

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/8/6

Title: Brigadier General, 2nd ANZAC
Corps Heavy Artillery

January 1917



AWM4-13/8/6

WAR DIARY

Army Form C.2118.

306

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
FORT ROMPU	1/1/17		Pronounced hostile artillery activity on New Zealand I I I front. About 240 5.9" shells on PETILLON sector; 80 5.9" shells near 155 Sigs Battery (South Section) but positions evidently not correctly located. Heavy bombardment of CORDONNERIE sector with T.M. 77 mat; with gas shells on back area. S.O.S.N. 10.1	
		Blaze 2.30 p.m. - 3 p.m.	Lieut R.M.M. PAXTON (155 Sigs Battery R.G.A.) killed in action, in front line trench, by shell.	HRB
	2/1/17	3.30 - 3.40 p.m.	Bombardment by Left Group, R.G.A., 34 th I I I. Both Groups cooperated: 52 nd H.A. Group with 60 pds on WEZ MACQUART (SE position) & T.M. position in vicinity. 71 st H.A. Group with 6" hows on LARGE FARM & a T.M. near WEZ MACQUART.	HRB
	Night 3/4	6.15 p.m.	S.O.S.N. 10.5. received from N.Z. I I I. 60 pds opened fire on known batteries. 6" how stood by. After 10 minutes, bombardment ceased. 147 H Batty (N.C. Sections) & 2/1 Lancers H Batty (N. Sections) pulled out to wagon lines, preparatory to proceeding on temporary attachment, L IX Corps.	HRB
	Night 4/5	1 a.m. - 6.45 a.m.	52 nd H.A. Group stood by for C.B. Work in connection with Petillon on 34 th I I I front. Time not called for.	HRB
	5/1/17		6 60 pds, previously pulled out to wagon lines, left for IX Corps.	HRB
	6/1/17	10.40 a.m.	2 nd Angas H.A. No 46 arrived [Order - Road 34 th I I I. Night 6 th /7 th I I I.]	HRB
			155 th Sigs Battery R.G.A. transferred to 52 nd H.A. Group [on receipt of order from R.A. 2 nd Army for transfer of 71 st H.A. Group to X Corps.]	HRB
		5 p.m.	Lieut Col D.F. NICHOLL D.S.O., 71 st H.A. G. proceeded to X Corps, on transfer.	
		6.30 p.m.	Notification received that Col NICHOLL & 71 st H.A. G. are to proceed to III Corps not X Corps.	
	Night 6/7		Road 34 th I I I postponed to later hour, then cancelled.	HRB
	7/1/17	5 p.m.	Road: N.Z. I I I. O.I. a 10.70 to 35.77. 52 nd H.A. Group cooperated, standing by for Counter Battery Work.	HRB
	Night 10/11	6 p.m.	Road: 3 rd Australian I I I. I 5.c 65.00. 52 nd H.A. Group cooperated with 6" hows on I 5.2.50.02 - I 5.2.45.50 - 60 pds - 4.7" in C.B. Work.	HRB
	11/1/17		71 st H.A. Group H.Q. proceeded to join VIII Corps H.A.	HRB
	12/1/17		147 H Batty (N.C. Sections) & 2/1 Lancers H Batty (N. Sections) returned from IX Corps.	HRB
	Night 12/13		One Section 147 H Batty re-occupied original position at G. 30 a 85.45. One section occupied position (vacated by 2/1 Lancers S.X.) at H 20. b. 55.40.	HRB
			2/1 Lancers C.X. (H. 11. a. 00.00.) & S.X. (H. 20. b. 55.40.) pulled out to wagon lines.	HRB

