m. to 5 a.m.
3. TASKS :- Each Battery will select targets in M.26.D. and
M.27.A, C, and D.
4. Ammunition :- 100 rounds per Battery to be expended.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

A. H. Thomson

Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

Distribution :- Normal.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

12

OPERATION ORDER NO. 3. (SERIES B)By Lieut-Col. J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.Headquarters,
24th. August, 1918.

1. In accordance with 1st. Aust. Div. Arty. Operation Order No. 67, a re-grouping of artillery on the front comes into operation from to-night at 8 p.m., 24th. inst.

2. The 1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade is transferred to the Centre Group and will cover line from M.20.C.00.40. to M.14.A.50.50.

3. In order to cover its portion of the above line, the 2nd. Battery will move into a position to be selected by O.C.
The following co-ordinates of positions to be vacated may be reconnoitred with a view to occupation :-

R.14.B.45.50., R.15.A.00.20., R.14.A.90.10.

4. The S.O.S. line for Batteries is as follows :-

1st. Battery. M.20.A.00.00. - M.20.A.05.20.

3rd. Battery. M.20.A.20.80. - M.14.C.25.10.

2nd. Battery. M.14.C.40.90. - M.14.A.47.23.

101st. Battery will be distributed as follows :-

One How. on	-	Trench Junction M.20.B.45.55.
do.	-	Trench & Road Junction M.14.D.20.85.
do.	-	Trench Junction M.14.B.35.80.
do.	-	Cross Roads M.8.D.40.15.
do.	-	Trench Junction M.8.D.40.50.
do.	-	Valley M.8.Central.

5. 18-Pdr. barrage will not be a standing one, and will alternately every 2 minutes lift 200 yards East and return to Start line.

1st. and 3rd. Batteries in their lifts will switch their fire on to a line at least 200 yards to their left.

6. S.O.S. rates of fire and ammunition are as detailed in 1st. Aust. Div. Arty. Instruction No. 18 which has been previously issued.

7. A C K N O W L E D G E.

M. H. Thomson

Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

OPERATION ORDER NO. 4. (SERIES B)

By Lieut.-Colonel J. C. SELMES. D.S.O., Commanding.

Headquarters,
24th. August, 1918.

1. Harassing fire will be carried out tonight by Batteries at following times :-

9.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.	1st. Battery.
11.30 p.m. to 2.00 a.m.	3rd. Battery.
2.00 a.m. to 4.30 a.m.	101st. Battery.
4.30 a.m. to 7.00 a.m.	2nd. Battery.

2. Targets for 18-pdrs :-

CUISINE WOOD M.15. and 21.
SMALL WOOD in M.15.C.2.5.
BERTHONVAL WOOD in M.15.A.

101st. Battery - Sunken Road in CUISINE WOOD
M.15. and 21.

3. 100 Rds. per 18-pdr. Battery and 80 rds. 4.5" Hows. will be expended.

4. A C K N O W L E D G E.

McIntosh
Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

Distribution - Normal.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE?OPERATION ORDER NO. 5. (SERIES B)

By Lieut-Col J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.

Headquarters,
25th. August, 1918.

1. S. O. S. lines for 1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade from receipt of this order will be on the North and South Grid line dividing M.8. and 9. and M.14. and 15.
2. Batteries will take the corresponding portions of this line due East from S.O.S. at present in force.
3. No firing will be done West of the line as in para 1, except at request of Battalion Commander.
4. A C K N O W L E D G E.

A. M. Thomson
Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

Distribution :- Normal.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

12

OPERATION ORDER NO. 6.By Lieut-Col. J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.Headquarters,
26th. August, 1918.

1. Harassing fire will be carried out to-night as follows :-

9 p.m. to 10 p.m.	22	2nd. Battery.
10 p.m. to 11 p.m.	-	1st. Battery.
11 p.m. to 12 m/night	-	3rd. Battery.
12 m/n. to 1 a.m.	-	101st. Battery.

2. TARGETS :- 18-Pdrs.

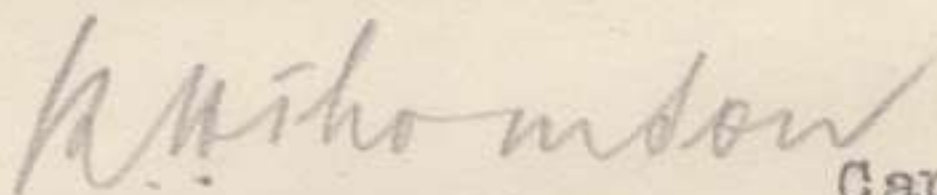
CUISINE WOOD
TONFIN WOOD

4.5" Hows.

Sunken Road East of CUISINE WOOD.
do. do. West of TONFIN WOOD, ~~M.16.A. Central.~~
do do M 16 A Central

3. AMMUNITION :- 150 rounds per Battery.

4. ACKNOWLEDGE.



Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

Distribution :- Normal.

