

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/37/13

Title: Headquarters, 10th Australian Field
Artillery Brigade

August 1917



AWM4-13/37/13

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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VOLUME 14

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place Date Hour

10th Brigade

Australian Field Artillery

S.

A.L.
37th Battery
38th "
39th "
40th "

1. *William*
Lt Col.
C/O 4th. A.S. Bde.

WAR DIARY

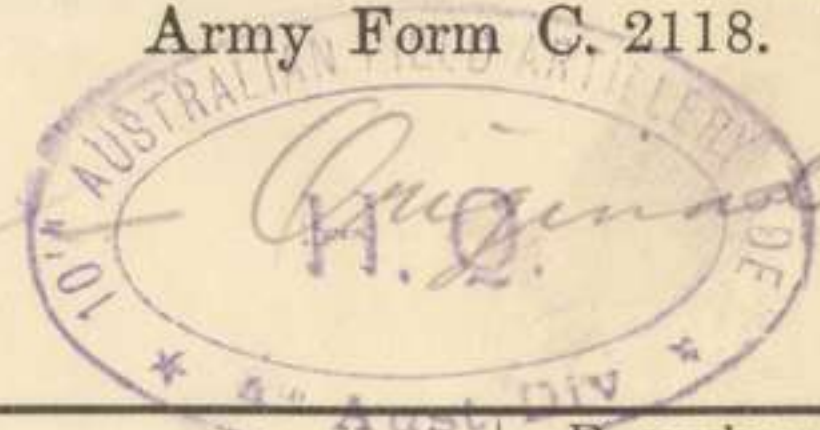
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<i>"Spoil Bank" Ypres.</i>	<i>1/8/17.</i>		<i>Batteries fired all night off + on also on S.O.S. + barrage for attack but infantry did not attack. They were lightly shelled all night + during the day. There were 4 O.R. wounded + 1 O.R. missing. Observation was poor owing to the wet weather.</i>	
	<i>2/8/17.</i>		<i>Routine firing by our batteries - very little firing by enemy. Light rain all day - men living under very trying circumstances on account of mud, wet dugouts + blankets.</i>	<i>B</i>
	<i>3/8/17.</i>		<i>Routine firing + special firing on machine gun positions carried out. S.O.S. fired on from 3.15 AM. to 4.20 AM. by our batteries. Weather very wet - ground very muddy - roads in an indescribable state - dugouts falling in. Men's clothes + blankets + dugouts very wet + batteries shelled heavily by</i>	

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Veranzale.	3/9/17	—	<p>4.2" + 5.9" H.B., Shrapnel & Gas. It is wonderful how the men stick it & yet carry on hard work especially as so many of their mates have been killed, wounded & gassed. It is the usual example of the Australian grit & spirit.</p>	
	4/8/17	—	<p>Our batteries fired usual routine firing on approaches, dugouts & M.G. positions. The day was dull misty & wet & the positions were fairly heavily shelled by 4.2" + 5.9" H.B. & gas. One man was wounded, a pit destroyed & a quantity of ammunition destroyed. Orders were received tonight ^{we} that will pull out tomorrow & the following night — the officers & men in the batteries will be very relieved.</p>	P
	5/8/17	—	<p>Usual firing by our batteries on approaches, dugouts & M.G. positions, as well as ten minutes firing on 'Los' at 6/15 A.M. The day was warm & bright but the enemy shelling was very active on our batteries. Two R.E.A. men of C/119 battery.</p>	

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<i>Vermyalle</i>	<i>5/8/17</i>	-	<i>who had come up as part of the first relief of our batteries were killed. One section per battery pulled out of action to the wagonline.</i>	
"	<i>6/8/17</i>	-	<i>Remaining sections moved to Wagonlines + 119th. Dead Quarters handed over responsibility for the line to 119th. Bde. R.T.A. + moved to W.F. Two men, five horses + a wagon of 38th Battery were destroyed during the pull out.</i>	
"	<i>7/8/17</i>	-	<i>The brigade moved to hills near Sheanwerch. about 16 A 30 A O.T. The 37th + 39th Batteries were particularly well burned out despite the constant unfavorable conditions.</i>	<i>B</i>
"	<i>8/8/17</i>	-	<i>C/O, Adj. G. S/O + Bty Commanders maintained new position + one section per battery moved into action. 39th Battery moved to position as below.</i>	
<i>Weytschucke</i>	<i>9/8/17</i>	-	<i>H.L. + remaining batteries moved into action. Wagon lines moved to (Shot 28 N 33).</i>	
"	<i>10/8/17</i>	-	<i>at 5 AM. Bde H.L. took over responsibility of the line with 37th 38th 39th 110th, 29th 30th + 108 Batteries + was known as "Centre Group". Zone was O.B.d 6000 - (0 29 d 35 00)</i>	