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FORT ROMPU.	Night 12/13 13/1/17		<p>1/1 N. Midland H. Batty (section at C. 19 d 45.50) withdrew their 4.7" guns & brought their new 60 pdrs into action</p> <p>2/1 Land H. Batty left the Command, for Artillery School, TILQUES.</p> <p>2 guns 26th Siege Batty R.G.A (2 6" Mk VII) came under 2nd Anzac H.A., from XIth H.A. Group. Attached to 52nd H.A. Group</p> <p>1 gun (already in position) at H. 3. b 70 20 (arc of fire 60°-140° true base) N gun (no 2)</p> <p>1 gun (newly arrived) at H 1 b 40 40 (arc of fire 100°-180° true base) S gun (no 1)</p>	HRB
	Night 13/14		<p>1/1 N. Midland H. Batty (forward section) withdrew their 4.7" guns from position at C. 20 c 85.50 & pulled out to major lines, for change of position & rearmament.</p>	HRB
	Night 14/15		<p>1/1 N. Midland H. Batty (section previously at C. 20 c 85.50) came into action, with 60 pdrs, at H. 5. c 10.20.</p>	HRB
	15/1/17	2.7 pm -2.30 7 pm	<p>6" hows cooperated in Bombardment with 34th Division of Artillery. 1 how 30 rds on BLANCO HOUSE & CT. to I 32 c 80.60</p> <p>1 how 30 rds on Trench Junction O. 1 b 35 45 & 50° N. S of it</p>	HRB
	22/1/17	3.7 pm to 6.10 7 pm	<p>marked hostile artillery's trench mortar activity against extreme left of Corps front, & 23rd Diva post (IX Corps)</p> <p>3.7 pm Retaliation called for by 3rd Australian Div for shelling of trenches opposite CHICKEN RUN. 6" hows shelled BREWERY & TM pens South of FRELINGHIEN 60 pdrs C.B. Work</p> <p>S.O.S. reported from some part on IX Corps front</p> <p>5.10 pm "S.O.S. HOURLINES NORTH". Scheme carried out: 6" hows, BREWERY, etc. 60 pdrs C.B. Work.</p> <p>13 hostile batteries, altogether, engaged. Two included, & ceased about 6.10 pm.</p>	HRB
	23/1/17 24/1/17		<p>Hostile artillery & airplane activity considerable</p>	HRB
	Night 24/25	1.35 am to 5.30 am	<p>H.A. cooperated with 34th Div Art'y & N.Z. Div Art'y in shelling of C.T.s, roads, tramways, etc</p>	HRB
	26/1/17	2.50 pm	<p>2nd Anzac H.A. Order No 47 issued (Raid 3rd Div Div: 10th H.A. Bde)</p>	HRB

APP. III

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FORT ROMPU	27/1/17		Advance Party, 245 th Sigs Battery R.G.A, arrived via STEENWERCK from HAVRE	4RB
	Night 27/28	6 1/2 hr	Raid 10 th Australian Bde, 3 rd Australian Div (C 29 a) 6" howt bombard LES 4 HALLOTS & 2 trench junctions 60 pks C.B. Work	4RB
	29/1/17	6 40p-	2 nd Anzac Hd Order No 48 issued. (Raid 11 th Anzln Bde. 3 rd Anzln Div Night 30/31 st Jan) Temp Major S. MEAD took over Brigade Major from Major H.R. BRANCKER posted to command 24 th H.A.G.	Officially by

I heard
Major S. Mead
B.N. 2nd Anzac HA

SECRET.

Copy No..9.....

2nd Anzac Heavy Artillery Order No. 46.

Ref: Trench Map, Sheet 36 N.W.4, 1/10,000, Edition 6(redrawn) C.

6/1/17.

1. A Raid will be carried out by 102nd Infantry Brigade, 34th Division, to-night (night 6th/7th January).

Point of Entry - Immediately North of Railway in I.21.c.
Front and Support line will be entered.

Zero Hour - 10.55 p.m.

2. 52nd H.A.Group will co-operate as under:-

60-pdrs. (and any 4.7" which can bear) will stand by for Counter-Battery Work from Zero hour until all is reported quiet.

6" Hows. 1 how. on DISTILLERY, throughout, from Zero to 0.60. (30 rounds).
(I.27.a.95.30..20 rounds.) from Zero.
1 how. on houses (I.27.a.70.30. 20 rounds.) to 0.60.

3. R.F.C. are co-operating, if weather permits, by dropping flares.
4. Watches will be synchronised with this office at 7.15 p.m.
5. Acknowledge by wire.

(Sgd) H.R. Brancker,

Major.R.A.,
Brigade Major,
2nd Anzac H.A.

