

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

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/95/15

**Title:** V1A Heavy Trench Mortar Battery

September 1917



AWM4-13/95/15

CONFIDENTIAL

ORIGINAL

WAR DIARY

V.I.A. H.T.M. Bty.

VOL. III PAGE I.  
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.

OR  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

SEPT. 1917.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date 1917	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
OUDERDUM EAST OF WATER TANKS	1 <sup>st</sup>		PARADE 08.30. 42 OR. WENT TO DAC ON FATIGUE (16 VIA) GNR NOJAN AND MANNETT RET <sup>d</sup> TO DUTY FROM BASE. STRENGTH: 3 OFF. 62 OR.	Johnston O.C. V.I.A. H.T.M. Bty.
	2 <sup>nd</sup>		PARADE 08.30. 42 OR TO DAC ON FATIGUE (16 VIA) CHURCH SERVICE 10.00. GNR HEALY RET <sup>d</sup> FROM LEAVE. GNR Nicholls EVACUATED HOSP. 28/8/17 STRENGTH 3 OFF. 61 OR.	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>		PARADE 08.30. 42 OR TO DAC ON FATIGUE (16 VIA) GNR LLOYD RET <sup>d</sup> FROM LEAVE BDR MARSTON EVACUATED HOSP 30/8/17. 14.00. 83 OR. 1 OFF TO DAC (40 VIA) STRENGTH 3 OFF 60 OR.	
	4 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 08.30. 80 OR. 1 OFF TO DAC (40 VIA) GNR GOODWIN WENT ON LEAVE	
	5 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 08.30. 80 OR. 1 OFF TO DAC (40 VIA) ON FATIGUE GNR MORGAN RET <sup>d</sup> DUTY FROM BASE. STRENGTH 3 OFF 61 OR.	
	6 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 08.30 40 OR TO DAC (16 VIA) ON FATIGUE.	
	7 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 08.30. CAMP FATIGUES: 19.00. 18 OR. (9 VIA) TO 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> BRIGADE WAGGON LINE ON GUARD.	
	8 <sup>th</sup>		GNR BURTON ON LEAVE. PARADE 08.30. CAMP FATIGUES. CPT PAUL ON LEAVE. PAY WAS ISSUED AT 17.00	
	9 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 08.30 GNR ROWLANDS ON LEAVE. 7 OR (4 VIA) TO BECHELON ON GUARD. 9 OR AS GUIDES. (4 VIA) TO 7 <sup>th</sup> AND 8 <sup>th</sup> BRIGADES AND. 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> SECT. BECHELON. 3 <sup>rd</sup> DAC.	
	10 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 09.00. TOOK OVER 6. HTM. GUNS AND STORES FROM 25 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> DIV.	
	11 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 09.00 CAMP FATIGUES. ACQUITTANCE ROLLS SENT IN. PARTY RET <sup>d</sup> FROM 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> SECT BOSE	
	12 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 09.00 7 OR. TO DA HQ ON FATIGUE (3 VIA) GNR SPARKES RET <sup>d</sup> FROM LEAVE	
	13 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 09.00. GNR BINDING. PINHEY AND HURST TAKEN ON STRENGTH FROM BASE STRENGTH. 3 OFF 64 OR.	

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date 1917	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
	14 <sup>th</sup>		(20 VIA) Parade 0900. 1 OFF 36 OR to CORDOVA DUMP FATIGUE. PARADE 1400. 50 OR (20 VIA) CORDOVA DUMP FATIGUE
OUDE RDUM EAST OF WATER TANKS	15 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 0830 1 OFF 40 OR (16 VIA) to CORDOVA DUMP FATIGUE PARADE 1330 1 OFF 40 OR (16 VIA) CORDOVA DUMP FATIGUE GNR BRUCE ON LEAVE GNR BARTHOLOMEW TAKEN ON STRENGTH FROM BASE - STRENGTH 3 OFF 65 OR
	16 <sup>th</sup>		PARADES 0730 & 1315 1 OFF 40 OR (16 VIA) to GRANVILLE DUMP PARADES 0830, 1315, & 1700 1 OFF 40 OR (20 VIA) CORDOVA DUMP. HANDED OVER to V5A HTM By ONE 9.45 HOWITZER No 87. GNR GOODWIN FROM LEAVE.
	17 <sup>th</sup>		CAPT. JOHNSTONE JLG, LIEUT BRYAN H.W. S/M. LAWN J. made a reconnaissance to FRONT LINE to choose sight for 1 HTM gun position. PARADE 0830 1 OFF 10 OR detailed for LINE - LEFT 0945. PARADE 1400 3 OFF 73 OR detailed carrying party to LINE (1 OFF 31 OR VIA) LEFT FOR LINE 2200 - ONE 9.45 HOWITZER DESPATCHED TO LINE 1800. ON TRUCKS 9.45 MLTM. MARK II BORROWED FROM V2A. HTM By Bdr JONES J. W. ON LEAVE
	18 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 2200 - 3 OFF 73 OR (1 OFF 31 OR VIA) carrying party to LINE ASSISTED by 100 OR from 3rd DIV. (40 Pigs 50. 6" Newton) GNR WELLS ON LEAVE GNR Mugridge ETS from HOSPITAL
	19 <sup>th</sup>		No 1 Gun fired 36 rounds on system of strong points ED 14 DIRECT hits observed - all rounds effective TIME 0630 - 0815. LIEUT. BRYAN OFF in charge. AWARDS RECOMMENDED at S/M. LAWN J. T/Sgt WALLACE Bdr Murchison for SERVING MORTAR - Getting mortar in & AMMUNITION to POSITION - CARRYING PARTY returned from LINE 0400 & Gun crew 1000 T/Bdr Harold (VIA) WOUNDED in carrying party WEATHER FINE & SHOOT - RAINING at 2200 GNR YOUNGER ON LEAVE