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Wynschacke	10/8/17	-	The positions occupied were (that 28 SW2) # H.2. N 29C 5.5, 37th. 026C 3.9, 38th. 025a 8.2 39th. 025C 0020 + 110th. 025a' 4.5. Visibility Good. - shelling severe.	
"	11/8/17	-	Our fire normal. - enemy fire fairly heavy on 39th & 30th battery positions. Weather good - visibility fair. Positions visited by General Kasperthal. Enemy aeroplane activity very low during day but during early morning a great number of shells were dropped on back areas.	P
"	12/8/17	-	Our activity nil - hostile activity very small - aerial activity great - balloons & a number of planes up all day. visibility good - a few showers otherwise a fine day.	
"	13/8/17	-	Our activity - registrations only - hostile fire not very heavy. aerial activity on both sides great - our back areas bombed at night - weather fine but cloudy - observation fair. Signalling lamps used extensively by enemy.	

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Wynpachack	14/8/17	-	110th. How. battery silenced hostile trench mortar during night + did registration during day. Hostile artillery more active than usual. Great aerial activity on both sides. Enemy dropped bombs at 5.30 AM on back areas. 8 hostile planes attacked our balloons at 3.30 PM. without success but one of our contact planes was downed. Day fine observation good.	
"	15/8/17	-	Batteries linked up S.O.S. + registered demonstration about 110th. batteries hit a dugout + saw men hurry away. Hostile art. very quiet. Aircraft no so active as yesterday. Private Edward Picard AMC attached 38th. Battery received bar to his MM.	
"	16/8/17	-	Our batteries fired. 848 A 949 AX + 385 BX as an artillery demonstration to help northern battle. Hostile fire normal.	
"	17/8/17	-	Our batteries did not fire during the day. Hostile fire was normal as was aerial activity. Observation was fair. 39th. Battery was shelled for an hour during the morning.	