Issued at 10.40 a.m. to:-

- | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Copy No. 1. | 52nd H.A.Group. |) | |
| 2. | H.Q.,R.A.,2nd Anzac. |) | |
| 3. | 2nd Anzac Corps "G". |) | |
| 4. | 34th Division "G" |) | For information. |
| 5. | R.A.,34th Division. |) | |
| 6. | D. Group, 2nd F.S.Coy. |) | |
| 7. | 6th Kite Balloon Coy., R.F.C.) |) | |
| 8. | File. |) | |
| 9. | War Diary. |) | |
| 10. | Spare. |) | |

SECRET.

Copy No. 9

2nd Anzac Heavy Artillery Order No. 47.

Ref: Trench Map, Sheet 36 N.W.2. and N.E.1. (part of) Edition
6 (redrawn) C.
1/10,000. 26/1/17.

1. A Raid will be carried out, on "Z" day, by 10th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Objective : Front line trench C.29.a.45.27. to C.29.a.70.57.
Second " " C.29.a.70.10. to C.29.a.95.53.
Third " " C.29.c.80.97. to C.29.r.10.55.

2. "Z" day and Zero Hour will be notified later.

3. 52nd H.A. Group will co-operate as under :-

60-pdrs. Stand by for counter-battery work from zero hour until no longer required.

6" Hows. 1 how: Bombard LES 4 HALLOTS Fne: and trench junction C.23.d.32.70., throughout.

rate of fire: from zero to + 25 1 round per minute.
from + 25 to "all clear." 1 round per 2 minutes.

1 how: from zero to + 25: Bombard trench junctions about C.23.d.98.10.
from + 25 to "all clear" : Bombard trench junctions about C.29.d.60.57.

rate of fire: 1 round per minute, throughout.

"All clear" will probably be given about plus 45 minutes.

4. Matches will be synchronised with this office on evening of "Z" day.

5. Acknowledge by wire.

H.A. Branch
Major, R.A.,
Brigade Major,
2nd Anzac Heavy Artillery.

Issued at 2.50 p.m. to:-

- Copy No. 1. 52nd H.A. Group.
2. H.Q., R.A., 2nd Anzac.
3. 2nd Anzac Corps "G."
4. 3rd Australn. Div. "G."
5. 3rd Australn. Div. Arty.
6. "C" Group, 2nd F.S. Coy.
7. 6th Kite Balloon Coy, RFC.)
8. File.
9. War Diary.
10, 11, 12 Spare.

For information.

SECRET.

Copy No. 9.....

2nd Anzac Heavy Artillery Order No. 48.

Ref: Trench Map: Sheets (36.N.W.2 and N.E.1(part of)) Edition 6
 (36 N.W.4) (redrawn) C.
) 1/10,000.

29/1/17.

1. A Raid will be carried out by 42nd Battalion, 11th Infantry Brigade, 3rd Australian Division, on night 30/31st Jany., 1917.

Point of Entry : I.5.c.95.37.

2. Zero hour will be notified later.

3. 52nd H.A.Group will co-operate as under:-

60-pdrs. Stand by for counter-battery work from zero hour until no longer required.

6" Hows. 1 how. bombard I.5.b.45.75. from zero to + 20 minutes.

1 how. bombard I.6.a.60.00. from zero to + 20 minutes.

Rate of fire : 1 round per gun per minute.

4. Watches will be synchronised with this office on evening of 30th inst.

5. Acknowledge by wire.

(Sgd) H.R. Brancker.

Major, R.A.,
 Brigade Major.
 2nd Anzac Heavy Artillery.

Issued at 6.40 p.m. to:-

- Copy No. 1. 52nd H.A.Group.
 2. H.Q.R.A., 2nd Anzac.)
 3. 2nd Anzac Corps "G".)
 4. 3rd Austrln. Div. "G".) For
 5. 3rd Austrln. Div. Arty) information.
 6. C. Group, 2nd F.S.Coy.)
 7. 6th. Kite Balloon Coy., RFC.
 8. File.
 9. War Diary.
 10.)
 11.) Spare.
 12.)