GNR BARTHOLOMEW  
 VIA HTM By  
 O.C.

(A7883) Wt. W803/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 32a Forms C/2118/4

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VIA H.T.M Bty Vol III Page III  
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OUDERDUM EAST OF WATER TANKS	20 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 0900 CAMP FATIGUES. 1000 BATH PARADE (40 OR), PARADE 1530 2 OFF 80 OR (29 OR VIA) FATIGUE PARTY TO "LINE" TO DIG GUN POSITIONS (18) + DUGOUTS (18) FOR 18 Pn GUNS GNR GOODWIN TO HQS. GNR NICHOLLS TAKEN ON STRENGTH FROM BASE. STRENGTH 3 OFF 66 OR WEATHER. LIGHT RAIN DURING NIGHT. 1000 FINE.	O.C. VIA HTMBly
	21 <sup>st</sup>		PARADE 1300 CAMP FATIGUES. 1800 FATIGUE PARTY. Re 10 from LINE.	
	22 <sup>nd</sup>		PARADE 1000 CAMP FATIGUES. 1100 PAY. CPL PAULL FROM LEAVE.	
	23 <sup>rd</sup>		PARADE 1000 CAMP FATIGUES. BDR WARNOCK ON LEAVE.	
MALHOVE	24 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 0730 - 0830 BRIGADE MOVED OUT TO REST CAMP. MALHOVE. MOTOR LORRY TRANSF. 5. 9.45 MLTM GUNS + 2 6" NEWTONS HANDED OVER TO 3 <sup>rd</sup> DIV. GNR RICHARDS ON LEAVE GNR BURTON FROM LEAVE. WEATHER FINE.	
	25 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 10.00 CAMP FATIGUES PARADE 1400 SPECIAL ORDERS - RE LEAVE TO ST OMER	
	26 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 0930 CAMP FATIGUES + ROUTE MARCH. 1400 INSPECTION MEN ON LEAVE TO ST OMER. QSM LAWN ON LEAVE GNR ROWLANDS FROM LEAVE.	
	27 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 0930 CAMP FATIGUES + ROUTE MARCH 1400 INSPECTION MEN ON LEAVE TO ST OMER GNR HURST TRANSF <sup>d</sup> TO KIA MTMBly NOMINAL ROLL 2 NCOs 6 MEN TO DTMO FOR SCHOOL OF MORTARS	
			LEULINGHEM ON 309. also CAPT Johnson JLG + BATMAN	

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V.I.A. H.T.M.Bty VOLT<sup>IV</sup> PAgE<sup>TV</sup>  
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MALHOVE	Sept 25 <sup>th</sup>		PARADE 0930 CAMP FATIGUES + ROUTE MARCH 1400 Inspection of Men on Leave to S <sup>r</sup> OMET	
	29		PARADE 0830 CAMP MOVED FROM MALHOVE TO HARDIFORD EN ROUTE TO DICKIEBUSH - ARRIVED 1300	
HARDIFORD	30		PARADE 0830 CONTINUED MOVE - HARDIFORD TO DICKIEBUSH - ARRIVED 15:30	
			Capt Johnstone with g.O.R. Proceeded to School of Motlats - LEULINGHEM FROM MALHOVE	
DICKIEBUSH			PARADE 1900 2 Off 51 OR (29 O.R. YIA) PROCEEDED TO HORNSBY DUMP	

*Johnstone*  
captain  
O.C. V.I.A. H.T.M.Bty