

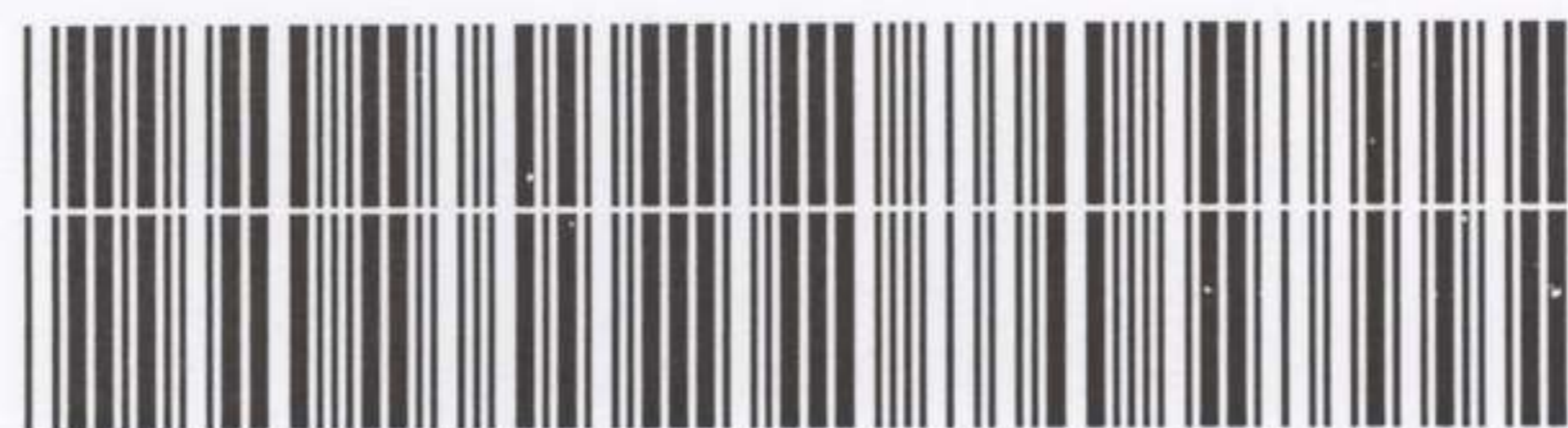
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Artillery

Item number: 13/67/8

Title: 5th Battery, Australian Field Artillery

November 1915



AWM4-13/67/8

WAR DIARY

or
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

5TH BTY. 2ND F.A. BDE. A.I.F.

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.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1630 1 st Nov. 1915 ANZAC.	Observer still occupies same station, so when a 6" How gun searched along SHARPNEEL & WHITE VALLEYS to BRIGHTON BEACH. After 3 rounds, was engaged firing 8 HET 12 T. P.S. 8 th Batty joined in firing 6 rounds. and How. stopped firing. - Fired 32 rounds today	M
1400 2 nd do do	Batty observing station fired upon with 4 rounds, also 2 rounds fired at no 2 gun (C sub.) which had previously been firing to the CHESBOARD	M
1200 3 rd do do	1700 (3rd. H.W. Benson) slightly wounded in head. - Fired 56 rounds - Captain H W Riggall 1 st F.A. Bde temporarily attached to the Batty & Command duty - 25 rounds fired -	M
- 4 th do do	Nice fine day. Olive grove gun very busy during afternoon.	M
2000 to 2200 do do	Sinks attacked CHATHAMS POST on high flank, and were repulsed with losses, principally by bombs. - 27 rounds fired.	M
1130 5 th do do	Monitor shelled Sinks camps etc. 6 men (Rum. Cross. No 3 sub. Ready Hau Rawlinson) attached from Bde Am Col. - Fine day again.	M
1500 6 th do do	all ranks still busy preparing dug. out for winter, as far as possible with the very little amount of material available - 26 rounds fired - a 75 ^{mm} gun opened unexpectedly upon No 3 (A sub.) With weak detachments it was difficult to get out of pit, so another detachment ascended and it was safely done. Though risky, as soon as it was out one shell pierced the roof & burst in the pit wounding 1 man (Gn H. Jones attached from Bde Am Col) about 30 rounds fired at the gun - 62 rounds fired -	M
2300 6 th do do	LEMING'S REST Party (1 officer & 16 other) returned 2 left in hospital (Sgt. McHenry & Gnr. Miller s.j.) They all have improved very much by the mouth feed which they badly needed.	M
1247 W 3299 200,000 (E) 8/14 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C. 2118/11.	B.C. with BC 4 th Mf & C.O. Bde visited POPES HILL	

