

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

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/20/2

**Title:** Headquarters, 11th Brigade, Royal  
Field Artillery, Lahore Divisional  
Artillery

August 1916



AWM4-13/20/2

CONFIDENTIAL

original  
11<sup>th</sup> BDE: R.F.A. WAR DIARY FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1916.

758  
Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet (1)

J.M.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BONNEVILLE.	12 <sup>th</sup>	5 A.M.	Left Rest billets at BONNEVILLE and proceeded to VADENCOURT. where we awaited for further orders.	
	5 <sup>th</sup>	3 P.M.	Received orders to move to ALBERT. Arrived ALBERT at about 7.30 P.M. and bivouaced. During the night H.Q. & D/N wagon lines were heavily shelled by lacrymatory & 5.9 shells and at 2 A.M.	See.
	6 <sup>th</sup>		wagon lines moved to a more healthy spot. Same night 35 casualties occurred amongst working parties of Blys, who were building positions. Night of 6/7 <sup>th</sup> entailed further casualties amongst working parties and it was decided not to carry on with positions, the Blys relieving instead and taking over positions of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> A.F.A. Bde.	See
	7 <sup>th</sup>	2 P.M.	93, 84, 85 D/N Blys relieved 7, 8, 9 & 10 S Blys of 3 <sup>rd</sup> A.F.A. Bde. respectively, and 11 <sup>th</sup> Bde HQ relieved 3 <sup>rd</sup> Bde HQ.	See.
	8 <sup>th</sup>		Whole of our front heavily shelled throughout the day. Enemy guns from direction of THIEPVAL doing a good deal of damage to O.G. 1 & O.G. 2. In afternoon aeroplanes registered all batteries on R. 34. a. 0.5. Sheet 57 D.S.E. Operations were carried out with the object of pushing forward towards MOUQUET FARM, as laid down in 4 <sup>th</sup> Australian Div. Order, no. 11. The operations were completely successful on our front but left of objective was not obtained.	
	9 <sup>th</sup>		Throughout day enemy artillery concentrated fairly heavily along our front but position remained unchanged. Operations were carried out in accordance with LAHORE ARTILLERY O.D. no. 83. The whole of the objective was gained.	
	10 <sup>th</sup>		Our line was again subject to a heavy bombardment throughout the day. We maintained a steady barrage all along the front all day.	See.
			About 3.30 P.M. reports were received that enemy's Infantry were concentrating for an attack near MUCKY FARM and 1000 yds S.E. of POZIERES. Fire was directed on to these areas. Enemy's shelling fairly heavy throughout day.	See.



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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

Sheet (2)

(Erase heading not required.)

J.M.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LABOISSELLE Sheet 5) D.S.E. 1/2000	11 <sup>th</sup> (cont)		Bombardments were carried out during night of 11 <sup>th</sup> as laid down in LAHORE ARTILLERY O.O. 85. Bombing parties went out during these bombardments and secured points in front of our front line. In afternoon of 11 <sup>th</sup> the left of our line was heavily bombarded and under cover of this the 9 <sup>th</sup> JAEGER Bttn attempted to enter our line, from direction of MUCKY FARM. They were caught in no man's land by artillery and M.G fire and their attack was easily broken.	F.C.W.
	12 <sup>th</sup>		3 <sup>rd</sup> Bttn attacked strong trench R. 34 a. 3.4 to 9.6. They were met with little opposition and gained objective with few casualties. 11 prisoners were taken. Artillery action was as laid down in LAHORE ARTILLERY O.O. 86. Reports from Infantry go to show that barrage carried out was excellent.	F.C.W.
	13 <sup>th</sup>		our front line shelled all day as usual. at midnight attack was launched against enemy line to south N.E of MUCKY FARM. The action of LAHORE ARTILLERY was as laid down in O.O. 87. The operations were successful although the whole objective was not gained.	F.C.W.
	14 <sup>th</sup>		The enemy kept up his shelling on our gains and communication trenches throughout night. During night enemy launched a comb attack against 6 <sup>th</sup> AVENUE R. 33. a. 8.1. and QUARRY. They regained 6 <sup>th</sup> AVENUE but were thrown back again by 12 <sup>th</sup> Div. in the afternoon. Registration on new points carried out and shooting throughout day on communication trench east of MUCKY FARM.	F.C.W.
	15 <sup>th</sup>		Relief of 4 <sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN Inf. Div by 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust. Inf. Div. began. we shelled MUCKY and surrounding trenches and fired on ordinary barrage lines. S.O.S. just to right of our front at 10.25 p.m. all Bttns fired rounds gun fire and then section fire 30 secs. until 10.47 p.m. after that hour all was quiet on our front.	F.C.W.

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11<sup>th</sup> B2e. RFA WAR DIARY FOR MONTH OF AUGUST. 1916.

Army Form C. 2118.8

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Sheet. (3)

(Erase heading not required.)