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.OPERATION ORDER NO. 7. (SERIES B)By Lieut-Col. J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.Headquarters,
26th. August, 1918.

1. (a) Owing to re-organisation of Divisional Front, Divisional Boundaries will now be -

<u>Northern Boundary.</u>	East & West Line through M.8.C.00.00.
<u>Southern Boundary.</u>	East & West Line through M.32.A.00.00.

- (b) Boundary of 1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade S.O.S. Zone will be :-

Northern Divisional boundary, East and West Line
through M.14.C.00.20.

2. Batteries are allotted S.O.S. Lines as follows :-

<u>2nd. Battery.</u>	M.15.C.60.00. - M.15.C.60.30.
<u>1st. Battery.</u>	M.15.C.90.60. - M.15.C.90.90.
<u>3rd. Battery.</u>	M.15.B.55.75. - M.9.D.55.00.
<u>101st. Battery.</u>	1 How. on M.15.D.35.00.
	do. M.15.D.55.40.
	do. M.15.D.80.90.
	do. M.15.B.70.40.
	do. M.16.A.00.60.
	do. M.15.B.85.90.

3. The barrage will not be a standing one but Batteries will alternately lift out 200 yards and return to Start Line every two minutes. *1st & 2nd Bties to switch bft 150 yds when on the increased range*

4. Rates of fire as previously.

5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

R. A. Richmond
Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

Distribution :- Normal.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.OPERATION ORDER NO. 8. (SERIES B).

By Lieut-Col. J. C. SEIMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.

S.O.S.Headquarters,
27th. August, 1918.

1. Divisional Boundary is as given in Operation Order No. 7, para 1 (a).
2. Inter Brigade Boundary is the central East and West Grid line through M.19. to M.24.
3. Boundaries of S.O.S. for 1st. Aust. F. A. Brigade will be, on the North, the Brigade Boundary, and on the South, East and West line through M.27.A.00.70.
4. Batteries are allotted lanes as follows :-

<u>1st. Battery.</u>	From Southern boundary of Brigade lane to East and West dividing Grid between Squares M.20 and 26 and M.24 and M.30.
<u>2nd. Battery.</u>	East and West Grid through M.20.C.00.00. and M.20.C.00.30.
<u>3rd. Battery.</u>	East and West lines through M.20.C.00.70. and M.20.A.00.00.
<u>101st. Battery.</u>	4 Hows. on lane between East and West Grids through M.20.C.00.30. and M.20.C.00.70. Remaining 2 Hows. superimposed over 1st. and 2nd. Battery lanes.
5. 4.5" Howitzer S.O.S. barrage will be 200 yards in advance of 18-Pdrs.
6. S.O.S. Start Line, until further orders, will be on North and South dividing Grid between Squares M.21 and M.22.
7. For harassing fire all Batteries will be prepared to shoot over whole of Brigade lane, and South to the main East and West road through FOUCAUCOURT.
8. A C K N O W L E D G E.

R. H. Thompson Captain.
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

Distribution :- Normal.

FIRST AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

INSTRUCTION NO. 1.

(SERIES B)

By Lieut-Col. J. C. SELMES. D. S. O., Temp'y Commanding.

Headquarters,
22nd. August, 1918.

1. (a) When Batteries move forward, as detailed in para 3 (a) of 1st. A.F.A. Brigade Operation Order No. 1, they will arrange to dump ammunition at new positions as follows :-

18-Pdrs. - 300 rounds per gun.
4.5" Hows. - 250 rounds per How.

(b) This ammunition will be drawn from present positions, and A.R.P's will not be drawn upon until these positions are emptied.

2. 1st. and 3rd. Batteries will not move until move by 101st. How. Battery is complete.

3rd. Battery similarly to await completion of move by 1st. Battery before moving.

3. In accordance with para 3 of 1st. Aust. Div. Arty. Instruction No. 21, O.C., 2nd. Battery will detail an Officer to man tactical O.P. from Zero hour.

This Officer will push forward as early as possible and establish an O.P. for Brigade on ridge in R.28.C., where Group C.W. Wireless Set will be established.

Special attention is drawn to para 4 of above Instruction. 101st. and 1st. Batteries as they occupy new positions will also take immediate steps to establish their own O.P., and work in conjunction with Infantry for any targets that may offer.

Locations of all O.P's to be forwarded to this Headquarters as soon as known.

4. The following documents are issued herewith :-

1st. Aust. Div. Arty. Operation Order No. 64.
" " " " Addendum to Instruction No. 21.

5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. C. Selmes
Adjutant 1st. A. F. A. Brigade.

Distribution.

Copy	No.	1.	Retained.
"	"	2.	War Diary.
"	"	3.	1st. Battery.
"	"	4.	2nd. do.
"	"	5.	3rd. do.
"	"	6.	101st. do.
"	"	7.	Right Sub-Group.