WAR DIARY

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10-2
5TH BTY. 2ND F.A. BDE. A.I.F.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
7 th Nov 1915 ANZAC	to Consult with C.O 19 th Bn re support if required when they open a new trench now prepared, and arrangements made.	11
1800. 8 th do do.	A new trench at LONE PINE very easily taken by our INF. - 4 rounds fired (41) Order received for a realignment of gun and position, our D (No 1155) subsection gun on MACLAGLAN'S RIDGE which has been very useful handed over to 1 st Battery. 4 th Battery gun (1406) in rear of the Battery taken over by the Battery. So that all 4 guns are now similarly placed. This simplifies the control & firing of the Battery immensely. New trench at POPES successfully opened, and no resistance offered to its occupation. Div. Art. Commander (Bde. General J.J. Hobbs) sent away sick. News received (from Lt. St. Gally) that Bty. 1 Mgt J. J. Stanbrough died on hospital ship Karoola & buried at sea -	11
1400 9 th do do	Fine day - 31 rounds fired - Submarine scan again - A subsection rebuilt their pit with some large timber and making a really good job of it. 1 man (Gm Gamm C) returned from hospital - 3 men (Gm Campbell, Gm J. Taylor) evacuated sick. Temporary promotion made Bde Quartermaster to Corporal, Gm Carnegie N. & Ferguson W to be Bombardier. A plague of fleas is at present going all around ANZAC. - 5 rounds fired -	11
10 th do do	Quiet day. Telephones and system are all now working splendidly, the lines have all been relaid & overhauled. 35 rounds fired	11
11 th do do	A few rounds fired back at No 3 (A subsection) on breaking the end of a long 8x4 beam of oak through 2 sand bags. 3 machine gun emplacements on CHESSBOARD demolished by us	11

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10-3

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
- 11 th November 1915 ANZAC	a new seniority list of Subaltern published.	
0930 12 do do	Most unpleasant windy day, getting cold. - 23 rounds fired	M
1130 13 th do do	4 German officers observed. 1 round fired at them which appeared to kill one, and wound one. Special orders for support of Infantry at POPES & QUINNS issued (night arrangements) Cold windy day. - 1 round fired.	M
1600 14 th do do	Field Marshal Earl Mitchell landed at ANZAC and was cheered. He passed nice remarks to men who cheered him. He left late on a T.B.D. 1 NCO (3rd Lt. McDonald) evacuated sick. Dirty windy day. - no rounds fired.	M
- 15 th do do	No 2 (Subsection) fired at machine gun emplacement in front of Popes and successfully demolished it. Our Turks fired some H.E. (75 mm) shells back at it. Gun was successfully pulled back to firing pit after doing its job. The Turks gun in concealed and fired about 20 rounds - 6 th Battery had a task to perform & did it well under a heavy fire. - 13 rounds fired.	M
- 16 th do do	Olive grove guns very busy, but not doing so much damage as formerly. 35 shells iron & some timber raised for gun pit etc. - Very dirty windy day. - 10 rounds fired.	M
0500 16 th do do	Olive grove gun fired at A.S.C. depot, a good deal killed 1 man & wounding others. Nice fine day, but windy at night.	M
1247 W 3299 200,000 (E) 8/14 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C. 2118/11.	A dug-out occupied by 3 specialists caught fire and burnt ground shelt & other things. Men escaped in shirts only. 49 rounds fired	M

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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10.4
5TH BTY. 2ND F.A. BDE. A.I.F.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC	17 th Nov 1915	0500	old round shed, fired from smooth bore gun, fired along ST RAPHEL VALLEY. doing no harm. Olive Grove fired only a few rounds, quit subjected else. It has been a very dirty dusty windy day followed by a Thunder & lightning storm. which seemed to make the Turks very nervous for they fired heavily while it was on. no rounds fired	M
do	18 th Nov 1915	-	Nice fine day, but cold. at 1400 a German plane came over & dropped 1 Bomb into the sea off HELL SPIT. It left hurriedly on being fired at by our Anti-Aircraft gun. Observed with periscopic field glasses located again. - no rounds fired -	M
do	19 th Nov 1915	-	Olive Grove Battery fired all night at 1430. We fired on located observer with No 2 (C substation) gun and fired about 25 rounds at him. a 75 mm gun from a concealed position retaliated, but did not get the pit at all. After blowing him out the gun was removed from pit into safety of the "funk pit" without harm to anyone. 2 machine gun. Implacements on CHESSBOARD near QUINNS demolished. The general health of all ranks has much improved with the cooler weather	M
do	20 th Nov 1915	0700	49 rounds fired. 26 rounds fired at 2 machine guns on CHESSBOARD with good effect. at 1400 a Cruiser fired a lot. at 1630 a German plane flew over but went immediately it was fired upon. Olive Grove gun very busy again today. Fresh vegetables (Cabbage) issued today. Olden state that Reg GABG. with outward Xmas Mail sunk. 168 Bags lost 148 saved. Cold Windy day - 33 rounds fired -	M
do	21 st Nov 1915	0600	1 NCO & 12 men Arrived from detach to reinforce, also 2 men from Hospital. The NCO. (sgt Roach) brought 12 gunmen who had been driven, and transferred to gunmen losing additional pay in order to get here. They are old members of the Battery and therefore very useful & welcome. Quiet day and cold. Strength of Battery now 69. 5 officers & 64 other ranks - 31 rounds fired -	M