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Jm.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LABOISELLE Street 57 D.S.F. 1/20000	16 <sup>th</sup>	-	During day saps were pushed out and T heads established to NORTH of our front line - usual tasks carried out by all Blys of brigade supplemented by tasks of O.C. Bde which included shelling of reported Battalion HQ in enemy trench. 84 <sup>th</sup> Bly reported heavy shelling of front at 5.30 P.M. which proved but a spasm, with no apparent object.	Jew
	17 <sup>th</sup>		Barrages as ordered and Blys registered various points from their O.P.'s. 84 <sup>th</sup> Bly registered on COURCELETTE chimney by balloon. Usual enemy artillery activity in afternoon on POZIER'S front. Large parties of enemy were observed in neighbourhood of MUCKY FARM on SUNKEN ROAD towards R.27.e.l.g. and VALLEY on road from R.26.d.o.8 to 9.7. Enemy plane brought down in flames about 11 A.M.	Jew
	18 <sup>th</sup>		Barrages as ordered. Heavy bombardment on our right about 8.30 P.M. also on our left about 5 P.M. Quiet on our own front. Operations carried out in accordance with LANORE ARTILLERY W. 89 and ARTY No. 7 by G.O.C.R.A. 1 <sup>st</sup> ANZAC. Inf reached within 100 yds of MUCKY FARM.	Jew
	19 <sup>th</sup>		Usual registration and barrages. A very quiet day on our front and nothing to report	Jew
	20 <sup>th</sup>		fired on road from MUCKY to R.27.d.9.0. at Infantry's request. Three special bombardments were carried out in accordance with LANORE ARTY G.124. They appeared to be effective. The Germans retaliated each time. Concerning the 3 <sup>rd</sup> bombardment the Amis kept a constant barrage of 4.2 H.E. on the eastern side of AUTHUILLE WOOD and to the south of LEIPZIG REDOUBT from 5.0 A.M. onwards. Although smoke made accurate observation impossible the 18 <sup>th</sup> barrage seemed to blanket the area round MUCKY very well.	Jew
	21 <sup>st</sup>		German 5.9 Bly registered on 85 <sup>th</sup> Bly by aeroplane. There was a large preponderance of Hun planes about a squadron of 9 planes flew over and bombed our wagon lines at	Jew

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11<sup>th</sup> Bde. REAR WAR DIARY for MONTH of AUGUST. 1916

Army Form C. 2118. 758

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Sheet. (4)

(Erase heading not required.)

*[Handwritten initials]*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LA BOISELLE Sheet 57 D.S.E. $\frac{1}{20,000}$ (France)	21 <sup>st</sup> . (cont.)		BECOURT causing considerable casualties among the horses. Operations were carried out as laid down in LAHORE ARTY. No. 90. These operations were very successful and the objective was carried except for one point in the centre and 200 yds on extreme right.	F(4)
	22 <sup>nd</sup>		Quiet most of day until 5.20 p.m. when heavy shelling in R. 24 a r. at 5.30 p.m. shelling in these quarters ceased but increased heavily on our own front. 6.45 POTIERS heavily shelled. Intense bombardment by us until 7.20 p.m. when all was reported quiet. Front heavily shelled at 9.45 p.m. we retaliated until 11.45 p.m. when H.O. reported situation normal.	F(4)
	23 <sup>rd</sup>		Zone of Bde was changed according to LAHORE ARTY: G.127. Officers patrols (infantry) went out at 10 p.m. to reconnoitre enemy's line. Usual barrages throughout day.	F(4)
	24 <sup>th</sup>		Enemy OP's. spotted by 83 <sup>rd</sup> Bty at R. 21.e.1.9 and R. 27.b.1.9. Usual barrages during night and day and bursts of fire on above points. Also 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bty H.Q. of 28 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment cordially treated. at 4.0 p.m. hostile shelling intense for a short time. Communication trenches north of MUCKY shelled during night.	F(4)
	25 <sup>th</sup>		Enemy were observed digging a new trench from R. 32.b.2.1 running east and strong dug-outs were seen on the SUNKEN ROAD at R. 27.d.2.2. Barrage and calibration as usual and work on new positions on NORTH bank of SAUSAGE VALLEY and in MASH VALLEY continued. Further evidence confirms that observation is carried out from R. 27.b.1.9. and R. 21.e.1.9; any one approaching front line from CEMETRY (POTIERS) is immediately sniped at by a 77 mm gun.	F(4)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LA BOISELLE Sect 57 D.S.E. 1/20,000 (H.M.C.)	26 <sup>th</sup>		<p>A quiet day on our front. Enemy machine gun spotted at R. 27 d. 5. 5. 6<sup>th</sup> ROSTI Inf Bde: attacked at 4.45 AM to establish a line along road in front of MUCKY and round it to the North East. Artillery action according to LAHORE ARTY O.D. 91. The operations were not successful. The objective was carried but we had to retire owing to weight of numbers from all points except R. 33 a. 77. Btys heavily shelled by 8". 5. 9" and 77 mm from 11.55 AM to 12.15 P.M. at the same time as an impromptu bombardment was being carried out by us. a very quiet afternoon on our front.</p>	F.C.
	27 <sup>th</sup>		<p>French R. 27 d. 6. 9. 7. 3. 9. 1. reported heavily manned with Bosches. we supplied the necessary bombardment (the heavies laid stress on it). Brigade lines move about 100 yds North West. usual barrages and extra operations in special trenches. operation order also carried out at 12 midnight owing to anticipation of attack by PRUSSIAN GUARD who had just entered the line. The attack was carried out as per programme we obtained our objective but were driven out again by a superior force of PRUSSIAN GUARD before consolidation could take place. much information was gained and the attack resolved into a successful raid. Place is very strong and impossible to take without adequate ARTILLERY fire. As it was enemy were unshaken and had plenty of fight. 85<sup>th</sup> Bty new positions heavily shelled &amp; gun pits demolished by 8 inch between 7.30 P.M. and 11 P.M.</p>	F.C.
	28 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Bde H.Q. moved to X 14 e. 6. 4 from X. 16. e. 11. 84<sup>th</sup> Bty moved to MASH VALLEY (X 7 d. 2 1/2. 5) 785<sup>th</sup> Bty <del>moved to</del> abandoned new position in SAUSAGE VALLEY and moved to MASH at X. 8. C. 20. very quiet day on our front. Strafe on LEIPZIG REDOUBT made observation difficult. 7.30 P.M. special bombardment as ordered. Retaliation by Enemy heavies on front system but feeble on rear areas.</p>	F.C.