WAR DIARY

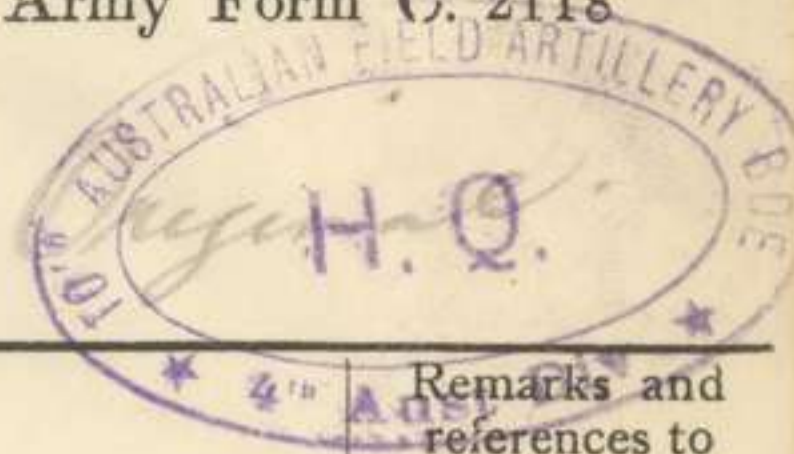
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<i>Wyschachka</i>	<i>19/1/17</i>	-	<i>The 38th & 110th batteries fired on registration with good results. - hostile fire was normal. A bigger aeroplane said than usual was carried out on our back areas & many bombs were dropped. The weather was beautiful, a bit windy & a slight shower.</i>											
	<i>19/1/17</i>	-	<i>Very little firing by our batteries. - hostile fire was normal. One of our planes & also an hostile plane were brought down. Visibility good weather fine services were held at the battery positions by the padre.</i>											
	<i>20/1/17</i>	-	<i>Our batteries carried out registration (some by balloon). Hostile fire was normal. The day was fine & warm. One hostile plane was brought down. - Hostile aerial activity was normal.</i>											
	<i>21/1/17</i>	-	<i>37th battery fired harassing fire & registration by balloon. Hostile fire normal. Aerial activity normal. The following men received the M.M.</i> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td><i>no. 1667</i></td> <td><i>Edw. E. L. Anderson</i></td> <td rowspan="4" style="font-size: 3em; vertical-align: middle;">}</td> <td rowspan="4"><i>Upper Wright's attached to Sig. Troop.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>no. 1193</i></td> <td><i>" R. V. Walkden</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>no. 1166</i></td> <td><i>" B. Burnley</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>no. 1505</i></td> <td><i>" B. G. Miller</i></td> </tr> </table>	<i>no. 1667</i>	<i>Edw. E. L. Anderson</i>	}	<i>Upper Wright's attached to Sig. Troop.</i>	<i>no. 1193</i>	<i>" R. V. Walkden</i>	<i>no. 1166</i>	<i>" B. Burnley</i>	<i>no. 1505</i>	<i>" B. G. Miller</i>	
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Wykechate	21/8/17	-	Our fire normal - hostile fire + aerial activity below normal. Visibility was low until 2 P.M. when it improved + was good. The 12th Inf. Bde. were received by 21st. Inf. Bde.	
	22/8/17	-	Our fire was normal - mostly registration. Hostile fire was very light. Aerial activity was about normal. One section per. battery pulled out to Wagon lines. Windy + inclined to be stormy.	
	24/8/17	-	Remaining sections moved to wagon line + forward section moved to new wagon line. That 36. H.2. A30C 43, 37th. A30C 4.5. 38th. G3677. 39th. G10612. + 110th. A93a 1.8.	
	25/8/17	-	Remaining sections moved to wagon lines.	
Chambray	26/8/17	-	Routine work + church parades were gone on with.	
"	27/8/17	-	Refitting - bathing of men.	
"	28/8/17	-	New C. R. A. (General Burgess) inspected battery horses - Refitting and instruction carried out by batteries.	

B

WAR DIARY

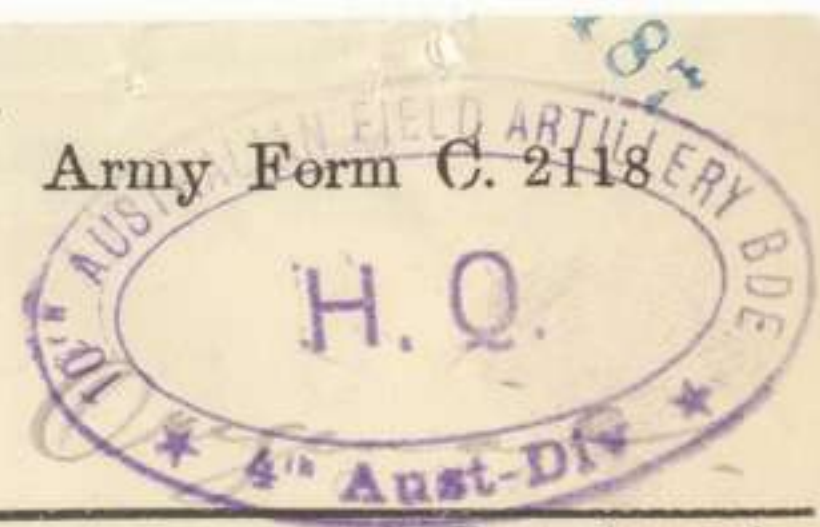
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<i>Shannon</i>	<i>29/8/17 30/8/17 31/8/17</i>	-	<i>Refitting and instruction Route march (10 miles) inspected by Brigadier General Burgess and Brigade Major. Weather very wet.</i>	<i>B</i>

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Place	Date	Hour	<p><i>Summary for month</i> Summary of Events and Information</p>	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>Finished off the fighting of the 31st. of last month. Conditions very bad for the men.</p>	
			<p>Pulled out of line to wagon lines & thence to billets near Sheenwerck.</p>	
			<p>New position was reconnoitred & occupied until 23 & 24 instants, when we moved back to the billets near Sheenwerck & the Brigade was inspected by the New C.A. General Berger.</p>	