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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10.5
5TH BTY. 2ND F.A. BDE. A.I.F.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC.	22nd Nov 22nd Nov 1915	1415	An organized retaliation at the Olive Grove was fired, the Navy joined in. The guns from Olive Grove replied. News received of sinking of Orange Prima containing mail for us a very cold day. - 15 rounds fired -	th
do	22-23rd Nov 1915	2015	Turks blew up a mine at Quinn. 5th Inf. Bde reported only damage was the fall of a prop supporting wire netting	th
do	23rd Nov 1915	-	Class for new gunners started. No 1 (B. subunit) rebuilt the gun pit some railway sleepers being obtained for the purpose. - 9 rounds fired -	th
do	24th Nov 1915	-	Olive Grove guns still firing steadily day & night. Water ration reduced to 1/2 gallon daily (1/2 ration). - 9 rounds fired.	th
do	do	2000	Orders received that no firing, unless we are attacked, is to take place. This applies to all troops. → Olive Grove fired at trawlers & cleared them all out obtaining a	th
do	25th Nov 1915	-	direct hit on one. no apparent damage though.	th
do	do	1530	While removing our 8 wagons to North head preparatory to loading them for return to Alexandria, a shell from Olive Grove burst and killed 1 man (Cm Fowler) and wounded 2 others (Bdr Benson H.W. & Cn Hart.) Bdr Benson died from wounds at night. This NCO had been recommended for D.C.M. As we did not fire at all Turks are becoming cheeky & observe with field glasses & telescopes from front trenches. - no rounds fired	th
do	26th Nov 1915	-	Olive Grove guns again busy, and again cleared out all shipping. Turks again very cheeky as they are not fired at, at all. Started the construction of tunnel comprising a large underground "funk pit" for Battery is shelled by large guns & it proves necessary to take sufficient cover - no rounds fired	th

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WAR DIARY

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5TH BTV. 2ND F.A. BDE. A.I.F.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC	27 th Nov 1915	1100	Olive Grove gun again cleared shipping and obtained another direct hit on a trawler, but wasted a lot of ammunition. and did no apparent damage. Orders received that after 3 days just past, at midnight tonight normal condition prevail. no firing in depressing to all ranks.	
do	do	1900	Heavy thunder & lightning storm which scared Turks again as they fired very heavily. It rained a good deal. A.S.C. unable to issue full rations as roads are bad. Still only half issue of water being made. Very cold day.	
do	28 th Nov 1915	0100	no rounds fired - Snow fell, about 2" fall, temperature 22° far. (i.e. 10 below freezing point) very cold & late windy. Turks artillery did not fire and neither did ours. 1 man (Gp. Giles) sent away sick. still only part issue of water ration water.	
do	29 th Nov 1915	-	Ground & water all frozen hard. snow still on ground. Many men feeling the cold badly. sea very rough and it has been so for last 3 days.	
do	do	1130	Turks commenced a bombardment to which we retaliated. They fired 9.6" shells into the LONE PINE trenches. first This is first time there has been fired here. 24 th Battalion suffered at LONE PINE. 6" How. fired at No 3 (A) gun. 89 rounds fired. -	
do	30 th Nov 1915	-	and some were very near. still very cold. snow still on the ground. at 1430 German plane over but cleared immediately it was fired upon. Infantry issued with trench boots & mackintoshes & 1/2 issue of water (1 quart) daily until further orders. A.S.C. still unable to issue full rations. Rum issued. Olive Grove gun splashed around right rear of Battery unpleasantly. Find water issue too small to permit of any cooking. & men are thirsty. 9 rounds fired -	

Maddy

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